

2018-19 Dedicated Schools Grant – Funding Protocols

Schools Forum

Date: 5th December 2017

Author: Head of Finance – Education

Wards: All

Locality Affected: All

Parishes Affected: All

1. Purpose and Reasons

- 1.1 The Schools Forum will meet on 17th January 2018 to agree the 2018/19 Dedicated Schools Grant Settlement and Budget. This report provides members the opportunity to review and agree the funding protocols that will be used to prepare the budgets for 2018/19. This report addresses:
- Mainstream Funding Formula
 - Transfer of 0.5% Schools funding block to High Needs funding block
 - Statutory Services carried out on behalf of all schools and academies
 - Statutory Services carried out on behalf of all maintained schools – 2018/19 Education Function Charge
- 1.2 These proposals contribute towards delivering the Council Vision Priority “Offer education opportunities that lead to the right skills and right jobs in the right places.”

2. Recommendations

The Schools Forum is recommended to:

- 2.1 Agree the policy to be implemented when setting the Mainstream Funding Formula (Para 3.1)
- 2.2 Agree to the transfer of 0.5% Schools funding block to High Needs funding block (Para 3.1)
- 2.3 Agree the principle that the LA retains the funding that will be announced in December as part of the Schools Block to meet its statutory duties for all pupils. (Para 3.4)

Maintained School Members are recommended to:

- 2.4 Agree that the LA retains a £16 per pupil fee to cover the cost of providing its statutory duties for all maintained pupils. (Para 3.6)
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3. Detail

Consultation Update

- 3.1 Forum members will all have been invited to the consultation events held on the 28th November where the various protocols will have been discussed.
- 3.2 Subsequent to the meeting all schools will have been provided a link to an online survey, the results of this survey will have been shared with forum members prior to this meeting.
- 3.3 Members of the forum are requested to debate the merits of the various proposals that were presented at the consultation and agree the principals to be implemented in setting the 2018/19 DSG funding formula.

Members of the Schools Forum are now asked to:

- **Agree the policy to be implemented when setting the Mainstream Funding Formula**
- **Agree to the transfer of 0.5% Schools funding block to High Needs funding block**

2018/19 Education Function Charge

Duties carried out on behalf of all schools and academies

- 3.4 Members will remember that at the October the LA provided details of the 2016/17 cost of providing its statutory duties to all schools, members will be aware that the costs were £0.991m compared to the £0.498m of income provided to the LA as part of the 2017/18 Schools Block funding.
- 3.5 The funding for 2018/19 will not be formally announced until the 18th December as part of the School funding settlement. The LA requests that Schools Forum agrees the principal that it retains this funding in 2018/19 to meet its statutory services for all pupils.

Duties carried out on behalf of maintained schools

- 3.6 At the October meeting the LA presented members with the costs of providing its statutory services to maintained schools, this was established as £0.183m for 2016/17.
- 3.7 During 2017/18 maintained schools agreed to provide funding to cover the statutory duties element of the LA's costs. There was a differential rate for

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mainstream schools and Special & PRU provisions (£22.50 and £33.75 respectively).

- 3.8 The LA requests that maintained school members agree that the LA retains a £16 per pupil to cover its statutory duties for all pupils in maintained schools.

Members of the Schools Forum are now asked to:

- **Agree the principle that the LA retains the funding that will be announced in December as part of the Schools Block to meet its statutory duties for all pupils. (Para 3.4)**

Maintained School Members are now asked to:

- **Agree that the LA retains a £16 per pupil fee to cover the cost of providing its statutory duties for all maintained pupils. (Para 3.6)**

4. Alternative Options

- 4.1 Members of the Forum may provide alternatives in the course of the meeting.

5. Implications, Diversity Impact Assessment and Risk Management

Financial and Procurement Implications

- 5.1 Various financial implications are included in this report relating to management of the retained DSG budget.

Legal and Human Rights Implications

- 5.2 Legal and Human rights implications have been taken into account in preparing this report. It is considered that the recommendations are compatible with Convention Rights.

All Other Implications (including Staff, Sustainability, Health, Rural, Crime and Disorder)

- 5.3 No additional implications were raised in the preparation of this report.

Diversity Impact Assessment

- 5.4 The proposals within this report are designed to allocate funding targeted at disadvantaged pupils and at pupils with low prior attainment and / or special education needs in order to narrow the attainment gap between these and other pupils.

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Risk Management

- 5.5 Any specific risk management implications are highlighted in the body of the report.

6. Consultees

- 6.1 Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) and Director of Law and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) are consulted in respect of all reports.

7. Background Papers

- 7.1 None.

8. Appendices

- 8.1 None