

Schools Block Budget Monitoring 2008/9

Schools Forum

16 October 2008

Author: Group Director, Children Services

Parish / Wards Affected: All

Purpose

To provide Schools Forum with the latest budget monitoring information to the end of August 2008 in respect of the Schools Block Budget for 2008/9.

Recommendation

The Schools Forum is requested to:

- Note the 2008/9 financial projections in respect of the Schools Budget for the current financial year.
- Ask the Group Director, Children Services to continue rigorous and robust monitoring of the Schools Block budget and to bring budget monitoring reports to future meetings of Schools Forum.

1. Reasons

- 1.1 This report provides an update on the projected outturn of the current years budget for members of the Schools Forum.

2. Detail

- 2.1 The budget monitoring report as at end of August 2008 shows a projected year-end overspend of £276k. Appendix A provides a breakdown of the individual budget variations that make up this position.
- 2.2 The Schools Finance Regulations 2006 allow for the balance of Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) at 31 March to be carried forward to the next financial year. If the projection for the year-end remains as an over spend at the end of the financial year it will be deducted from the DSG allocation for 2009/10.
- 2.3 If the year-end position is an under spend then this will be available for distribution with the DSG allocation for next year. It must be noted that any under spend can only be used as a one off funding allocation and must not be used for recurring spend.
- 2.4 There will be bank transfers to schools in the next month for a total of £422k relating to the School Development Grant 2007/08 to cover expenditure in the period April to August. This funding will be distributed

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

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on the same basis as the School Development Grant Headroom 2008/09, on NOR so that there is an allocation for every learner.

Risk Management

Financial and Procurement Implications

- The budgets and expenditure referred to within this report are all contained within the ring-fenced dedicated schools grant.

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"
- Promise 33 "We'll help our most vulnerable, looked after young people to achieve an appropriate qualification, paying particular attention to literacy and numeracy and vocational skills to help their future prospects"

Consultees

- The Director of Finance, and the Director of Law and Democratic Services are consulted on all reports.
- The Chair of the Schools Forum

Background Papers and Appendices

- Appendix A – Children Services 2008/9 Revenue Budget Monitoring as at August 2008.

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