

Swindon Borough Council

Schools Forum

Tuesday, 20 January 2015

Committee Room 6, Civic Offices at 4.00 p.m.

School Members:

Steve Colledge, Chair - Academy Headteacher
Janet Urban, Vice-Chair - Primary Headteacher
Rhian Cockwell, Primary Headteacher
Andrew Henstridge, Primary Headteacher
Jackie Smith, Special Headteacher
Lauren Connor, Academy Headteacher
Wendy Conaghan, Academy Headteacher
Ben Slater, EOTAS
Alison Lowe, Primary Headteacher
Sharon Kirwan, Swindon Association of Secondary Heads
Sue Banks, Secondary Headteacher
Jane Wheatley, Primary Headteacher
Ray Williams, Primary Governor
David Bell, Secondary Governor
Charles Law, Special Governor

Non-School Members:

Andrew Wild, Diocese - Bristol
Ruth Lee, Diocese of Clifton
Peter Smith, Trade Unions
Cathy Parker, Early Years Representative (Deputy)
Andrew Miller, 16-19 Partnership
Graham Taylor, 16-19 Partnership
Ram Thiagarajah, BME

Observer Status

Beverley Pennekett, Education Funding Agency

Committee Officer: Rita Glen-Gallo

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AGENDA

- 1. Apologies for Absence**
- 2. Minutes of Previous Meeting** (Pages 3 - 8)
To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 7th October 2014.

3. 2014-15 Dedicated Schools Grant Budget Position (Pages 9 - 20)

4. 2015-16 Dedicated Schools Grant Settlement and Budget (Pages 21 - 68)

Date of Despatch: 13 January 2015

Public Question Time - Swindon Borough Council remains committed to increasing its accountability to the public and to promoting active citizenship. 15 minutes will be allowed at the start of all Council meetings for questions to the Chair from the public about the work of the Committee (except for confidential matters, and matters relating to planning and licensing applications). We will give priority to those who submit questions in writing at least two days before the meeting. Questions must be relevant, clear, and concise. You may not use Public Question Time as an opportunity to make speeches or statements.

Questions in writing should be sent to the Committee Officer whose contact details appear on the agenda above, or to the Director of Law and Democratic Services. We will publish it, along with the answer, alongside the Minutes. The process associated with asking a public question is set out in the "Public Question Time at Council Meetings Protocol and Guidance" available on the Council's Website: (<http://ww5.swindon.gov.uk/moderngov/ecCatDisplay.aspx?sch=doc&cat=13338&path=0>) or from the Committee Officer named above.

Access Arrangements – The Venue is wheelchair accessible and an infrared receiver hearing system is provided. If you would wish to attend the meeting but have any special requirement to enable you to do so please contact the Committee Clerk above, as soon as possible prior to the date of the meeting.

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SCHOOLS FORUM

TUESDAY, 7 OCTOBER 2014

PRESENT: -

School Members:

Ray Williams, Chair, Primary Governor
Sharon Kirwan, Secondary Academy Headteacher
Wendy Conaghan, Academy Headteacher
Sue Banks, Secondary Headteacher
Alison Lowe, Primary Headteacher
Janet Urban, Primary Headteacher
Jane Wheatley, Primary Headteacher
Andrew Henstridge, Primary Headteacher
Lauren Connor, Academy Headteacher
Jackie Smith, Special Headteacher
David Bell, Secondary Governor
Charles Law, Special Governor
Ben Slater, EOTAS

Non-School Members:

Andrew Wild, Diocese - Bristol
Ruth Lee, Diocese of Clifton
Peter Smith, Trade Unions
Cathy Parker, Early Years Representative (Deputy)
Andrew Miller, 16-19 Partnership
Graham Taylor, 16-19 Partnership
Ram Thiagarajah, BME

Also Present:

Councillor Fionuala Foley (Cabinet Member for Children's Services).

Apologies for absence were received from Steve Colledge (Chair - Academy Headteacher), Rhian Cockwell (Primary Headteacher), Andrew Miller (16-19 Partnership) and Graham Taylor (16-19 Partnership).

11. Appointment of Chair

In the absence of the Chair nominations to chair this meeting of the Schools Forum were sought.

Resolved: That, in the absence of the Chair, Ray Williams, Governor Representative, be appointed to chair this meeting of the Schools Forum.

12. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 8th July 2014 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

13. Forum Membership Update

Mr Paddy Bradley, Head of Economy and Skills submitted a report updating members on changes to the Forum's membership and terms of condition. Mr Paddy Bradley introduced the report and referred to the terms of reference for

headteachers and governors and explained that due to the new structure, nominations for Chair and Vice Chair were being sought. Due to apologies submitted by the incumbent Chair, members agreed to postpone the election of the Chair to the next meeting and requested that nominations for Vice-Chair be sought from those members present. Members agreed that voting for Vice-Chair was to be conducted during the meeting and Janet Urban, Headteacher, Westrop School, was elected as Vice-Chair.

Resolved – (1) That the report be noted.

(2) That Janet Urban, Headteacher, Westrop School, be elected as Vice-Chair.

(3) That the Head of Economy and Skills be requested to seek nominations for Chair from School Forum Members.

14. 2014-15 Dedicated Schools Grant Budget Position

The Head of Finance, Education and Innovation, submitted a report on the latest position of the 2014/15 retained Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) budget.

Mr Steve Haley advised that based on information to the end of August 2014, there was a minor projected overspend of approximately £0.066m against the retained DSG budget for the current year and Appendix A to the report provided details on the budget areas which were causing the overspend. He referred to the proposed re-allocation of funds for the existing disadvantaged 2 year old pupil funding and explained this would be used to increase capacity for 2 year olds places including a new nursery at the Tadpole Farm School.

Resolved – That the Schools Forum:

(1) Notes that based on information to the end of August 2014, an in-year overspend of £0.066m was projected against the 2013-14 retained Dedicated Schools Grant budget.

(2) Supports that £0.200m of existing disadvantaged 2 year old funding be allocated to increase capacity of which £0.150m will partly be used to create a 48 place nursery for 2 year olds at Tadpole Farm School.

(3) Supports that £0.006m of existing disadvantaged 2 year old pupil funding be allocated to fund the appointment of a temporary Early Years Project support officer up to 31st March 2015.

15. 2014-15 Dedicated Schools Grant General Updates

The Head of Finance, Education and Innovation, submitted a report updating members on the 2014/15 financial position, particularly regarding (a) the inclusion of all Swindon Academy pupils in the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) calculations; (b) an update on the overall DSG position; (c) additional funding available from the Education Funding Agency (EFA) and from National Non Domestic Rates (Business Rates) (NNDR) refunds and proposals regarding equal pay.

Mr Steve Haley confirmed that following the Department for Education's changes to the High Needs block funding and the resolution of the Swindon Academy matter, DSG would be increased with a final estimated 2014/15 DSG settlement of £153.574m plus the LA would also be reimbursed by the EFA for £0.5m of place funding paid to Uplands Sixth form. He described the funding and spending of DSG blocks spanning from early years to age 19 in schools, including SEN Sixth Form and for vulnerable young people to age 25 and explained that in

the longer term the £0.5m should be passed on to mainstream settings. As this was not possible in the current year the funding could however be used to repay central equal pay liabilities. Mr Haley also updated Forum members on the positive position regarding NNDR (Business Rate) refunds arising from academy conversions and revaluations including a proposal to use £0.8m of NNDR refunds to repay equal pay liabilities.

Mr Haley went on to describe the overall position regarding equal pay reminding Forum members that at the July meeting they had approved in principle the repayment of £0.7m central liabilities using part of the unallocated DSG balance. Based on the EFA (£0.5m) and NNDR (£0.8m) funding identified a total of £2m could be repaid which would significantly reduce the central budget for loan repayments over the next 17 years. In response to a query regarding the possibility of investing £2m or using it for other purposes Mr Haley advised that there were no mechanisms in place to invest DSG funding and that it could only really be used for one off costs such as pupil growth set up costs.

Resolved – That the Schools Forum:

(1) Notes the latest position regarding Swindon Academy pupil costs and that additional funding was to be provided by the Education Funding Agency (EFA) meaning that Swindon will not be detrimentally affected by the end of partial recoupment arrangements.

(2) Notes that the latest estimate of Swindon's overall 2014/15 DSG settlement was £153.574m.

(3) Notes that Swindon will receive £0.5m of EFA funding to effectively reimburse the DSG for place costs at Uplands Sixth Forum.

(4) Agrees that this will be used to repay £0.5m of equal pay liabilities in 2014/15.

(5) Agrees that this will be used to enhance mainstream BPPE rates by £0.5m from 2015/16 onwards.

(6) Notes the position regarding school National Non Domestic Rates (NNDR) charges.

(7) Agrees that the current NNDR balance was to be used to repay £0.8m of equal pay liabilities in 2014/15 which will leave a more reasonable sum of £0.2m.

(8) Notes that the equal pay liability as at 1st April 2015 payable from the centrally retained budget was currently estimated at £2.5m which will require annual budgetary provision to be made from 2015/16 onwards of £0.161m.

(9) Agrees to the repayment of £2m of liabilities from the sources identified in the current year, reducing the liability as at 1st April 2015 to £0.5m, which will require a reduced annual budgetary provision to be made from 2015/16 onwards of £0.034m.

16. Post 16 High Needs Funding Update

The Head of Finance, Education and Innovation, presented a report updating the Forum on the final outturn position for the 2013/14 academic year and the proposed funding allocations for 2014/15 for post 16 high need students that included students attending further education colleges, independent specialist college and other training providers.

Mr Haley made reference to Table 1 in the report, reflecting the student numbers and spending position. He referred to the £0.611 underspend against the enhanced budget and explained that this had remained unchanged since the

projections reported in the July meeting (Minute 3 refers). This was the difference between the initial position in July 2013 as compared with the final position in July 2014.

Mr Haley also commented on the funding available for 2014/15, particularly on the expected funding arrangements for Uplands Educational Trust (UET) following its accreditation as an Independent School Provider by the Education Funding Agency.

Mr Haley drew member's attention to paragraph 5.5 of the report regarding placements at Independent Specialists Provider Colleges (ISP) that included the UET and gave a breakdown of estimated costs for 2014/15.

Mr Paddy Bradley, Head of Economy and Skills referred to the collaborative work with Special Schools Headteachers undertaken over the past three years to determine banding process for pupil led funding.

Resolved – That the Schools Forum:

(1) Notes that the final 2013/14 academic year budget position arising from the Local Authority's new funding responsibilities for post 16 High Need students was that actual spend of £2.902m was £0.611m lower than the enhanced budget agreed by Schools Forum in July 2013.

(2) Notes that the academic year costs relating to the period April 2014 to August 2014 of £0.595 will need to be met from the 2014/15 financial year budget.

(3) Notes that the LA's latest estimate was that a total of 267.8 full time equivalent (FTE) post 16 (excluding school sixth form) high needs students will need to be supported financially during the 2014/15 academic year.

(4) Notes that the estimated annual net costs of 46.8 FTE placements at ISPs was £0.791m of which £0.528m (2/3) will be charged to the 2014/15 budget.

(5) Notes that 24 unplanned places will require element 2 funding of £0.144m will be paid to providers of which £0.096m (2/3) will be charged to the 2014/15 budget.

(6) Agrees increased band values as shown in Table 3 which will be used to allocate 2014/15 funding for FE Colleges and training providers which will result in revised 2014/15 annual allocations to FE colleges and training providers totalling £1.205m of which £0.803m (2/3) will be charged to the 2014/15 budget.

(7) Notes the overall 2014/15 financial year and 2014/15 academic year budget position as shown at Table 4 of the report.

17. 2015-16 DSG Update and Budget Proposals

The Head of Finance, Education and Innovation, submitted a report providing the Forum members with (a) updates regarding Schools Block and Early Years Block Dedicated School Grant (DSG) proposals for 2015/16, (b) the indicative impact of increases to early years and mainstream school funding, (c) budget proposals relating to some centrally funded services, (d) information on options to enhance pupil growth funding for expanding school and (e) an update on delegations. Mr Haley advised that pages 69 to 93 included detailed calculations and had not been intended for publication.

Mr Haley referred to the introduction of the Minimum Funding Level (MFL) proposed by the Department for Education resulting in a higher than expected increase for Swindon by 3.6% on current schools block DSG per pupil. He

explained that the additional funding would be delegated to mainstream schools and referred to the expenditure options agreed by members at the July 2014 Forum meeting (Minute 10 refers). Mr Haley also explained that due to improved DSG settlement and the reduction in the historic post 16 high needs subsidy, the Basic Per Pupil Entitlement (BPPE) for Key Stages 1 to 4 would be enhanced by a proposed 4.15% year on year increase. Appendix 1 had been provided to show a breakdown of the indicative impact on individual schools.

Mr Haley proceeded to explain options available to increase pupil growth trigger funding for 2015/16. He advised that whilst there was no policy changes proposed to pre-opening, start-up costs and set-up funding, expanding schools would automatically attract 4.15% increase to their funding arising from the BPPE increase. He suggested that in light of the improved DSG schools block settlement that the Forum may wish to support the payment of sector average pupil funding rather than just BPPE funding as described in Table 2 of the report.

The Forum noted that Swindon Association of Primary Heads had agreed, at their meeting on 24th September 2014, to support continued central funding of the Nylands Campus Outreach Team via de-delegation as required by DfE to comply with the school finance regulations. Mr Haley referred to the financial implications for primary schools and explained that academies would be able to use this facility through an optional Traded Services agreement.

Primary Sector Schools' Forum representatives debated on whether the LA should continue to commission the primary behaviour support service provided by the Nylands Campus Outreach Team beyond the financial year 2015/16 to alleviate uncertainties for the staff employed by the service. They further discussed the financial impact of school expansions and out of borough placements for pupils attending Special Schools and benefiting from Special Resource Provision (SRP). Mr Paddy Bradley, Head of Economy and Skills referred to Swindon's approach and specialist high needs provision and commented on the importance of reviewing strategies for this provision due to the increase in the demand for these services. He explained that a review of the long term impact of pupils using these services as they move into adulthood would be conducted and reported back to Cabinet in 2015.

Resolved – That the Schools Forum:

(1) Notes that Swindon expects to receive a total of £123.691m in Schools Block DSG in 2015/16.

(2) Notes that the 2015/16 settlement was expected to include an additional £4.3m of Schools Block funding in 2015/16 which, together with £0.5m available from elsewhere that could be passed on to mainstream schools

(3) Agrees to a 4.15% uplift to the Basic Per Pupil Entitlement factor in the local formula.

(4) Notes the indicative impact across Swindon Schools as shown at Annex A subject to final figures being produced for the January 2015 Schools Forum.

(5) Agrees that from 2015/16, trigger funding was provided at a value per pupil which reflects sector average funding for that year and that the 21 pupil break even calculation for reception age pupils was retained but kept under review.

(6) That, with regards to commissioning the primary behaviour support service provided by Nylands Campus Outreach, the Head of Finance, Education and Innovation, be requested to e-mail academies with:

- The proposal of agreeing a three year contract.

- Provide an indication of what the implications were.
- Report the findings back to the Forum meeting in January 2015.
- (7) Notes that Swindon expects to receive;
- Approximately £2.788m in Early Years Disadvantaged 2 year old DSG in 2015/16.
- Approximately £8.466m in Early Years 3 & 4 year old DSG in 2015/16.
- (8) Approve a 2.7% inflationary increase bringing the 3 and 4 year old hourly rate up from £3.75 to £3.85 with effect from 1st April 2015.

(9) Notes the information relating to the new Early Years Pupil Premium for disadvantaged 3 and 4 year olds which will be allocated to LAs in 2015/16.

(10) Notes that The LA is currently expecting that 2015/16 High Needs Block DSG will be broadly sufficient to cover current overall levels of expenditure and that updates will be provided to the Forum as and when further information becomes available.

(11) Notes that a range of High Need band and supplements have been identified for review and the LA will undertake modelling on various options via the task group with a view to presenting proposed 2015/16 changes to the January 2015 Schools Forum.

2014-15 Dedicated Schools Grant Budget Position

Schools Forum

Date: 20th January 2015

Author: Finance Manager - Education

Wards: All

Locality Affected: All

Parishes Affected: All

1. Purpose and Reasons

- 1.1 To advise Schools Forum members of the latest projected 2014-15 DSG retained budget position.
- 1.2 The LA is required to report the position on the DSG budget to the Schools Forum throughout the year and at the financial year end. This report provides Forum Members with the projected year end position against the 2014-15 retained budgets based upon available information at the end of December 2014.
- 1.3 The retained DSG budget is monitored in accordance with standard Swindon Borough Council (SBC) budgetary control procedures and a report is submitted to the Economy and Attainment Leadership Team each month. Updates are also periodically provided to Corporate Board, Cabinet and the Children and Young Peoples Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

2. Recommendations

The Schools Forum is recommended to:

- 2.1 Note that the latest projection on the 2014-15 retained budget is an **underspend of £0.441m**

3. Detail

Latest 2014-15 Retained Budget Position

- 3.1 At the 11th March 2014 Schools Forum meeting the overall value of the 2014/15 centrally retained DSG budget was agreed at £28.5m. As reported to 7th October 2014 Schools Forum Swindon will receive £0.5m of EFA funding to effectively reimburse the DSG for place costs at Uplands Sixth Forum and it was agreed that this will be used to repay £0.5m of equal pay liabilities in 2014/15. Including the EFA funding, the overall value of the 2014/15 centrally retained DSG budget is £29.0m.
- 3.2 Attached at **Annex A** is the report to be issued to the Economy and Attainment Leadership Team, it was produced on 9th January 2015 based on information at the end of December. This shows that an underspend of £0.441m is projected across the overall budget. The main reasons for the projected variances and commentaries on all high risk areas are provided in Annex A.

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Anne Mackay, 01793 465742, amackay@swindon.gov.uk.

2014-15 Dedicated Schools Grant Budget Position

Schools Forum

Date: 20th January 2015

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- 3.3 The LA Finance team has continued to work with Budget Managers to review the financial position to ensure robust forecasts are projected. In setting the retained budget officers included an element of contingency funding across some of the high risk budget areas to meet for any unexpected placements commissioned before 31st March 2015.
- 3.4 At this stage the LA is expecting that, although there continues to be a risk associated with the projection, an underspend of £0.441m (1.52%) will occur which will be added to existing unallocated DSG balances. The financial position will continue to be monitored with an update being provided at the March 2015 Schools Forum. The final 2014-15 outturn position (subject to external audit) will be represented to the July 2015 Schools Forum after closure of the LAs accounts.
- 3.5 In planning on the allocation of 2015/16 DSG funding the LA will also take into account the DSG balance brought forward from previous years (see separate report on today's agenda regarding 2015/16 DSG Settlement and Budget). It is important that Forum Members bear in mind that this funding can only support one- off spending and cannot sustain permanent increases to local formula funding rates.

Schools Forum is asked to;

- **note that the latest projection on the 2014-15 retained budget is an underspend of £0.441m**

4. Alternative Options

- 4.1 There are no proposals included within this report.

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 There are no legal or human rights implications arising from this report.

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

- 5.3 This report does not make any recommendations that affect these areas.

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Anne Mackay, 01793 465742, amackay@swindon.gov.uk.

2014-15 Dedicated Schools Grant Budget Position

Schools Forum

Date: 20th January 2015

Links to One Swindon, Plans and Policies

- 5.4 Utilisation of the DSG has a direct link to two of the Council's five priorities – "Right skills, right jobs in the right place" and "Make the best use of Swindon's resources inside and outside the Council".

Diversity Impact Assessment

- 5.5 As there are no proposals in this report, a DIA has not been completed.

Risk Management

- 5.6 There are no specific risk management implications not highlighted in the body of the report.

6. Consultees

- 6.1 The Board Director Resources (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 Annex A – Economy and Attainment Leadership Team budget monitoring reports

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Report to: **Commissioning – Economy and Attainment Leadership Team**
 From: Anne Mackay, Finance Manager – Education
 Date: 7th January 2015
 Subject: **Budget Monitoring Report – DSG Services**
 Period: Period to end of December 2014

1) Background

The Council's corporate budget monitoring timetable requires each Group to report its forecast outturn position each month and this report is based on information provided at the end of December. In addition to financial forecasts, information is also provided regarding Budget Manager participation in the on line forecasting process. To improve the standardisation of reporting, a subjective analysis of the centrally retained budget is provided this month together with a full listing of all E and A service budgets showing the actual spend at the end of December compared to the budget profiles loaded on the oracle system.

Although the DSG position is included in Corporate Board and Cabinet reports it is unlikely that elected members will be overly concerned as this is outside the SBC General Fund and is essentially an issue for the Head of Commissioning (Economy and Attainment) and his leadership team to manage in consultation with the Finance Team and Schools Forum.

The introduction by the DfE of a three block approach to the allocation of DSG has made it harder for the LA to forecast annual DSG funding receivable. As previously reported the EFA have finally confirmed that the costs relating to Swindon Academy pupils will be matched by additional funding and as a result the position would be cost neutral for the LA. This means that the latest estimate of funding is £153.574m, however, the Early Years block will not be finalised until after the January 2015 census, so there still remains a degree of uncertainty for the complete funding. Updates will be incorporated into future Leadership Team reports as and when they become known. A summary of how the 2014/15 DSG has been allocated so far is provided below.

Table 1 – DSG 2014/15 Overview

	<u>£m</u>	<u>£m</u>
<u>Delegated</u>		
Mainstream schools & academies	115.7	
Specialist settings (Special Schools and SRP's)	8.2	
Alternative provision settings	1.2	125.1
<u>Centrally retained for provision</u>		
Disadvantaged 2 year old nursery places	2.6	
Free Nursery Entitlement 3 & 4 year olds	7.8	
In Year Pupil Growth	0.7	
High Need SEN		
Portage, SEN equipment, Therapeutic services etc.	0.4	
SBC top ups – mainstream settings	1.7	
SBC top ups - high need specialist settings	8.3	
HN Contingency	0.6	
Tuition Service	0.9	
Out of Borough placements	2.6	
Post 16 provision (new responsibilities)	2.0	
Exclusions income	-0.3	27.3
<u>Centrally retained to cover SBC and other costs</u>		
Admissions, Free School Meal eligibility checks, school licences, equal pay etc.	1.2	
		1.2
Total DSG Allocation		153.6

2) Completion of Online Monitoring Forecasts

As part of the budget monitoring reporting process the LA is required to report to Corporate Board how active Budget Managers have been in contributing to the on line information used to collate period end information. For DSG service areas the end of December completion rate was 100% (40/40), 12.5% higher than November.

The Leadership Team is asked to remind Budget Managers of the importance of this exercise and to encourage continued high participation for the remainder of the year.

3) High Risk Areas and Latest Projections

Commentaries on all the main variances have been identified and those areas of the budget, which are inherently high-risk, and therefore have the potential to significantly affect the overall position, are provided below.

Table 2 – Latest Budget Monitoring Position				
Item	Notes	Budget 2014/15 £'000	Projected Variance £'000	Projected Variance last month £'000
High-Risk Areas				
2 year old nursery place funding	1	2,158	(400)	(400)
2 year old nursery place capacity building		470	200	200
Free nursery education (3&4 year olds)	2	7,823	60	60
High Needs Top ups (Mainstream)	3	1,682	395	332
High Needs Top ups (Specialist)	4	8,316	55	(9)
Notional SEN supplements (Mainstream)		350	0	0
External Placement Fees	5	2,562	(78)	(50)
HN Contingency	6	550	(550)	(273)
Post 16 HN Provision - New Responsibilities	7	2,022	(174)	0
School Exclusions / Dual registrations	8	(350)	20	20
Tuition Service	9	890	6	6
Schools Equal Pay Claims	10	170	195	190
Subtotal High Risk Areas		26,643	(271)	76
Other Low risk retained budgets	11	1,900	60	5
Unallocated EFA place funding earmarked for Equal Pay		522	0	0
Total Retained Budgets		29,065	(211)	81
School Budgets (Mainstream)		115,630	970	970
Less costs of Temporary Primary BPPE increase agreed to be funded from DSG balance at the January 2014 Schools Forum			(970)	(970)
School Budgets (Specialist Settings)		9,401	0	0
Total DSG Budgets		154,096	(211)	81
DSG Funding Allocation	2	(153,574)	(230)	(230)
EFA 6 th Form Place Funding		(522)	0	0
Total DSG		0	(441)	(149)

The Leadership Team is asked to note that the forecast out-turn position, a projected underspend of £441,000, will be reported to Corporate Board this month.

The main reasons for the under spend are provided below:

Note 1 – Disadvantaged two year old nursery funding – £0.200m underspend

The budget of £2.158m for 2 year old places is projecting a **£0.200m** underspend with no movement since the November position was reported. As explained in the last report, the underspend has arisen because a number of infrastructure expansions of nursery provision have been completed much later than originally planned resulting in lower overall take up during the early part of the year.

It has been agreed at Schools Forum to use £0.200m of this underspend to support the existing £0.470m budget (£0.670m in total) for growing capacity in 2 year old provision. This will enable the LA to supplement the SBC capital programme by £0.150m to increase capacity and commission an additional 48 disadvantaged 2 year old places at Tadpole Farm Primary School beyond those already planned and other schemes costing up to £0.050m are being developed.

As DfE have confirmed that participation funding will apply from 2015/16 onwards it is important that take up is maximised and Schools Forum have agreed to support the employment of a temporary part time project support officer. This appointment has now been made at a total approximate cost of £6,000 to help promote the 2 year old offer to disadvantaged parents and provide capacity to the team administering the increasing demand. This has been reflected against the underspend from last month.

Note 2 – Free nursery education (3 & 4 year olds): **£0.060m Overspend**
£0.230m Increased funding

This is an estimate of the 2014/15 outturn position and a **£0.060m** overspend is forecast. There have not been any changes in the forecast for both Maintained and Private, Voluntary and Independent settings since November. The Maintained setting early years numbers were overestimated by schools and the actual take up was lower than expected (£0.084m). This was compensated by an increase in take up of places in Private, Voluntary and Independent providers of Nursery Education by £0.144m, resulting in an overall overspend of £0.060m.

As reported last month, this element of DSG is based on participation and the LA anticipates that the overspend will be offset by an increase in the amount of Dedicated Schools Grant receivable. Early Years DSG is calculated based on 5/12ths of the January 2014 and 7/12ths of the January 2015 Early Years Census. The latest projection on the January 2015 census was in October, the updated DSG calculation compared to the 2014/15 budget agreed by Schools forum in January is summarised below;

Table 3 – Early Years 3 and 4 year old 2014/15 DSG Funding

	2014/15 Budget	2014/15 Projection
January 2014 Census (5/12)	2,108	2,104
January 2015 Census (7/12)	2,227	2,331
Full Year Equivalent	2,177	2,236
3 and 4 year old funding rate	£3,888.06	£3,888.06
Total DSG receivable	£8,465,927	£8,695,404
Difference		£229,477

The net increase in early years pupils of 59 will attract additional DSG of **£0.230m**. A further update of the anticipated January 2015 position should be available during January.

Note 3 – High Needs Top ups (Mainstream): **£0.395m Overspend**

The projected overspend of **£0.395m** reflects an increase compared with the indicated pressure identified in the end of October report. The large variance against plan is as a result of the new SENRAP policy implemented in September 2013 whereby monetary requests must be submitted to secure funding over and above the delegated notional SEN budget of £6,000. As a result of the moderation, additional SENRAP payments being agreed, a bespoke package for a child following a tribunal and additional top ups due to go to EOTAS an additional pressure of £0.063m in primary schools and primary academies has been identified this month.

As previously reported a review of the process indicates that there are inconsistencies in the amount of additional resource provided for pupils with similar levels of need and that average funding exceeds the values assumed when the budget was set. The 2014/15 budget assumed 384 pupils would be supported at an average annual cost of £3,818. Whilst the number of pupils has remained stable average annual costs since September 2013 are £4,577 per pupil. It is intended that a move to band based funding is implemented from 1st April 2015. This will require schools to self-assess initial bandings and if, following moderation, they have over/under estimated this, funding will be adjusted retrospectively. This matter will be discussed at the scheduled High Need Task group meetings. In the meantime a briefing note to SENRAP members has been provided to advise them of the situation and to encourage greater consistency.

Note 4 – High Needs Top ups (Specialist): **£0.055m Overspend**

The latest projections indicate an overspend of **£0.055m**. All specialist providers are completing a self-audit and moderation exercise, the outcome of which is an additional pressure of £0.064m identified this month. Caution should therefore be applied to the current position as some pupils going through the current system may have to be re-banded and costs applied retrospectively.

Note 5 – External Placement Fees: **£0.078m Underspend**

The latest projections indicate an underspend of **£0.078m**. The projected underspend follows the audit of every provider where individual pupils have been checked and education plans agreed. The latest month on month favourable movement of £0.028m reflects an amendment of a placement move date (£0.004m) and one placement with revised shared cost arrangements to include a health contribution in the future (£0.024m). All placements will be reflected on our monitoring reporting system which will enable under and overspends to be more readily tracked.

Note 6 – High Needs Contingency: **£0.550m Underspend**

During the 2014/15 budget setting process Schools Forum agreed that a contingency of £550,000 would be held to cover additional top up and placements costs. At this stage in the year the contingency is expected to be underspent in full and this is a change in reporting as previously the contingency has been to net to nil with the under/overspends in notes 3, 4 and 5. The £0.550m underspend should prove sufficient to cover the projected overspends at notes 3 £0.395m and note 4 £0.055m and which are partly offset by underspend at note 5 £0.050m above, i.e. a net underspend across all of these cost centres of £0.150m. Should this prove not to be the case this could require use of the DSG balance unless offsetting savings occur in other parts of the retained budget.

Note 7 – Post 16 HN Provision (New Responsibilities): **£0.174m Underspend**

The timescales for allocating budgets to FE colleges, ISP's and other post 16 training providers require academic year funding to be agreed and indicative figures were presented to the July 2014 Schools Forum. Since the July Forum the EFA have confirmed that they will be providing element 1 and 2 funding (estimated by the LA at £0.220m) directly to the UET which reduced

the commitments that need to be met from the DSG. This provides an opportunity to boost the indicative post 16 band values after a review of likely ISP and other costs is undertaken including a realistic assessment of outstanding placements. Learning providers have confirmed the result of the KS5 moderation and pupil attendance; following this the number of High Needs pupils with unconfirmed placements has increased from 23 to 44.

In ISPs (includes the UET), a change to social care and residential arrangements and a smaller contribution from Adult Social Care and Health for two young people resulted in a pressure of £0.030m and additional placement expenditure of £0.011m.

In FE Colleges and Training providers, the increase of the 21 unconfirmed placements has resulted in an underspend of £0.215m as these placements were included in the budgeted spend but have not been realised. Monitoring work is being undertaken with locality teams, providers and commissioners to determine the pathways back to education for these young people. The net position for ISP and FE providers is an underspend of £0.174m.

Note 8 – School Exclusions / Dual Registrations **£0.020m Overspend**

The current income trend for School Exclusions indicates that the budgeted target will not be met this year. A pressure of **£0.020m** was identified in October due to a high proportion of pupils that are referred to the Tuition Services that are not chargeable as they are not currently within the school system.

Note 9 – Tuition Service: **£0.006m Overspend**

The Tuition Service is currently projecting a **£0.006m** overspend. Due to changes in the staffing structure and also in elements of the provision for pupils this is continually monitored. Bespoke pupil intervention will be a factor going forward as will the effect of using different commissioned providers. In addition income for pupils who move in to the service from other EOTAS areas is being reviewed and is likely to increase service income.

Note 10 – Equal Pay: **£0.195m Overspend**

The October schools Forum had supported a request to use £2.0m from the following sources:

- £0.8m from NNDR reserves;
- £0.7m of the DSG balance and
- £0.5m from EFA funding towards SEN sixth form funding at Uplands,

to pay off £2.0m of outstanding DSG equal pay liabilities in the current financial year. This would improve the DSG annual central budget as the equal pay amount would reduce to £0.034m from £0.170m due to the repayment of the loan balance. This additional amount could then be freed up to allow a greater amount of DSG to be delegated to schools and other providers. This decision recognises the current overspend of **£0.195m**, this has been updated from £0.190m to reflect the actual spend up to December.

Note 11 – Other Low Risk Items: **£0.060m Overspend**

The projected overspend has increased by £0.055m mainly due to reduced School subscription payments (£0.014m), Pupil Growth payments and increases in pupils following October Census £0.070m.

The Leadership Team is asked to note the risk areas above, the forecast out-turn positions and the suggested actions.

4) DSG Balance

In accordance with DfE grant conditions the DSG must be treated by the LA as being ring fenced for specified educational purposes and, in addition to consulting the Schools Forum on how each year's grant is allocated, the Forum must also be advised on any year end surplus or deficits. The latest position incorporates agreements made at the October 2014 Schools Forum is as follows;

Table 3 – DSG Balance	Latest Position
Opening DSG balance bfwf from 2013/14	£2.470m
Less – Primary £54.77 BPPE increase payable in 2014/15 and included in delegated school budgets (January 2014 Forum)	-£0.970m
Less – Additional double top up payments to Ridgeway ASC unit (March 2014 Forum)	-£0.058m
Less – Red Oaks SRP premises alterations to expand unit places (July 2014 Forum)	-£0.029m
Less – Repayment of equal pay liability (October 2014 Forum)	-£0.700m
Plus – projected in year surplus (see table 2)	+£0.441m
Projected DSG balance unallocated	£1.154m

The Leadership Team is asked to note that the unallocated DSG balance is £1.154m and that all expenditure funded from this balance will need to be allowed under the early years and school finance regulations and be agreed by Schools Forum.

5) Subjective Analysis

A summary of the latest projected year-end variance of (£0.211m) across the £26.07m centrally retained budget by type of expenditure compared to the budget profiles is shown below. This presents a different view to the more traditional analysis by service area. This is a standard table used by the Finance Team which has been included in the DSG report to improve consistency.

Table 4 – 2014/15 Subjective Analysis
Subjective analysis Delegated DSG December 2014

Group Budget position by expenditure type	Year to date budget £'000	Year to date actual £'000	Year to date variance £'000	Total Budget 2014/15 £'000	Forecast Variance 2014/15 £'000
Employees	937	905	(32)	1,256	3
Premises	103	67	(36)	125	0
Transport	7	8	0	10	(0)
Supplies & Services	343	714	371	922	(498)
3rd Party Payments	18,403	17,894	(509)	26,404	83
Internal Recharges	779	1,060	280	779	210
Capital Financing	0	196	196	470	200
Income	(757)	(685)	71	(1,423)	(208)
Total	19,817	20,160	343	28,543	(211)

The Leadership Team is asked to note the addition of subjective analysis information and the need to agree realistic budget profiles for input to the oracle system.

6) Improving Forecasting

The Leadership Team is reminded that in year forecasting of the centrally retained DSG proved to be inaccurate during 2013/14 and that the final underspend figure of £1.0m was £0.5m higher than the end of January figure reported to the Schools Forum in March.

Similar levels of unplanned underspends occurred in other service areas and Budget Managers across the LA will be regularly invited to attend discussions on what the barriers to effective forecasting are and how they can be alleviated.

Given that we are accountable to the Schools Forum regarding the effective management of the DSG, monthly meetings with senior Budget Managers (Gill and Sally) have been scheduled through to the end of 2014/15 to take place shortly after the month end forecasting deadlines. This will enable all high risk forecast figures to be challenged and enable the wider budget position to be assessed, particularly on high need budgets, prior to reporting through to corporate board and in some months the Schools Forum.

The Leadership Team is asked to note that the finance team will be inviting budget managers to discuss barriers to effective forecasting and that additional meetings have been scheduled to discuss key areas and the overall DSG position.

7) Summary of Key Recommendations

The Leadership Team is asked to:-

- *Note that the forecast out-turn position, a projected underspend of £441,000, will be reported to Corporate Board this month.*
- *Note the risk areas above, the forecast out-turn positions and the suggested actions*
- *Note that the unallocated DSG balance is currently £0.901m*
- *Note the steps proposed aimed at improving forecasting*

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2015-16 Dedicated Schools Grant Settlement and Budget

Schools Forum

Date: 20th January 2015

Author:	Head of Finance – Education
Wards:	All
Locality Affected:	All
Parishes Affected:	All
Settings Affected:	The Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) is ring fenced funding provided by the DfE to meet the educational needs of early years, school age and all 0 to 25 year old high need pupils, any decisions on how the grant is utilised indirectly affects all settings.

1. Purpose and Reasons

- 1.1. This report provides Schools Forum members with an update on the estimated value of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) and other funding that will be available in 2015/16. It also provides estimates of the level of expenditure that will be allocated to Early Years, Schools, Academies High Needs settings and centrally retained budgets.
- 1.2. The Local Authority is required to submit the Authority Proforma Toolkit on 20th January 2015 to the Education Funding Agency (EFA). This toolkit calculates individual Primary and Secondary School and Academy budgets for 2015/16. It uses the October Schools Census information and the formula funding rates agreed at the October Schools Forum in October 2014 (with minor adjustments referred to in this report). The Authority is also required to provide schools with budget information by 27th February 2015.
- 1.3. This report also includes expenditure proposals for all High Needs block funded items including; High Needs students in Mainstream schools, Special schools, Special Resourced Provisions, Alternative Provision, Post-16 and Further Education, Independent and Non-Maintained Special Schools and Other Local Authority Commissioned High Needs provision.
- 1.4. In July 2013 the LA established a High Needs Task and Finish Group (HNTFG). The group is made up of representatives from Special Schools, Special Resource Provisions (SRPs) and Alternative Provision (AP) settings to consult on the planning and implementation of a revised funding formula for high need pupils. The group has met 3 times since the summer 2014 to consider various proposals in relation to High Needs formula funding. The recommendations of the group are contained in this report.
- 1.5. Finally the Local Authority is required to submit the Section 251 Budget Statement to the EFA by 31st March 2015. An integral part of this financial statement is the use of the Dedicated Schools Grant. Schools Forum is required to agree various aspects of the DSG budget, and the Local Authority is required to consider the recommendations of the Schools Forum in setting the remainder of the Dedicated

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Schools Grant Budget. This report forms a critical part of that budget setting process.

2. Recommendations

2.1. Members of Schools Forum are now asked to note the following points relating to the 2015/16 DSG Settlement:

- 2.1.1. Swindon expects to receive a total DSG settlement of £161.003m in 2015/16.
- 2.1.2. The EFA will fund £0.510m for Uplands Post 16 places.
- 2.1.3. The estimated DSG balance at the end of 2014/15 is £1.154m
- 2.1.4. In total £162.667m of DSG / EFA funding is available and next year's spending proposals will need to be contained within this figure.
- 2.1.5. The early years block 2015/16 DSG settlement will be subject to revisions by DfE in light of early years census information in January 2016.

2.2. In respect of the 2015/16 DSG funded budget, Members of Schools Forum are now asked to:

- 2.2.1. Agree the proposed 2015/16 early years funding rates as shown in Table 6, which will take effect from 1st April 2015.
- 2.2.2. Agree a 2015/16 early years budget of £10.986m as shown in Table 6.
- 2.2.3. Note the 2015/16 mainstream school funding allocations as shown at Annex A of £122.520m, supporting 29,303 pre 16 pupils.
- 2.2.4. Note the Notional SEN funding top ups payable in 2015/16 (Shown in Annex B) at a total estimated cost of £0.350m.
- 2.2.5. Note Individual schools average pupil led funding (shown at Annex A), which will be used by the LA to claw back funding for excluded pupils during 2015/16.
- 2.2.6. Agree the following de-delegations and proposed length of agreement:
 - 2.2.6.1. Free School Meal eligibility administration will be charged at £4.80 per pupil in 2015/16 and is supported until 31st March 2016
 - 2.2.6.2. Trade Union release time will be charged at £1.25 per pupil in 2015/16 and is supported until 31st March 2018.
 - 2.2.6.3. Nylands Campus Outreach Team will be charged at £12.33 per primary pupil in 2015/16 and is supported until 31st March 2018.
- 2.2.7. Agree a total 2015/16 pupil growth budget of £0.281m, as shown at Annex C.

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- 2.2.8. Agree a total budget for Centrally Retained Services of £0.943m in 2015/16 as shown in Table 9.
- 2.2.9. Give a view on the funding changes to Special School and Special Resourced Provision budgets as described in paragraphs 8 and 9 of this report and which have been consulted on with the High Needs Task and Finish Group as shown in the minutes attached at Annex E.
- 2.2.10. Note the proposed Special School and Special Resourced Provision budgets shown at Annex D, subject to any agreement about how to treat Therapy Supplements.
- 2.2.11. Give a view on the on the best way to take forward changes to the Therapy supplement in 2015/16.
- 2.2.12. Note the impact of the Minimum Funding Guarantee on Special Schools and SRPs as shown at Annex D.
- 2.2.13. Give a view on the Local Authority's proposals for High Needs Budgets as described in paragraphs 12 to 18 of this report, summarised in Table 23 and listed below:
- Alternative Provision
 - Commissioned High Needs Services
 - Post 16 High Needs Budgets
 - Mainstream School Top Up Funding
 - External Placements (Pre 16)
 - High Needs Contingency
 - Other Centrally Retained High Needs Services
- 2.2.14. Support the following course of action:
- Members of Forum will note that table 24 identifies an under allocation of DSG of £0.278m. There is still work to be undertaken on the High Needs Budgets (particularly in relation to the Mainstream Schools SENRAP Budget. Officers propose to hold this balance for the time being and bring a further Budget report to Schools Forum in March with proposals for how this funding should be allocated.
- 2.2.15. Agree to the proposed use of £0.080m of DSG balances in 2014/15 as described in paragraph 22.2 of this report.

3. Dedicated Schools Grant Funding Settlement 2015/16

- 3.1. On 17th December 2014 the Education Funding Agency released information on the Dedicated Schools Grant Settlement for 2015/16. The DSG for 2015/16 comprises:

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Ian Burbidge on 01793 464384 or iburbidge@swindon.gov.uk

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- Early years block covering:
 - Funding for disadvantaged two year olds for which the hourly rates were announced in October 2014. Initial allocations will be made in June 2015.
 - The three and four year old entitlement - set at the same per pupil rate as 2014 /15 as announced in October 2014;
 - The early years pupil premium - a provisional allocation as announced in October 2014
 - Schools block - based on school block units of funding (SBUF) announced in July 2014 plus a cash transfer to bring non-recoupment academies into local authorities' overall budget calculations.
 - High needs block – based on 2014/15 plus an allocation of £195k from the national additional top-up of £47m (distributed using the 2-19 aged population).
- 3.2. The first part of this report describes the DSG settlement in more detail and attempts to add information on some of the aspects of the settlement that are still to be more formally announced. Further adjustments to the settlement information are expected for:
- Academies recoupment from the schools block;
 - Deductions for high needs places in academies and non-maintained special schools;
 - Changes to the non-recoupment academies cash transfer in relation to estimated pupil number and central budgets;
 - Deduction for national copyright licences;
 - Updates to the funding for three and four year olds;
 - Initial allocations for disadvantaged two year olds; and
 - Updates to the early years pupil premium.

Early Years - Disadvantaged 2 year old free nursery education DSG

- 3.3. This funding is moving from a nationally determined formula (which included substantial trajectory building funding) to a participation model whereby the level of grant paid to the LA is to be based on the January 2015 EY census (5/12) and the January 2016 EY census (7/12). The FTE census figure is then multiplied by a DfE determined hourly rate for Swindon of £4.97 which equates to £2,832.90 per child per year.
- 3.4. The LA will therefore need to revise its DSG estimate throughout the year and will not know the final 2015/16 grant value until February 2016. The latest estimate for 2015/16 is based on assumed increased take up arising from expansion plans:

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Table 1 - Disadvantaged 2 year old DSG estimate 2015/16

	Estimated census	Estimated DSG @ £2,832.90
January 2014 (for information)	630	
January 2015	957 x 5/12	£1,129,619
January 2016	1,000 x 7/12	£1,652,525
Total FTE and DSG	982.1	£2,782,144

Early Years - Free nursery education for all 3 and 4 year olds DSG

- 3.5. Funding will continue to be based on participation as measured by the January 2015 (5/12) and January 2016 (7/12) EY censuses. The FTE census figure is then multiplied by a DfE determined hourly rate for Swindon of £3,888.06 and again there will be a degree of uncertainty over the final 2015/16 grant value until February 2016.
- 3.6. The latest estimate for 2015/16 is higher than the figure provided at the October 2014 Forum following reconsideration of the January 2014 census and take up so far this year:

Table 2 - 3 and 4 year old DSG estimate 2015/16

	Estimated census	Estimated DSG @ £3,888.06
January 2014 (for information)	2,104	
January 2015	2,355 x 5/12	£3,815,159
January 2016	2,355 x 7/12	£5,341,222
Total FTE and DSG	2,355	£9,156,381

Early Years Pupil Premium

- 3.7. The DSG settlement includes an amount of **£0.165m** for the Early Years Pupil Premium. This is a new source of funding which will be paid to early years providers in support of 3 and 4 year olds whose parents are in receipt of various state funded income supplements. Providers will be paid at a rate of £0.53 per hour, which equates to £302.10 for every 3 or 4 year old that takes up the full 570 hours entitlement.

Schools Block DSG

- 3.8. This is the only area of DSG which can be determined accurately from the outset as funding for 2015/16 will be based on the October 2014 school census multiplied

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by a DfE determined rate per pupil for Swindon of £4,243.04. This is the area of the DSG which is increasing next year by 3.6% as a result of the increased funding of £390m in support of the least fairly funded LAs. Swindon received £4.3m from this allocation.

3.9. The factors and values payable to mainstream schools through the funding formula were agreed at the October 2014 Schools Forum and are shown later in this report and include an increase in the Basic per Pupil Entitlement (BPPE) of 4.15%. Letters were sent to all mainstream Headteachers on 10th November 2014 advising them of these details.

3.10. The F40 group Executive Committee has been seeking clarification from the Department about whether this additional funding in 2015/16 was a one-off payment or an amount that would be absorbed into the education budget for future years. The response from the funding team at the DfE is as follows:

'The position is that currently we do not intend the £390m to be a one-off, but an addition to baseline budgets. However the final position in 2016-17 onwards will depend on two things that are currently uncertain:

- 1 the total budget DfE has to spend, which will be agreed with Treasury in the next spending review.*
- 2 any funding policy changes that the government decides to make before we allocate 2016-17 funding. Those decisions will be taken after the general election.'*

3.11. Members of Forum should note that it is possible that after the General Election in 2015, the existing Government policy of protecting School and Education budgets may cease.

3.12. From 1st April 2015 pupils attending UTC Swindon and The Croft Primary school (both Non-Recoupment Academies) will be included within Swindon's pupil count for the purposes of calculating Dedicated Schools Grant. This means that SBC will also include UTCS and the Croft in its formula calculations. The October 14 school census shows 70 pre 16 pupils attending UTC and 151 attending The Croft. This would generate additional DSG of £0.938m. The anticipated cost of UTCS and The Croft through SBCs formula is likely to be in the region of £1.440m. The DfE has given a commitment that the transfer of Non-Recoupment Academies into the local formula will be fully funded and have included a baseline adjustment to the Swindon settlement for these establishments of £1.259m. This leaves a shortfall of £0.181m, which officers have had verbal confirmation that this will be included in later updates of the DSG in 2015/16.

3.13. The following table identifies the current 2014/15 and estimated 2015/16 Schools Block funding settlement. These figures use October 14 School Census.

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Table 3 – Schools Block DSG Estimate 2015/16			
Sector	School Census October 2013	School Census October 2014	Change
Primary	18,114	18,667	Plus 553
Secondary	10,568	10,312	Minus 256
Subtotal Pupil Numbers	28,682	28,979	Plus 297
Schools Block Unit of Funding	£4,102.23	£4,243.04	Plus £140.81
Schools Block Funding Estimate	£117.660m	£122.963m	£5.303m
Non Recoupment Academies Cash Transfer Announced Dec 14 (UTCS and Croft)	0	£1.259m	£1.259m
Additional Non Recoupment Academies Cash Transfer Unannounced		£0.181m	£0.181m
Total Estimated Schools Block DSG Settlement	£117.660m	£124.403m	£6.743m

High Needs Block DSG

- 3.14. This area of the grant settlement remains cash limited, based on historic levels of expenditure incurred by Swindon using the 2012/13 Section 251 Schools Budget Statement which in turn was used to allocate the DSG funding blocks in 2013/14. The DfE has acknowledged that this area of the DSG is in need of significant reform and they are committed to undertake this after the next election.
- 3.15. In 2014/15 Swindon's High Needs Block funding was £24.083m (before the £2.051m deduction for direct funding of Academy and Post 16 places by the EFA). Since 2013/14 the DfE / EFA has consistently cash limited the funding available to Local Authorities for SEN through the High Needs block.
- 3.16. In July 2014, the Minister for Schools, David Laws acknowledged that there could not be a fair education funding system until there was reform of the distribution of funding for pupils with high-cost SEN. He also said that this would be a priority for reform during the next parliament and that the government had no specific changes in mind. He suggested that an SEN distribution mechanism should be more formulaic, and less based on historic levels of expenditure. The DfE has commissioned research, and has invited all interested parties to provide examples of how SEN funding is allocated and used. This call for evidence closes on 27th February 2015 and more information can be found at the following link.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/funding-for-children-and-young-people-with-sen>

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3.17. The LA was previously assuming a cash limited High Needs block settlement in line with the 2014/15 funding. This is despite a known additional requirement for 23 places in Special Schools and SRPs at an additional cost of £0.649m. The EFA permitted LAs to submit a bid for 'Exceptional Circumstances Funding'. This funding was to cover the additional costs of exceptional increases in High Needs places. The December DSG settlement showed that Swindon was not successful in this bidding process. However, the department has increased Swindon's High needs block by £0.195m from a national increase to High Needs funding of £47m. High Needs Block funding for 2015/16 is therefore **£24.497m**. Historically Swindon spends considerably more than this on High Needs budgets. More information on High Needs Expenditure is included later in this report.

DSG Balances

3.18. In accordance with DfE grant conditions the DSG must be treated by the LA as ring-fenced for specific educational purposes. The Local Authority is permitted to carry forward unused DSG between each financial year. Schools Forum received a monitoring report on the use of 2014/15 DSG to your October meeting. This report identified the following DSG balance position.

Table 4 – DSG Balances Estimate 2015/16	
Opening DSG balance brought forward from 2013/14	£2.470m
Less – Primary £54.77 BPPE increase payable in 2014/15 and included in delegated school budgets (January 2014 Forum)	(£0.970m)
Less – Additional double top up payments to Ridgeway ASC unit (March 2014 Forum)	(£0.058m)
Less – Red Oaks SRP premises alterations to expand unit places (July 2014 Forum)	(£0.029m)
Plus – projected in year surplus (as at December 2014)	£0.441m
Less - repayment of equal pay liabilities (agreed October 14 Schools Forum)	(£0.700m)
Projected DSG balance carried forward to 2015/16	£1.154.m

School Balances

3.19. Members of Schools Forum are reminded that Schools brought forward balances into 2014/15 of £5.533m (£5.025m into 2013/14 and £5.603 into 2012/13).

Post 16 Funding

3.20. Members of Schools Forum will recall from your October meeting that the EFA has agreed to fund Elements 1 and 2 for Post 16 pupils at Uplands Special School.

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Previously there had been some uncertainty about whether this would happen. This means that the Authority has an additional £0.510m of funding available.

Estimated DSG Settlement and balances In Summary

3.21. In Summary the total estimated Dedicated Schools Grant settlement for 2015/16 is estimated to be **£161.003m**, with an estimated carry forward from 2014/15 of **£1.154m**, as shown in the following table.

Table 5 – Total DSG / EFA Funding Estimate 2015/16	
Estimated DSG Settlement 2015/16	Estimated 2015 Settlement
Early Years 2 Year Olds	£2.782m
Early Years 3-4 Year Olds	£9.156m
EY Pupil Premium	£0.165m
Schools Block	£124.403m
High Needs Block	£24.497m
Estimated DSG Settlement 2015/16	£161.003m
EFA Funding for Uplands Post 16	£0.510m
DSG + EFA Funding	£161.513m
Estimated 2014/15 DSG Balance	£1.154m
Available for 2015/16	£162.667m

Members of Schools Forum are now asked to note that:

- Swindon expects to receive a total DSG settlement of £161.003m in 2015/16.
- the EFA will fund £0.510m for Uplands Post 16 places
- The estimated DSG balance at the end of 2014/15 is £1.154m
- In total £162.667m of DSG is available and next years' spending proposals will need to be contained within this figure.
- The early years block 2015/16 DSG settlement will be subject to revisions by DfE in light of early years census information in January 2016.

4. Early Years Expenditure Proposals 2015/16

4.1. At its October meeting Schools Forum agreed an inflationary increase to the 3 and 4 year old hourly rate from £3.75 to £3.85 from April 2015. In line with current

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practice a slightly higher rate, rising from £3.91 to £4.00 is proposed where provision is available over 48 weeks of the year.

- 4.2. The DfE have now confirmed Swindon's 2 year old DSG funding rate will be unchanged in 2015/16 which in turn means that the rate payable will need to stay at £4.95 per hour.
- 4.3. Finally the Local Authority will establish a budget of £0.165m to support the introduction of the Early Years Pupil Premium. This is a sum equivalent to the initial DSG allocation announced in the settlement.
- 4.4. The 2015/16 Early Years budgets (based on estimates of participation and the proposed funding rates) is shown in the table below. Spending proposals on 2 year old provision include continuation of a DSG contribution towards staffing and publicity costs as previously approved by Schools Forum.

Table 6 - 2015/16 Early Years Funding Rates and budget proposals			
Item	2014/15 Rates	2015/16 Rates	2015/16 Budget
3 and 4 year old children			
• Basic hourly rate - per child (38 wks)	£3.75	£3.85	£7.884m
• Basic hourly rate - per child (48 wks)	£3.91	£4.00	
Quality enhancement per setting			
• "Good" OFSTED rating	£250	£250	£0.050m
• "Outstanding" OFSTED rating	£500	£500	
Deprivation enhancement per setting (based on IDACI scores)	Up to £5,000	Up to £5,000	£0.100m
Total 3 and 4 year old budget (based on average take up of 3,660 children at 570 hours)			£8.034m
Disadvantaged 2 year old children			
• Basic hourly rate - standard per child	£4.95	£4.95	£2.724m
• Contribution to existing staffing and marketing costs at current levels			£0.063m
Total Disadvantaged 2 year olds budget (based on planned take up by approx. 985 children at 570 hours)			£2.787m
Early Years Pupil Premium			£0.165m
Total 2015/16 Early Years budget proposals			£10.986m

- 4.5. LAs are required to provide all early years' settings with indicative funding allocations prior to the start of each financial year. Schools and academies will be notified as part of their main school funding allocations. SBC is required to issue schools budgets by 27th February 2015. Other Early Years providers will receive letters from the Early Years team advising them of their indicative 2015/16 funding by the end of February.

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Ian Burbidge on 01793 464384 or iburbidge@swindon.gov.uk

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Members of Schools Forum are now asked to:

- agree the proposed 2015/16 early years funding rates as shown in Table 6, which will take effect from 1st April 2015,
- agree a 2015/16 early years budget of £10.986m as shown in Table 6.

5. Schools Budgets 2015/16

Formula funding factors 2015/16

5.1. The factors and values payable to mainstream schools through the funding formula were agreed at the October 2014 Schools Forum. These factors and rates include the 4.15% increase to the Basic per Pupil Entitlement (BPPE) that arose from the additional £390m national allocation for those poorest DSG funded Local Authorities. Swindon received a DSG increase of £4.3m from this allocation. Letters were sent to all mainstream Headteachers on 10th November 2014 advising them of these details.

5.2. Two adjustments have been made to rates since they were agreed in October as follows:

5.2.1. Following agreement by SAPH representatives on the Schools Forum the LA will continue to provide the Nylands Campus Outreach Team (NCOT) centrally. In order to do so the funds must first be delegated to primary schools and then de-delegated. Additional funding of £12.33 per primary pupil has been added to the Primary BPPE rate. This will then be de-delegated from maintained primary schools.

5.2.2. A £5.00 reduction to BPPE at KS3 / 4 arising from national adjustment to Base funding and Top Up rates for EOTAS (Riverside). This is described in more detail later in this report.

5.3. The final rates applied to the Schools Funding Formula for 2015/16 are shown in the following table;

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Table 7 - 2015/16 Primary and Secondary Schools and Academies Formula Factors			
Factor	Primary £	Secondary £	Changes
BPPE KS1-2 add £12.33 re NCOT	£2,754.40 £2,766.73		4.15% increase
BPPE KS3 Less £5.00 EOTAS Top Up / Base change		£3,607.24 £3,602.24	4.15% increase
BPPE KS4 Less £5.00 EOTAS Top Up / Base Change		£4,400.32 £4,395.32	4.15% increase
Lump sum values - per school	£106,700.00	£175,000.00	
EAL (1,2 & 3yrs)	£574.11	£700.00	
IDACI Band 1	£434.00	£434.00	
IDACI Band 2	£529.00	£529.00	
IDACI Band 3	£608.00	£608.00	
IDACI Band 4	£781.00	£781.00	
IDACI Band 5	£955.00	£955.00	
IDACI Band 6	£1,215.00	£1,215.00	
FSM Ever 6	£865.86	£865.86	
Lower Prior Attainment – Proxy SEN	£701.57	£1,000.00	
NNDR (Business Rates) - per school	Actual cost	Actual Cost	
PFI Affordability Gap funding – per school	Actual cost	Actual Cost	

- 5.4. At the October 2014 Forum meeting the LA provided indicative funding allocations for individual schools which were based on October 2013 pupil numbers and their characteristics. Actual funding for 2015/16 will be based on October 2014 pupil data which the DfE made available to Local Authorities on 11th December 2014. The LA has used this information to calculate schools budgets for 2015/16 and have also included funding for 2015/16's NNDR and PFI affordability costs.
- 5.5. Attached at **Annex A** are the final 2015/16 Primary and Secondary Schools and Academy funding allocations **subject to EFA ratification**.
- 5.6. Where appropriate Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) protection has been provided to ensure no school receives a year on year reduction in funding per pupil of more than 1.5%. The total cost of MFG in 2015/16 is **£148,825**. 4 Schools (East Wichel, Bishoptone, South Marston and Tadpole Farm) are in receipt of MFG.
- 5.7. The formula now includes the UTC Swindon and The Croft Primary. The formula delivers £0.729m to UTCs and £0.701m to The Croft. The DfE has given a commitment that these additional costs will be fully funded in the DSG Settlement.
- 5.8. New regulations in 2015/16 require Local Authorities to fund schools that have opened in the last 7 years and are still growing on a composite pupil number. This takes account of 5/12ths of the October 14 School Census and 7/12ths of an estimate of the October 2015 school census (rather than funding just on October

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2014 school census as is currently the case for established schools and academies). This approach has been applied to East Wichel, Tadpole Lane, Croft, Holy Cross and UTC Swindon and has been built into the Individual Schools Budget Calculations.

- 5.9. The total funding payable to Primary and Secondary schools and Academies in 2015/16 is **£122.520m** (29,303 pupils).
- 5.10. Forum members are reminded that schools are not protected against the impact of falling pupil numbers and are expected to anticipate and take appropriate actions to reduce costs in these circumstances. Some schools will experience challenging funding settlements despite the 4.15% increase in BPPE. Schools with growing pupil numbers between October 2013 and October 2014 censuses will receive increased funding and schools which are expanding in October 2015 will also receive in year trigger funding as described in section 4 above.

Members of Schools Forum are now asked to:

- **Note the 2015/16 mainstream schools funding allocations as shown at Annex A of £122.520m, supporting 29,303 pre 16 pupils.**

Notional SEN Funding

- 5.11. Attached at **Annex B** is a statement showing the calculation of the notional SEN budget for each school. This calculation also shows whether a school is eligible to receive additional funding from the centrally retained high needs top up budget. The Local Authority holds a budget that is allocated to schools which, based on the October 2014 census, have relatively high proportions of statemented / high need pupils. In line with current practice a proportion of funding has been earmarked as a contingency for further payments that may be required following a recalculation of notional SEN funding and spending after the October 2015 census. The values shown at Annex B are in addition to the mainstream funding allocations shown at Annex A.

Funding per pupil

- 5.12. **Annex A** also includes columns that show for each mainstream school the average 2015/16 pupil led funding calculation i.e. excluding Rates, Lump Sum and PFI allocations. This calculation includes an estimate of the pupil premium allocations based on October 14 Census information (Free School Meal Ever 6) and the announced Primary and Secondary rates. It shows annual and daily values per pupil and these rates will be used to claw back funding during 2015/16 if pupils are excluded from schools.

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De-Delegation

5.13. Schools are reminded that their 2015/16 school budget includes funding for services that the Schools Forum has agreed to de-delegate. De-delegation is where funding is deducted from schools budgets to provide services centrally. The funding to be deducted and the services are as follows:

5.13.1. Free School Meals Eligibility Administration – there is continued support for this service from maintained schools and high levels of buyback from Academies. The service is provided by the LA Admissions team. The de-delegation value / charge in all sectors for 2015/16 will be £4.80 per pupil.

5.13.2. Trade Union Release time – there is continued support for this service provided by the LA Human Resources team and a high level of buy back from academies. For 2015/16 both primary and secondary maintained schools have agreed de-delegation and the de-delegation value / charge per pupil in all sectors for 2015/16 will remain at £1.25 per pupil.

5.13.3. Nylands Campus Outreach Team – the October 2014 Forum agreed that this service provided by the White Horse Federation from the Nylands campus should be delegated to schools from 2015/16. The Primary BPPE rate has been uplifted by £12.33 per pupil. In order to provide this service centrally as agreed by October Forum £12.33 will be de-delegated in 2015/16.

5.14. The amounts of funding that will be de-delegated from each school will be included with your final budget package.

5.15. Following discussions at the October Forum meeting regarding the importance of providing stability to service providers and the staff employed by them the LA wrote to each Headteacher Association seeking views on whether longer term funding could be agreed. SAPH, SASH and ASSSH have been consulted on whether they would be in agreement to continue funding for 1, 2 or 3 years, with agreements in excess of 1 year being subject to annual review in the Autumn and costs not increasing above 2.5% per annum. The outcome of the consultation is shown below:

Table 8 – Responses to the consultation about 3 year de-delegation approval			
Service	SAPH	SASH	ASSSH
FSM Eligibility	3 years	1 year	n/a
Trade Union	3 years	n/a	3 years
NCOT	3 years	n/a	3 years

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Members of the Schools Forum are now asked to:

- Note the Notional SEN funding top ups payable in 2015/16 (Shown in Annex B) at a total estimated cost of £0.350m
- Note Individual schools average pupil led funding (shown at Annex A), which will be used by the LA to claw back funding for excluded pupils during 2015/16.
- Agree the following de-delegations and proposed length of agreement;
 - Free School Meal eligibility administration will be charged at £4.80 per pupil in 2015/16 and is supported until 31st March 2016
 - Trade Union release time will be charged at £1.25 per pupil in 2015/16 and is supported until 31st March 2018.
 - Nylands Campus Outreach Team will be charged at £12.33 per primary pupil in 2015/16 and is supported until 31st March 2018.

6. Central Expenditure Proposals 2015/16

6.1. In recent years the LA has provided Schools Forum with a full breakdown of all centrally retained budget proposals. Under the school funding reform programme the DfE introduced various categories and the 2015/16 budget proposals below are broken down in accordance with the latest school finance regulations.

Pupil Growth

6.2. Under the school finance regulations the Schools Forum must agree the criteria by which pupil growth funding is allocated and the local policy and values payable next year were agreed in October. These values are shown below together with the associated 2015/16 budget requirements. School by School detail is shown at **Annex C**. All Figures are recalculated using October 2015 Pupil numbers.

6.2.1. Pre-opening start-up costs for a new primary school at £100,000 plus up to £20,000 where the school has a nursery which the LA has requested – **no budget requirement in 2015/16**.

6.2.2. Infrastructure set up costs at £35,000 per 1 Form of Entry primary school – **no budget requirement in 2015/16**.

6.2.3. Classroom set up costs at £11,500 per primary class – budget requirement of **£46,000**.

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6.2.4. Trigger funding is payable at the primary sector average of **£3,353** x 7/12ths per pupil providing a maximum of £58,680 (30 pupils) and minimum of £41,075 (21 pupils) – a budget requirement in 2015/16 of **£234,700**.

6.3. Since October the Local Authority has been informed that, where a school (other than a free school) is opening or has opened in the last 7 years, then authorities should estimate the pupil numbers expected to join the school in September and fund accordingly through the schools budget, rather than through the Growth Fund.. Tadpole Farm, East Wichel, The Croft Holy Cross and UTC fall into this category. Where previously the LA held funds in the Growth fund for the increase in pupil numbers at these schools, this money will now pass directly into the ISB and be paid as part of the Schools Budget Share.

Members of the Schools Forum are now asked to:

- **agree a total 2015/16 pupil growth budget of £0.281m, as shown at Annex C**

Other Central Costs

6.4. Commentaries on the other centrally held budget proposals for 2015/16 are as follows:

6.4.1. **Admissions** – regardless of increases in pupil numbers, pay awards or any other inflationary cost pressures the LA is unable to submit an increased budget request above 2014/15 levels and any shortfalls in the cost of providing the admissions service will need to be offset by spending cuts or provided from core funding. For 2015/16 the budget proposal is **£195,300** in line with the current year.

6.4.2. **School subscriptions and licenses** - Forum members may recall that DfE arranged for a number of licenses (Performing Rights, Copyright etc.) to be nationalised and recharged to LAs in respect of all their schools and academies from the start of 2013/14. In addition the LA still manages the CAPITA SIMS license for maintained schools on a traded service basis. For 2015/16 the budget proposal of **£95,000** is £5,000 greater than the 14/15 budget in recognition of increased pupil numbers and the inclusion of Swindon Academy and Croft within Swindon's DSG.

6.4.3. **Schools Forum** administration – this relatively minor budget is held to cover Forum meeting room hire and refreshments plus F40 subscriptions and attendance at regional and national school funding conferences. As with Admissions, budgets cannot be set above the 2013/14 level of **£2,000** and this is therefore the 2015/16 budget proposal.

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6.4.4. **Equal pay** - At the October Schools Forum meeting members agreed the substantial early settlement of £2m of central liabilities for equal pay which would reduce the annual repayment budget to £34,000 from 2015/16. This was based on using a number of sources of funding including £800,000 of NNDR refunds of which £655,000 had been brought forward from previous years. Shortly after the October Forum meeting it came to light that the brought forward balance quoted related to the 1st April 2013 figure which excluded further refunds received during 2013/14 of £121,000 and was therefore understated. Based on the 2014/15 NNDR position a further amount of £0.465m will be available taking the total available to £1.265m. Given the relatively low risk that substantial back dated NNDR increases could arise the LA is proposing that holding an NNDR reserve is unnecessary and that this is all used to reduce the central equal pay liability.

6.4.5. Subject to Schools Forum support this would allow the 31st March 2015 equal pay liability to be reduced from £2.5m to £0.080m. The projected 2014/15 DSG out-turn position suggests that it will be possible to fully repay the equal pay liability during 2015/16. A proposal to this effect is included in the paragraph about the use of DSG balances towards the end of this report. Forum members are reminded that these proposals do not affect individual schools and academies which are required to repay their 50% share of costs via long term loan or from their own balances. Clearing the central liability releases DSG that can be made available to schools and other DSG funded providers in future years.

6.4.6. **Central overheads** – For 2014/15 the cost of central overheads charged to the DSG as agreed by Schools Forum is £651,000 (of which an estimate of £98,000 relates to the EOTAS service). When the DSG was created in 2006/07 it was based upon spending decisions taken by schools forum in 2005/06, which included a budget for Corporate Overheads of £1.426m. This funding was for central support staff and other support costs for Early Years, schools and other DSG funded services. Since 2006/07 SBC staff and other costs have reduced in line with reduced government funding and some services have been delegated to schools. Consequently the corporate overhead recharge has also reduced. Rather than apportion these overheads across all DSG retained services the LA retains a single budget.

6.4.7. The EOTAS overhead enables the School Management Committee to buy back an appropriate level of support from LA departments from its delegated budget. The level of buy back was high in the first year because more support was required by the service to enable it to establish itself. The EOTAS Management Committee and the Local Authority have now reviewed the level of overhead and concluded that it should be significantly lower in 2015/16 (£35,500). The released overhead will revert back to the Central DSG budget.

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6.4.8. For 2015/16 Forum Members are now asked to agree the same overall Central Overhead budget of **£651,000 of which £35,500 relates to the EOTAS** service and £615,500 relates to other central services.

6.4.9. A Summary of the proposed Centrally retained DSG funded budgets is shown in the following table;

Table 9 – Summary of Proposed 2015/16 Centrally Retained Budgets			
Other Central Budgets	2014/15	2015/16 Proposal	Variance
Admissions	£195,300	£195,300	£0
Schools Subscriptions and Licenses	£90,000	£95,000	£5,000
Schools Forum	£2,000	£2,000	£0
Equal Pay	£170,000	£0	-£170,000
Central Overheads	£553,000	£615,500	+£62,500
Central Overheads – EOTAS	£98,000	£35,500	-£62,500
	£1,108,300	£943,300	-£165,000

Members of Schools Forum are now asked to:

- **Agree a total budget for Centrally Retained Services of £0.943m in 2015/16 as shown in Table 9.**

7. High Needs Expenditure Proposals 2015/16

7.1. On 11th March 2014 Swindon's Schools Forum agreed High Needs Budgets totalling £25.842m (£1.759m more than the DSG High Needs Block funding provided). Details of these budgets are shown in the following table.

Table 10 – Summary of High Needs Budgets 2014/15		
	£	£
Special Schools and Academies		
- Place Funding (Maintained Schools)	4,920,000	
- Top Up Funding (Maintained and Academy)	5,377,922	
- PFI Top Up Funding	274,080	
		10,572,002
Special Resourced Unit (SRP)		
- Place Funding (Maintained Schools)	1,830,833	
- Top Up Funding (Maintained and Academy)	2,326,522	
		4,157,355

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Ian Burbidge on 01793 464384 or iburbidge@swindon.gov.uk

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Alternative Provision		
- Place Funding (Maintained Schools)	720,000	
- Top Up Funding (Maintained and Academy)	481,500	
- CAMHS and Hospital Education Service	473,000	
- Exclusions Income	-350,000	
- Tuition Service	889,800	
		2,214,300
Other High Needs Provision		
- Commissioned High Needs Outreach and Support Services	1,200,600	
- Post 16 High Needs in ISP / NMSS / Mainstream / FE	3,058,100	
- Mainstream Top Up Funding (including equipment)	2,135,000	
- Independent and Non Maintained Special Schools	1,556,600	
- High Needs Contingency	550,000	
- Other High Needs Services	271,700	
		8,772,000
TOTAL HIGH NEEDS EXPENDITURE 2014/15		25,842,382

7.2. The remainder of this report will consider each of the budgets shown above, review any considerations and recommendations of the High Needs Task and Finish Group and the Local Authority and present recommendations to Schools Forum for consideration in the run up to the 2015/16 budget settlement.

8. Special Schools and Special Resourced Provision – Banding and Top Up Funding

8.1. The High Needs Task and Finish Group (HNTFG) met on the 22nd September 2014 to commence a consultation process aimed at recommending improvements to the 2015/16 allocation of high needs funding across specialist settings where the consensus view of the group is that this would improve fairness. At that meeting it was agreed that SBC officers would undertake financial modelling on the impact of a number of potential changes to the high needs banding system which would affect Special Schools and Special Resource Provisions.

- Equalise Band Values (which would raise MLD / SPLD to the same as other prime needs)
- Equalise BESD Band Values so that pupils with BESD attracted a supplement (probably SEMH) rather than higher band values
- Band 3 – Increasing the value from 50% (£6,700) to 60% (£7,980) of Band 1.
- Extend the Special Schools ASC Supplement from Band 1 Eligible pupils to all ASC pupils in Bands 1, 2 and 3

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- Introduce a further “Medium” level of need for all Therapy Supplements so that funding could be allocated at 3 values next year i.e. High / Medium / Low.
- 8.2. The HNTFG held a further meeting on 21st October where it received various financial models relating to the proposed changes detailed above. After much discussion the group agreed the following changes to the way in which Special School and SRP Top Up and Supplements should operate in 2015/16
- Equalise all band values
 - Increasing MLD and SPLD Band Values
 - Reducing BESD band values (and introduce an SEMH supplement to compensate)
 - Increase band 3 from 50% to 60% of Band 1
 - Introduce an SEMH supplement to effectively replace 95% of the current levels of BESD top up funding as follows;
 - High (Band 1) supplement at approximately £4,275
 - Medium (Band 2) supplement at approximately £3,040
 - Low (Band 3) supplement at approximately £1,900
 - Introduce 3 levels of Therapy Funding based on the number of 1 ½ hour sessions attended by students in each year as follows;
 - High: 38 Sessions
 - Medium: 6 Sessions
 - Low: 2 Sessions
 - The LA was asked to develop a model which broadly provided sufficient funding to meet the NHS subsidised costs charged by the SBC Therapy Providers
- 8.3. The LA modelled the indicative costs of the above changes based on 2014/15 pupil details and various options on how the changes could be funded. The group supported what was described as ‘option 5’ which produced the following indicative band values:

Table 11 – Revised Band and Supplement Values arising from consultation with High Needs Task and Finish Group			
	Percent	Primary	Secondary
Band Values		£	£
Band 1	100%	£12,029	£12,662
Band 2	90%	£10,826	£11,396
Band 3	60%	£7,217	£7,597
Band 4	37.5%	£4,511	£4,748
Band 5	30%	£3,609	£3,799
Band 6	15%	£1,804	£1,899
BESD Graduated Response Assessment Class		£2,550	£2,684

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Supplement Values			
Manual Handling		£1,500	£1,500
Medical Needs		£1,500	£1,500
ASC – SRPs		£6,000	£6,000
ASC – Band 1 Special Schools		£1,000	£1,000
Access to mainstream inclusion		£2,000	£2,000
SEMH High		£4,275	£4,275
SEMH Medium		£3,040	£3,040
SEMH Low		£1,900	£1,900
British Sign Language		£16,750	£16,750

- 8.4. Annex D2 (option 5) of the October HNTFG report showed that some settings gained and others lost funding but, more importantly, that the impact of changes described above would not have a significant negative financial effect. Where schools were effected by a reduction of greater than 1.5% per place then the Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) would come into effect.
- 8.5. The minutes of the October and November HNTFG are attached at **ANNEX E** of this report for information.

9. Special School and Special Resourced Provision - Place Numbers

- 9.1. **Annex D** of this report identifies the estimated budgets for Special Schools and Special Resourced Provision. It shows the comparison between 2014/15 and 2015/16, identifying where schools have a change in the proposed number of funded places, and it provides an estimate of whether a school will be in receipt of the Minimum Funding Guarantee. At this time the figures do not take account of whether any of the places will be filled by pupils from Other Local Authorities. This information will be added before budgets are sent out to schools.
- 9.2. The October HNTFG was informed of an anticipated increase in the number of places that the LA would be commissioning during 2015/16 from 675 to 698 (a net increase of 23 places). ANNEX D to this report identifies each establishment and where the increase of 23 High Needs places occurs. This increase has been self-assessed and moderated by the Local Authority to ensure that the numbers and levels of need are correct. An additional known 23 FTE places will require the Local Authority to find a further £230,000 (23 x £10,000) of place funding in 2015/16 from within the DSG / High needs block settlement. **In total Swindon will require £6.977m of place funding in 2015/16.**
- 9.3. As well as Place funding the Local Authority will need to identify sufficient additional resource to pay for the top up funding for each place. The following table compares the number and amounts of Banded Top Up funding paid in

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2014/15 with the outcomes of the moderated Self-Assessment. This table uses the Band rates and supplements that were agreed at the October HNTFG meeting and which will be discussed later in this report. **The table identifies a budget requirement of £8.406m of Top Up Funding, an increased cost in 2015/16 of £419,000.**

Table 12 – Change in funded places and cost of Top Up 2014/15 to 2015/16

	14/15 funded Places			15/16 Funded Places based on Moderated Self-Assessment			Variance		
	Apr 14	Sep 14	£	Apr 15	Sep 15	£	Apr	Sep	£
Bands									
Bespoke Packages	17	17	414,681	20	20	478,165	3	3	63,484
Band 1	159	161	2,291,217	164	167	1,949,065	5	6	-342,151
Band 2	176	177	2,235,600	207	220	2,445,360	31	43	209,760
Band 3	252	255	1,705,260	234	239	1,799,912	-18	-16	94,652
Band 4	62	63	312,917	55	55	261,155	-7	-8	-51,762
Band 5	4	4	16,000	5	4	16,777	1	0	777
Band 6	1	1	2,000	1	1	1,899	0	0	-101
Subtotal Bands	671	678	6,977,674	686	706	6,952,333	15	28	-25,341
Supplements									
Manual Handling	68	72	105,500	82	79	120,375	14	7	14,875
Medical Needs	86	87	129,875	92	88	134,500	6	1	4,625
ASC - SRP's	50	55	317,500	57	59	349,000	7	4	31,500
ASC - Band 1 Special Schools	36	31	33,083	45	44	44,417	9	13	11,333
Access to mainstream inclusion	154	161	316,167	176	176	352,000	22	15	35,833
British Sign Language	14	14	234,500	13	13	217,750	-1	-1	-16,750
SEMH	0	0	0	110	127	366,898	110	127	366,898
Total			8,114,299			8,537,273			422,973
Primary 95%	0	0	-127,086	0	0	-130,968			-3,882
Total			7,987,213			8,406,305			419,092

9.4. Based on the moderated self-assessment the overall additional cost of these pupils will therefore be **£649,092** as follows:

Increase in Base Funding (23 x £10,000 per place)	£230,000
Increase in Top up Funding as shown above	<u>£419,092</u>
Total cost of increased High Needs Places	£649,092

9.5. SBC submitted a request to the EFA for Exceptional Circumstances Grant (additional DSG funding) to cover an increase cost associated with these additional High Needs places. The Dedicated Schools Grant Settlement announcement on 17th December 2014 confirmed that SBC has not been successful in securing any additional funding for these places. However, the department has increased Swindon's High needs block by £0.195m from a national increase of £47m to their total High needs funding.

9.6. These additional places therefore represent a pressure to the DSG of £649,000. Recommendations will be bought later in the report on how to address this pressure within the context of the overall DSG settlement.

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10. Special School and SRP – Therapy Supplement

10.1. In 2014/15 the Local Authority allocated funding to Special Schools and Special Resourced Provisions for Speech and Language, Physio and Occupational Therapy as shown in the following table:

Table 13 –Therapy Supplements 2014/15				
	Need	Count	Rate	Total
SALT	HIGH	24	£1,250	£30,000
	LOW	328	£150	£49,200
PT	HIGH	14	£825	£11,550
	LOW	117	£100	£11,700
OT	HIGH	15	£825	£12,375
	LOW	119	£100	£11,900
				£126,725

10.2. The High Needs Task and Finish Group felt that there was a need to introduce a Medium Need band for Therapy funding. After considerable discussion it was decided that the banding should be modelled as follows:

Table 14 – Therapy Supplement Proposal			
	Number of Therapy Sessions per annum		
	LA Finance Team modelled best fit	PT / OT Provider Descriptor	SALT Provider Descriptor
HIGH	38 sessions	Weekly support or monthly to termly support	Weekly or twice weekly support
MED	6 sessions	Monthly to termly support?	Between 3 and 6 visits per year?
LOW	2 sessions	Yearly or Half Yearly Support?	Up to 2 visits per year?

10.3. The LA established that the NHS subsidised charges which will be levied by the SBC Therapy providers in 2015/16 will be £41.25 per 1.5 hour session (based on a day cost of £204 and 7.5 hrs. per day). This results in the following band values:

Table 15 – Therapy Supplement proposed Values			
Eligibility / Need	High	Medium	Low
Assumed annual provision	38 sessions	6 sessions	2 sessions
Band Value	£1,567.50	£247.50	£82.50

10.4. A school by school self-assessment of the number of pupils that fall into each Therapy band has been obtained and suggests the following:

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- There has been a significant increase in the number of pupils assessed as being in need of Occupational Therapy from the 135 funded in 2014/15 to 182.
- There has been a decrease in the number of pupils being assessed as in need of Physiotherapy.
- In both Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy there has been a significant increase in the number of pupils requiring a high level of Therapeutic support.
- The numbers and profile of need in SALT has not changed significantly since the 2014/15 funding.

10.5. The financial impact of these changes is shown in the following table:

Table 16 – Financial Impact of Therapy Supplement Proposals

THERAPY	Band	Sessions per annum	Total Funding per band	Pupils numbers from Schools	Total Funding	2014/15 Allocations totals	Variance
SALT	High	38	£1,568	26	£40,755		
	Medium	6	£248	100	£24,750		
	Low	2	£83	228	£18,810		
SALT Sub				354	£84,315	£79,200	£5,115
PT	High	38	£1,568	46	£72,105		
	Medium	6	£248	30	£7,425		
	Low	2	£83	38	£3,135		
PT Sub				114	£82,665	£22,350	£59,415
OT	High	38	£1,568	45	£70,538		
	Medium	6	£248	43	£10,643		
	Low	2	£83	94	£7,755		
OT Sub				182	£88,935	£24,275	£64,660
TOTAL					255 915	£126,725	£129,190

10.6. The table identifies current levels of delegated Therapy funding of £126,725, but a doubling of the required funding to £255,915 in 2015/16. The assessment of SALT needs suggests that funding and demand are closely aligned. However, for Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy schools are suggesting that there is a significant increase in numbers and need resulting in a need to increase funding by £124,075.

10.7. Various options for mitigating the cost have been considered as follows:

- Implement in Full as described above

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- Reduce Special Schools and SRP bands to reduce cost to 2014/15 levels
- Reduce the NHS levied rate of £41.25 to reduce cost to 2014/15 levels
- Significantly reduce the amount of funding payable for larger groups of pupils requiring Therapy in recognition of economies of scale
- Part Implementation – Implement SALT for 2015/16 and undertake further work on Physio and Occupational Therapies.

11. Summary of special School and SRP Expenditure and Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG)

11.1. The Local Authority has modelled the impact of the changes to the Banded Top Up and Supplement system described in paragraphs 8 and 9 above. Details of these changes on an individual setting are shown at **Annex D** of this report. Please note that these figures currently exclude any funding relating to Therapies subject to the outcomes of Schools Forum discussions at paragraph 10 above, as such the calculations may be subject to change before final budgets are issued.

11.2. **Annex D** also identifies that 7 Special Resourced Provisions and St Luke's Special School will be in receipt of Minimum Funding Guarantee at a total cost of **£37,762**.

Members of Schools Forum are now asked to:

- Give a view on the funding changes to Special School and Special Resourced Provision budgets as described in paragraphs 8 and 9 of this report and which have been consulted on with the High Needs Task and Finish Group as shown in the minutes attached at Annex E
- Note the proposed Special School and Special Resourced Provision budgets shown at Annex D, subject to any agreement about how to treat Therapy Supplements.
- Give a view on the on the best way to take forward changes to the Therapy supplement in 2015/16.
- Note the impact of the Minimum Funding Guarantee on Special Schools and SRPs as shown at Annex D

12. EOTAS PLACE AND TOP UP EXPENDITURE / TUITION SERVICE AND EXCLUSIONS INCOME

12.1. At a meeting of the Schools Forum in January 2014 the Local Authority agreed to make budgetary provision available for EOTAS in 2014/15 as shown in the following table:

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Table 17 – EOTAS Budgets 2014/15			
AP Establishment	Places	Rate	Total
Hospital Education	10	Fixed Grant	£191,000
Marlborough House	12	Fixed Grant	£276,300
Stratton PRU - Places	45	£8,000	£360,000
Stratton PRU - Top Up	45	£10,700	£481,500
Riverside - Places	45	£8,000	£360,000
LA Centrally Held AP Funding Total			£1,668,800
Funds Delegated to Secondary for Riverside Top Up @ £32 BPPE Increase (Jan 2014 Schools Forum)	45	£7,500	£337,500
Total Funding			£2,006,300

12.2. In 2015/16 The planned place numbers for Stratton and Riverside will remain at 45 in each establishment in 2015/16.

12.3. The EFA has kept the level of funding for AP places under review. They have reviewed whether the current level of place funding (£8,000) provides the right balance between stability for institutions offering AP places and flexibility for commissioners to identify the right provision for an individual pupil. The EFA now intends to increase the funding of AP places from £8,000 to £10,000 per place per annum from September 2015 (in line with all other High Needs Places). This new funding level should be applied to all AP places, and must include those which schools can commission directly. The EFA has stated that they will expect to see equivalent reductions in the top-up funding rates so that this adjustment is cost-neutral overall.

12.4. Given that the proposal is to move to £10k per place from September 2015 the actual place funding rate payable to AP providers for the 2015/16 Financial Year will be as follows:

- £8,000 x 5/12ths = £3,333
- £10,000 x 7/12ths = £5,833
- **2015/16 FY Place Funding Total = £9,166**

12.5. This change will require a couple of adjustments to Local Authority budgets to move funding currently identified as Top up to Base Place budgets. For Stratton this requires a movement of $45 \times £1,166 = £52,470$ from top Up to Place funding. With a further movement to meet the full year effect of $45 \times £834 = £37,530$ in 2016/17.

12.6. For Riverside it is slightly more complicated. In 2014/15 the LA delegated funding for 45 Alternative Provision places at Riverside to Secondary Schools. The total

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delegation was based on a rate of £7,500 per place (£337,500). This was allocated to schools by way of a £32 per pupil increase to the BPPE.

12.7. Given the change in the place funding arrangements described above in 2015/16 the LA now needs to un-delegate funding of $45 \times £1,166 = £52,470$ (or £5 per secondary pupil) with a further $45 \times £834 = £37,530$ (or £3.50 per secondary pupil) in 2016/17. The un-delegated funding will transfer from the Individual Schools Budget to the LA's Place funding budget for Riverside to support the increase in place costs.

12.8. EOTAS cannot receive less than this sum and, although not prescribed by DFE, the LA may provide pro rata funding for any additional places above 90 at £666 per month from April to August and £833 per month from September 2013 onwards.

12.9. In summary EOTAS budgets for 2015/16 will be as shown in the following table. Schools Forum members will note that the overall level of funding has not changed.

Table 18 – EOTAS Budget Proposal 2015/16			
AP Establishment	Places	Rate	Total
Hospital Education	10	Fixed Grant	£191,000
Marlborough House	12	Fixed Grant	£276,300
Stratton PRU - Places	45	£9,166	£412,470
Stratton PRU - Top Up	45	£10,700 Apr to Aug, £8,700 Sep Onwards	£429,000
Riverside - Places	45	£9,166	£412,470
LA Centrally Held AP Funding Total			£1,721,240
Funds Delegated to Secondary for Riverside Top Up @ £32 - £5 = £27 BPPE Increase (Jan 2014 Schools Forum)	45	£7,500 Apr to Aug, £5,500 Sep onwards	£285,000
Total Funding			£2,006,240

12.10. In addition to the above budgets the Local Authority holds two further Alternative Provision budgets for the Tuition Service (**£0.890m**) and for Income received from exclusions (**-£0.350m**). The Authority proposes to maintain these budgets at their 2014/15 levels.

13. Local Authority Commissioned High Needs Services

13.1. The October meeting of the HNTFG was informed of a review of SBC Commissioned High needs Services. The review was prompted by concerns in previous years that the funding being allocated to these services was in some cases insufficient to support the needs and numbers of pupils in each service.

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13.2. Nigel Pickering wrote to each service on 16th October 2014 asking them to return a 3 year budget plan and, if there were issues around the level of funding, requiring services to request an increase they were also asked to return a business case / proposal.

13.3. The table below sets out for each service:

- the 2014/15 LA Budget
- Where a budget plan has been received whether it shows a balanced, surplus or deficit position

13.4. None of the Commissioned High Needs services submitted a business case for additional funding in 2015/16.

Table 19 – Local Authority Commissioned and Centrally Retained High Needs Services		
Service	2014/15 Allocation	Budget Plan shows a
LOCAL AUTHORITY COMMISSIONED SERVICES		
Nylands - Primary Behaviour Support Team	£232,700	£6,307 Deficit Due for delegation in 2015/16
Uplands – Visually Impaired Support Service	£240,650	£1,761 Deficit
Even Swindon - Speech and Language	£22,200	Balanced
Ruskin Junior – Autistic Spectrum Disorder	£87,000	£3,352 Surplus
Ridgeway - Education Audiologist	£11,100	Not Received
Redoaks Hearing Impaired Support Service	£239,700	£1,231 Deficit
Commonweal Physical Impairment Advisory Service	£77,100	Not Received
Millbrook Specific Learning Difficulties Support Service	£66,900	£1,188 Surplus
Ruskin Junior Autistic Spectrum Condition Support Service	£135,800	£14,348 Surplus
Nylands outreach service for emotionally vulnerable pupils	£87,410	Balanced
Total	£1,200,560	

13.5. Given the generally balanced nature of the 3 year budget plans submitted by Commissioned High Needs services and the absence of any Business Cases seeking additional funding, it is proposed that these services continue to be funded in 2015/16 at their 2014/15 levels. Whilst noting that the Nylands Behaviour Support Team will be delegated to Primary Schools as part of the Schools Budget. A further proposal around de-delegation of this service is contained in this report.

13.6. Officers will also undertake a review of the direct / indirect / overhead cost split by schools in receipt of commissioned services funding to ensure consistency across all providers.

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14. Post 16 Expenditure Proposals

14.1. The 2014/15 financial year budget for Post 16 High Needs pupils is £3.058m which is broken down as follows:

Table 20 – Post 16 High Needs Budgets			
Provision type	2014/15 Budget	Proposed Budget 2015/16	Variance
Independent Special Schools	£812,200	£782,900	–£29,300
Non Maintained Special Schools	£138,900	£86,300	–£52,600
Other Local Authority Special Schools	£54,900	£57,600	£2,700
Mainstream Top Ups	£30,100	£30,100	£0
New Responsibilities – FE / ISPs	£2,022,000	£2,022,000	£0
Total Post 16 Funding	£3,058,100	£2,978,900	–£79,200

14.2. The proposed budgets for 2015/16 are based upon known students and include a provision of 2% for inflation.

15. Mainstream Schools High Needs Top Up expenditure proposals

15.1. In 2014/15 SBC held the following budgets for mainstream schools SEN.

Table 21 – Mainstream Schools High Needs Budgets			
Service	2014/15 Budget	Proposed Budget 2015/16	Variance
Statemented Pupils Equipment	£130,000	£130,000	0
Notional SEN Additional School Funding	£350,000	£350,000	0
SENRAP Statemented Pupil Top Up	£1,467,000	£1,467,000	0
Early Years Top Up Funding	£188,000	£188,000	0
Total Top Up Funding	£2,135,000	£2,135,000	0

15.2. In another report on your agenda members will see that the mainstream statemented pupil budget is overspending by £0.450m in 2014/15. This overspend is supported by the High needs Contingency Budget. The principal reason for this overspend is due to the changes made to the way in which Statements are agreed which have resulted in a significant increase in the average cost of statements.

15.3. SENRAP budgets shown above will be subject to further ratification at March 2015 Schools Forum following consideration of a proposal to further change the way in which schools are funded for Statements to bring them more in line with the Special Schools and SRPs Banded Top up Funding system.

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16. External Placements - Pre 16

16.1. The LA aims to provide places for high need pupils in Swindon settings but there are a number of pupils for which external placements are agreed following consideration by the LA's Multi Agency Panel. In recent years there has been a significant reduction in the number of external placements because more places have been offered by Swindon schools which, even with bespoke levels of funding, are usually at a lower cost to the LA than if they were placed externally.

16.2. The 2014/15 centrally retained budget for Pre 16 external placements is £1,557,000. **The projected budget for 2015/16 is £1,654,800** This supports:

- 25 placements in Independent and Non-Maintained Special Schools @ an average net cost of £68,200 per place
- 12 placements in Other Local Authority Special schools at an average net cost of £13,500
- 18 placements in Other Local Authority mainstream schools at an average cost of £4,000.

17. High Needs Contingency

17.1. Currently the DSG supports **£550,000** of High Needs Contingency funding. This funding acts as a release valve for all of the High Needs costs that are not place or top up costs for Special Schools or Special Resourced Provisions. In particular it covers overspends on mainstream SENRAP Statemended expenditure, External Placements and Post 16 High needs expenditure.

17.2. It is not proposed to change this budget at this time, rather to review it in the light of the proposed change to the way in which statements are funded as outlined in paragraph 16 above.

18. Other Centrally Retained High Needs Budgets

18.1. In 2014/15 the Local Authority holds the following additional High Needs budgets. It is not proposed to make any changes to these budgets in 2015/16.

Table 22 – Other High Needs Budgets			
Service	2014/15 Budget	Proposed Budget 2015/16	Variance
Saltway Portage Service	£151,700	£151,700	£0
Education Support Services Monitoring	£10,000	£10,000	£0
Speech, Language and Occupational Therapy	£105,000	£105,000	£0
Travellers Children Support	£5,000	£2,000	-£3,000
TOTAL Other SEN Budgets	£271,700	£268,700	-£3,000

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Members of the School Forum are now asked to give a view on the Local Authority's proposals for High Needs Budgets as described in paragraphs 12 to 18 of this report, summarised in Table 23 and listed below:

- **Alternative Provision**
- **Commissioned High Needs Services**
- **Post 16 High Needs Budgets**
- **Mainstream School Top Up Funding**
- **External Placements (Pre 16)**
- **High Needs Contingency**
- **Other Centrally Retained High Needs Services**

19. Summary of High Needs Budgets (with Year on Year Comparison)

19.1. The following table summarises the 2014/15 and proposed 2015/16 High Needs Budgets and provides an explanation of the variances:

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Table 23 – Summary of High Needs Budgets 2014/15 and 2015/16 Estimate and Variation

HIGH NEEDS BUDGETS	2014/15	2015/16	Variance	Commentary
	£	£		
Special Schools and Academies				
- Place Funding (Maintained Schools)	4,920,000	5,066,667	146,667	14.67 additional Places
- Top Up Funding (Maintained and Academy)	5,639,922	5,937,018	297,096	Top Up for Additional Places
- Other Local Authority Pupils	-262,000	-262,000	0	
- PFI Top Up Funding	274,080	285,895	11,815	2% Increase and place / pupil number recalculation
Special Resourced Unit (SRP)				
- Place Funding (Maintained Schools)	1,830,833	1,910,000	79,167	7.9 additional places
- Top Up Funding (Maintained and Academy)	2,346,722	2,469,287	122,565	Top Up for Additional Places
- Other Local Authority Pupils	-20,200	-20,200	0	
Minimum Funding Guarantee	0	37,762	37,762	Minimum Funding Guarantee
Therapy Funding	126,725	255,915	129,190	Additional Resource to support PT / OT
Alternative Provision				
- Place Funding	720,000	824,940	104,940	National £2k Increase in Place Funding for AP, funded by reduction in AP Top Up Funding and ISB
- Top Up Funding	481,500	429,000	-52,500	Move £2k from Top Up to Place Funding
- CAMHS and Hospital Education Service	473,000	473,000	0	No Change
- Exclusions Income	-350,000	-350,000	0	No Change
- Tuition Service	889,800	889,800	0	No Change
Other High Needs Provision				
- Commissioned High Needs Outreach and Support	1,200,600	967,860	-232,740	Nylands Behaviour Team Delegate to Primary
- Post 16 High Needs in ISP / NMSS / Mainstream /	3,058,100	2,978,900	-79,200	Further work Required
- Mainstream Top Up Funding (including equipmer	2,135,000	2,135,000	0	Further Work Required
- Independent and Non Maintained Special School	1,556,600	1,654,800	98,200	Further Work Required
- High Needs Contingency	550,000	550,000	0	Underspend 2014/15
- Other High Needs Services	271,700	271,700	0	No Change
TOTAL HIGH NEEDS EXPENDITURE BUDGETS	25,842,382	26,505,344	662,962	

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Ian Burbidge on 01793 464384 or iburbidge@swindon.gov.uk

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20. Summary of overall DSG / EFA Settlement and Proposed Expenditure 2015/16

20.1. Based on the proposals included in this report the overall DSG position for 2015/16 can be summarised as follows:

Table 24 - Overall DSG Funding and Expenditure 2015/16		
Total DSG and EFA Funding receivable (Section 3)		£161.513m
Early Years Expenditure (Section 4)	£10.986m	
Mainstream School Expenditure (Section 5)	£122.520m	
Pupil Growth Expenditure (Section 6.2)	£0.281m	
Other central Expenditure (Section 6.4)	£0.943m	
High Needs Expenditure		
- Special Schools (Place / Top Up) (Section 8 and 9)	£11.028m	
- SRP (Place / Top UP) (Section 8 and 9)	£4.359m	
- MFG (Section 11)	£0.038m	
- Therapy (Section 10)	£0.256m	
- Alternative Provision (Riverside, Stratton, CAMHS, Marlborough, Tuition and Exclusions Income) (Section 13)	£2.267m	
- Commissioned Services (Section 14)	£0.968m	
- Post 16 (Section 15)	£2.979m	
- Mainstream SEN Top Up (Section 16)	£2.135m	
- External Placements Pre 16 (Section 17)	£1.655m	
- High Needs Contingency (Section 18)	£0.550m	
- Other High Needs Expenditure (Section 19)	£0.272m	
Total Expenditure		£161.235m
Unallocated DSG		£0.278m

Members of Schools Forum are now asked to support the following course of action:

Members of Forum will note that table 24 identifies an under allocation of DSG of £0.278m. There is still work to be undertaken on the High Needs Budgets (particularly in relation to the Mainstream Schools SENRAP Budget. Officers propose to hold this balance for the time being and bring a further Budget report to Schools Forum in March with proposals for how this funding should be allocated.

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DSG Funding Blocks / Expenditure comparison

20.2. The following table highlights the difference between the current DSG funding blocks and the expenditure proposals outlined in this report. Members are asked to not the continuing use of Early Years and Schools Block funding to support the High Needs Block.

Table 25 - DSG Block Funding v Expenditure			
Block	Estimated Settlement 2015/16	Estimated Expenditure	Variance
Early Years	£12.103	10.986	-£1.117
Schools	£124.403	123.744	-£0.659
High Needs	£24.497	25,995	£1.498
Total	£161.003	£160.739	-£0.278

21. DSG Balances

21.1. Paragraph 3.18 of this report identifies an estimated DSG balance at the end of 2014/15 of £1.154m, this represents 0.7% of the 2015/16 DSG estimated Settlement and 4.1% of the centrally retained DSG expenditure budget (Including High Needs). Officers consider this to be a prudent level of reserves, enabling the Local Authority to manage budgets if expensive, unforeseen items of expenditure occur.

21.2. Officers are proposing to use some of the reserves as follows:

- To repay the last of the Local Authorities Equal Pay Liability £0.080m as detailed in paragraph 6.4.5 above), in line with previous agreements reached by Schools Forum. This will release £170,000 of committed DSG expenditure (see Table 9 above).

Members of Schools Forum are now asked to:

- **Agree to the proposed use of £0.080m of DSG balances in 2014/15 as described in paragraph 22.2 of this report.**

22. Other Funding Streams

22.1. In addition to receiving a delegated allocation of DSG funding from the local formula schools and early years setting will receive other sources of funding which are determined by the EFA without any LA or Schools Forum influence. These are briefly described below for information.

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22.1.1. Pupil Premium (schools) – schools have experienced stepped increases in the funding per pupil values as DfE have increased the national Pupil Premium grant allocations since its introduction in 2011/12. The LA is not anticipating any further increases and will provide indicative estimates for schools of their 2015/16 grant levels based on October 2014 PLASC data (**Annex A**). Schools are reminded that their final Pupil Premium grant values will be determined by DfE based on January 2015 PLASC details. The following values are assumed for 2015/16;

- Looked After Child £1,900
- Disadvantaged (FSM6) child (primary) £1,320
- Disadvantaged (FSM6) child (secondary) £935

22.1.2. Universal Infants Free School Meals – As previously reported to the Schools Forum DfE will be providing funding for all infant meals at £2.30 per meal using the October and January censuses to determine take up levels and no increases are anticipated.

22.1.3. Devolved Formula Capital – Schools will continue to receive a fixed amount per school and an amount per pupil with different values for each sector which at the time of writing have still to be announced, but we expect little change on the 2014/15 values which were:

- Primary lump sum of £4,000 plus £11.25 per pupil
- Secondary lump sum of £4,000 plus £16.88 per pupil
- Special lump sum of £4,000 plus £33.75 per pupil

23. Alternative Options

23.1. There are various alternatives on how the additional DSG could be distributed as were described in the July and October Schools Forum reports. The LA has a statutory duty to manage and distribute the DSG in accordance with prevailing grant conditions and the school finance regulations. Although under the school funding reform programme DfE are more prescriptive in terms of options and approaches in most cases funding values are locally determined.

24. Implications, Diversity Impact Assessment and Risk Management

Financial and Procurement Implications

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

Legal and Human Rights Implications

24.2. There are no legal or human rights implications arising from this report.

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

24.3. This report does not make any recommendations that affect these areas.

Links to One Swindon, Plans and Policies

24.4. Utilisation of the DSG has a direct link to two of the Council's five priorities – "Right skills, right jobs in the right place" and "Make the best use of Swindon's resources inside and outside the Council".

Diversity Impact Assessment

24.5. As there are no proposals in this report, a DIA has not been completed.

Risk Management

24.6. There are no specific risk management implications not highlighted in the body of the report.

25. Consulters

25.1. The Board Director Resources (Section 151 Officer), Director of Law and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) and Board Director Commissioning (Director of Children Services) are consulted in respect of all reports.

26. Background Papers

26.1. Previous reports to the Schools Forum and documents posted on the DfE web site.

27. List of Annexes

- **Annex A** - Primary and Secondary Maintained and Academy Formula Budgets 2015/16, Pupil Premium Estimates and Average Funding per pupil calculations
- **Annex B** - Notional SEN funding within delegated budgets and calculation of additional central allocations
- **Annex C** - Pupil Growth Funding Calculations
- **Annex D** - Special School and Special Resourced Provision budgets 2015/16 and calculation of Minimum Funding Guarantee
- **Annex E** – Minutes of the High Needs Task and Finish Group for October and November 2014

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ANNEX A

INDICATIVE SCHOOL BUDGETS 2015/16 with Annual and Daily Per Pupil Funding Calculation

Schools Budget 2015/16 and comparison with 2014/15												
School Name	October 2013 Pupil Numbers	October 2014 Pupil Numbers	Variation in Pupil Numbers	2014/15 Funding Allocation	2015/16 Indicative Funding Allocation	Funding Variation	School Factors (Lump Sum, Rates, PFI)	ESTIMATED Pupil Premium (Oct 14 APT FSM6 x £1,320 Pri and £935 Sec)	15/16 funding less School Factors Plus Pupil Premium	Annual Per Pupil Funding	Daily Per Pupil Funding 195 Days	
ABBEY MEADS COMMUNITY PRIMARY	385	387	2	£1,358,352	£1,413,067	£54,715	£148,852	£119,196	£1,383,411	£3,575	£18.33	
BEECHCROFT INFANTS	249	262	13	£925,883	£1,020,619	£94,737	£120,504	£65,614	£965,729	£3,686	£18.90	
BISHOPSTONE SCHOOL	39	43	4	£287,618	£302,545	£13,927	£107,203	£7,277	£201,619	£4,689	£24.05	
BRIDLEWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL	258	263	5	£870,391	£922,054	£51,663	£134,801	£30,593	£817,846	£3,110	£15.95	
BROOK FIELD COUNTY PRIMARY	409	409	0	£1,338,648	£1,385,489	£46,841	£139,485	£48,960	£1,294,964	£3,166	£16.24	
CATHERINE WAYTE PRIMARY SCHOOL	416	410	-6	£1,322,743	£1,355,883	£33,140	£138,006	£35,296	£1,253,173	£3,057	£15.67	
CHISELDON PRIMARY SCHOOL	165	148	-17	£592,505	£568,862	-£23,643	£119,518	£30,972	£480,316	£3,245	£16.64	
COLEBROOK INFANT ACADEMY	132	133	1	£500,110	£531,307	£31,197	£108,154	£21,607	£444,761	£3,344	£17.15	
COLEBROOK JUNIOR SCHOOL	174	168	-6	£644,459	£644,446	-£13	£115,328	£42,301	£571,419	£3,401	£17.44	
COVINGHAM PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL	365	364	-1	£1,209,171	£1,252,353	£43,182	£123,955	£51,908	£1,180,305	£3,243	£16.63	
DROVE PRIMARY SCHOOL	562	620	58	£2,059,999	£2,303,993	£243,994	£113,257	£151,397	£2,342,132	£3,778	£19.37	
EAST WICHEL COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL	223	289	66	£901,677	£1,114,713	£213,036	£132,336	£115,652	£1,098,029	£3,799	£19.48	
ELDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL	311	313	2	£1,262,945	£1,305,750	£42,806	£126,691	£158,613	£1,337,672	£4,274	£21.92	
EVEN SWINDON PRIMARY SCHOOL	449	479	30	£1,730,584	£1,909,916	£179,331	£159,451	£152,761	£1,903,226	£3,973	£20.38	
FERNDALE COMMUNITY PRIMARY	394	408	14	£1,421,418	£1,517,924	£96,506	£128,466	£127,482	£1,516,940	£3,718	£19.07	
GODDARD PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL	453	491	38	£1,852,959	£2,053,771	£200,811	£111,531	£290,289	£2,232,529	£4,547	£23.32	
GORSE HILL PRIMARY	386	404	18	£1,420,174	£1,525,424	£105,249	£112,320	£152,759	£1,565,863	£3,876	£19.88	
GRANGE INFANTS	270	262	-8	£903,270	£916,290	£13,020	£128,022	£19,357	£807,625	£3,083	£15.81	
GRANGE JUNIOR SCHOOL	352	358	6	£1,139,055	£1,199,611	£60,556	£141,703	£43,329	£1,101,237	£3,076	£15.77	
GREENMEADOW SCHOOL	262	267	5	£906,401	£975,148	£68,748	£120,504	£30,939	£885,584	£3,317	£17.01	
HAYDON WICK PRIMARY SCHOOL	269	274	5	£940,939	£977,465	£36,526	£111,187	£87,071	£953,349	£3,479	£17.84	
HAYDONLEIGH PRIMARY SCHOOL	438	492	54	£1,398,631	£1,617,541	£218,910	£138,006	£65,674	£1,545,209	£3,141	£16.11	
HAZELWOOD ACADEMY	175	191	16	£715,688	£805,930	£90,242	£112,912	£96,439	£789,458	£4,133	£21.20	
HIGHWORTH EASTROP INFANTS	165	163	-2	£582,657	£601,306	£18,648	£108,401	£19,560	£512,465	£3,144	£16.12	
HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY	272	302	30	£945,475	£1,062,546	£117,070	£119,200	£48,364	£991,710	£3,284	£16.84	
HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC PRIMARY	302	302	0	£1,197,368	£1,238,223	£40,855	£109,313	£104,198	£1,233,107	£4,083	£20.94	
HOLY ROOD CATHOLIC INFANT SCH	179	180	1	£703,078	£749,599	£46,522	£108,598	£13,200	£654,201	£3,634	£18.64	
KING WILLIAM STREET CE	200	198	-2	£718,762	£738,457	£19,695	£107,489	£45,338	£676,306	£3,416	£17.52	
LAINESMEAD PRIMARY SCHOOL	362	371	9	£1,441,443	£1,518,013	£76,570	£121,983	£171,540	£1,567,570	£4,225	£21.67	
LAWN PRIMARY SCHOOL	411	415	4	£1,426,793	£1,485,738	£58,946	£129,748	£80,910	£1,436,900	£3,462	£17.76	
LETHBRIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL	481	484	3	£1,457,511	£1,540,760	£83,249	£113,602	£53,019	£1,480,177	£3,058	£15.68	
LIDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL	281	297	16	£1,043,549	£1,131,064	£87,515	£139,978	£92,365	£1,083,452	£3,648	£18.71	
MILLBROOK PRIMARY	295	311	16	£1,156,826	£1,246,212	£89,386	£115,155	£125,175	£1,256,232	£4,039	£20.71	
MOREDON PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL	401	398	-3	£1,612,622	£1,660,374	£47,751	£254,944	£164,256	£1,569,686	£3,944	£20.23	
MOUNTFORD MANOR PRIMARY AND NURSERY	209	193	-16	£958,438	£910,777	-£47,662	£109,239	£116,250	£917,787	£4,755	£24.39	
NYTHE PRIMARY SCHOOL	163	165	2	£651,224	£684,796	£33,572	£115,821	£55,465	£624,439	£3,784	£19.41	
OAKHURST COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL	415	411	-4	£1,385,700	£1,422,660	£36,960	£148,112	£92,817	£1,367,365	£3,327	£17.06	
OAKTREE PRIMARY SCHOOL	298	323	25	£1,348,372	£1,480,253	£131,881	£119,272	£252,071	£1,613,051	£4,994	£25.61	
OLIVER TOMKINS C.E. INFANT SCHOOL	159	156	-3	£676,375	£664,773	-£11,602	£106,700	£64,268	£622,341	£3,989	£20.46	
OLIVER TOMKINS C.E. JUNIOR	181	186	5	£797,424	£805,129	£7,705	£112,715	£99,045	£791,459	£4,255	£21.82	
ORCHID VALE PRIMARY SCHOOL	290	324	34	£1,089,833	£1,227,963	£138,130	£254,729	£48,334	£1,021,567	£3,153	£16.17	
PEATMOOR COMMUNITY PRIMARY	193	192	-1	£666,227	£683,972	£17,745	£111,502	£34,500	£606,970	£3,161	£16.21	
RED OAKS PRIMARY SCHOOL	476	476	0	£1,705,395	£1,785,829	£80,434	£335,526	£75,602	£1,525,905	£3,206	£16.44	
ROBERT LE KYNG PRIMARY SCHOOL	405	403	-2	£1,470,859	£1,499,111	£28,252	£134,062	£107,415	£1,472,464	£3,654	£18.74	
RODBOURNE CHENEY PRIMARY	253	261	8	£962,995	£1,026,074	£63,079	£108,623	£112,593	£1,030,043	£3,947	£20.24	
RUSKIN JUNIOR	373	368	-5	£1,374,392	£1,413,605	£39,213	£135,294	£149,170	£1,427,481	£3,879	£19.89	
SEVEN FIELDS PRIMARY SCHOOL	264	269	5	£1,243,624	£1,293,756	£50,132	£115,771	£207,565	£1,385,551	£5,151	£26.41	
SHAW RIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL	374	390	16	£1,286,424	£1,381,159	£94,735	£116,757	£97,798	£1,362,201	£3,493	£17.91	
SOUTH MARSTON C OF E PRIMARY	107	102	-5	£470,133	£449,283	-£20,850	£108,401	£20,517	£361,399	£3,543	£18.17	
SOUTHFIELD JUNIOR SCHOOL	225	226	1	£765,680	£799,947	£34,268	£108,992	£53,271	£744,227	£3,293	£16.89	
ST CATHERINE'S PRIMARY	195	202	7	£728,839	£774,816	£45,976	£109,140	£29,929	£695,605	£3,444	£17.66	
ST FRANCIS C OF E	393	411	18	£1,249,051	£1,353,845	£104,794	£112,517	£59,059	£1,300,387	£3,164	£16.23	
ST LEONARD'S CE PRIMARY ACADEMY	193	187	-6	£658,875	£660,664	£1,790	£109,017	£6,428	£558,075	£2,984	£15.30	
ST MARY'S RC SCHOOL	307	318	11	£1,068,827	£1,153,065	£84,238	£109,264	£52,979	£1,096,780	£3,449	£17.69	
TADPOLE LANE	34	67	33	£162,350	£297,131	£134,782	£107,721	£0	£189,410	£2,827	£14.50	
THE CROFT PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	187	187	£0	£701,415	£701,415	£110,800	£31,345	£621,960	£3,326	£17.06	
TREGOZE PRIMARY	202	209	7	£733,027	£785,305	£52,278	£110,644	£53,830	£728,492	£3,486	£17.87	
WANBOROUGH PRIMARY SCHOOL	206	205	-1	£694,958	£720,435	£25,478	£126,050	£17,244	£611,629	£2,984	£15.30	
WESTLEA SCHOOL	304	309	5	£1,083,682	£1,133,032	£49,349	£111,877	£84,975	£1,106,130	£3,580	£18.36	
WESTROP PRIMARY	214	227	13	£758,150	£820,074	£61,924	£129,230	£35,737	£726,580	£3,201	£16.41	
WROUGHTON INFANTS SCHOOL	244	234	-10	£839,923	£839,435	-£488	£117,669	£57,104	£778,870	£3,329	£17.07	
WROUGHTON JUNIOR SCHOOL	341	355	14	£1,126,374	£1,208,220	£81,846	£123,832	£105,638	£1,190,026	£3,352	£17.19	
CHURCHFIELDS ACADEMY	858	785	-73	£4,477,012	£4,242,971	-£234,041	£194,326	£319,044	£4,367,688	£5,564	£28.53	
HIGHWORTH WARNEFORD SCHOOL	907	920	13	£3,920,605	£4,121,362	£200,757	£188,705	£116,782	£4,049,439	£4,402	£22.57	
ISAMBARD COMMUNITY SCHOOL	1,140	1,117	-23	£5,410,542	£5,497,586	£87,044	£679,710	£154,862	£4,972,738	£4,452	£22.83	
KINGSDOWN SCHOOL	1,175	1,172	-3	£5,333,917	£5,535,463	£201,545	£198,171	£216,791	£5,554,082	£4,739	£24.30	
NOVA HREOD	964	853	-111	£4,893,112	£4,474,487	-£418,625	£509,597	£239,267	£4,204,157	£4,929	£25.28	
ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE	1,107	1,117	10	£5,055,328	£5,276,700	£221,372	£228,737	£164,160	£5,212,123	£4,666	£23.93	
SWINDON ACADEMY	1,178	1,186	8	£5,733,085	£5,890,663	£157,578	£237,981	£814,783	£6,467,465	£5,453	£27.96	
THE COMMONWEAL SCHOOL	1,076	1,074	-2	£4,818,740	£4,984,195	£165,454	£198,664	£182,662	£4,968,192	£4,626	£23.72	
THE DORCAN ACADEMY	906	883	-23	£4,442,854	£4,434,038	-£8,816	£197,481	£298,721	£4,535,278	£5,136	£26.34	
THE LYDIARD PARK ACADEMY	929	901	-28	£4,410,578	£4,378,822	-£31,756	£205,319	£231,222	£4,404,724	£4,889	£25.07	
THE RIDGEWAY SCHOOL	961	972	11	£4,219,850	£4,386,406	£166,556	£211,729	£161,884	£4,336,561	£4,461	£22.88	
UTC SWINDON	0	111	111	£0	£729,335	£729,335	£195,000	£0	£534,335	£4,814	£24.69	
TOTAL	28,704	29,303	599	£116,662,476	£122,519,943	£5,857,467	£11,185,300	£7,884,534	£119,219,177			

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Ian Burbidge, on 01793 464384 or iburbidge@swindon.gov.uk

2015-16 DSG SETTLEMENT AND BUDGET REPORT

Schools Forum

Date: 20TH January 2015

Calculation of Notional SEN funding and Notional SEN spending 2015/16													
Notional SEN Funding 2015/16					Notional SEN Spending 2015/16								
School Name	Total Funding allocated for SEN (£701.57 PRI and £1000 SEC per Low Prior Attainment pupil)	Total Deprivation Funding allocated via FSM and IDACI	40% of Deprivation Funding deemed to be SEN related	Total Notional SEN Funding	Total Low Prior Attainment Pupils Oct 2014	Statemented Pupil Numbers as at Oct 14 (excluding SRP)	Notional Spend on Statemented pupils @ £6,000	Low Prior Attainment pupils less Statemented Pupils	Notional spend on non statemented LPA pupils @ £701.57	Total Notional spend on SEN and LPA Pupils	Difference between notional SEN funding and spending	SEN RAP Top Up funding 2015/16 to ensure notional costs match notional funding	
	A	B	C	D = A + C	E	F	G	H = E - F	J	K = G + J	L = D - K	M	
ABBEY MEADS COMMUNITY PRIMARY	£53,605	£127,014	£50,806	£104,411	76.41	5	£30,000	71.41	£50,097	£80,097	£24,314		
BISHOPSTONE SCHOOL	£5,544	£4,773	£1,909	£7,454	7.90	0	£0	7.90	£5,544	£5,544	£1,909		
Bridlewood Primary School	£30,217	£22,877	£9,151	£39,367	43.07	2	£12,000	41.07	£28,813	£40,813	-£1,446	£1,446	
Brook Field County Primary	£54,187	£43,451	£17,381	£71,567	77.24	8	£48,000	69.24	£48,574	£96,574	-£25,007	£25,007	
Catherine Wayte Primary School	£45,340	£27,447	£10,979	£56,319	64.63	5	£30,000	59.63	£41,832	£71,832	-£15,513	£15,513	
CHISELDON PRIMARY SCHOOL	£17,122	£22,746	£9,098	£26,220	24.40	0	£0	24.40	£17,122	£17,122	£9,098		
COLEBROOK INFANT ACADEMY	£23,846	£22,941	£9,177	£33,022	33.99	3	£18,000	30.99	£21,741	£39,741	-£6,719	£6,719	
COLEBROOK JUNIOR SCHOOL	£23,426	£36,862	£14,745	£38,171	33.39	2	£12,000	31.39	£22,023	£34,023	£4,148		
Cowingham Park Primary School	£46,629	£64,434	£25,774	£72,402	66.46	5	£30,000	61.46	£43,121	£73,121	-£718	£718	
DROVE PRIMARY SCHOOL	£116,428	£178,273	£71,309	£187,737	165.95	7	£42,000	158.95	£111,517	£153,517	£34,220		
EAST WICHEL COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL	£32,572	£82,322	£32,929	£65,501	46.43	2	£12,000	44.43	£31,169	£43,169	£22,332		
EVEN SWINDON PRIMARY SCHOOL	£121,465	£243,516	£97,406	£218,871	173.13	10	£60,000	163.13	£114,449	£174,449	£44,422		
Femdale Community Primary	£59,406	£183,051	£73,220	£132,627	84.68	8	£48,000	76.68	£53,794	£101,794	£30,833		
Goddard Park Primary School	£49,445	£518,161	£207,265	£256,709	70.48	7	£42,000	63.48	£44,534	£86,534	£170,175		
Gorse Hill Primary	£72,274	£181,388	£72,555	£144,829	103.02	10.5	£63,000	92.52	£64,907	£127,907	£16,922		
GRANGE INFANTS	£38,724	£19,589	£7,836	£46,560	55.20	2	£12,000	53.20	£37,321	£49,321	-£2,761	£2,761	
GRANGE JUNIOR SCHOOL	£24,260	£39,713	£15,885	£40,145	34.58	5	£30,000	29.58	£20,752	£50,752	-£10,607	£10,607	
Greenmeadow School	£21,186	£82,745	£33,098	£54,283	30.20	1	£6,000	29.20	£20,484	£26,484	£27,800		
HAYDON WICK PRIMARY SCHOOL	£19,846	£82,923	£33,169	£53,015	28.29	4	£24,000	24.29	£17,040	£41,040	£11,975		
Haydonleigh Primary School	£39,774	£60,305	£24,122	£63,896	56.69	3	£18,000	53.69	£37,669	£55,669	£8,227		
Hazelwood Academy	£29,870	£116,994	£46,798	£76,668	42.58	4	£24,000	38.58	£27,064	£51,064	£25,604		
HIGHWORTH EASTROP INFANTS	£22,032	£14,046	£5,619	£27,650	31.40	2	£12,000	29.40	£20,629	£32,629	-£4,978	£4,978	
HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC PRIMARY	£41,514	£211,883	£84,753	£126,267	59.17	8	£48,000	51.17	£35,902	£83,902	£42,366		
HOLY ROOD CATHOLIC INFANT SCH	£39,264	£32,516	£13,006	£52,271	55.97	4	£24,000	51.97	£36,458	£60,458	-£8,187	£8,187	
KING WILLIAM STREET CE	£25,045	£48,748	£19,499	£44,544	35.70	3	£18,000	32.70	£22,941	£40,941	£3,604		
LAINESMEAD PRIMARY SCHOOL	£89,774	£240,110	£96,044	£185,818	127.96	7	£42,000	120.96	£84,862	£126,862	£58,956		
LAWN PRIMARY SCHOOL	£47,787	£151,955	£60,782	£108,569	68.11	9	£54,000	59.11	£41,473	£95,473	£13,096		
Lethbridge Primary School	£24,417	£44,849	£17,940	£42,357	34.80	11	£66,000	23.80	£16,700	£82,700	-£40,343	£40,343	
Millbrook Primary	£75,962	£179,708	£71,883	£147,845	108.27	8	£48,000	100.27	£70,350	£118,350	£29,496		
Moredon Primary & Nursery School	£49,591	£244,568	£97,827	£147,419	70.69	9	£54,000	61.69	£43,277	£97,277	£50,141		
MOUNTFORD MANOR PRIMARY AND NURSERY	£36,627	£201,509	£80,603	£117,231	52.21	2	£12,000	50.21	£35,224	£47,224	£70,007		
NYTHE PRIMARY SCHOOL	£31,647	£76,814	£30,726	£62,373	45.11	4	£24,000	41.11	£28,841	£52,841	£9,532		
Oakhurst Community Primary School	£54,583	£65,409	£26,163	£80,747	77.80	7	£42,000	70.80	£49,672	£91,672	-£10,926	£10,926	
Oaktree Primary School	£74,693	£373,473	£149,389	£224,082	106.47	8	£48,000	98.47	£69,080	£117,080	£107,002		
OLIVER TOMKINS C.E. INFANT SCHOOL	£18,617	£96,202	£38,481	£57,098	26.54	2	£12,000	24.54	£17,214	£29,214	£27,884		
OLIVER TOMKINS C.E. JUNIOR	£36,748	£132,973	£53,189	£89,937	52.38	2	£12,000	50.38	£35,345	£47,345	£42,592		
Orchid Vale Primary School	£25,332	£38,846	£15,538	£40,870	36.11	3	£18,000	33.11	£23,227	£41,227	-£357	£357	
Peatmoor Community Primary	£11,788	£24,026	£9,611	£21,398	16.80	2	£12,000	14.80	£10,384	£22,384	-£986	£986	
Red Oaks Primary School	£50,157	£58,737	£23,495	£73,652	71.49	8	£48,000	63.49	£44,545	£92,545	-£18,893	£18,893	
Robert Le Kyng Primary School	£97,101	£112,319	£44,927	£142,028	138.40	5	£30,000	133.40	£93,593	£123,593	£18,435		
Rodbourne Cheney Primary School, Broadway, Sw	£28,622	£159,577	£63,831	£92,452	40.80	2	£12,000	38.80	£27,218	£39,218	£53,234		
SEVEN FIELDS PRIMARY SCHOOL	£66,017	£363,505	£145,402	£211,419	94.10	3	£18,000	91.10	£63,912	£81,912	£129,507		
SHAW RIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL	£55,368	£104,381	£41,753	£97,120	78.92	11	£66,000	67.92	£47,650	£113,650	-£16,530	£16,530	
SOUTH MARSTON C OF E PRIMARY	£6,662	£14,239	£5,696	£12,358	9.50	1	£6,000	8.50	£5,960	£11,960	£397		
SOUTHFIELD JUNIOR SCHOOL	£26,426	£36,339	£14,536	£40,961	37.67	2	£12,000	35.67	£25,023	£37,023	£3,939		
ST CATHERINE'S PRIMARY	£33,929	£58,707	£23,483	£57,412	48.36	3	£18,000	45.36	£31,825	£49,825	£7,588		
St Francis C of E	£55,590	£41,888	£16,755	£72,345	79.24	14	£84,000	65.24	£45,768	£129,768	-£57,423	£57,423	
ST LEONARD'S CE PRIMARY ACADEMY	£23,991	£8,239	£3,296	£27,286	34.20	0	£0	34.20	£23,991	£23,991	£3,296		
SWINDON BEECHCROFT INFANTS	£51,119	£122,373	£48,949	£100,068	72.86	3	£18,000	69.86	£49,014	£67,014	£33,054		
SWINDON ELDENE PRIMARY SCHOOL	£81,679	£226,963	£90,785	£172,465	116.42	4	£24,000	112.42	£78,873	£102,873	£69,592		
SWINDON HOLY ROOD R.C. JUNIOR	£25,138	£61,542	£24,617	£49,754	35.83	7	£42,000	28.83	£20,227	£62,227	-£12,472	£12,472	
SWINDON LIDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL	£55,432	£95,810	£38,324	£93,755	79.01	6	£36,000	73.01	£51,222	£87,222	£6,533		
SWINDON RUSKIN JUNIOR	£47,653	£208,005	£83,202	£130,855	67.92	7	£42,000	60.92	£42,742	£84,742	£46,113		
SWINDON ST MARY'S RC SCHOOL	£31,732	£92,055	£36,822	£68,554	45.23	5	£30,000	40.23	£28,225	£58,225	£10,330		
SWINDON TREGOZE PRIMARY	£19,828	£70,553	£28,221	£48,049	28.26	4	£24,000	24.26	£17,021	£41,021	£7,028		
The Croft Primary School	£14,221	£31,058	£12,423	£26,644	20.27	0	£0	20.27	£14,221	£14,221	£12,423		
WANBOROUGH PRIMARY SCHOOL	£9,486	£15,044	£6,018	£15,504	13.52	0	£0	13.52	£9,486	£9,486	£6,018		
WESTLEA SCHOOL	£61,549	£86,356	£34,542	£96,091	87.73	7	£42,000	80.73	£56,638	£98,638	-£2,547	£2,547	
WESTROP PRIMARY	£30,239	£30,591	£12,237	£42,476	43.10	6	£36,000	37.10	£26,030	£62,030	-£19,554	£19,554	
Wroughton Infants School	£31,270	£41,278	£16,511	£47,781	44.57	4	£24,000	40.57	£28,464	£52,464	-£4,683	£4,683	
Wroughton Junior School	£29,215	£70,687	£28,275	£57,490	41.64	5	£30,000	36.64	£25,707	£55,707	£1,783		
Tadpole Lane	£0	£2,000	£800	£800	0.00	0	£0	0.00	£0	£0	£800		
SWINDON ACADEMY	£140,573	£806,722	£322,689	£463,261	200.37	14	£84,000	186.37	£130,752	£214,752	£248,510		
PRIMARY SUBTOTAL	£2,703,580	£7,258,129	£2,903,251	£5,606,832	3853.61	305.5	£1,833,000	3548.11	£2,489,251	£4,322,251	£1,284,581	£260,650	
CHURCHFIELDS ACADEMY	£236,981	£643,746	£257,498	£494,479	236.98	18	£108,000	219.0	£218,981	£326,981	£167,498		
The Dorcan Academy	£236,928	£528,398	£211,359	£448,287	236.9	16	£96,000	220.9	£220,928	£316,928	£131,359		
The Lydiard Park Academy	£230,440	£407,563	£163,025	£393,465	230.4	15	£90,000	215.4	£215,440	£305,440	£88,025		
HIGHWORTH WARNEFORD SCHOOL	£1961												

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PUPIL GROWTH FUND CALCULATIONS

ANNEX C

Calculation of Average per pupil Funding			
Formula Factor	Rate	Count	Total Funding
Primary BPPE	2766.73	18,877.0	52,227,562
FSM	865.86	4,173.0	3,613,225
IDACI Band 1	434	1,048.4	454,997
IDACI Band 2	529	423.3	223,919
IDACI Band 3	608	1,927.5	1,171,945
IDACI Band 4	781	1,675.5	1,308,575
IDACI Band 5	955	204.4	195,207
IDACI Band 6	1215	238.9	290,257
EAL 3 Primary	574.11	1,914.0	1,098,832
LPA	701.57	3,853.6	2,703,577
Total Per Pupil Funding			63,288,097
Average Per Pupil Funding for Growth			1,955.72 (7/12ths)

New / Expanding Schools	School Opened in the last 7 Years?	Additional Forms of entry	Estimated Increase in October 15 Roll	£ per pupil	total value of Trigger Funding	Total Value of Pre Opening Start Up Costs	Total Value of Whole School Infrastructure Costs	Total Value of Individual Class Set Up costs	Notes
Croft	Y	2	60	£ 1,956	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	Agreement reached in 13/14 to advance fund all start up costs. From 15/16 Trigger Funding goes through the APT / ISB
East Wichel	Y	2	???	£ 1,956	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	From 15/16 Trigger funding goes through the APT / ISB. No £11.5k as all classes are open in 14/15
Tadpole Lane	Y	2	60	£ 1,956	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 23,000	From 15/16 Trigger funding goes through APT / ISB. Start Up costs in 2014/15
Even Swindon	N	1	30	£ 1,956	£ 58,671	£ -	£ -	£ -	Received all set up funding in 14/15 from DSG balances as per Jan 14 Forum
Haydonleaig	N	1	30	£ 1,956	£ 58,671	£ -	£ -	£ -	Agreement reached in 13/14 to advance fund all start up costs. From 15/16 Trigger Funding goes through the APT / ISB
Orchid Vale	N	1	30	£ 1,956	£ 58,671	£ -	£ -	£ -	Received all set up funding in 14/15 from DSG balances as per Jan 14 Forum
Holy Cross	Y	1	30	£ 1,956	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 11,500	From 15/16 Trigger Funding goes through the APT / ISB
AN Other Town Centre School	?	1	30	£ 1,956	£ 58,671	£ -	£ -	£ 11,500	1 Bulge Class
UTC	Y	2.3	70	£ 1,956	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	
					£ 234,686	£ -	£ -	£ 46,000	

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ANNEX D

SPECIAL SCHOOL AND SRP PLACE NUMBERS / BUDGETS AND MINIMUM FUNDING GUARANTEE

Setting - SRP's	FTE Places	2014/15 Indicative Funding					2014/15	2015/16 Indicative Funding					Year on Year Changes			MINIMUM FUNDING GUARANTEE PROTECTION								
		Place @ £10,000	Top Up Values (Excluding Therapies)	Average Top Up	PFI @ Actual Cost	Total Funding		Start up Supplements	Average funding per place in 2014/15	FTE Places	Place @ £10,000	Top Up Values (Excluding Therapies)	Average Top Up	PFI @ Actual Cost	Total Funding	Average funding per place in 2014/15	Places	Top Up Per Pupil	Total Funding	Percentage Change in Funding per place	MFG Protection	Revised Total Funding	Revised Funding Per Place	Percentage Change in Funding per place
Redeoks - HI SL	13.0	£130,000	£409,505	£31,500		£539,505		£41,500	13.0	£130,000	£400,126	£30,779		£530,126	£40,779	0.0	-£604	£531,412	£40,878	98.5%	£1,286	£531,412	£40,878	98.5%
Ridgeway - HI	3.0	£30,000	£42,000	£14,000		£72,000		£24,000	2.4	£24,167	£32,373	£13,396		£56,540	£23,396	-0.6	-£604	£57,130	£23,640	98.5%	£590	£57,130	£23,640	98.5%
Redeoks - LDD	8.3	£83,333	£85,218	£10,226		£168,551		£20,226	10.0	£100,000	£106,279	£10,628		£206,279	£20,628	1.7	£402	£206,779	£20,628	102.0%		£206,779	£20,628	102.0%
Ridgeway - ASD	6.3	£63,333	£122,392	£19,325		£185,725	£61,271	£29,325	10.3	£103,333	£187,129	£18,109		£290,462	£28,109	4.0	-£1,216	£298,480	£28,885	95.9%	£8,018	£298,480	£28,885	95.9%
Lydard Academy - ASD	15.0	£150,000	£253,700	£16,913		£403,700		£26,913	15.0	£150,000	£260,775	£17,385		£410,775	£27,385	0.0		£410,775	£27,385	101.8%		£410,775	£27,385	101.8%
Ruskin Junior - ASD	9.0	£90,000	£145,625	£16,181		£235,625		£26,181	9.4	£94,167	£142,695	£15,154		£236,862	£25,154	0.4	-£1,027	£242,836	£25,788	96.1%	£5,973	£242,836	£25,788	96.1%
Kingsdown - ASD	15.0	£150,000	£222,000	£14,800		£372,000		£24,800	15.0	£150,000	£230,160	£15,344		£380,160	£25,344	0.0	£544	£380,160	£25,344	102.2%		£380,160	£25,344	102.2%
Robert Le Kyng - PD	10.0	£100,000	£139,630	£13,963		£239,630		£23,963	10.0	£100,000	£135,137	£13,514		£235,137	£23,514	0.0	-£449	£236,036	£23,604	98.1%	£898	£236,036	£23,604	98.1%
Westlea - PD	6.4	£64,167	£108,690	£16,939		£172,857		£26,939	8.4	£84,167	£132,701	£15,766		£216,867	£25,766	2.0	-£1,172	£223,333	£26,535	95.6%	£6,466	£223,333	£26,535	95.6%
Commonweal - PD	18.0	£180,000	£206,600	£11,478		£386,600		£21,478	18.0	£180,000	£199,929	£11,107		£379,929	£21,107	0.0	£371	£380,801	£21,156	98.3%	£872	£380,801	£21,156	98.3%
Eldene - CLD	10.0	£100,000	£60,510	£6,051		£160,510		£16,051	10.0	£100,000	£90,652	£9,065		£190,652	£19,065	0.0	£3,014	£190,652	£19,065	118.8%		£190,652	£19,065	118.8%
Millbrook - CLD	9.0	£90,000	£100,385	£11,154		£190,385		£21,154	9.0	£90,000	£103,657	£11,517		£193,657	£21,517	0.0	£364	£193,657	£21,517	101.7%		£193,657	£21,517	101.7%
Even Swindon - SSL	15.0	£150,000	£142,670	£9,511		£292,670		£19,511	15.4	£154,167	£160,445	£10,407		£314,612	£20,407	0.4	£896	£314,612	£20,407	104.6%		£314,612	£20,407	104.6%
Commonweal - SPID	30.0	£300,000	£224,600	£7,487		£524,600		£17,487	30.0	£300,000	£248,981	£8,299		£548,981	£18,299	0.0	£813	£548,981	£18,299	104.6%		£548,981	£18,299	104.6%
Mountford Manor / Nylands BESD Assessment	15.0	£150,000	£38,247	£2,550		£188,247		£12,550	15.0	£150,000	£38,247	£2,550		£188,247	£12,550	0.0	£0	£188,247	£12,550	100.0%		£188,247	£12,550	100.0%
Total SRP's	183.1	£1,830,833	£2,301,771	£12,572		£4,132,605	£61,271		191.0	£1,910,000	£2,469,287	£12,928		£4,379,287		7.9	£356	£4,403,391			£24,103	£4,403,391		
Setting - Special Schools	FTE Places	2014/15 Indicative Funding				Age	2014/15 Indicative Funding				Ave	Year on Year Changes			Year on Year Changes									
		Place @ £10,000	Top Up Values	Average Top Up	PFI @ Actual Cost		Total Funding	FTE Places	Place @ £10,000	Top Up Values		Average Top Up	PFI @ Actual Cost	Total Funding	Places	Top Up Per Pupil	Total Funding	Percentage Change in Funding per place	MFG Protection	Revised Total Funding	Revised Funding Per Place	Percentage Change in Funding per place		
St Lukes	68.0	£680,000	£902,700	£13,275		£1,582,700	75.0	£750,000	£955,782	£12,744		0.0	-£531	£1,719,441	£22,926	97.7%	£13,658	£1,719,441	£22,926	97.7%				
Brimble Hill	67.0	£670,000	£763,841	£11,401		£1,536,431	67.0	£670,000	£760,930	£11,357		0.0	-£43	£1,533,520	£22,888	99.8%		£1,533,520	£22,888	99.8%				
The Chalet	55.0	£550,000	£539,692	£9,813		£1,089,692	59.2	£591,667	£606,828	£10,256		4.2	£444	£1,198,495	£20,256	102.2%		£1,198,495	£20,256	102.2%				
Crowdy's Hill	128.0	£1,280,000	£1,188,070	£9,282		£2,468,070	128.0	£1,280,000	£1,167,900	£9,124		0.0	£444	£2,447,900	£19,124	99.2%		£2,447,900	£19,124	99.2%				
Uplands - pre 16	88.0	£880,000	£1,190,812	£13,532		£2,242,302	86.0	£860,000	£1,202,303	£13,980		-2.0	£494	£2,233,793	£25,974	101.9%		£2,233,793	£25,974	101.9%				
Nylands	36.0	£360,000	£465,910	£12,942		£825,910	39.5	£395,000	£545,303	£13,805		3.5	£863	£940,303	£23,805	103.8%		£940,303	£23,805	103.8%				
Totals Special Schools	442.0	£4,420,000	£5,051,024	£11,428	£0	£9,745,104	454.7	£4,546,667	£5,239,045	£11,523			£95	£10,059,792		12.7	£95	£10,073,451			£13,658	£10,073,451		
Sub total pre 16 in schools	625.1	£6,250,833	£7,352,796	£11,763		£13,877,709	645.7	£6,456,667	£7,708,333	£11,939		20.6	£176	£14,439,080		20.6	£176	£14,476,841			£37,762	£14,476,841		
Uplands - post 16	50.0	£500,000	£634,418	£12,688		£1,134,418	52.0	£520,000	£697,972	£13,423		2.0	£551	£1,217,972	£23,423	102.4%		£1,217,972	£23,423	102.4%				
Grand Totals Special / SRP	675.1	£6,750,833	£7,987,214	£11,831	£61,271	£15,012,127	697.7	£6,976,667	£8,406,305	£12,049			£218	£15,657,052		22.6	£218	£15,694,813			£37,762	£15,694,813		

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ANNEX E

SEN High Need Funding Task and Finish Group – Tuesday 21st October 2014

Meeting Notes

In attendance

Dominic Asater	Swindon Borough Council
Ian Burbidge	Swindon Borough Council
Roger Bushell	Swindon Borough Council (Chair)
Marla Carroll	Westlea Primary School
Mags Clarke	Crowdys Hill School
Paul Davis	Swindon Borough Council
Fran Godwin	Eldene Primary School
Carey Goodhead	Swindon Borough Council
Steve Haley	Swindon Borough Council
Kim Harz	Millbrook Primary School
Heather Kellet	Eldene Primary School
Sarah Leighfield	Robert Le Kyng Primary School
Sarah McCoombe	Uplands School
Diana Meeres	Even Swindon Primary School
Alison Paul	Brimble Hill School
Nigel Pickering	Swindon Borough Council
William Rosier	White Horse Federation – Ridgeway
Susan Smith	Robert Le Kyng Primary School
David Williams	Kingsdown School
Neil Gammon	Swindon Borough Council (Minutes)

1. Welcome & Apologies

Apologies were made for Gill Ilic, Emma Mills and Sally Burnett. The group introduced themselves and Roger Bushell gave a brief outline of the items to be covered in the meeting.

2. High Needs Modelling

- **All costings are indicative based on 2014/15 places and pupils**

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- The group agreed Option 5 and all other costings in annexes D1 and D2 should be ignored

Steve Haley presented the High Needs Modelling document, which outlines the impact of a number of potential changes to high needs banding system which would affect Special Schools and Special Resource Provisions for 2015/16. He went on to explain that the modelling has been based on the same places and pupil characteristics used for the 2014/15 funding allocations. Some changes to places and pupils have occurred since the 2014/15 budget was set and further changes can be expected that will affect 2015/16 funding. Each recommendation was then discussed.

Equalising Band Values (MLD/SPLD)

The Task Group supported the harmonisation of MLD/SPLD with other band values from 2015/16, as it would simplify the system.

Equalising Band Values (BESD)

After some discussion, the Task Group supported the harmonisation of BESD band values and the introduction of SEMH supplements at a value of 95%, as this would help to limit the impact on St Luke's and Nylands' funding.

Band 3 – Increase Value to 60% of Band 1

The Task Group supported that Band 3 pupils attract 60% of Band 1 funding from 2015/16

Special Schools ASC £1000 Supplement – Extend To Band 1, 2 and 3

Mags Clarke prompted a discussion about the need for a specific for ASC – Steve explained that the supplement was created to ensure that ASC SRPs are financially viable. This in turn prompted further discussion of whether it might make more sense simply to design a SRP supplement instead. . Roger suggested that any further consideration of this would be better left until the next cycle.

The Task Group decided not to support an extension of the scope of Special Schools ASC supplement eligibility beyond Band 1.

Therapy Supplements – Introduce Medium Level Funding

The Task Group agreed with the proposed supplements of High – 38 sessions, Medium – 6 sessions and Low – 3 sessions; however it was generally felt that the proposed funding rates were too low. It was decided that some work needs to be done with the therapy providers to align the rates.

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Options for Modelling

Prior to the meeting, the LA Finance Officers had modelled 6 combination options. Based on the Task Group's previous decisions, option 5 was clearly the favoured option.

3. Review the capacity of commissioned services and the resource to meet any potential increased demand

Steve informed the Group that all provisions providing a commissioned service on behalf of the Local Authority would need to complete and return the necessary proformas. Nigel Pickering confirmed that the proformas were sent out on 16th October.

4. Specialist Provision for Special Educational Needs: Outline Research Proposal

Roger presented the Outline Research Proposal, explaining that the plan is to present a report to Cabinet in March 2015.

5. AOB

Concerns were raised by representatives from Robert Le Kyng Primary School that they are running at a loss. Steve said that he and Gill Ilic had visited the school and were happy that there are no excessive costs. He expected further discussion with the school to seek a satisfactory solution.

Nigel informed the Group that there are currently discussions about closing the Hearing Impairment Unit at Ridgeway School and creating an outreach service in its place. Staff have been consulted.

6. Date of next meeting

Wednesday 26th November 2014 – Committee Room 6
8.30am refreshments for a 9am start

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SEN High Needs Funding Task and Finish Group – Wednesday 26th November 2014

Meeting Notes

In attendance

Roger Bushell (Chair)	Swindon Borough Council
Dominic Asater	Swindon Borough Council
Ian Burbidge	Swindon Borough Council
David Williams	Kingsdown School
Will Rosier	Ridgeway School
Alison Merk	Commonweal School
Crystal Clifford	Commonweal School
Jackie Smith	Uplands School
Alison Paul	Brimble Hill School
Susan Smith	Robert Le Kyng Primary School
Rachel Surch	Red Oaks Primary School
Sarah Leighfield	Robert Le Kyng Primary School
Liz Parker	Red Oaks Primary School
Kim Harz	Millbrook Primary School
Fran Godwin	Eldene Primary School
Heather Killett	Eldene Primary School
Jonathan Swift	White Horse Federation/Nyland School
Mags Clarke	Crowdys Hill School
Jess Delicata	Mountford Manor

Apologies

Gill Illic, Carey Goodhead, Nigel Pickering, Paul Davis, Diana Meares

1. Welcome & previous minutes

The previous minutes were approved by the group.

2. Summary of proposals agreed at 21st October Meeting

Jackie Smith asked if the table in 1.2 could show the percentages – Ian responded that the percentages hadn't changed with the exception of the band that had increased from 50%-60%.

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3. High Needs Places – Assessment and Moderation Process – Outcomes

Alison Paul queried numbers for Brimble Hill – it was previously agreed that the numbers would be increased to 70 places, but this is not the case.

ACTION – Roger to raise with Gareth Cheal.

Further investigation suggests that, although previous discussions suggest that there may be a case to increase the PAN for Brimble Hill to 70, more detailed consideration is required before this is confirmed.

The report modelled the potential impact of additional costs within the existing High Needs Block cash limit. The LA is awaiting a response to its bid for exceptional circumstances funding for the additional special school places required for September 2015 which may to some extent help to mitigate the impact on band values. Other options set out in the report are dependent upon the views of Schools' Forum in January.

It was noted that Eldene were absent from the Settings With A Change Of Places table 2.2.

ACTION – Dominic to check numbers.

Roger asked the group to contact Dominic directly if they feel there is an issue with the numbers.

Jackie explained that the increase in places at St Lukes is due to 10 Nylands pupils that were originally intended to enter mainstream education now going to St Lukes. This lead to discussion about whether the funding for these pupils is part of the £8.114m Banded Top Up budget or the Mainstream budget.

Dominic confirmed that, the pupils are currently in year 6 at Nylands) and therefore the top up funding for them sits within the £8.114m in 2014/15 financial year. If these pupils did transfer to mainstream then that would indeed lessen the pressure for additional places in the Special / SRP budget. However, it would increase the pressure on the SENRAP mainstream budget. In actual fact these pupils will transfer within the Special School / SRP budget.

David Williams stated that ASC SRPs are currently at full capacity and asked why it is projected that there will 5 less places in 2015/16.

ACTION – Roger to raise with Paul Davis.

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The question relates to the count of ASC SRP payable supplements rather than the number of places in ASC SRPs. There has actually a projected increase in the number of places at ASC SRPs. The reason why the ASC SRP Supplement figures appear to have gone down is because some places were mistakenly counted in the Special School ASC supplement line.

Jackie told the group that at the Schools Forum in October, a post-16 funding update showed an underspend of £600,000 – it was asked if this figure is included in the £8.114m. Dominic investigated after the meeting and his report is as below:

“This relates specifically to 2013/14. The Post 16 budget in 2013/14 was enhanced by an addition of £1m of 2 year old funding because at the start of the year there was a lot of uncertainty about what the actual level of expenditure was going to be. Initial projections had suggested that we would require £3.5m against a funding allocation of £2.5m. The final 2013/14 outturn was £2.9m giving an underspend against the original £3.5m of £0.6m. However, in actual fact this is an underspend against 2 year old funding that had been earmarked to deal with the original projected overspend.

This underspend contributed to a total of £2.470m of DSG balances that was carried forward into 2014/15.

From this balance

£0.970m was allocated to schools through the BPPE

£0.058 was allocated to Ridgeway ASC Unit

£0.029 was allocated to Red Oaks SRP

Leaving a balance of £1.413m

The October forum agreed to use some of the remaining balance as follows

£0.066 to cover the current in year deficit position

£0.700 to repay equal pay liabilities

Residual balance £0.647m

So, the original underspend mentioned by JS is

- a) Actually an underspend of 2 year old funding***
- b) Been used since that time to support one off items of expenditure***
- c) Is unlikely to recur as we are going to be funded for 2 year olds in the future based up-on participation.”***

Jackie also told the group that at the Schools Forum in October, a 1.35% (£3.8m) increase in funding for mainstream was voted in, but there was no increase in high needs funding. Dominic explained that this was due to a National Funding Reform review of all

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authorities which led to Swindon receiving an extra £3.8m, which was recommended to go to the mainstream schools block.

There was a request to form a working party to meet before the preparation of the report to be presented to Schools Forum in January. Roger did not feel that this was feasible but confirmed that the deliberations of the group would be used to shape the report. He also invited further suggestions by e-mail.

Specialist Provision for Special Educational Needs in Swindon

Roger provided a brief update on progress in research commissioned to strengthen understanding of the drivers behind the relatively high proportion of pupils in Swindon subject to a statement of SEN and the level of specialist provision.

He summarised the headlines from the early stages of a data analysis as:

1. The prevalence of SEN in Swindon is consistently above national, regional and statistical neighbour benchmarks.
 - The proportion of children with a statement of SEN is well above all benchmarks and continues to rise – albeit gradually.
2. Funding for SEN is well above national benchmarks
 - The percentage of high needs funding is above national benchmarks and continues to rise;
 - The SEN budget as a proportion of the total budget is above the national average (14% vs. 12%);
 - The SEN spend as proportion of the total spend is above the national average (19% vs. 15%);
 - The average budget on SEN per pupil is 11pprox.. £400 more than the national average.
3. Outcomes for children with statements of SEN are at best variable:
 - The proportion of statemented pupils making expected progress in English and Maths is above regional and national benchmarks at the end of KS2 and below at the end of KS4;
 - Swindon has the 7th highest proportion of LAC with a statement in England;
 - More children with SEN are attending schools rated good or outstanding;
 - SEN pupils in Swindon have more than 3 times the persistent absence rate of non-SEN pupils;
 - Swindon has the 6th highest school exclusion rate for SEN pupils in England.

Roger alerted the group to a workshop being held on 11th December to share and analyse the data in more detail. Anyone wishing to attend were invited to email Roger directly.

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David Williams asked that with the SEN changes encompassing young people up to the age of 25, would the funding for the older young people come out of the same budget. Roger suggested that deliberations were at a relatively early stage and that more work was needed around the pathways for 19-25 year olds.

4. Therapy Update

Ian explained that the figures were based on school self-assessment, although, figures for Uplands were provided directly by the services. Discussion suggested that the projected spend was unlikely to reduce if rigorously moderated.

5. Commissioned Services Update

It is proposed that the funding allocation for 2015/16 remain the same as this year. Queries around the large amount of surplus for Ruskin Junior Autistic Spectrum Condition Support Service were explained due to an element of trading.

There was a belief that the Travellers Children Support had ended.

ACTION – Roger to investigate.

6. Views On The Future Of The Group

Susan Smith commented that she found it helpful that the figures were distributed before the meeting this time. Roger stated that going forward it is hoped to always distribute before meetings.

It was proposed that the group would benefit if its status was more clearly designated within the Schools' Forum structure. Roger agreed to explore the options within the Schools' Forum report drafting process.

7. Next Meeting

It was agreed that it would be useful to meet again in late January to:

- Consider the implications of decisions made by Schools' Forum
- Contribute to the research in the level of stated provision in Swindon.

To be arranged for late January, after next Schools Forum.