

# School Development Grant 2008-09

Schools Forum

29 April 2008

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**Author:** Group Director, Children

**Parish / Wards Affected:** All

## **Purpose**

To recommend to the Schools Forum the allocation of the headroom within the schools development grant for 2008/09.

## **Recommendation**

The Schools Forum is requested to:

- Make a recommendation to the Local Authority on the use of the surplus headroom within the school development grant 2008-09.

## **1. Reasons**

- 1.1 The School Development Grant (SDG) is allocated direct to schools using a combination of formulae and targeted resources for specific services. The Local Authority (LA) has allocated the grant in accordance with the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) guidance. As a result there is a surplus balance that needs to be allocated to schools on a fair and transparent method.

## **2. Detail**

- 2.1 The school development grant has been provided by the DCSF to support schools. Schools are free to spend this grant on any purpose to support improvements in teaching and learning in schools, leading to higher standards of attainment for every learner.
- 2.2 The SDG is allocated by a combination of formulae and targeted resources. The LA has allocated this grant in accordance with the guidance from the DCSF and as a result there is an unallocated balance of £326,520, which needs to be distributed to schools.
- 2.3 Attached at Appendix A are two proposals for distributing the surplus balance for Schools Forum to consider. This first option distributes the funding on free school meal eligibility while the second is based on pupil numbers.

## **Alternative Options**

- The Schools Forum may recommend to the Local Authority an alternative method for allocating the surplus balance.

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Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Karen Murray on 01793 465794 or Email [kmurray@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:kmurray@swindon.gov.uk).

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### **Risk Management**

#### *Financial and Procurement Implications*

- There are no financial implications as a result of this report, all allocations made will be contained within the overall school development grant for 2008-09.

#### *Legal / Human Rights Implications*

- None

#### *Links to Corporate Plans and Policies (in particular to Swindon 2010 Promises)*

- Promise 45 "We will make sure that schools will be at the heart of each community"

### **Consultees**

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

### **Background Papers and Appendices**

Appendix A – School Development Grant 2008-09