

AGENDA

Meeting: Schools Forum

Place: Kennet Room - County Hall, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge, BA14 8JN

Date: Thursday 16 January 2020

Time: 1.30 pm

Please direct any enquiries on this Agenda to Lisa Pullin, Tel 01225 713015 or email committee@wiltshire.gov.uk of Democratic Services, County Hall, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge, BA14 8JN.

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Membership:	Representing:
Neil Baker	PHF - Maintained Primary Representative
Aileen Bates	WGA - Special School Governor Representative
Andy Bridewell	PHF - Maintained Primary Representative
Rebecca Carson	PHF - Primary Academy Representative
Mark Cawley	Early Years Representative
Michelle Chilcott	WASSH - Secondary Academy Representative
Sam Churchill	PHF - Maintained Primary Representative
Phil Cook	WASSH - Maintained Special School Representative
Charlotte Corfield	Observer - Post 16, Wiltshire College
Jon Hamp	Special School Academy Representative
John Hawkins	Teaching Association Representative
Cllr Ross Henning	Observer - Local Youth Network
Mel Jacob	WGA - Primary School Governor Representative
Lisa Percy	WASSH - Secondary Academy Representative
John Proctor	Early Years Representative (PVI)
Giles Pugh	Salisbury Diocesan Board of Education
Nigel Roper	WASSH - Maintained Secondary Representative
Graham Shore	PHF - Primary Academy Representative
Trudy Srawley	Observer - Wiltshire Parent Carer Council
Fergus Stewart	Chair of WASSH - Secondary Academy Representative
David Whewell	WGA - Secondary School Governor representative
Catriona Williamson	PHF - Maintained Primary Representative

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PART I

Items to be considered whilst the meeting is open to the public

1 **Apologies and Changes of Membership**

To note any apologies and changes to the membership of the Forum.

2 **Minutes of the Previous Meeting** (*Pages 7 - 12*)

To approve as a correct record and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 12 December 2019 (copy attached).

3 **Chairman's Announcements**

To receive any announcements from the Chair.

4 **Declaration of Interests**

To note any declarations of interests.

5 **Updates from Working Groups** (*Pages 13 - 20*)

The Forum will be asked to note the updates from the following meetings:

- Early Years Reference Group – 6 January 2020
- Joint meeting of the School Funding Working Group and SEN Working Group – 7 January 2020.

6 **Dedicated Schools Budget - Budget Monitoring 2019-20** (*Pages 21 - 26*)

The report of Marie Taylor (Head of Finance – Children and Education) seeks to present the budget monitoring information against the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) for the financial year 2019-20 as at 30th November 2019.

7 **School Budget Setting 2020-21**

To consider the budget for 2020/21.

The following update reports provide details on the overall funding settlement on each of the funding blocks, the decisions will be made after consideration of all the update papers via the decision matrix.

7a **Schools Revenue Funding 2020-21 - Funding Settlement and Budget Setting Process** (*Pages 27 - 32*)

The report of Grant Davis (Schools Strategic Financial Support Manager) seeks to update the Forum on the schools revenue funding settlement and the budget setting process for 2020-21. It also outlines the funding settlement announced on 19 December 2019 and the impact on school budgets arising from the settlement.

7b **DSG Budget - Schools Block Update 2020-21 (Delegated Budget)**
(Pages 33 - 38)

The report of Grant Davis (Schools Strategic Financial Support Manager) seeks to update the Forum on issues relating to the schools delegated budget for 2020-21 and the decisions that will need to be made as part of the budget setting process.

7c **Dedicated Schools Grant - Early Years Block Update 2020-21**
(Pages 39 - 50)

The report of Marie Taylor (Head of Finance – Children and Education) seeks to update the Forum on issues related to the early years block for 2020-21 and the decisions that will need to be made as part of the budget setting process for 2020-21. The operational guidance for the early years block confirms that Schools Forums must be consulted on changes to local early years funding formulae, including agreeing central spend, although the final decision rests with the local authority.

7d **High Need Block Funding Update 2020-21** (Pages 51 - 54)

The report of Marie Taylor (Head of Finance – Children and Education) seeks to update Schools Forum on issues related to the high needs block for 2020-21 and the decisions that will need to be made as part of the budget setting process for 2020-21. Appendix 1 to the report (detailed modelling) is *to follow*. At the meeting there will be an update/presentation from Officers on behalf of the Director for Education & Skills.

7e **Central Schools Services Block Update 2020-21** (Pages 55 - 68)

The report of Marie Taylor (Head of Finance – Children and Education) seeks to update the Forum on issues relating to the Central Schools Services Block (CSSB) budget for 2020-21 and the decisions that will need to be made as part of the budget setting process.

7f **School Budget Decisions 2020-21**

The Forum will be asked to consider the Schools Budgets for 2020-21 and make relevant decisions using the decisions matrix (which will be circulated at the meeting).

8 **Confirmation of Dates for Future Meetings**

To confirm the dates of future meetings, as follows, all to start at 1.30pm:

26 March 2020
11 June 2020
15 October 2020
10 December 2020.

9 **Urgent Items**

To consider any other items of business, which the Chairman agrees to consider as a matter of urgency.

PART II

Item(s) during consideration of which it is recommended that the public should be excluded because of the likelihood that exempt information would be disclosed

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Schools Forum

MINUTES OF THE SCHOOLS FORUM MEETING HELD ON 12 DECEMBER 2019 AT COUNCIL CHAMBER - COUNTY HALL, BYTHESEA ROAD, TROWBRIDGE, BA14 8JN.

Present:

Neil Baker (Chairman), Aileen Bates, Andy Bridewell, Rebecca Carson, Michelle Chilcott, Sam Churchill, Phil Cook, John Hawkins, Mel Jacob, Lisa Percy (Vice-Chair), John Proctor, Giles Pugh, Nigel Roper, Fergus Stewart and Catriona Williamson

Also Present:

Grant Davis, Schools Strategic Financial Support Manager), Cllr Jane Davies (Portfolio Holder, Education and SEND), Kieran Elliott (Senior Democratic Services Officer), Helean Hughes (Director, Education and Skills), Louise Lewis (Head of School Effectiveness), Marie Taylor, (Head of Finance, Children and Education), Judith Westcott (Head of Special School Transformation)

60 Apologies and Changes of Membership

Apologies were received from Cllr Pauline Church, Mark Cawley, Jon Hamp, Graham Shore, Cllr Ross Henning, David Whewell, Charlotte Corfield and Trudy Srawley.

It was noted that Graham Shore from Holy Trinity Academy in Calne would be the new Primary Academy representative in place of Lindsay West, and that a new Primary School Governor representative from the WGA to replace Sue Jiggins had not yet been appointed.

61 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 10 October 2019 were presented for consideration, and it was,

Resolved:

That subject to spelling corrections under minute numbers 53 and 54, to approve and sign the minutes as a true and correct record.

62 Chairman's Announcements

There were no announcements.

63 Declaration of Interests

There were no declarations.

64 **Updates from Working Groups**

The Forum received the update from the Working Groups. In particular an update was received regarding charging fees for admission appeals, to cover local authority overheads. It was reported that the council was looking into the possibility of providing a subsidy for the cost.

There was an update regarding the Ministry of Defence education support funding for 2020, where only £0.054m had been awarded, partly as a result of successful large bids for support funding in previous years.

It was reported that budget roadshows would be incorporated within the briefings for Headteachers, and it was being explored if this could be extended to School governors.

At the conclusion of discussion, it was,

Resolved:

To note the update from the working groups.

65 **DSG Expenditure - Wiltshire Virtual School**

A report was received from Kathryn Davis, the new Head of the Virtual School, in relation to forecast expenditure on Looked After Children for the financial year 2020/21. The Forum received details of the past years' expenditure and anticipated needs for the following year. It was noted costs for full time alternative education provision during 2019/20 were broadly similar to costs incurred during 2018/19, and with no expectation that the need would decrease it was requested the same level of funding be allocated for 2020/21.

The Forum welcomed the details of the report, and at the conclusion of discussion, it was,

Resolved:

To note the expenditure forecast at the end of 2019/20 and to consider the request made for 2020/21 at the time of setting the 2020-21 budget in January 2020.

66 **Dedicated Schools Budget Consultations - Update 2020-21**

A report was received in relation to three separate consultations which had taken place in Autumn 2019.

The Schools Block De-delegated budget consultation sought information from schools on which services maintained mainstream primary and secondary schools would wish to be de-delegated. There had been a limited number of responses, however those responses had been significantly in favour of

retaining the de-delegated arrangements in respect of HCSS Software Licence, Trade Union facilities costs, maternity costs, ethnic minority achievement service, Traveller education service and behaviour support service. It was agreed by members that the de-delegation of services would remain unchanged from 2019-20 and that the budget allocations would be determined at January's meeting.

The Transfer of Schools Block to support the High Needs Block consultation followed a decision by the Forum in January 2019 to transfer up to 1% from the Schools block to support the high needs block, which was approved by the Secretary of State.

The consultation responses supported removing excess growth from the DfE's growth fund where practicable to do so, with a mixture of responses on the level of transfer with a majority selecting a transfer of £1.5m, 67% of respondents believed children with EHCPS could be supported with reduced funding, and comments were made regarding alternatives to a per pupil reduction model, and two schools volunteered to be part of a working group to look at this issue.

The final consultation was a DfE consultation on clarifying the specific grant and ringfenced status of the Dedicated Schools Grant. This was stated to be a potentially significant change to the partnership funding approach currently in place between Wiltshire council and Schools Forum if confirmed in 2020 guidance as expected, as the consultation seems to suggest placing the responsibility of any High Needs Block overspend with Schools Funding block alone reducing the risk that covering DSG deficits from general fund reserves could require local authorities to make spending reductions in other services.

Resolved:

Schools Forum noted the report on local consultation responses and would take them into account when making the required decisions in relation to the schools delegated budget for 2020-21 at the January 2020 meeting. The maintained primary and secondary representatives were in support of maintaining the de-delegation for all the listed services.

Schools Forum noted the DfE consultation regarding Block movements and would consider the impact when making the required decisions in relation to the schools delegated budget for 2020-21 at the January 2020 meeting

67 **Dedicated Schools Budget - Budget Monitoring 2019/20**

A budget monitoring report was received for 2019/20. An overspend of £6.429m was currently projected against the overall schools budget, which included an underspend of £0.247m on the schools block budget, £0.995m overspend on the early years budget, and an overspend of £5.685m on the high needs budget. This would take the cumulative deficit over the 1% DfE threshold to require a recovery plan to be created.

Details were provided of recovery plans in place to stop or delay any uncommitted spend not linked to safeguarding, elections, trading or longer-term transformation or savings plans.

Details were sought on comparisons with statistical neighbours in relation to numbers of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP) growth in year. It was clarified that this is only collected nationally annually but that the latest SEN2 dataset would be shared when available.

At the conclusion of discussion, it was,

Resolved:

To note the budget monitoring position at the end of October 2019 alongside;

- a) the recovery action plan presentation later in the agenda**
- b) Reports on the various Autumn consultations – de-delegated services, transfer of schools block to high needs block and the DfE’s consultation on treatment of the DSG as a ringfenced grant in the local authority’s accounts**
- c) To share SEN2 comparative data when it becomes available.**

68 High Needs Recovery Planning

Helean Hughes, Director of Education and Skills, delivered a presentation in relation to High Needs Recovery Planning. The volunteering of two headteachers to form part of a working group to look at the issue was welcomed, recognising schools and the council would need to work together to address cultural and other issues to address the increased demand.

Project streams had been established to look into specific areas such as post 16 transition, inclusion and school effectiveness, enhanced learning provision and resource bases, in order to target specific areas for change and support.

The Forum discussed the presentation, noting that no schools had responded to a previous consultation on post 16 transition and encouraging this to be done, although there had been engagement with Heads at earlier stages. In response to queries it was stated upskilling mainstream schools to support children was essential in order to transition pupils back to mainstream settings.

It was also noted that even with all the potential savings identified through the recovery plan there was still projected to be an increased overspend, so further work with schools would be needed to make further cost saving measures.

The Forum noted the presentation and the continuing work that remained to progress the recovery plan.

69 **Schools Block - National Funding Formula 2020-21**

A report was received on the national funding formula for the schools block for 2020/21, noting that whether the result of the General Election there was not likely to be sufficient time for any changes to the formula from the DfE for the 2020-21 year.

The Forum discussed the main changes to the formula, including minimum per pupil funding levels, a 4% increase in the core factors of the formula except for free school meals which would be increased by inflation, and introduction of a new formulaic approach to the mobility factor. It was stated that Wiltshire had not applied a mobility factor before, and under the new formula Wiltshire would receive just over £0.500m, with military service areas with the largest impact.

The Forum also considered the overall allocations as compared to previous years, with an increase of £19.79m,

At the conclusion of discussion, it was,

Resolved:

To note the report.

70 **Allocation of Funding for Pupil Growth 2020-21**

A report was received on a proposed methodology for allocating funding for pupil growth from the school's block growth fund in 2020/21. Although there had been a change in the methodology of being awarded the funding, the Forum was not required to adjust how it allocated the funding.

The Forum discussed the new funding methodology and the criteria to apply for allocation of growth funding. It was discussed that the Forum had not previously established an optional Falling Rolls fund for a number of reasons, and that DfE criteria required that if established this funding could only be provided to Good or Outstanding schools. The Forum debated the proposed methodology for allocation, and after discussion, it was,

Resolved:

- a) **To approve the criteria for allocating pupil Growth Fund in 2020-21, unchanged from 2019-20.**
- b) **To agree that the budget for the Growth Fund to be set at its meeting in January 2020, when the full DSG is known for the 2020-21 year.**
- c) **To not establish a Falling Rolls Fund**

71 **Confirmation of Dates for Future Meetings**

The dates of future meetings, all to start at 1.30pm, were confirmed as follows:

16 January 2020
26 March 2020
11 June 2020
15 October 2020
10 December 2020

72 **Urgent Items**

There were no urgent items.

(Duration of meeting: 1.40 - 3.15 pm)

The Officer who has produced these minutes is Kieran Elliott, Tel 01225 718504 or email kieran.elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk

Press enquiries to Communications, direct line (01225) 713114/713115

Early Years Reference Group

Minutes of a meeting held on Monday 6 January 2020 at County Hall, Trowbridge

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

Jane Boulton, Lucy-Anne Bryant, Emma Cooke (standing in for Natalia Reyner), Jenny Harvey (minutes), Nicola McCann, Deborah Muir, John Proctor (chair), Sarah Hawkins, Marie Taylor.

2.0 Apologies

Mark Cawley, Russ Martin, Clare MacKinnon, Trudy Surman

3.0 Minutes of last meeting held on 13 September 2019

The minutes of the meeting were agreed as a true and accurate record.

4.0 Matters arising

8.0 2 year old funding - children with EAL – LAB confirmed that the Local Authority only become aware of EAL upon self referral, not through information provided by DWP. The main issue is finding out where these families are and having better communication channels with them as many are unaware of the 2 year old funding.

ACTION: LAB to source a new childminder representative for EYRG.

5.0 Finance

MT circulated and discussed the Schools Forum Early Years Block Update for 2020-21 and appendices with the group (attached).

2019/2020 budget is forecasted to be overspent by £1 million for early years block. This is because the number of children (counted in FTE, full time equivalent) taking up free entitlement is higher than the DfE allocation. For 2 year olds this is 67 additional FTE leading to a forecast overspend of £0.407m and for 3 & 4 year olds, 98 FTE higher than budgeted leading to a forecast overspend of £0.468m.

DfE 2020/2021 budget allocations were received from the DfE in December. There has been a national increase in the 2 year old hourly rate from £5.32 to £5.40 which will be passported out to providers. Unfortunately, Wiltshire Council cannot afford to increase the 3 & 4-year-old hourly rate as a result of the demand in excess of funding in this year's overspend. MT confirmed that the new budget allocations are based on the January 2019 census figures. The DfE will issue an in-year allocation revision using updated figures from the January 2020 census, and it might be possible to review the rates when the DfE update their early years allocations in the Autumn if affordable to do so.

ACTION: MT to propose Option 1 to Schools Forum with no increase in hourly rate for 3&4 year olds and will look at a mid-year review and possible change to rates if affordable.

ACTION: JP and MT to discuss possible in-year review once revised budget allocations are released later in the year. Agreed no formal meeting for the whole group was required.

6.0 Update on the Liquidlogic IT system/portal

NM reported to the group that Wiltshire Council have been working with Liquidlogic on Phase 2 of the programme to deliver the Early Years & Education System (EYES) and the Education, Health & Care Plan (EHCP) module by mid-January 2020. Unfortunately, the go live date has been delayed to allow Liquidlogic to make the final system changes we require to ensure the system meets our requirements. We are currently awaiting a new go live date, which will possibly be Summer 2020 for the Local Authority, and Autumn 2020 for early years providers. Volunteer early years providers testers will be needed to test the funding side of the system. The delegated access part of Liquidlogic to share case notes, has been developed and some childcare providers have been invited to test the system, including Tid n' Bul.

ACTION: NM to provide an update at the next scheduled meeting.

7.0 Confirmed dates for future meetings

Date	Day	Time	Venue
15 May 2020	Friday	10am-12 noon	Longleat room, County Hall
6 November 2020	Friday	10am–12 noon	Lacock meeting room, County Hall

8.0 Any other business

Registrars and birth certificates – issues experienced with parents not having the full birth certificate which is required for a child to access childcare. Barriers to obtaining these certificates include registrars not being aware that a full certificate is required if a parent wishes to use childcare, cost prohibitive for some families (over £10 per copy), and delays in meeting with the registrar/obtaining certificates.

MT suggested that the EY team develop a small presentation for Registrars to explain childcare situation to parents in meetings.

ACTION: LAB to organise a registrar presentation.

EY/EY childcare team structure - JB asked about the overall structure now that AB has retired. LAB confirmed that there are 2 key areas: EY Quality and EY Sufficiency

EY Quality – managed by Natalia Reyner and includes the Advisory Teachers and Sufficiency Advisors (quality focused)

EY Sufficiency – managed by Lucy-Anne Bryant and includes the Sufficiency team (sufficiency focused only), who are also Assistant Commissioners. LAB also manages the Children's Centres, Troubled Families and Early Help as part of Children's Community Commissioning.

EY Inclusion - sits under Support and Safeguarding but links with the SEND team.

EY forums - JB raised whether these should continue. She felt that there was topic overlap with the MAF meetings and other chargeable meetings. All confirmed that EY forum attendance had declined significantly over the years. MT suggested webinars/conference calls as a possible way forward.

ACTION: LAB to look into webinar as an option, using slideshow

Safer recruitment - JP raised this issue as well as good references being given for inadequate staff. A nursery was on the receiving end of the recruitment of a new senior member of staff, a good reference being provided for this person by an outstanding nursery, which was then found to be false when events escalated once the person had been employed. The previous employer of this person was contacted and similar events had happened with them but they gave this person a good reference. Advice from Ofsted is to only provide the employment dates for a person where a contract has been terminated or the staff member has left on bad terms. All agreed that this advice needs to be reaffirmed to all early years providers to ensure children are safe, with perhaps a follow up call once a reference is received.

LAB confirmed that the safeguarding forums were continuing.

ACTION: Emma Cooke to raise safer recruitment at her next team meeting.

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School Funding Working Group and SEN working Group

7th January 2020

Minutes

Present: Marie Taylor (Chair), (Finance, LA), Grant Davis (Finance, LA), Neil Baker (Christchurch), Lisa Percy (Hardenhuish), John Hawkins (Teacher / Governor rep), Catriona Williamson (Mere), Sam Churchill (Hilmarton), Andy Bridewell (Ludgershall Castle) Judith Westcott & Gary Binstead (Children’s Commissioning LA), Phil Cook (Larkrise), Helean Hughes (Director LA) Rebecca Carson (Woodford Valley)

Apologies: Matt Sambrook (Exeter House / Secondee LA)

1	<p>Minutes from previous meeting The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed.</p>	
2	<p>Matters Arising Andy raised a general query around £85k investment income & insurance – Marie agreed to share with all schools via Right Choice & to ask SWAP to offer advice to schools to share deposits between banks where reserves are in excess of £85k Lisa asked for papers to be pre-circulated to allow all to digest – Marie apologised, January being the most challenging turnaround as the DfE do not provide the 20/21 budget allocations until the penultimate day of the Autumn term. Schools Forum for January 2021 will be pushed back a week to allow detailed modelling to feed into budget option reports.</p>	<p>MT</p> <p>MT/GD</p>
3	<p>Budget Monitoring for the period to 30th November 2019 MT shared her report</p> <p>The pressures on the HNB continue during the planning and transformation around the SEN service and working with schools.</p> <p>The forecast overspend for 19/20 is £7.314m.</p> <p>Highlights: This comprises £1.036m early years – based on higher than budgeted FTE of 2, 3&4-year olds, higher take up of the EY ISF and the DfE’s negative in year adjustment of £0.359m.</p> <p>There was a swing noted between the forecast from the October report and November, between 2 and 3&4-year-old forecasts. <i>This has been investigated and it is due to actual hours from Autumn headcount data differing from the early years provider estimates supplied earlier in the financial year.</i></p> <p>The HNB forecast overspend is £6.494m – again, based on higher numbers of EHCPS and levels of support requested. This forecast will</p>	<p>MT</p>

	<p>continue to increase if requests continue to be received at the current rates. (12% growth in a rolling year.)</p> <p>Of major concern is the impact of this on the DSG deficit reserve balance which is held in the local authority's balance sheet. The reserve balance is now forecast to be £9.580m.</p> <p>The additional monies pledged nationally for 20/21 will assist but not resolve this issue and certainly not for overspends relating to 18/19 and 19/20 financial years.</p> <p>This overspend needs to be considered moving forward in conjunction with the DfE Consultation proposal to carry forward DSG overspends to Schools in future years.</p> <p>The group noted the report, but significant concerns remain around the level of spend exceeding grant and the cumulative result on the DSG reserve in the balance sheet.</p>	
4	<p>School Funding Settlement Report 2020/21</p> <p>Grant shared his report with the group, outlining the DfE funding allocation for Wiltshire and increases received across all blocks.</p> <p>The DfE have calculated Wiltshire's growth fund to be £2.6m. GD estimates £1.0m leaving the balance of £1.6m available to transfer to HNB.</p> <p>The DfE have calculated Wiltshire's mobility to be £0.570m – this group continued their discussions around whether this needed to be allocated as it was potentially double funding (growth fund) and could also be a one-off spike due to the military movement into the County creating a windfall rather than funding which as part of a useful 3-5-year planning process. Of Wiltshire's 232 schools, 97 primaries would be eligible and 5 secondaries which is a significant proportion of schools would benefit. Grant to amend proposal wording.</p> <p>Minimum per pupil funding levels set at £3,750 for primary and £5,000 for secondary for 2020-21 MFG – 1.84% for all schools, cost to formula of £146k which is the lowest it has ever been and is really positive news. Indicates that the NFF is ironing out any funding differences, caused by the MFG.</p> <p>Whilst the budget allocations have been shared, there are still many unknowns with regard to grant allocations for schools. These are significant sums; PPG, Year 7 catch up, FSM, Teachers pay grant – these are anticipated at the end of February. Concerningly, the School improvement monitoring & brokerage grant is transitional, and no 2020-21 allocation has been received to date. Some grants are at risk of ceasing or reduction.</p> <p>Additionally, the DfE have not yet shared the results of their Autumn consultation on the treatment of the DSG as a ringfenced grant nor, updated the 2020-21 NFF operational guidance around this change as indicated.</p>	GD

	<p>The group were disappointed to be in this position and felt decision making was difficult with so many unknowns. GD to attempt to seek clarity from the DfE, MT to raise with Pauline Church and request that she raises with Michelle Donelan as an issue for Schools Forums.</p> <p>Some good news, the support staff employers pension contribution will not increase for 2020-21 financial year.</p>	GD MT
5	<p>Schools Block Delegated Report 2020-21</p> <p>Grant shared his report with the group, outlining the DfE funding allocation for Wiltshire and increases received.</p> <p>De-delegated services – following an overwhelming consultation response to continue were approved in principle at the December 2019 meeting will form part of the decision making at the January meeting.</p> <p>Army – only 600 pupils returned to Wiltshire rather than the 1500 the army estimated however, any capacity created should be filled over the next 3-5 years as the army will have BAU and will be sending more families back to Britain and will no doubt wish to fill the housing they have built in Wiltshire. 200 Stafford families are anticipated this year.</p> <p>The formula is affordable without transfers out as you would anticipate – more modelling will be carried out over the following days to cost up the scenarios discussed.</p>	GD/MT
6	<p>High Needs Block Update 2020-21</p> <p>Marie shared her report with the group, outlining the cost pressures accumulating on the HNB for 2020-21 and the funding gap created. Whilst the additional £4.441m is most welcome it does not reflect the level of demand from schools.</p> <p>Marie will expand the table with the options Grant is modelling around potential levels of transfer from schools block. Although SF only wanted to transfer funds as a one off, it seems clear that the DfE have intention to change the legislation around the grant funding and are keen that deficit reserves do not exist indefinitely options do need to be explored.</p> <p>The group feedback that more detail would be required to remind Schools Forum of the journey so far around the re-structure, recovery plans (a lift and shift of reports / presentations from the October and December meetings.) Helean to ask Matt & Louise to attend SF and update as she could not be there for the whole meeting.</p> <p>There was much discussion around positive progress and the next steps such as exploring health's role to students with medical needs (physiotherapy, diabetes & speech & language.) Judith confirmed this was a grey area and health colleagues expressed they were paying for some children who had educational or social needs. It was greed there were other health contracts and funding in the system which should be explored e.g.: Virgin contract</p>	HH HH

	<p>Whilst work is underway, there is still much to be done to change hearts and minds around our inclusion journey. A move towards outcomes focussed EHCP with shorter timeframes to measure progress against for both external providers and schools will benefit pupils.</p>	
7	<p>Central Schools Services Block</p> <p>Marie shared her report with the group. Overall the DfE allocation means an affordable central services function however we must factor in the DfE's intention to reduce historical spending over time.</p> <p>Highlights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposal to subsidise admission appeals with a £70k transfer from schools block into CSSB – this will mean appeals can be purchased at a flat fee of £300 for all schools (per appeal) • Proposal to add inflation to central teams – thus avoiding an in year overspend • Proposal to add the balance of historical allocation (£14k) to bolster safeguarding in schools • Transfer of overall surplus of £185k to HNB • Caveat – if the school improvement grant ceases / reduces significantly – we review budgets in year as we will have missed the opportunity to transfer from SB 	
11	<p><i>Date and Time of Next Meeting</i></p> <p>Next meeting – date set at: Friday 13th March 2020, 8.30am North Wilts (1st Floor, County Hall)</p>	MT

Wiltshire Council

Schools Forum

16 January 2020

DEDICATED SCHOOLS BUDGET – BUDGET MONITORING 2019-20

Purpose of the Report

1. To present budget monitoring information against the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) for the financial year 2019-20 as at 30 November 2019.

Main Considerations

2. Appendix 1 to this report outlines the budget monitoring summary as at 30 November 2019.
3. An overspend of £7.314 million is currently projected against the overall schools budget. This is an increase since the last report although the on-going pressures on the high needs block are known and understood, in line with national pressures and recovery plans are in place to significantly reduce pressure long term.

Schools Block

4. There is a forecast underspend of £0.210 million on the schools block budgets. This is largely due to a positive adjustment from the DfE allocating additional growth as a result of academy conversions.

Early Years Budgets

5. Budgets for the free entitlement for 15- and 30-hours childcare for 2, 3- & 4-year olds are currently forecast to be overspent by £1.036 million. This is because the take up of hours has increased above the budgeted hours which was based on the average take up of the past three years. In addition to this, the inclusion support fund has been utilised more fully than in previous years.

	Budgeted FTE	Forecast FTE	Forecast FTE Variance	Budgeted Spend £M	Forecast Spend £M	Forecast spend Variance £M
2 year olds	385	452	67	2.335	2.742	0.407
3 & 4 year olds	4,791	4,889	98	22.938	23.407	0.468
ISF	447	673	226	0.357	0.539	0.181

6. The 18/19 adjustment based on the January 2018 census data was a reduction of £0.359 million. The forecast is included to follow the accounting principle of prudence however, the increased take up should be reflected in the January census and allocation increased as such.

High Needs Budgets

7. High Needs budgets are projected to overspend by £6.494m. The biggest areas of overspend are Independent Special School packages, Named Pupil Allowances and payments in relation to alternative provision including direct payments & elective home education.
8. There has been a significant increase in forecast spend since the last report. This is explained by activity in excess of that previously forecast, namely; 27 fte (full time equivalent pupils) new named pupil allowances, 19 fte new special school top ups 4 fte new independent special school places and 3 fte additional SEN education other than at school.
9. The major driver of the increased cost is volume. Activity (volume) is measured in FTE – full time equivalent pupils. More granular detail around the activity and this has been provided in Appendix 2. There is much management information, but it is important to note that the number of EHCPs being requested has not slowed at all and is rising at a similar rate as 2018/19.

	Children with an EHCP in Wiltshire
Number as at 1 April 2019	3,433
As at 30 November 2019	3,715
Current Year to Date Variance (8 months)	282 (8.2 % increase)
<i>Forecast EHCPs as at 31 March 2020 (should rate continue at current 12% level)</i>	3,970

10. Much work has been done, Schools Forum members will recall we set up the High Needs Block Working Group (August to December 2018) to collect views on the drivers for increased spend including EHCP and banding review funding requests from schools. Recommendations from this group included an independent external review and this was commissioned through ISOS Consultancy, a leading SEN research and advisory company specialising in working alongside the public sector.
11. ISOS have worked with the local authority, WPCC, schools, health colleagues, children and young people and parents and carers through the Spring and Summer of 2019 to examine processes and systems of support and inclusion. ISOS recommendations are in the process of being implemented. A consultant special school head teacher has been seconded, working 3 days per week on inclusion practice in educational settings.
12. SEN educational services have been separated away from Childrens social care to align more closely with education under School Effectiveness and Inclusion. A new role, Head of Service for Inclusion takes up post in April 2020.
13. Additionally, there are recovery plans in place across the whole of Wiltshire Council budgets at present to stop or delay all uncommitted spend which is not linked to safeguarding, elections, trading or longer-term transformation or savings plans. This is expected to have a positive impact on DSG spending levels.

Central School Services Block

14. There is a minor favourable forecast variance of £0.006 on the centrally held school budgets.

DSG Reserve

15. The reserve brought forward of £2.060 million is reduced by the early years block adjustment of £0.206 million. The forecast overspend would take the reserve into a deficit position of £9.580 million.
16. With effect from 2018-19, the department tightened the rules governing deficits in local authorities' overall DSG accounts, under which local authorities have to explain plans for bringing DSG account back into balance. The DfE intend to require a report from any local authority that has a DSG deficit of more than 1% as at the end of any financial year.

The forecast DSG deficit reserve balance would take the % to over the DfE's 1% and will therefore require a recovery plan. This will be based on the savings proposals shared at the December Schools Forum meeting and the 2020-21 agreed, balanced budget. The ISOS findings and new SEN Strategy currently being worked up alongside school leaders will align to the overall recovery plan.

	DSG Reserve £ M
2018/19 Brought Forward	(2.060)
2018/19 Early Years Adjustment	(0.206)
2019/20 Forecast Overspend	(7.314)
2020/21 Opening Forecast DSG Reserve - Deficit	(9.580)

17. In the Autumn, the Department for Education consulted on changing the conditions and regulations applying to the dedicated schools grant (DSG), to clarify that it is a ring-fenced specific grant, separate from the general funding of local authorities. Clarifying whether local authorities are expected to carry forward any deficits they may have on their DSG accounts, and whether the deficit has to be covered by their general reserves. The government had intended to make a decision on the proposed changes, in time to inform the setting of local authorities' budgets for the 2020 to 2021 financial year. However, the DfE website currently confirms that they are analysing feedback and we are asked to visit this page again soon to download the outcome of the consultation.

Proposals

18. Schools Forum is asked to note the budget monitoring position at the end of November 2019 alongside reports later on the agenda on the 2020-21 Schools Budget, levels of funding and recovery planning.

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Appendix 1 – Schools Budget Forecast Position as at 30 November 2019

a	b	c	d = (c-b)	e = (d/b)	f	d = (c-b)	g	Previous Report
Service Area	Current Annual Budget £m	Period 8 Forecast £m	Period 8 Forecast Variance £m	%	18/19 Outturn Variance	October forecast variance £m	Budget Move- ment from Previous Report	
Three to Four Year Olds Free Entitlement Funding	22.938	23.407	0.468	2.04%	-0.399	0.981	-0.512	
Two Year Olds Free Entitlement Funding	2.335	2.742	0.407	17.43%	0.074	(0.167)	0.574	
Early Years Inclusion Support Fund	0.357	0.539	0.181	50.79%	0.009	0.181	0.000	
Early Years Pupil Premium & DAF	0.357	0.357	0.000	0.00%	0	0.000	0.000	
Early Years Central Expenditure	0.422	0.401	(0.020)	-4.83%	-0.008	0.000	-0.020	
Early Years Block	26.410	27.446	1.036	3.92%	-0.324	0.995	0.041	
Schools Budget Shares Primary & Secondary	105.125	105.125	0.000	0.00%	0	0.000	0.000	
Licences and Subscriptions	0.052	0.052	0.000	0.00%	0	0.000	0.000	
Free School Meals	0.020	0.020	0.000	0.00%	0	0.000	0.000	
Staff Supply Cover (Not Sickness)	0.597	0.597	0.000	0.00%	0	(0.025)	0.025	
Behaviour Support Team	0.616	0.616	0.000	0.00%	0	0.000	0.000	
Ethnic Minority and Traveller Achievement	0.518	0.488	(0.030)	-5.85%	0	(0.042)	0.012	
De Delegated Total	1.803	1.773	-0.030	-1.68%	0.000	-0.068	0.037	
Growth Fund	1.007	0.827	(0.180)	-17.88%	-0.130	(0.180)	-0.000	
Schools Block	107.935	107.725	-0.210	-0.19%	-0.324	-0.247	0.037	
Special School Place Funding	3.840	3.840	0.000	0.00%	0	0.000	0.000	
Resource Base (RB) Funding	0.809	0.809	0.000	0.00%	0	0.000	0.000	
Enhanced Learning Provision (ELP) Funding	0.283	0.283	0.000	0.00%	0	0.000	0.000	
High Needs Block ISB Maintained	4.932	4.932	0.000	0.00%	0.000	0.000	0.000	
Named Pupil Allowances (NPA)	4.346	5.944	1.598	36.78%	1.207	1.393	0.205	
Special School Top-Up	7.731	8.177	0.446	5.76%	0.165	0.336	0.110	
Resourced Base (RB) Top-Up	1.790	2.037	0.247	13.82%	0.455	0.230	0.017	
Enhanced Learning Provision (ELP) Top-Up	1.508	1.099	(0.409)	-27.12%	0.219	(0.408)	-0.001	
Secondary Alternative Provision Funding	2.791	2.791	0.000	0.00%	(0.035)	0.000	0.000	
Non Wiltshire Pupils in Wiltshire Schools	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.00%	0.000	0.000	0.000	
Devolved to Maintained Total	18.166	20.048	1.882	10.36%	2.011	1.551	0.331	
Wiltshire Pupils in Non Wiltshire Schools	1.953	2.072	0.119	6.11%	0.979	0.044	0.075	
Post-16 Top-Up	3.695	3.866	0.171	4.64%	(0.829)	0.142	0.029	
Independent & Non-Maintained Special Schools	8.825	11.685	2.860	32.41%	2.212	2.585	0.275	
SEN Alternative Provision, Direct Payments & Elective Home Education	0.250	1.802	1.552	620.89%	0.788	1.341	0.211	
Education Other than at School (EOTAS)	0.484	0.336	(0.149)	-30.68%	(0.252)	(0.079)	-0.070	
High Needs Top Up Funding	15.207	19.761	4.554	29.95%	2.898	4.033	0.521	
High Needs in Early Years Provision	0.422	0.422	0.000	0.00%	0.012	0.000	0.000	
Speech & Language	0.519	0.525	0.006	1.15%	0.032	0.006	0.000	
0-5 Inclusion & SEND Teams	1.654	1.654	0.000	0.02%	(0.104)	0.000	0.000	
Specialist Teacher Advisory Service	1.078	1.136	0.057	5.30%	0.066	0.076	-0.019	
Other Special Education	0.216	0.210	(0.006)	-2.86%	(0.157)	0.018	-0.025	
Commissioned & SEN Support Services	3.890	3.948	0.057	1.47%	-0.151	0.101	-0.043	
High Needs Block	42.195	48.689	6.494	15.39%	4.758	5.685	0.808	
Central Licences	0.373	0.373	0.000	0.07%	-0.003	0.000	0.000	
Central Provision (Former ESG)	1.005	1.005	0.000	0.00%	-0.074	0.000	0.000	
Admissions	0.411	0.405	(0.006)	-1.39%	-0.007	(0.004)	-0.001	
Servicing of Schools Forums	0.003	0.003	0.000	0.00%	0.000	0.000	0.000	
Central Provision within Schools Budget	1.792	1.787	-0.006	-0.32%	-0.084	-0.004	-0.001	
Education Services to CLA	0.103	0.103	0.000	0.00%	-0.037	0.000	0.000	
Child Protection in Schools & Early Years	0.041	0.041	0.000	0.00%	0	0.000	0.000	
Prudential Borrowing	0.300	0.300	0.000	0.00%	0	0.000	0.000	
Historic Commitments	0.444	0.444	0.000	0.00%	-0.037	0.000	0.000	
Central School Services	2.236	2.231	-0.006	-0.25%	-0.121	-0.004	-0.001	
Total Schools Budget	178.776	186.091	7.314	4.09%	4.183	6.429	0.885	
DSG for academy schools (all blocks)	172.286	172.286	0.000	0				
Pupil Premium (academy & maintained)	15.314	15.314	0.000	0				
6th Form Funding Maintained Schools (LSC Grant)	1.182	1.182	0.000	0				
UI Free School Meal Grant Provisional (academy & maintained)	3.345	3.345	0.000	0				
PE & Sports Revenue Grant (academy & maintained)	3.605	3.605	0.000	0				
Teachers Pension Grant	0.401	0.401	0.000	0				
Other Schools Grants	to follow	to follow						
DfE Revenue Grants for all Wiltshire Schools	196.134	196.134	0.000	0				
TOTAL DfE SCHOOLS FUNDING	374.910	382.224	7.314	1.95%				

Appendix 1 - the service forecasts of expenditure as at 31st March 2020 - this is an estimate of net expenditure on the schools budget

Appendix 2 - the service forecasts of planned activity in FTE (full time equivalent pupils) as at 31st March 2020 - this is a measure of volumes of pupil placements / support arrangements

Appendix 2 - Variance Analysis

h	i	j	k = (j-i)	l = (k/i)	m	n	o	n	o	p
Volume analysis	Budgeted Activity FTE	Period 8 Forecast Activity FTE	Period 8 Forecast Variance FTE	%	18/19 Outturn Volume	Volume movement from Previous Report	Period 2 Forecast Price	18/19 Outturn Price	Unit	Movement from Previous Report
Three/Four Year Olds FE	4,791	4,889	98	2%	4802	110	£4.20	£4.16	p/hr	
Two Year Olds FE	385	452	67	17%	479	92	£5.32	£5.32	p/hr	
ISF	447	673	226	51%			£615	£615	pa	
							£0.53	£0.53	p/hr	
Early Years Block ACTIVITY DRIVER DATASET	5,623	6,014	391	7%	5,281	18				
Sp Sch Place Funding	384	384	0	0%	360	-	£10,000	£10,000	pa	
RB Funding	135	135	0	0%	148	0	£6,000	£6,000	pa	
ELP Funding	47	47	0	0%	59	0	£6,000	£6,000	pa	
NPA	819	1,178	359	44%	1011	27	£5,045	£5,739	pa	
Special School Top-Up	762	830	68	9%	780	19	£9,847	£10,189	pa	
RB Top-Up	353	379	25	7%	324	2	£5,377	£5,510	pa	
ELP Top-Up	431	336	-95	-22%	389	1	£3,275	£3,697	pa	
Non Wiltshire Schools	2,366	2,723	358	15%	2,504	49	£7,362	£7,879	pa	
Post-16 Top-Up	199	195	-4	-2%	192	2	£10,625	£10,133	pa	
Ind & Non-Maint Sp Sch	375	357	-18	-5%	360	2	£10,830	£9,716	pa	
SEN AP, DP & EHE	187	233	46	25%	201	4	£50,045	£46,694	pa	
	37	162	125	333%	n/a	3	£11,120	n/a	pa	
High Needs Block ACTIVITY DRIVER DATASET	799	948	149	19%	753	12	£20,855	£21,418	pa	

The total activity FTE is higher than total no of EHCPS as children in SS, ELP & RB may also have top ups
SS, ELP & RB places above those agreed with the DfE are costed to top ups

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Wiltshire Council

Schools Forum

16 January 2020

Schools Revenue Funding 2020-21 - Funding Settlement and Budget Setting Process

Purpose of the Paper

1. To update Schools Forum on the revenue funding settlement and the budget setting process for 2020-21.
2. The report will outline the funding settlement announced on 19th December 2019 and the impact on school budgets arising from the settlement. The report will also outline the decision-making process for the 2020-21 budget.
3. Further detail on each of the funding blocks and the specific decisions required will be provided in separate papers on this agenda. A separate decision paper will also be provided so that decisions can be considered after all the update reports have been discussed.

Introduction to Funding Changes for 2020-21

4. In the Autumn of 2019, the government announced its pledge to boost schools and high needs funding. Building on the 2019-20 funding levels, the cash increases of £14.5 billion over 3 years would comprise;
 - £2.6 billion in 2020-21
 - £4.8 billion in 2021-22
 - £7.1 billion in 2022-23
5. In addition, a further £700million was pledged for High Needs nationally in 2020-21.
6. In recognition of the increase in employer contributions for members of the Teachers' Pension Scheme, it has been confirmed that the Teachers Pension Employer Contributions Grant (TPECG) will continue for the next three years until 2022-23.
7. The Teachers Pay Award Grant will continue for the 2020-21 year, but no information has been provided regarding funding for future years.
8. The Department for Education (DfE) have continued to allocate school funding on the basis of the National Funding Formula (NFF) which should see all schools benefitting from the additional funding. Nationally the DSG shows an average increase of 4.2% per pupil compared to 2019-20. The 2020-21 year is another 'soft'

year with local Schools' Forum still retaining its role in determining the school funding allocation methodology.

9. The DfE undertook a consultation in the Autumn term regarding the introduction of mandatory minimum per pupil funding levels for the 2020-21 year. The results of the consultation have now been [published](#) and it has been confirmed that the mandatory levels of £3,750 and £5,000 per pupil for primary and secondary must be implemented in the local funding formulae.
10. The introduction of the mandatory minimum per pupil funding levels represents a step towards the introduction of a 'hard' formula, where national rates must be implemented without allowing for local discretion. Further consultation regarding the 'hard' formula is expected in due course.
11. Information regarding all further grants, including Pupil Premium funding rates are due to be announced in the 'new year'.

School Revenue Funding Settlement 2020-21

Dedicated Schools Grant 2020-21

12. The DfE issued the revenue funding settlement for schools on 19 December 2019. The provisional Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) allocation for Wiltshire Council is **£374.503m**. This is an increase of £22.857m compared with 2019-20. The increase reflects the impact of the increase to schools' block funding for the national funding formula (NFF) incorporating the additional funding pledged by the government, the overall increase in the numbers of pupils to be funded from the schools' block, and the impact of the funding uplift through the NFF for the High Needs Block.
13. The split of funding between the blocks is as follows:

	<u>2019-20</u>	<u>2020-21</u>	<u>Increase</u>
Schools Block	275,215,164	293,142,767	17,927,603
Central Services Block	2,570,343	2,479,715	-90,628
High Needs Block	47,091,825*	51,996,188*	4,904,363
Early Years Block	26,768,825	26,884,359	115,534
TOTAL FUNDING	351,646,157	374,503,029	22,856,872

* - Includes the additional £1.128m announced in December 2018 to support children with SEN – funded 2 years

14. Pupil numbers have increased in each phase, as per the table below:

	<u>2018-19</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>2019-20</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>2020-21</u>
Primary	38,218	15	38,233	262	38,495
Secondary	24,471	412	24,883	481	25,364
TOTAL	62,689	427	63,116	743	63,859

15. The **Schools Block** has been calculated based on the NFF figures published in October 2019. The funding values published in October have been used to calculate a PUF and SUF (primary unit of funding and secondary unit of funding) for the Wiltshire. These units of funding have been multiplied by the numbers of primary and secondary pupils from the October 2019 census to arrive at the schools' block total for 2020-21.
16. The PUF and SUF rates for 2020-21 are detailed in the table below;

	<u>2019-20</u>	<u>2020-21</u>	<u>Increase</u>
PUF	£3,849.15	£4,079.69	£230.54 (5.99%)
SUF	£4,885.94	£5,092.09	£206.15 (4.22%)
Average	£4,325.37	£4,549.65	£224.28 (5.19%)

17. Included within the Schools Block of funding of £293.142m is the amount of £2.604m allocated on the basis of growth within Wiltshire. A separate paper has been prepared to provide further detail regarding the Schools Block and the components which comprise the growth funding awarded by the DfE.
18. The **Central Schools Services block (CSSB)** has been calculated according to the new national funding formula for the CSSB. October 2019 pupil numbers have been multiplied by a unit value of £31.64 and a headcount of 63,859. Funding for agreed historic commitments has then been added to that total. The Block is calculated as;

Pupil Funding (£31.64 x 63,859)	£2,020,515
Historic Commitment Funding	£459,200
Total CSSB Funding	£2,479,515

19. The **High Needs block** has been allocated as per the baselines notified to local authorities in September 2019. These baselines are calculated according to the national funding formula for high needs, the greatest percentage of which is allocated according to historic spend. The basic entitlement amount reflects the numbers of pupils in special schools has been updated to reflect the October 2019 census and the import/export adjustment. The uplifted funding reflects and includes Wiltshire's share of the £700m additional funding announced for High Needs in 2020-21.
20. The funding also includes the additional £1.128m awarded to Wiltshire as part of the **'new funding to support children with Special Educational Needs'** announced on 16 December 2018, to be in place for two years (18-19 and 19-20).
21. The **Early Years block** reflects the hourly rates announced for 2020-21 and an estimate of the full year effect of the entitlement to an additional 15 hours of childcare for children of working parents which came in to effect in September 2017. Again, Wiltshire remains on the funding floor for the early years national funding formula. It should be noted that the early years block will be updated during the 2020-21 financial year to reflect the January 2020 and January 2021 early years census data. In the current year, this has had a negative impact on the value of the early years block as take up of places has been lower than estimated in the initial settlement.
22. The funding regulations do allow for a transfer of funding between the schools' block and other blocks within the DSG. As previously reported to schools forum, local authorities have the flexibility to move up to 0.5% from the schools block to the other blocks including the high needs block with the agreement of schools forum. A transfer of an amount above 0.5% would require the specific approval of the Secretary of State through the submission of a 'Disapplication Request'. A Disapplication request was made for the 2019-20 year and successfully approved by the Secretary of State at 0.8% (£2.2m).

School Improvement Monitoring and Brokering Grant

23. Following the removal of the Education Services Grant at the end of August 2017, the new School Improvement Monitoring and Brokering Grant was introduced. The purpose of the grant is to allow local authorities to continue to monitor performance of maintained schools, broker school improvement provision, and intervene as appropriate. Funding has been set £50m nationally for the academic years 2017-18 and 2018-19 and 2019-20.
24. Notification has been received that this grant will continue for the financial year 2019-20 but not beyond as yet, although funding is allocated, based upon an academic year. Wiltshire's allocation for the 2019-20 academic year was £514,157 and is projected to remain at this level in the 2020-21 academic year.

Budget Setting Process 2020-21

25. Local authorities are required to submit the proposed delegated budget for schools in their areas to the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) by 21 January 2020. The ESFA are required to confirm the formula is compliant with the regulations and will then confirm budgets to academies during February 2019. The LA will need to notify maintained schools of their budget shares by the end of February 2019.
26. In terms of setting the budgets for schools for 2020-21, the amount of funding available for distribution to schools will be calculated as follow:

DSG Schools Block Allocation	293,142,767
Less: Growth Fund	x,xxx,xxx
Less: Transfer to Other Blocks	x,xxx,xxx
Total available for School Funding	xxx,xxx,xxx

27. The update reports will show that many of the decisions in relation to individual funding blocks will impact on the affordability, or otherwise, of other proposals and this will be important to take in to account when considering the final decision paper.

De-Delegation

28. There are a number of budgets currently included in the local formula that maintained primary and/or secondary schools can agree to de-delegate so that they continue to be provided centrally. De-delegation cannot be applied to amounts delegated to academies or to special schools. Schools Forum has previously agreed they would take this decision on behalf of schools, based upon consultation responses.
29. At the December Schools Forum meeting, it was agreed by the maintained schools voting members that the de-delegation of services would continue in 2020-21 on the basis of those services de-delegated in 2019-20. The amount of each de-delegated service budget is based upon the relevant formula factors for maintained schools.

Proposal

30. Schools Forum is asked to note the report.

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Wiltshire Council

Schools Forum

16 January 2020

DSG Budget – Schools Block Update 2020-21 (Delegated Budget)

Purpose of the Report

1. To update Schools Forum on issues relating to the schools delegated budget for 2020-21 and the decisions that will need to be made as part of the budget setting process.

Main Considerations

2. As outlined in the funding settlement paper the DfE has allocated a schools' block quantum to Wiltshire of £293.142 million. This includes funding of £2.604 million for the growth fund, based on the new growth formula, detailed further below.
3. Cabinet approved the funding formula for 2019-20 which confirmed that Wiltshire would move as close to the national funding formula (NFF) as possible. In doing so the Wiltshire formula replicated the formula factors in the national funding formula (NFF) as closely as possible. Formula factors were all fully funded at the published NFF values apart from the FSM6 Derivation factor, which was funded at a lower value for affordability reasons.
4. Modelling work is underway to calculate individual school budgets based on the agreed formula. Progress and an update will be brought to the meeting on 16 January 2020. There are a couple of key factors which could impact upon the affordability of the formula:
 - i. Potential transfer from the Schools Block of funding to support other Blocks within the DSG.
 - ii. Increase in Business Rates, due to significant changes in rateable values in the 2017-18 baseline with a reduction in the transition arrangements which has meant that several 'medium' sized schools have seen an increase of up to 17.5%).
 - iii. A number of growing schools are being funded on estimated numbers with the agreement of the ESFA. This means more pupils are being funded through the formula than were counted in the October 2019 census.
5. The main funding formula for 2020-21 is similar to 2019-20 but the following changes should be noted;
 - An increase in Pupil and School led funding values of 4%
 - Introduction of Mobility funding on formulaic basis
 - An area cost adjustment (uplift) of 1.00716%
 - An increase in the funding floor of 1.84% (2019-20 NFF) to ensure all schools see a gain in funding on their pupil led funding
 - Minimum Funding Guarantee to be set between 0.5% and 1.84%

6. It is proposed that any shortfall in schools block funding (if required) will be funded through a reduction in FSM6 rates again. The rationale for reducing this factor rather than other factors is that Schools Forum felt that there is an element of double counting between this factor and the Pupil Premium Grant. The principle was agreed in 2018-19 but is subject to approval once again.
7. As in previous years it is also assumed that costs of the minimum funding guarantee (MFG) are met through limiting the increases to schools gaining from the formulaic changes. It is proposed that the MFG will be set at 0.5% to ensure that all schools gain by a minimum of a least 0.5% again in 2020-21, on their 'per pupil' funding. This option will be modelled amongst others and presented to Schools Forum alongside other options.

Growth Funding Allocation 2020-21

8. The change in the funding methodology for growth introduced in 2019-20 will continue for the 2020-21 year. Growth allocations for 2020-21 will be based on pupil data from the October 2019 census and the October 2018 census.
9. Funding is allocated on the actual growth in pupil numbers experienced in the previous year. This ensures that over time local authorities are funded on the basis of the actual growth they experience (on a lagged basis), rather than being based upon historic spending decisions.
10. In Wiltshire, growth is measured by separating the county into 62 MSOA's with an average of 4 schools in each MSOA area. Growth is measured by counting the increase in pupil numbers in each MSOA in the local authority between the October 2018 and October 2019 censuses. Only positive increases in pupil numbers are included, so positive growth in one area, and negative growth in another, will not be denied growth funding.
11. The growth factor allocates for 2020-21:
 - £1,425 for each primary 'growth' pupil
 - £2,130 for each secondary 'growth' pupil, and
 - £67,000 for each brand new school that opened in the previous year.
12. The DfE do not expect local authorities to use these rates in their local arrangements for funding growth. The growth factor in the national funding formula is a proxy for overall growth costs at local authority level, and not at the level of individual schools.
13. At the Schools Forum meeting in December 2019, Schools Forum agreed and confirmed its criteria for allocating Growth funding in the 2020-21 year. The current criteria have previously been confirmed as being fully compliant and meeting the conditions of the DfE's funding regulations.

14. For the purposes of calculating the amount allocated to Wiltshire for the 2020-21 year, the table below sets out the funding stream.

<u>Funding 2020-21</u>	<u>Primary</u>		<u>Secondary</u>		<u>New School</u>	<u>ACA Uplift</u>
Growth in Pupils	770		636		2	1.007
Rate	£ 1,425	£	2,130	£	67,000	
Amount	£ 1,105,105	£	1,364,378	£	134,000	£ 2,603,483
Uplift				£	959	£ 959
TOTAL	£ 1,105,105	£	1,364,378	£	134,959	£ 2,604,443

Historical Position

15. Growth funding forms part of the Schools Block of funding. Schools Forum has historically agreed an annual budget of £1m to be retained for funding pupil growth and has operated successfully within this funding envelope. In the financial year 2020-21 it is proposed to set the budget once again at £1m.

Affordability

16. There are no plans to open any new schools in the 2010-21 year. The growth fund does support new primary and secondary schools with diseconomy costs for the first 7 years or until the school is full. The schools to be supported in 2020-21 are;

- Castle Mead Primary Academy,
- Wellington Primary Academy,
- Ridgeway Farm Primary Academy,
- St Peter's C of E Primary Academy,
- King's Gate Primary Academy and
- Wellington Eagle Primary Academy.

17. The Basic Need Class Expansion for additional classes is still to be confirmed with colleagues in the School places team. However, growth is being experienced across both the primary and secondary sectors and schools are being expanded to accommodate the growth.

18. The Infant Class Size increases have been confirmed for 2019-20 with five schools being funded through this factor. As the number of primary pupils continues to grow across Wiltshire, the funding factor will continue to be used to support schools seeing rapid growth in infant pupil numbers.

19. The total Growth Fund requirement for 2020-21 is anticipated to come within the proposed budget of £1.0m.

Mobility

20. The DfE have created a new methodology for the mobility factor for the 2020-21 NFF. A national methodology has been introduced and Wiltshire has received funding through the NFF for Mobility, however, applying the factor remains optional and to be determined by Schools Forum.
21. Pupils eligible for funding through the mobility factor are pupils whose school census record at their current (or predecessor school) in the last three years indicates an entry date which is not 'typical'.
22. For Year groups 1 to 11, 'typical' means that the first census on which a pupil is recorded as attending the school is the October census. Therefore, 'not typical' means that the first census a pupil is recorded as attending the school is the January or May census.
23. The DfE have produced the table below to provide examples of when pupils may or may not be classified as eligible for mobility funding.

In Figure 7, 5 pupils attending an all-through school are illustrated. Pupil 1's first appearance is in an October census, so that pupil is not classified as mobile for the purposes of the NFF mobility factor. Pupil 2, who was currently in year 11 in 2018/19, had their first appearance in the school in a January census, so they are classified as mobile. Pupil 3's first census is also January but as the pupil was in year R at the time, they are not mobile. Pupil 4's first census is May and so is mobile. Pupil 5 has been at the school for at least 3 years so is not eligible for mobility funding.

Figure 7: Mobility example

Census	Pupil 1	Pupil 2	Pupil 3	Pupil 4	Pupil 5
Oct-15					Y5
Jan-16					Y5
May-16				Y1	Y5
Oct-16				Y2	Y6
Jan-17			YR	Y2	Y6
May-17			YR	Y2	Y6
Oct-17			Y1	Y3	Y7
Jan-18		Y10	Y1	Y3	Y7
May-18		Y10	Y1	Y3	Y7
Oct-18	Y7	Y11	Y2	Y4	Y8

24. Schools will receive funding for all mobility-eligible pupils through this factor, above the threshold set at 6%. NFF funding is set at £875 for primary mobility and £1,250 for secondary mobility, pupils above the 6% threshold. Initial modelling using the dataset for 2020-21 has indicated the following;

	Primary	Secondary	TOTAL
Schools Eligible	97	5	102
Total Funding	£534,849	£32,864	£567,713
Highest Funding	£43,662	£15,912	
Lowest Funding	£70	£1,225	
Average	£5,514	£6,573	

Proposals

25. Schools Forum is asked to note the report.
26. Schools Forum to agree the level of the Growth fund at £1.0m.
27. Schools Forum to note the new NFF funding criteria for the optional Mobility factor and decide whether to introduce Mobility as a funding formula factor.
28. Schools Forum to agree setting the MFG at a level of between 0.5% and 1.84%.
29. Schools Forum to confirm its intention to apply all the funding factors at the NFF rate and make any adjustments using the FSM Ever6 factor.

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Wiltshire Council

Schools Forum

16 January 2020

DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT – EARLY YEARS BLOCK UPDATE 2020-21

Purpose of the Report

1. To update the working groups and schools forum on issues related to the early years block for 2020-21 and the decisions that will need to be made as part of the budget setting process for 2020-21.
2. The operational guidance for the early years block confirms that schools forums must be consulted on changes to local early years funding formulae, including agreeing central spend, although the final decision rests with the local authority.

Main Considerations

3. The government announced a minimum of a £0.08 per child per hour for 2020-21 financial year. The provisional early years block settlement for 2020-21 is £26.884 million which is an £0.474 million increase on 2019-20 financial year and includes an additional £0.08 on both the 3 and 4-year-old and 2-year-old entitlement. The 2020-21 allocation comprises the following elements:

	PTE (where applicable)	Rate (where applicable)	£ million
3 & 4-year-old funding – Universal 15 hours	6,861	£4.38/hour	17.129
3 & 4-year-old funding – Working Parents 15 hours	2,816	£4.38/hour	7.030
2-year-old funding	770	£5.40/hour	2.370
Disability Access Fund	197 children	£615/child	0.121
Early Years Pupil Premium (max £302.10 / 570 hours pa)		£00.53/hour	0.234
Total “Initial” or provisional allocation for 2020-21			26.884

4. The allocations for the free entitlement for 3- and 4-year olds, and for 2-year olds are based on the January 2019 census and will be updated during the 2020-21 financial year for the January 2019 and January 2020 censuses. Early indications based on the autumn pupil count are that take up is higher than estimated by the DfE and it is likely that Wiltshire’s DSG settlement will be amended upwards in order to reflect this however to follow the accounting concept of prudence, the budget must be set within initial allocations.
5. The *operational guidance for early years entitlements: local authority funding of providers 2020-21* was published in December 2019. The **key points** on local authority funding of providers are that local authorities:
 - should set a single funding rate (including the same base rate and supplements) for both entitlements for 3- and 4-year olds (that is, both the universal 15 hours, and the additional 15 hours for working parents)

- must plan to pass on at least 95% of their 3 and 4-year-old funding directly to providers to deliver the 3 and 4-year-old entitlements
 - The remaining 5% must be spent on:
 - Centrally retained funding (early years teams)
 - Any transfers to 2 years olds
 - Any extra hours in addition to the governments' entitlement
 - Any funding movement out of early years block
 - may request that the 95% requirement be disapplied in specific, exceptional circumstances
 - must now use a universal base rate for all types of provider in their local 3 and 4-year-old formula, including for Maintained Nursery Schools
 - may continue to use 'lump sums' to distribute additional funding to Maintained Nursery Schools
 - must use a deprivation supplement in their local 3 and 4-year-old formula, and any other supplements used must fall within one of the allowable categories
 - must not channel more than 10% of their funding for 3- and 4-year olds through funding supplements
 - must provide a Special Educational Needs Inclusion Fund (SENIF) for 3- and 4-year olds
 - must pass on Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) in full to providers for eligible 3- and 4-year olds and is only payable in the universal 15 hours entitlement.
 - must pass on Disability Access Fund (DAF) funding in full to providers for eligible 3- and 4-year olds which should be used for example, to support providers in making reasonable adjustments to their settings or helping with building capacity.
6. The DfE will monitor compliance with these requirements. Wiltshire is already compliant with the requirements of the formula, and the SEN Inclusion Fund, and there are no current circumstances where a disapplication of the 95% requirement is being recommended.
7. There are no pass-through requirements for the 2-year-old funding and no requirements for compulsory supplements. Local authorities are encouraged to fund providers for the entitlement for disadvantaged 2-year olds on the basis of a flat hourly rate for all providers. Wiltshire is compliant with this approach and passes through 100% of the 2-year-old funding to providers.
- 8. Main changes from 19/20 Guidance are;**
- Clarification around the continuation of supplementary funding for MNS for the whole of the 2020-21 financial year
 - Amendments to the requirements of the DAF – this is following a change in the DAF funding methodology
 - Clarification of the eligibility criteria and payment for the EYPP.

Early Years Single Funding Formula

9. The DSG settlement including an “initial” allocation for Early Years announced in December 2019 confirms the hourly rate that Wiltshire will be funded at as £4.38 per hour for the 3 and 4-year-old entitlements. Wiltshire remains on the funding floor for the early years national funding formula.
10. The historical and proposed rates are in the table below:

Hourly rate	2018/19	2019/20	Proposed 2020/21
Deprivation	£0.40	£0.40	£0.40
Rurality	£0.52	£0.52	£0.52
Basic Hourly Rate	£4.16	£4.20	£4.20

11. The historical funded PTE rates plus forecast PTE for 2019-20 are in the table below

PTE	2018/19 Funded	2019/20 Funded	2019/20 Forecast	2020/21 Funded
2-year-old	797	770	908	770
3 & 4-year-old	9,721	9,677	9,764	9,677

12. The forecast activity for both 2, 3 & 4-year-old entitlement in 2019-20 exceed the January 2019 census based PTE. The early years block for 2019-20 is forecasting a significant overspend as activity exceeds budgeted levels.
13. Whilst DfE funding rates have increased, modelling based on 2019-20 activity levels shows no increase to be affordable, leaving a small, negative contingency. If the calculation for 2020-21 is updated to reflect the current levels of spend on supplements it is recommended that the base rate should remain at £4.20 per hour in 2020-21 assuming the average annual take up trend continues.
14. In light of the ongoing high needs block funding pressures it is unlikely that schools forum will not be able to allocate any of the high need block funding to support early years expenditure.
15. The DfE guidance is clear that local authorities should target SEN Inclusion Funds at children with lower level or emerging SEN. Children with more complex needs and those in receipt of an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) continue to be eligible to receive funding via the high needs block of the DSG.
16. Schools Forum will need to consider the budget pressures on all DSG blocks and may look to reconsider the current funding position of the SEN inclusion fund. This would impact on the affordable hourly rate for providers and this has been modelled.
17. On the grounds of reasonableness to providers and budget affordability, it is proposed therefore that the early years inclusion support funding will continue to be fully funded from early years block and at the 2019-20 funding level. Should subsequent increases in early years block be notified, the early years inclusion support funding should be increased at a level to match local levels of demand.
18. Please refer to Appendix 1 for detailed modelling of the funding level scenarios. Please note that rurality and deprivation have been re-aligned in all scenarios based on 2019-20 trends although actual allocations for both deprivation and rurality will be unknown until March when the idaci report is available.
19. Please refer to Appendix 2 for the calculations of compliance with the % pass through. All scenarios are compliant.
20. Appendix 3 is an extract from the DfE guidance showing guidance for the % pass through calculation.
21. The over allocation in provisional budgets above would be removed from the general budget for 3- & 4-year olds in order to set a balanced budget.

2-Year-Old Funding

22. The hourly rate for 2-year olds in Wiltshire has been confirmed as £5.40 for 2020-21. An increase of the minimum national increase of £0.08. As in previous years it is proposed that the full hourly rate be passed on to providers delivering provision to 2-year olds.

Disability Access Fund

23. 3- and 4-year olds will be eligible for the fund if they meet the following criteria:

- The child is in receipt of child disability living allowance and;
- The child receives universal 15 hours entitlement

24. 4-year olds in primary school reception classes are not eligible for DAF funding.

25. Settings of 3- and 4-year olds eligible for the DAF will be entitled to receive a one-off payment of £615 per year. Children do not have to take up the full 570 hours of early education they are entitled to in order to receive DAF.

26. Early years providers are ultimately responsible for identifying eligible children and local authorities must check that DAF eligibility requirements are met.

27. The DAF is payable as a lump sum once a year per eligible child. If a child is splitting their entitlement between two or more providers, then parents should be asked to nominate the main setting. If a child receiving DAF moves from one setting to another within a financial year the new setting is not eligible to receive DAF for this child within the same financial year. There is no change in allocated funding rate for 2020-21.

Early Years Pupil Premium

28. Ringfenced Funding continues to be allocated through the early years block for the early years pupil premium (EYPP). The EYPP allocation has increased from £0.110 million to £0.123 million for 2020-21 and it is proposed to increase the budget in line with the funding level.

Proposals

29. Schools Forum is asked to note the update on the early years block and provide views on the proposals in relation to the early years single funding formula and percentage pass through to providers:

- a. Local Authority preferred proposal – to retain the current rate of 3 & 4-year-old funding at £4.20 per hour on the grounds of affordability. Following the DfE updated funding allocations in the Autumn of 2020, this will be reviewed and if affordable, increased at that point.
- b. The early years block to fully fund the Early Years Inclusion Fund at the current level. The demand on this fund exceeds this level of funding in the 2019-20 financial year and for that reason, should any significant increase in DfE funding be notified, this fund should be increased accordingly during the financial year, to a maximum of 95% pass through to providers.

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Schools Forum - January 2020
Early Years Block modelling - 20/21 Financial Year

	20/21 PTE (January 19 census)	Hours per week	38 weeks	Hourly Rate as published	20/21 Allocations as at Dec 19		19/20 Budget (Final)	19/20 Final PTE	19/20 Budgeted Activity	19/20 Funded Hourly Rate
Funding Announcement 20/21										
2 Year old Free Entitlement	770.13	15	38	5.40	2,370,460	fully passported	2,335,352		770	£5.32
Disability Access Fund (DAF)	197.00			£615/child	121,155	fully passported	123,000			
Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP)	775.13	15	38	0.53	234,167	fully passported	234,168			
3 & 4 Year Old Free Entitlement	9676.59	15	38	4.38	24,158,575	passportd at 95% min	22,938,165		9,677	£4.30
<i>Universal</i>	<i>6860.88</i>					Central Teams	422,000			
<i>Working</i>	<i>2815.71</i>					ESIF	357,168		447	
					26,884,357		26,409,853			

Option 1 - @ £4.20 PPPH (No uplift)	20/21 PTE (January 19 census)	Hours per week	38 weeks	Hourly Rate as set for Wiltshire	20/21 Budget		19/20 Forecast Spend (December 19)	19/20 Forecast Spend Variance	19/20 Forecast Activity	19/20 Forecast Activity Variance	19/20 Paid Hourly Rate
Planned Expenditure (Wiltshire Budget)											
2 Year Old Free Entitlement	770.13	15	38	£5.40	2,370,460	fully passported	2,754,232	418,880	908	138	£5.32
Disability Access Fund (DAF)					121,150	fully passported	123,000	0			
Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP)					234,170	fully passported	234,000	-168			
3 & 4 Year Old Free Entitlement	9676.59	15	38	£4.20	23,165,756		23,375,729	437,564	9,764	87	£4.20
Contingency for growth / reduction					-15,780						
Deprivation					220,000						
Rurality					10,000						
EY Inclusion Funding					357,000		539,000	181,832	673	226	
Central Teams :					191,000		191,000				
Free Entitlement & ICT					170,900		170,900				
Early Years Commissioning					59,700		59,700				
Early Learning & Development Team					421,600		421,600	-400			
<i>Check passporting at 95% compliant</i>					778,600						97%
Total estimate - must not exceed funding allocation					26,884,357		27,447,561				
Control check					- 0			1,037,708			Overspend 19/20 - unsustainable model

100643

Schools Forum - January 2020
 Early Years Block modelling - 20/21 Financial Year
 THE FOLLOWING 4 OPTIONS ARE UNSUSTAINABLE

Option 2 - @ £4.21
 PPPH (£0.01 uplift)

	20/21 PTE	38 weeks	Hourly Rate as set for Wiltshire	20/21 Budget
Planned Expenditure (Wiltshire Budget)				
2 Year old Free Entitlement	770.13	15	£5.40	2,370,460
Disability Access Fund (DAF)				121,150
Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP)				234,170
3 & 4 Year Old Free Entitlement	9676.59	15	£4.21	23,220,913
Contingency for growth / reduction				-70,936
Deprivation				220,000
Rurality				10,000
EY Inclusion Funding				357,000
Central Teams :				
Free Entitlement & ICT				191,000
Early Years Commissioning				170,900
Early Learning & Development Team				59,700
				421,600
				<u>778,600</u>

Check passporting at 95% compliant

Total estimate - must not exceed funding allocation

26,884,357

Control check

0

19/20 Forecast Spend (December 19)	19/20 Forecast Spend Variance	19/20 Forecast Activity	19/20 Forecast Activity Variance	19/20 Paid Hourly Rate
------------------------------------	-------------------------------	-------------------------	----------------------------------	------------------------

2,754,232	418,880	908	138	£5.32
123,000	0			
234,000	-168			
23,375,729	437,564	9,764	87	£4.20
539,000	181,832	673	226	
191,000				
170,900				
59,700				
421,600	-400			

97%

27,447,561

Overspend 19/20 - unsustainable model

1,037,708

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Option 3 - @ £4.22
 PPPH (£0.02 uplift)

	20/21 PTE	38 weeks	Hourly Rate as set for Wiltshire	20/21 Budget
Planned Expenditure (Wiltshire Budget)				
2 Year old Free Entitlement	770.13	15	£5.40	2,370,460
Disability Access Fund (DAF)				121,150
Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP)				234,170
3 & 4 Year Old Free Entitlement	9676.59	15	£4.22	23,276,070
Contingency for growth / reduction				-126,093
Deprivation				220,000
Rurality				10,000
EY Inclusion Funding				357,000
Central Teams :				
Free Entitlement & ICT				191,000
Early Years Commissioning				170,900
Early Learning & Development Team				59,700
				421,600
				<u>778,600</u>

Check passporting at 95% compliant

Total estimate - must not exceed funding allocation

26,884,357

Control check

-0

19/20 Forecast Spend (December 19)	19/20 Forecast Spend Variance	19/20 Forecast Activity	19/20 Forecast Activity Variance	19/20 Paid Hourly Rate
------------------------------------	-------------------------------	-------------------------	----------------------------------	------------------------

2,754,232	418,880	908	138	£5.32
123,000	0			
234,000	-168			
23,375,729	437,564	9,764	87	£4.20
539,000	181,832	673	226	
191,000				
170,900				
59,700				
421,600	-400			

97%

26,252,961

Overspend 19/20 - unsustainable model

1,037,708

Schools Forum - January 2020
Early Years Block modelling - 20/21 Financial Year

Option 4 - @ £4.23
PPPH (£0.03 uplift)

Planned Expenditure (Wiltshire Budget)

	20/21 PTE	38 weeks	Hourly Rate as set for Wiltshire	20/21 Budget
2 Year old Free Entitlement	770.13	15	£5.40	2,370,460
Disability Access Fund (DAF)				121,150
Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP)				234,170
3 & 4 Year Old Free Entitlement	9676.59	15	£4.23	23,331,226
Contingency for growth / reduction				-181,250
Deprivation				220,000
Rurality				10,000
EY Inclusion Funding				357,000
Central Teams : Free Entitlement & ICT				191,000
Early Years Commissioning				170,900
Early Learning & Development Team				59,700
				421,600
<i>Check passporting at 95% compliant</i>				<u>778,600</u>

19/20 Forecast Spend (December 19)	19/20 Forecast Spend Variance	19/20 Forecast Activity	19/20 Forecast Activity Variance	19/20 Paid Hourly Rate
------------------------------------	-------------------------------	-------------------------	----------------------------------	------------------------

2,754,232	418,880	908	138	£5.32
123,000	0			
234,000	-168			
23,375,729	437,564	9,764	87	£4.20
539,000	181,832	673	226	
191,000				
170,900				
59,700				
421,600	-400			
97%				

Total estimate - must not exceed funding allocation
Control check

26,884,356
-0

27,447,561
1,037,708 Overspend 19/20 - unsustainable model

Option 5 - @ £4.24
PPPH (£0.04 uplift)

Planned Expenditure (Wiltshire Budget)

	20/21 PTE	38 weeks	Hourly Rate as set for Wiltshire	20/21 Budget
2 Year old Free Entitlement	770.13	15	£5.40	2,370,460
Disability Access Fund (DAF)				121,150
Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP)				234,170
3 & 4 Year Old Free Entitlement	9676.59	15	£4.24	23,386,383
Contingency for growth / reduction				-236,406
Deprivation				220,000
Rurality				10,000
EY Inclusion Funding				357,000
Central Teams : Free Entitlement & ICT				191,000
Early Years Commissioning				170,900
Early Learning & Development Team				59,700
				421,600
<i>Check passporting at 95% compliant</i>				<u>778,600</u>

19/20 Forecast Spend (December 19)	19/20 Forecast Spend Variance	19/20 Forecast Activity	19/20 Forecast Activity Variance	19/20 Paid Hourly Rate
------------------------------------	-------------------------------	-------------------------	----------------------------------	------------------------

2,754,232	418,880	908	138	£5.32
123,000	0			
234,000	-168			
23,375,729	437,564	9,764	87	£4.20
539,000	181,832	673	673	
191,000				
170,900				
59,700				
421,600	-400			
97%				

Total estimate - must not exceed funding allocation
Control check

26,884,357
0

27,447,561
1,037,708 Overspend 19/20 - unsustainable model

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A	1	Anticipated budget for base rate (including funding to MNS) for 3 and 4 year olds	£23,165,756
	2	Anticipated budget for MNS lump sums for 3 and 4 year olds	£0
	3	Anticipated budget for supplements for 3 and 4 year olds: Deprivation (including funding to MNS)	£220,000
	4	Anticipated budget for supplements for 3 and 4 year olds: Quality (including funding to MNS)	£0
	5	Anticipated budget for supplements for 3 and 4 year olds: Flexibility (including funding to MNS)	£0
	6	Anticipated budget for supplements for 3 and 4 year olds: Rurality (including funding to MNS)	£10,000
	7	Anticipated budget for supplements for 3 and 4 year olds: EAL (including funding to MNS)	£0
	8	Anticipated budget for 3 and 4 year old SEN inclusion fund (top up grant element)	£357,000
	9	Anticipated budget for 3 and 4 year old contingency	-£15,780
Subtotal =			£23,736,976
Page 47	10	DfE initial quantum allocation to local authority of MNS supplementary funding	0
	11	Planned total base rate hours for universal 15 and additional 15 hours for 3 and 4 year olds	5,515,656
	12	Equivalent average rate to providers for entitlement hours for 3 and 4 year olds = (A-B) / C = (lines 1+2+3+4+5+6+7+8+9 - 10) / (line 11)	£4.30
E	13	LA EYNFF hourly rate for 3 and 4 year olds (published alongside this document, or in DSG tables in future)	£4.38
F	14	Test of meeting requirement F = (D / E) * 100 = ((line 12) / (line 13))*100	98.3%

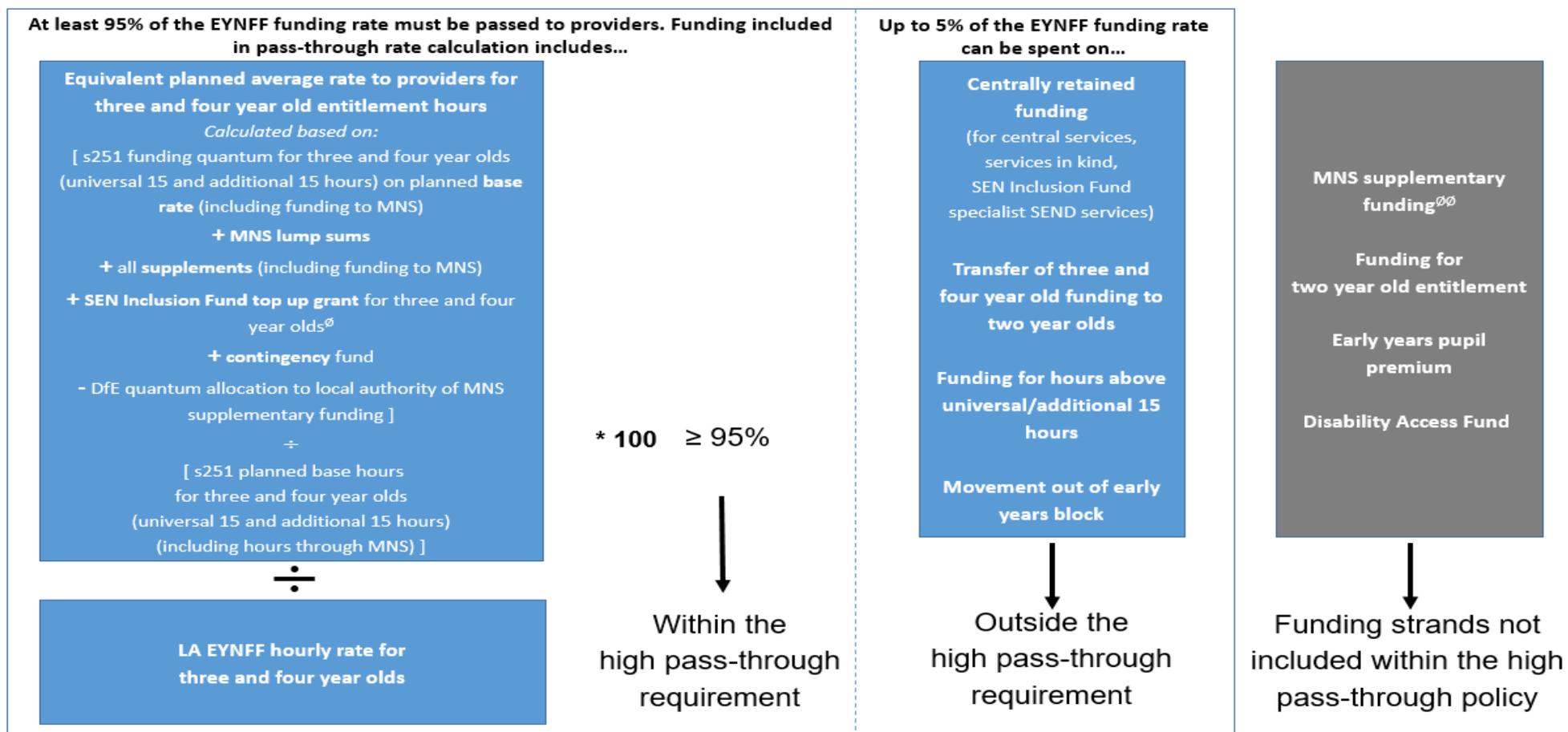
The local authority is passing on 98.3% of the EYNFF hourly rate they received from central government for 3 and 4 year olds to their providers, the local authority will meet the policy requirement. To be compliant, the calculated pass-through rate must be at least . 95.0%, i.e. rounding up 94.9% will not be considered as meeting the requirement.

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Appendix 3

Extract from DfE guidance: Passporting Compliance

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[∅] SEN Inclusion Fund must be established by combining an amount from either one or both of their early years block and high needs block.

^{∅∅} DfE allocated MNS supplementary funding quantum to local authority. Only the MNS funding from the EYNFF allocation is considered within the pass-through rate calculation.

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Wiltshire Council

Schools Forum

16 January 2020

DEDICATED SCHOOLS BUDGET – HIGH NEEDS BLOCK UPDATE 2020-21

Purpose of the Report

1. To update schools forum on issues related to the high needs block for 2020-21 and the decisions that will need to be made as part of the budget setting process for 2020-21.

Main Considerations

2. As outlined in the paper on the funding settlement for 2020-21 the high needs block allocation for Wiltshire in 2020-21 is £51.996 million. The high needs block has been calculated according to the new national funding formula for high needs. As previously reported to schools forum, Wiltshire is on the funding floor for the high needs NFF and therefore has received the minimum increase.
3. It has been nationally recognised that the level of funding for the most vulnerable pupils has been historically insufficient and included in the total allocation above is an additional £4.441m which is Wiltshire's share of the additional £680m (with £100m held centrally for adjustments) announced by the government in August 2019. Whilst this additional funding is most welcome, it does not fully address the magnitude of the cumulative pressures from previous financial years nor does it fully address the anticipated pressure for 2020-21 financial year for Wiltshire.
4. In terms of decision making for the high needs block the guidance on schools forum powers and responsibilities states that all central spend on high needs block provision is decided by the local authority. This would include decisions on top up values. Because of the interdependencies of decisions across all the funding blocks, decisions on high needs are being presented alongside those that schools forum is required to make on all of the other blocks.

Projected Demand on High Needs Block

5. An initial estimate of pressures on the high needs block for 2020-21 are listed in the table below:

Pressure	£M estimate
Additional Pressure to meet current Spend levels <i>(based on November 2019 forecast overspend over and above additional HNB funding)</i>	6.545
Allowance for 2019-20 future pressures	0.500
Estimated Cost increase based on planned reduced EHCP rate of increase 2020-21 <i>Demand for placements with external providers in independent special schools (ISS) and independent specialist providers (ISPs) Named Pupil Allowances (NPAs) and top ups is based on SEN planning demography of 10%.</i>	3.668
Estimated Contract Inflation 2020-21 @ 3.1% <i>External Provider Contract inflation is added to Independent Special School Fees and SEN alternative provision at 3.1%.</i>	0.460
Pay Inflation for SEN teams at 2% flat rate (avoids an in year overspend)	0.173

Increased Special School & Resource Base Planned Places 2019/20 <i>(not funded from the growth fund)</i> <i>10 in mainstream schools, 87 in special schools, including 44 at Springfields, 5 at Downlands, 18 at Exeter House and 20 at Rowdeford</i>	0.933
Contribution towards the current DSG deficit reserve & anticipated increased level for 2019-20	1.500
Development Fund – <i>Has been used in the past to pump prime new projects such as resource bases</i>	0.621
Total Estimated Cost Pressure for 2020-21	14.400

6. This estimate includes the following assumptions:
- Numbers of places for special schools, resource bases and enhanced learning provision (ELP) increase following the place number review.
 - That the split of funding for the early years inclusion support fund continues to be fully funded from the early years block.

DfE Allocation and Other Potential Funding Options

7. In order to fully fund the pressures on the high needs block, the following model could be implemented which includes a transfer from Schools Block;

	£M
DfE HNB Allocation for 2020-21	51.996
Transfer from Central Block (surplus)	0.185
Transfer from Schools Block 1.97% comprising:	
Excess Growth Fund	£1.600
Mobility Fund	£0.570
Delegated Funds	£3.597

This model however is not affordable within the Schools Block, i.e.: the formula would not deliver the full NFF values. In order to balance the budget a number of options will need to be considered. Options modelling is provided in Appendix 1 for Schools Forum to consider.

8. In balancing the budget, it is recommended that;
- There is a transfer from the Central Block to High Needs Block – as previous years, any unallocated CSSB is transferred to contribute to the high needs pressures.
 - There is a transfer of Schools Funding to High Needs Block value to be confirmed in the decision-making matrix including £1.6 million to be transferred from the DfE estimated growth fund which is surplus to estimated growth fund requirements for 2020-21. The operational guidance allows for local authorities to move up to 0.5% from schools block to high needs block with the approval of schools forum or to formally request a transfer over 0.5% to the Secretary of State. At the December meeting, Schools Forum considered options for transfer around the growth fund and mobility factors. This would release additional budget for high needs spend but would reduce the funding available to distribute to schools in the mainstream formula. Despite the additional funding announced in August, it is proposed that funds be transferred which

will allow high needs funding to be made available in 2020-21 whilst the recovery actions are implemented.

- c. The recovery actions presented to Schools Forum at the December 2019 meeting are all taken forward this assumes a level of success when working with schools on inclusion policy for children and young people. In light of this, sensitivity analysis has been applied in year 1.

Success to Date & Recovery Plan

9. At this point in the meeting, a presentation and additional report will be shared by the Director of Education & Skills senior management team covering progress to date and outlining the planned recovery actions.
10. **Recovery** – as first described in the December 2019 presentation by the Director for Education & Skills, a total of eleven schemes to reduce costs in 2020-21.
11. **Local Authority Restructure of SEN** – the change to align School Effectiveness with SEN implemented in November 2019 will be outlined and benefits outlined.
12. **Top Up Values** – one of the largest areas of spend within the high needs block is expenditure on top up values. Top up values are assumed to increase by 10% demography in 2020-21 but a proposal is made to reduce values by 10%. This is following responses from schools in the Autumn consultation. The risk associated with this proposal is that this reduction would increase the pressure further on school budgets.
13. **Named Pupil Allowances** – another large area of spend within the high needs block is expenditure on NPAs. Top up values are assumed to increase by 10% demography in 2020-21 but a proposal made to reduce values by 10%. The risk associated with this proposal is that this reduction would increase the pressure further on school budgets.
14. **Local Authority Contributions** – the local authority is committed to the fair funding of schools and has agreed the following
 - a. Earmarked funding as part of the FACT programme £0.200m for SEN consultants to examine drivers for demand, systems and make recommendations.
 - b. Earmarked funding as part of the FACT programme £0.070m for SEN travel reviews of current pupil transport arrangements.
 - c. Proposal of £33.194 million capital budget to build a new System of Excellence with up to 450 special school places in the north of the County – this is funded from borrowing at an annual cost to the revenue account of £1.597 million for 40 years.
 - d. Submission of a successful £12m Free School Bid in the South of the County with a commitment to fund any 'abnormals' during the build, current estimate £0.125m.

DSG Reserve

15. The current forecast overspend on the School Funding reserve is £9.580m. This is currently being cash flowed by the local authority. This level of deficit reserve will trigger a recovery plan submission to the DfE in June 2020 and be based on the long-term recovery plan shared with Schools Forum at the December 2019 meeting.
16. In the Autumn, the Department for Education consulted on changing the conditions and regulations applying to the dedicated schools grant (DSG), to clarify that it is a ring-fenced specific grant, separate from the general funding of local authorities. Clarifying whether local authorities are expected to carry forward any deficits they may have on their DSG accounts, and whether the deficit has to be covered by their general reserves.

17. The outcome of this consultation and change to grant terms and conditions is likely to have a significant impact on the approach we take to setting the high needs budget and the transfer between blocks in future years.
18. The government had intended to make a decision on the proposed changes, in time to inform the setting of local authorities' budgets for the 2020 to 2021 financial year. However, the DfE website currently confirms that they are analysing feedback and we are asked to visit this page again soon to download the outcome of the consultation.

Proposals

19. Schools Forum is asked to note the pressures on the high needs block and the potential preferred option to reduce the shortfall against high needs budgets including agreeing a transfer from Schools Block to balance the high needs pressures.
20. Any late changes to the accounting treatment of DSG as a ringfenced grant in the local authority accounts received from the DfE for 2020-21 prior to the meeting will need to be integrated into the decision making. These will be considered fully in the decisions paper.

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Wiltshire Council

Schools Forum

16 January 2020

DEDICATED SCHOOLS BUDGET – CENTRAL SCHOOLS SERVICES BLOCK UPDATE 2020-21

Purpose of the Report

1. To update Schools Forum on issues relating to the Central Schools Services Block (CSSB) budget for 2020-21 and the decisions that will need to be made as part of the budget setting process.

Main Considerations

2. As outlined in the funding settlement paper the DfE has allocated a CSSB of £2.480 million for Wiltshire. This has been calculated using the national funding formula for the CSSB which applies a unit rate of £31.64 to the pupil numbers from the October 2019 census. Funding for agreed historic commitments for 2020-21 is then added to the amount of funding generated by the formula to give the overall total CSSB.
3. Schools Forum will remember that the DfE were clear in their 2019-20 guidance that historic commitments will begin to be reduced from 2020/21. Wiltshire has been allocated £0.459m for historic commitments based on those commitments agreed as eligible in 2020-21 reduced by 20% of £0.115m. The protection the DfE applies so that no local authority loses more than the equivalent of 0.5% of its 2019-20 block allocation does not apply for Wiltshire.
4. The CSSB brings together:
 - funding previously allocated through the retained duties element of the Education Services Grant (ESG)
 - funding for ongoing central functions, such as admissions, previously top-sliced from the schools block
 - residual funding for historic commitments, previously top-sliced from the schools block
5. The duties included within the CSSB are listed in Appendix 1 to this report.
6. The decisions that Schools Forum are required to make in relation to the central schools block are listed below. These are in relation to the duties that local authorities have towards all schools.
7. Schools Forum approval is required on a line by line basis for this group of services which are funded from central schools block. The tables overleaf shows each line, the 2019-20 base and the proposed 2020-21 budget.

Admission Appeals

8. Schools Forum has previously considered the change in DfE legislation around parity of services to all schools in respect of admission appeals. The cost of the two elements to the local authority of running an appeal is £939. Schools Forum suggested alternative providers were charging £300 and that

level of cost was preferable. In considering a solution, there are two available options

- a. A charge of £939 per appeal is applied to all schools. This is a £939 increase to all maintained schools who previously were not charged and a £415 increase for academies who purchased the local authority service. The risk is that schools may accept pupils to avoid the cost of the appeal or that alternative provider services may be of a lesser quality or not follow due process.
- b. A sum of £70,290 is transferred from Schools Block to the central school services block which in turn, will form a subsidy and allow the charge to schools per appeal to be set at £300 for 2020-21.

Cost per appeal, calculated at 110 appeals carried out per annum				
Cost of Admissions Preparation	Cost of Independent democratic services clerking	Total Cost to the Local Authority	Subsidy	Fee to School per Appeal
£430	£509	£939	£639	£300

9. The fee per appeal would be subject to inflation in line with the Council's fees & charges in future years and the level of subsidy would need annual review based on usage by schools.
10. If option b is agreed, then Section B would then be extended to include the subsidy of £70,290.

Approval required & legislative narrative	Services covered	2019-20 Budget £M	Wiltshire Budget Proposal 2020-21 £M
Section A <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools forum approval is not required (although they should be consulted) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Central Copyright Licences for 2020-21 for Wiltshire has been set by the DfE. 	£0.373m	£0.382m
Section B Schools forum approval is required on a line-by-line basis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> back pay for equal pay claims remission of boarding fees at maintained schools and academies places in independent schools for non-SEN pupils admissions servicing of schools forum contribution to responsibilities that local authorities hold for all schools contribution to responsibilities that local authorities hold for maintained schools (voted on by relevant maintained school members of the forum only) de-delegated services from the schools block (voted on by the relevant maintained school members of the forum only) 	The limitation on increases to centrally held spend has been removed from the budgets for admissions and servicing of schools forums. It is therefore proposed to apply salary inflation to the budget for the central teams and address the safeguarding and admission pressures. This is affordable within the overall CSSB allocation. Services previously funded by the retained rate of the ESG:		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education Welfare Service 	£0.190	£0.194
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asset Management 	£0.177	£0.181
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Statutory / Regulatory Duties 	£0.638	£0.651
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Admissions 	£0.411	£0.426
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Servicing of Schools Forum 	£0.003	£0.003
OPTION B Transfer from Schools Block to create Admission Appeals Subsidy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Admissions Appeals 	£0	£0.070

Section C – Historic Commitments

11. In 2017-18 the DfE provided supplementary guidance on the funding and reporting of historic commitments within central DSG. The guidance also detailed the evidence that Schools Forum required on each item in order to approve the spend:
- a. **Minutes from the Schools Forum prior to 1 April 2013** – Schools Forum should have agreed the commitment prior to 2013.
 - b. **Proof that the commitment extended at least as far as the 2018-19 financial year.** Evidence can include reports which indicated an end date in to 2018-19 or beyond, or where the commitment has no specific end date.
 - c. **Where budgets relate to non-staffing costs, there must be a contractual commitment** (such as a PFI agreement or lease agreement) which extends in to the relevant financial year.
 - d. **Schools Forum papers and minutes that show that approval has been granted for the financial year.** The forum is expected to approve each spending line annually. It is important that Schools Forums have sufficient information to be able to make an informed decision
12. Having considered the guidance and the available evidence, the commitments agreed by Schools Forum for 2018-19 and therefore funded within the CSSB allocation for 2020-21 are as per the table overleaf.
13. The overall total is within the £0.459m allocated for historic commitments. The workload of the School Safeguarding advisory team has increased in line with increased demand from schools, resulting from Ofsted report feedback and the volume of complaints. The balance of £0.014m for 2020-21 is therefore allocated to increase capacity in this team.
14. Schools Forum should consider the DfE's intention to reduce the historic funding over time in this and future years' funding decisions.

Approval required & legislative narrative	Services covered	2019-20 Budget £M	Wiltshire Budget Proposal 2020-21 £M
<p>Section C</p> <p>Historic Commitments:</p> <p>Schools forum approval is required on a line-by-line basis. The budget cannot exceed the value agreed in the previous funding period and no new commitments can be entered into</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> capital expenditure funded from revenue – projects must have been planned and decided on prior to April 2013 so no new projects can be charged contribution to combined budgets – this is where the schools forum agreed prior to April 2013 a contribution from the schools budget to services which would otherwise be funded from other sources existing termination of employment costs (costs for specific individuals must have been approved prior to April 2013 so no new redundancy costs can be charged) Prudential borrowing costs – the commitment must have been approved prior to April 2013 	<p>Funding for LAC Personal Education Plans - Schools Forum decision December 2007 to support PEPs for Looked After Children from 2008/09 financial year as required under "Care Matters". Allocation based on original estimate of £500 per LAC and managed by Virtual Head Teacher. PPG Plus now also supports PEPs <i>and so this funding was reduced to £103,000 in 2018/19 – no change is requested by the Virtual School.</i></p>	0.103	0.103 <i>Meets definition and required evidence is available</i>
	<p>Child Protection in Schools Adviser - Schools Forum decision January 2006 to support staff within Children's Services to provide support and advice to schools enabling them to meet their statutory responsibilities. The unallocated balance of £0.014m is added here.</p>	0.044	0.056 <i>Meets definition and required evidence is available</i>
	<p>Prudential Borrowing</p> <p>Schools forum decision to support approx. £3m capital financing for 13-year period</p>	0.300	0.300 <i>Meets definition and required evidence is available</i>
Balance unallocated		0.127	0.000
Total		0.574	0.459

15. Local authorities can fund services previously funded from the general funding rate of the ESG (for maintained schools only) from maintained school budget shares, with the agreement of maintained school members of the schools forum.
16. The relevant maintained schools members of the Schools Forum (primary, secondary, special and pupil referral units (PRUs), should agree the amount the local authority will retain.
 - e. If the local authority and Schools Forum are unable to reach a consensus on the amount to be retained by the local authority, the matter can be referred to the Secretary of State.
17. Local authorities should set a single rate per 5 to 16-year-old pupil for all mainstream maintained schools, both primary and secondary; in the interests of simplicity, this should be deducted from basic entitlement funding.
18. Many Schools Forums have agreed a top slice of schools funding to meet this shortfall. Wiltshire's schools have benefitted from taken the decision to treat the reduction in ESG funding as part of the general austerity reductions when setting the Council's medium-term financial plan. This has allowed the Council to fund business plan objectives and local priorities. The Council has deliberately selected to offer a level of protection for our school effectiveness services and have managed to avoid seeking approval from Schools Forum to date.
19. In addition, the DfE have provided an alternative transitional grant. The DfE have not yet confirmed that the school improvement monitoring and brokering grant will continue in financial year 2020-21. Should this grant be removed or significantly reduced, the situation will need to be reviewed.
20. There are no proposals to fund services for maintained schools only contained within this report.
21. Assuming the proposed budget is accepted by Schools Forum, an amount of £0.185m unallocated CSSB is estimated to transfer to fund high needs pressures.

Proposals

1. Schools Forum is asked to note the report and the required decisions in relation to the central schools block budget for 2020-21. These will be considered fully in the decisions paper.
2. Notification of the school improvement monitoring and brokering grant has not yet been shared by the DfE. If the grant ceases or is significantly reduced, the expenditure plan will need to be reviewed, decisions made will be reconsidered at the next available schools forum meeting.

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163.3. We have included references to the relevant schedules in the 2018 (No. 2) Regulations.

Statutory and regulatory duties

Responsibilities held for all schools	Responsibilities held for maintained schools only
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director of children’s services and personal staff for director (Sch 2, 15a) • Planning for the education service as a whole (Sch 2, 15b) • Revenue budget preparation, preparation of information on income and expenditure relating to education, and external audit relating to education (Sch 2, 22) • Authorisation and monitoring of expenditure not met from schools’ budget shares (Sch 2, 15c) • Formulation and review of local authority schools funding formula (Sch 2, 15d) • Internal audit and other tasks related to the authority’s chief finance officer’s responsibilities under Section 151 of LGA 1972 except duties specifically related to maintained schools (Sch 2, 15e) • Consultation costs relating to non-staffing issues (Sch 2, 19) • Plans involving collaboration with other LA services or public or voluntary bodies (Sch 2, 15f) • Standing Advisory Committees for Religious Education (SACREs) (Sch 2, 17) • Provision of information to or at the request of the Crown other than relating specifically to maintained schools (Sch 2, 21) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Functions of LA related to best value and provision of advice to governing bodies in procuring goods and services (Sch 2, 57) • Budgeting and accounting functions relating to maintained schools (Sch 2, 74) • Authorisation and monitoring of expenditure in respect of schools which do not have delegated budgets, and related financial administration (Sch 2, 58) • Monitoring of compliance with requirements in relation to the scheme for financing schools and the provision of community facilities by governing bodies (Sch 2, 59) • Internal audit and other tasks related to the authority’s chief finance officer’s responsibilities under Section 151 of LGA 1972 for maintained schools (Sch 2, 60) • Functions made under Section 44 of the 2002 Act (Consistent Financial Reporting) (Sch 2, 61) • Investigations of employees or potential employees, with or without remuneration to work at or for schools under the direct management of the headteacher or governing body (Sch 2, 62) • Functions related to local government pensions and administration of teachers’ pensions in relation to staff working at maintained schools under the

Responsibilities held for all schools	Responsibilities held for maintained schools only
	<p>direct management of the headteacher or governing body (Sch 2, 63)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retrospective membership of pension schemes where it would not be appropriate to expect a school to meet the cost (Sch 2, 76) • HR duties, including: advice to schools on the management of staff, pay alterations, conditions of service and composition or organisation of staff (Sch 2, 64); determination of conditions of service for non-teaching staff (Sch 2, 65); appointment or dismissal of employee functions (Sch 2, 66) • Consultation costs relating to staffing (Sch 2, 67) • Compliance with duties under Health and Safety at Work Act (Sch 2, 68) • Provision of information to or at the request of the Crown relating to schools (Sch 2, 69) • School companies (Sch 2, 70) • Functions under the Equality Act 2010 (Sch 2, 71) • Establish and maintaining computer systems, including data storage (Sch 2, 72) • Appointment of governors and payment of governor expenses (Sch 2, 73)

Table 9a: Central services responsibilities held by local authorities (statutory and regulatory duties)

Education welfare

Responsibilities held for all schools	Responsibilities held for maintained schools only
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Functions in relation to the exclusion of pupils from schools, excluding any provision of education to excluded pupils (Sch 2, 20) • School attendance (Sch 2, 16) • Responsibilities regarding the employment of children (Sch 2, 18) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspection of attendance registers (Sch 2, 79)

Table 9b: Central services responsibilities held by local authorities (education welfare)

Asset management

Responsibilities held for all schools	Responsibilities held for maintained schools only
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management of the LA's capital programme including preparation and review of an asset management plan, and negotiation and management of private finance transactions (Sch 2, 14a) • General landlord duties for all buildings owned by the local authority, including those leased to academies (Sch 2, 14b) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General landlord duties for all maintained schools (Sch 2, 77a & b (section 542(2)) Education Act 1996; School Premises Regulations 2012) to ensure that school buildings have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • appropriate facilities for pupils and staff (including medical and accommodation) • the ability to sustain appropriate loads • reasonable weather resistance • safe escape routes • appropriate acoustic levels • lighting, heating and ventilation which meets the required standards • adequate water supplies and drainage • playing fields of the appropriate standards • General health and safety duty as an employer for employees and

Responsibilities held for all schools	Responsibilities held for maintained schools only
	<p>others who may be affected (Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management of the risk from asbestos in community school buildings (Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012)

Table 9c: Central services responsibilities held by local authorities (asset management)

Central support services

Responsibilities held for all schools	Responsibilities held for maintained schools only
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No functions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clothing grants (Sch 2, 53) • Provision of tuition in music, or on other music-related activities (Sch 2, 54) • Visual, creative and performing arts (Sch 2, 55) • Outdoor education centres (but not centres mainly for the provision of organised games, swimming or athletics) (Sch 2, 56)

Table 9d: Central services responsibilities held by local authorities (central support services)

Premature retirement and redundancy

Responsibilities held for all schools	Responsibilities held for maintained schools only
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No functions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dismissal or premature retirement when costs cannot be charged to maintained schools (Sch 2, 78)

Table 9e: Central services responsibilities held by local authorities (premature retirement and redundancy)

Monitoring national curriculum assessment

Responsibilities held for all schools	Responsibilities held for maintained schools only
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No functions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring of National Curriculum assessments (Sch 2, 75)

Table 9f: Central services responsibilities held by local authorities (monitoring national curriculum assessment)

Therapies

Responsibilities held for all schools	Responsibilities held for maintained schools only
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No functions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is now covered in the high needs section of the regulations and does not require schools forum approval

Table 9g: Central services responsibilities held by local authorities (therapies)

Other ongoing duties

Responsibilities held for all schools	Responsibilities held for maintained schools only
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Licences negotiated centrally by the Secretary of State for all publicly funded schools (Sch 2, 8); this does not require schools forum approval Admissions (Sch 2, 9) Places in independent schools for non-SEN pupils (Sch 2, 10) Remission of boarding fees at maintained schools and academies (Sch 2, 11) Servicing of schools forums (Sch 2, 12) Back-pay for equal pay claims (Sch 2, 13) Writing to parents of year 9 pupils about schools with an atypical age of admission, such as UTCs and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No functions

Responsibilities held for all schools	Responsibilities held for maintained schools only
studio schools, within a reasonable travelling distance ¹⁰ (Sch 2, 23)	

Table 9h: Central services responsibilities held by local authorities (other ongoing duties)

Historic commitments

Responsibilities held for all schools	Responsibilities held for maintained schools only
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital expenditure funded from revenue (Sch 2, 1) • Prudential borrowing costs (Sch 2, 2(a)) • Termination of employment costs (Sch 2, 2(b)) • Contribution to combined budgets (Sch 2, 2(c)) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No functions

Table 9i: Central services responsibilities held by local authorities (historic commitments)

¹⁰Funding for this duty was previously delivered to local authorities via a s.31 grant. Additional funding was added to the CSSB baseline for this from 2018 to 2019.