

Mainstream Funding Consultation Questionnaire Response Form September 2012 – Annex A

(Please see “School Funding Consultation Overview and Guidance” document which describes the issues and options available)

The LA hopes to ascertain the consensus views of each sector at the planned consultation events. Schools/Academies may wish to complete this form prior to their event and/or submit an individual response to the LA either electronically to schoolsfinanceteam@swindon.gov.uk or as a hard copy via internal mail marked for the attention of Steve Haley, Sanford House by 30th September at the latest.

Please strikethrough either Yes or No in the end column to indicate your view. Space is provided for your explanations and/or alternative suggestions on each area and at the end of the response form for any general feedback.

School / Academy This Response form was completed by Date

Part A - Centrally Retained Budget Proposals 2013/14

Question 1 - Do you support the LAs indicative 2013/14 budget proposals for the following central items:

- Admissions - £200,000
- Operation of Schools Forum - £2,000
- Termination of employment costs - £100,000
- If you disagree with any/all of these items please specify

Yes
Yes
Yes

Question 2 - Do you support the principle of the LA retaining funding in 2013/14 for the following central schools items (indicative values will be provided at the consultation event but are likely to total less than 2012/13) :

- Contributions towards Equal pay - £TBC (LA will continue to fund 50% of each settings liability payments)
- Pupil Growth - set up costs - £TBC
- Pupil Growth - trigger funding - £TBC
- Infant Class Size compliance - £TBC
- If you disagree with any/all of these items please specify ...

Yes
Yes
Yes
No

Comments

Some heads felt that Setup funding should come from a Capital budget, which the LA acknowledges but this would reduce the number of schemes that could be undertaken each year. It was suggested that £11.5k is not enough and although many agreed with this some advised that although tight it is possible

Question 3 – With regard to pupil growth set up costs do you support the following policy?

Question 6A - With regard to items subject to delegation do you agree that the LA should continue to operate the following services on behalf of Swindon Schools – 2013/14 indicative funding levels are provided?

Items subject to de-delegation

- Assessment for Free School Meals eligibility - should LA service continue at a gross cost to the DSG of £10,800?
- Trade Union Duties – should LA service continue at a net cost to the DSG of £22,100?
- Schools in Challenging Circumstances – should LA service continue at a gross cost to the DSG of £322,000?

	Free School Meals	Trade Union Duties	Schools in Challenging Circumstances
Gross Budget 2013/14	£10,800.00	£22,100.00	£322,000
Less Academy element	(£6,500.00)	(£12,200.00)	(£183,780) -
Net Budget Amount 2013/14	£4,300.00	£9,900.00	£138,220
Amount Per Pupil	£0.38	£0.79	£11.48
<i>(These are the notional amounts per pupil an Academy receives and which all schools would receive if the budget is delegated)</i>			

Comments

- Consensus view that Trade Unions should pay for the Reps.
- SICC Initially primaries wanted this removed. There was some debate about the use of the money and that it should be used to support small schools, it was agreed that the amount should be reduced to £200k gross, which after Academy deductions would enable the LA to retain approximately £90k to support small schools which are adversely affected by the formula changes

**Yes
No
Yes**

Question 6B - With regard to other items do you agree that the LA should continue to operate the following services on behalf of Swindon Schools – 2013/14 indicative funding levels are provided

Other Items for local discussion – services the LA proposes will form part of the High Needs Funding Block

- Portage service at Saltway – £148,000?
- Education Support Service Monitoring - £10,000?
- Statemented Pupils Equipment - £130,000?
- Speech, Language and Occupational Therapy - £164,000 less £50,000 added to Special School Band Values?
- Travellers Children - £77,000?
- SENRAP - £1,369,000?

Yes
Yes
Yes
Yes
Yes
Yes

Comments

Primaries agreed that the SENRAP hourly rate of pay should be increased to at least £12 per hour and that BPPE rates should be reduced accordingly

Part B - Local Mainstream Formula Issues 2013/14

<p>Question 7 – Do you agree with the guiding principle that whilst harmonising per pupil funding rates across sectors for deprivation, SEN prior attainment, EAL and lump sums (mandatory if retained) the LA should adjust basic entitlement per pupil values (up or down) to broadly retain overall existing primary and secondary sector funding totals?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If not please specify which factors should vary in value across sectors, by how much and why overall sector funding levels should be amended 	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Question 8 - Do you agree that funding for the following factors which are currently used locally but are <u>not allowed</u> from 2013/14 should <u>initially</u> be moved into the relevant sector Basic Pupil Entitlement funding subject to subsequent changes that may be necessary following decisions on the levels of EAL and other funding?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cash flow interest abatement - £105,000 (all settings) Recent LA delegations of maternity funding, primary & secondary strategy funding etc. - £482,350 (all settings) Secondary Behaviour support funding – £177,000 (secondary) Portage Service funding - £80,000 (primary) If not please specify how this funding should be allocated 	<p>Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes</p>
<p>Question 9 – The LA proposes allocating a <u>lump sum</u> value per school of £106,700 (which equates to the current average of flat rate and small schools protection funding allocated) as not having this would put severe financial pressures on all small schools who would not receive sufficient basic entitlement pupil funding to cover their fixed costs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do you agree that the LA should allocate any flat rate funding? Do you agree that the value should be £106,700? If a different value should be allocated please specify how much (the DfE maximum is £200,000) Do you agree that basic entitlement funding values per pupil should be adjusted accordingly to maintain existing overall sector funding totals? <p><u>Comments</u> Small schools were concerned that without small schools protection and a lump sum value of £106k they may become financially unsustainable</p>	<p>Yes Yes Yes</p>
<p>Question 10 – Against the consensus of views expressed at the July events the LA intends to continue allocating <u>PFI affordability gap funding</u></p>	

<p>of £1,004,900 to the 7 PFI settings to recognise contractual agreements. The LA could centrally retain (rather than delegate funding to settings to match their costs) but this may disadvantage Swindon's overall DSG position if other LA pupils are placed at an SBC setting (e.g. Uplands Special School).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do you agree that the LA should continue to delegate PFI affordability gap funding until/unless this ever disadvantages the 7 schools involved? 	Yes
<p>Question 11 – The LA had originally intended to retain a factor to allocate additional funding for schools with <u>split site</u> but no longer proposes to - this will have a marginal negative impact on the funding of Swindon Academy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do you agree that the LA should not retain a factor to provide additional funding to schools operating on split sites? If a factor should be retained please specify the policy and methodology by which funding should be allocated 	Yes
<p>Question 12 – With regard to secondary basic entitlement funding per pupil</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do you agree that the ratio between KS3 and KS4 should be retained at 1.00 / 1.22? If a different ratio should be applied what do you think it should be? <p><u>Comments</u></p> <p><i>Please note that the above reference to 'KS3 & KS4' has been corrected following the consultation events where KS1 & KS3 were incorrectly stated</i></p>	n/a

Question 13 – With regard to social deprivation funding

- Do you agree that the same methodology should be applied to allocate deprivation funding across each sector?
- Do you agree that the same per pupil funding values should be used across each sector?
- Do you agree that a blend of 50% funding via FSM ever 6 and 50% via IDACI is appropriate?
- Do you agree that the overall level of deprivation funding should remain the same and that where harmonising the funding values per pupil causes sector totals to vary, basic entitlement funding rates are increased / reduced accordingly to retain overall sector funding levels?
- Assuming that all the above are agreed each **FSM ever6 pupil** would attract **£868 per pupil** and schools would also receive the following amounts per pupil according to the number in each IDACI band;

IDACI Band	Lower limit score	Upper limit score	£ per pupil
-	Up to 0.2 pupils are not deprived		-
1	0.2	0.25	£434
2	0.25	0.30	£529
3	0.30	0.40	£608
4	0.40	0.50	£781
5	0.50	0.60	£955
6	0.60	1.00	£1,215

- Do you agree with the above values per pupil which increase as levels of deprivation increase?
- If a different approach should be taken regarding deprivation please specify

Yes
Yes
Yes
Yes

Yes

Question 14 – with regard to Low cost high incidence SEN funding

- Do you agree that primary funding should be allocated to pupils scoring fewer than 78 points in their EYFSP?
- Do you agree that funding in each sector should be harmonised at £359 per pupil – requiring an overall increase of approx. £131,000 to secondary funding which would need to be matched by a reduction to secondary pupil Basic Entitlement values?
- Do you support the LA's aim of increasing the delegated prior attainment funding values (as a priority over other areas) if there is an opportunity to do so within the overall DSG settlement?
- If a different approach should be taken regarding prior attainment funding please specify.....

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Yes
Yes

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Please provide any feedback on the consultation which are not covered in the questions above | |
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