

AGENDA

Meeting: Schools Forum
Place: Salisbury Room - County Hall, Trowbridge
Date: Thursday 6 November 2014
Time: 1.30 pm

Briefing Arrangements:

Briefing will be held at 11:30 am in the Salisbury Room, County Hall, Trowbridge and will focus on the High Needs Block 2015-16

Please direct any enquiries on this Agenda to Adam Brown, of Democratic Services, County Hall, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge, direct line 01225 718038 or email adam.brown@wiltshire.gov.uk

Press enquiries to Communications on direct lines (01225)713114/713115.

This Agenda and all the documents referred to within it are available on the Council's website at www.wiltshire.gov.uk

Membership:	Representing:
Mr Neil Baker	PHF, Christ Church CE Primary School
Mrs Aileen Bates	WGA, SEN Governor Representative
Mr Andy Bridewell	PHF - Ludgershall Castle Primary School (PHF Vice-Chair)
Ms Amanda Burnside	Post 16 provider
Ms Michelle Chilcott	Academy - South Wilts Grammar
Ms Amanda Christopher	Salisbury Diocesan Board of Education
Miss Tracy Cornelius	PHF - Kington St Michael School
Ms Jan Hatherell	Academy, Hardenhuish School
Mr John Hawkins	Teacher Representative
Mrs Sue Jiggins	WGA - Primary School Governor Representative
Mr John Proctor	Early Years Representative (PVI)
Ms Ingrid Sidmouth	SEN Sector, Rowdeford School
Mr Martin Watson	Academy, Lavington School
Mr David Whewell	WGA - Secondary School representative
Mrs Catriona Williamson	PHF, Mere Primary School

AGENDA

PART I

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

1 **Election of Chair**

To elect a Chair of Schools Forum for 2014/15.

2 **Election of Vice Chair**

To elect a Vice Chair of Schools Forum for 2014/15.

3 **Apologies and Changes of Membership**

4 **Minutes of the previous Meeting** (*Pages 1 - 12*)

To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the meetings held on 13 March 2014 and 18 June 2014 (copies attached).

5 **Declaration of Interests**

To receive any declarations of disclosable interests or dispensations granted by the Standards Committee

6 **Chairman's Announcements**

7 **Trust Board Update**

Julia Cramp will be in attendance to provide a verbal update.

8 **Budget Monitoring 2014-2015** (*Pages 13 - 18*)

To confirm the final DSG settlement for 2014-15, and to present budget monitoring information against the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) for the financial year 2014-15 as at 30th September 2014.

9 **Reports from Working Groups** (*Pages 19 - 24*)

To receive minutes, reports and/or verbal updates from the following working groups:

- School Funding Working Group
- Schools Services Working Group

10 **Schools Revenue Balances 2013-14** (*Pages 25 - 36*)

Jane Ralph will be in attendance to present the report on the Schools Revenue Balances for 2013-14.

11 **Schools Block - Funding Formula 2015-16** (*Pages 37 - 40*)

To outline issues to be considered in relation to the Schools Budget for 2015-16 and to update on Fairer Funding for Schools 2015-16 proposals.

12 **High Needs Block 2015-16**

To outline issues and pressures against the High Needs Block for 2015-16 and to make proposals to manage those pressures.

13 **Early Years Block 2015-16** (*Pages 41 - 44*)

To update Schools Forum on the move to participation funding for the free entitlement for 2 year olds and the introduction of an Early Years Pupil Premium for 2015-16.

14 **Free School Meal Pool - Distribution of Closing Balances** (*Pages 45 - 50*)

Grant Davis will be in attendance to introduce the item.

15 **Split Site Allowance - High Needs Provision** (*Pages 51 - 56*)

Grant Davis will be in attendance to propose the introduction of a split site allowance for high needs provision.

Proposal: To agree the split site allowance for St Nicholas School in 2014-15.

16 **Confirmation of dates for future meetings**

To confirm the dates of future meetings, as follows:

15th January, 2015 1.30 pm - Salisbury Room - County Hall, Trowbridge

12th March, 2015 1.30 pm - Kennet Room - County Hall, Trowbridge

18th June, 2015 1.30 pm - Kennet Room - County Hall, Trowbridge

17 **Urgent Items**

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

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE SCHOOLS FORUM MEETING HELD ON 18 JUNE 2014 AT KENNET ROOM - COUNTY HALL, TROWBRIDGE BA14 8JN.

Present:

Mr N Baker (Chairman), Mrs A Bates, Mr A Bridewell, Ms A Christopher, Mr S Clark, Miss T Cornelius, Ms J Hatherell, Mr J Hawkins, Mr J Proctor, Mrs D Rock, Ms I Sidmouth, Mr M Watson (Vice-Chair), Mr D Whewell and Mrs C Williamson

Also Present:

Julia Cramp, Cllr Richard Gamble, Susan Tanner and Elizabeth Williams

27 Apologies and Changes of Membership

Apologies were received from Ms M Chilcott and Ms S Jiggins.

28 Minutes of the previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 13 March 2014 were presented.

Amendments to minute no. 15 were proposed, to correct the spelling of Steve Clark's name, to correct the acronym for WASSH and to correctly identify Peter Biggs as being from the Wiltshire Governors Association (WGA). These amendments were agreed, and the minute amended to read:

'The Forum noted apologies from the following:

Jan Hatherell (Academy)

Steve Clark (WASSH)

Rev Alice Kemp (Observer)

Peter Biggs (WGA)

Claire Shaw (Wiltshire College)

Julia Cramp (Associate Director: Quality Assurance, Commissioning and Performance, School and Early Years Effectiveness)

The Forum noted the following changes to the membership:

out Alice Kemp (observer)

out Peter Biggs (WGA Secondary)

out Anne Ferries (WGA Primary)

out Claire Shaw (Wiltshire College)

in Amanda Burnside (Wiltshire College)
in Tracy Cornelius (PHF).

The Forum noted that Anne Ferries would advise in future on filling the vacancies for Primary and Secondary Governors.'

Resolved:

To agree and sign the minutes as a true record of the meeting held on 13 March 2014, subject to the amendments detailed above.

Liz Williams noted that the terms of reference for working groups had not yet been circulated to Schools Forum members, and these would be circulated shortly.

29 Declaration of Interests

Ms Sidmouth declared an interest in agenda item 15, being a headteacher of special school mentioned in the report. She declared that she would participate but not vote.

Mrs Rock declared an interest in agenda item 16 being a term-time only employee.

30 Chairman's Announcements

There were no Chairman's announcements.

31 Schools Forum - Confidential items

Kirsty Butcher, Senior Democratic Services Officer presented the report which detailed the process for consideration of confidential reports at Schools Forum meetings.

It was agreed that any confidential documents circulated via email would be password protected and the password sent in a different email.

Resolved:

Schools Forum agreed to adopt the process for conducting School Forum business in confidential session as detailed in paragraph of the report and incorporate it into the School Forum's Terms of Reference.

32 Children and Young People's Trust Board Update

Julia Cramp, Associate Director - Commissioning, Performance and Schools Effectiveness drew attention to the SEN and Disability reforms effective from 1 September 2014. Work was continuing on the local offer, with more information coming soon. A launch event was planned for late September / early October.

In response to questions Julia confirmed that details of the local offer would be available before next term, when schools were required to display on their websites together with the schools SEN statement. It was agreed that the Code of Practice and pro-forma would be circulated to all schools.

Julia noted that the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) had started a project to re-commission children's healthcare services, and were hoping to get input from schools on this. Their aim was to try and get a single organisation to provide services, rather than the 5 in existence at present.

The emotional well-being and mental health strategy was being refreshed and would go out for consultation. The focus would be on early intervention, with the message being that all have a role to play.

33 Outturn 2013-14

Liz Williams, Head of Finance presented the report which detailed the final outturn position for the dedicated schools budget in 2013-14.

The final budget had been adjusted to reflect all Academy recoupment, and key variances in Early Years, High Needs, maternity services and Personal Education Plans were explained.

In response to questions Liz confirmed that the recoupment by the Education Funding Agency (EFA) for high needs places was higher than originally estimated as academies did not move on to the place plus system until September 2013. This meant that a higher amount needed to be recouped for the first 5 months of the year.

Schools Forum noted the outturn position for the Dedicated Schools Budget in 2013-14 and the proposals for utilisation of the DSG reserve in 2014-15.

34 Reports from Working Groups

34a School Funding Working Group

The report from the School Funding Working Group was presented

Schools Forum noted the minutes of the School Funding Working Group meetings and the recommendation from the meeting of 31 March that any additional funding received as a result of the DfE proposals for Fairer Schools Funding in 2015-16 be allocated to schools through increases to Age Weighted Pupil Units (AWPU's).

34b SEN Working Group

The report of the SEN Working group was presented.

Schools Forum noted the minutes of the SEN Working Group.

34c Schools Services Working Group (verbal update)

The Chairman explained that the Schools Services Working Group had met that morning to discuss HR prices and payroll schemes. A payroll proposal had been passed to the Council's Corporate Leadership team, which suggested holding prices at 2013-14 levels. The next year would be used as a discussion year.

The terms of reference for the group needed to be clarified, including whether the group sat as a sub-group of the Forum.

35 Funding for Transition in to Primary School

Liz Williams, Head of Finance, presented the report which detailed proposals for additional funding to support transition for high needs pupils in to primary schools.

It was proposed that £0.200m be set aside from the DSG reserve to enable the outlined process to be piloted in 2014-15. A review of the costs, number of pupils and outcomes of the proposed scheme would be reported back to Schools Forum in January or March 2015.

The benefit of immediate and staggered support was noted. Some eligible children would be already known through early years settings.

Resolved:

Schools Forum agreed the scheme outlined in paragraph 8 of the report presented and the allocation of £0.200 million from the DSG reserve in 2014-15 to fund it in the current year.

36 Fairer Funding for Schools 2015-16

Liz Williams, Head of Finance, presented the report which outlined the recent DfE consultation document Fairer Schools Funding in 2015-16, including the response from Wiltshire, and made proposals on how any increase in funding should be allocated to schools in 2015-16.

The DfE provided worked examples based on October 2012 pupil numbers which indicated that Wiltshire could potentially benefit from £5.4 million additional funding, however final allocations for 2015-16 would be based on October 2014 pupil numbers.

In response to questions Liz noted it would be very difficult to get funding right to get the Early Years block on a comparable footing with Gloucestershire's spend. It was noted that the methodology was not equitable as it still reflected historical spend decisions. The allocation of High Needs was for place numbers at present and not allocated according to the needs of the county. This was only a proportion of the High Needs block.

Resolved:

Schools Forum

- a. Noted the Wiltshire response to the DfE consultation; and**
- b. Confirmed that any increase in funding in 2015-16 should be allocated to schools via Age Weighted Pupil Units as a percentage proportionate to the increase in funding received**

37 Confirmation of dates for future meetings

The future meeting dates were presented and it was highlighted that both 9 October 2014 and 11 December 2014 clashed with WASSH meetings, which were scheduled for the last but one Thursday of each term. It was agreed that the December date was not needed and that the October meeting be moved and held on 6 November 2014.

Resolved:

Schools Forum agreed the future meeting dates subject to the amendments detailed above.

38 Urgent Items

There were no urgent items.

39 Exclusion of the Press and Public

Resolved:

Schools Forum agreed to pass a resolution, in accordance with the Wiltshire Schools Forum Terms of Reference, to exclude the public during the remainder of the meeting, on the basis that if they were present during the business to be transacted there would be a likelihood of disclosure to them of exempt information of the following descriptions:

Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority); and for one item

Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with labour relations matters.

40 Procurement of Licence for School Information Management System

Liz Williams, Head of Finance presented the report which updated Schools Forum on the current position in relation to the procurement of licences for the Schools Information Management System for maintained schools and the options for 2015-16.

Resolved:

Schools Forum noted the issues associated with the procurement of licences for the Schools Information Management System, the options available and supported option 3 as detailed within the report presented.

41 Special Schools - Update on Review of Residential Places

Liz Williams, Head of Finance, presented the report which updated Schools Forum on the progress of the review of residential places within Wiltshire special schools and outlined a proposed way forward.

The three special schools that provided residential provision were discussed in detail.

Resolved:

Schools Forum agreed the proposal contained within the report presented.

42 **Payment of Term Time Only employees**

Liz Williams, Head of Finance, presented the report which provided details around the payment of term-time only employees.

Resolved:

Schools Forum agreed the centrally retained DSG be used as detailed in the report presented.

(Duration of meeting: 1.38 - 4.12 pm)

The Officer who has produced these minutes is Kirsty Butcher, of Democratic Services, direct line 01225 713948, e-mail kirsty.butcher@wiltshire.gov.uk

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SCHOOLS FORUM

MINUTES OF THE SCHOOLS FORUM MEETING HELD ON 13 MARCH 2014 AT COUNCIL CHAMBER - COUNTY HALL, TROWBRIDGE BA14 8JN.

Present:

Mr N Baker (Chairman), Mrs Aileen Bates, Mr Andy Bridewell, Michelle Chilcott, Amanda Christopher, Tracy Cornelius, Mr J Hawkins, Mrs Sue Jiggins, Rob Parsons, Mr J Proctor, Ms I Sidmouth, Mr Martin Watson (Vice-Chair) and Mrs C Williamson

Also Present:

Grant Davis, Cllr Richard Gamble and Elizabeth Williams

14 **Chairman's Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed all present to the meeting.

15 **Apologies and Changes of Membership**

The Forum noted apologies from the following:

Jan Hatherell (Academy)

Steve Clark (WASSH)

Rev Alice Kemp (Observer)

Peter Biggs (WGA)

Claire Shaw (Wiltshire College)

Julia Cramp (Associate Director: Quality Assurance, Commissioning and Performance, School and Early Years Effectiveness)

The Forum noted the following changes to the membership:

out Alice Kemp (observer)

out Peter Biggs (WGA Secondary)

out Anne Ferries (WGA Primary)

out Claire Shaw (Wiltshire College)

in Amanda Burnside (Wiltshire College)

in Tracy Cornelius (PHF).

The Forum noted that Anne Ferries would advise in future on filling the vacancies for Primary and Secondary Governors.

16 **Minutes of the previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting held 16 January 2014 were presented and it was;

Resolved:

To agree and sign the minutes as a true and accurate record of the meeting held 16 January 2014.

17 **Declaration of Interests**

There were no declarations of interest to note at the meeting.

18 **Children and Young People's Trust Board Update**

No update was made at the meeting.

19 **Budget Monitoring 2013-14**

The Budget Monitoring 2013-14 report was presented to the Forum, focusing on key variances for the following:

- Early Years Free Entitlement for 3 & 4 year olds
- Early Years Free Entitlement for 2 year olds
- Independent Special School (ISS) placements
- Top Up Budgets for maintained schools and academies
- Top Up Budgets (Post-16)
- Named Pupil Allowances (NPAs)

Resolved:

To note the budget monitoring position for the overall School's Budget to the period April 2013 to January 2014.

20 **Reports from Working Groups**

20a **School Funding Working Group**

The Head of DCE Finance gave an update on the findings of the Schools Funding Working Group.

Resolved

- 1) **To note the Schools Funding Working Group report and minutes of the previous meeting.**
- 2) **The Head of DCE Finance to circulate the Terms of Reference of the Schools Funding Working Group to Schools Forum members.**

20b SEN Working Group

The Head of DCE Finance gave an update on the findings of the SEN Working Group which included a consideration of the top up values for 2014-15. The Forum discussed residential provision for High Needs pupils and discussed the pupil premium also. The Forum discussed the impact of reduced funding for residential provision across the County.

Resolved

- 3) To note the SEN Working Group report and minutes of the previous meeting.**
- 4) The Head of DCE Finance to circulate the Terms of Reference and a summary of the SEN Working Group to Schools Forum members.**
- 5) To receive a report at a future Schools Forum, detailing the review of residential provision, and its impact on the School's and other budgets, for example the Social Care budget.**

20c Early Years Reference Group

A verbal update was given to the meeting by the Head of DCE Finance.

Resolved

- 6) To note the Early Years Reference Group update.**
- 7) The Head of DCE Finance to circulate the Terms of Reference and a summary of the Early Years Reference Group to Schools Forum members.**

20d School Services Group

A verbal update was given to the meeting by the Head of DCE Finance, who noted the SSWG's first meeting since 2013. The Head of DCE Finance highlighted the need to review the Terms of Reference to identify where it fits into the structure, and to ensure it was fit for purpose.

Resolved

- 8) To note the Schools Services Working Group report and minutes of the previous meeting.**
- 9) Agreed to review and update the Terms of Reference for the School Services Working Group at the SSWG meeting.**

21 **Schools Budget**

21a **Update on the Schools Budget for 2014-15**

The Head of DCE Finance discussed the Schools Budget report updated Schools Forum on the progress in relation to the school's budget for 2014-15 and the issues that had arisen since the last meeting.

The Head of DCE Finance stated that the Education Funding Agency (EFA) had confirmed that the final Wiltshire Schools Formula was compliant with the new regulations, and announced changes to Schools Delegated Budgets 2014-15 as detailed in the report. Further information was given regarding the budgets for High Needs Provision and the overall impact of funding changes.

The Forum discussed Universal Infant Free School Meal Entitlement and the guidance on revenue and transitional funding. The Forum discussed the Pupil Premium Grant (PPG) and changes to payments for 'looked after children'.

Resolved

- 1) **To note the report and the Schools Budget 2014-15 position.**
- 2) **The Head of Service Virtual Schools would attend meetings of WASSH and PHF to discuss the arrangements for spending the PPG Plus in 2014-15.**

21b **Minimum Funding Guarantee 2014-15**

The Strategic Financial Support Manager outlined the role of the Minimum Funding Guarantee, drawing particular attention to the total MFG Funding decrease and the impact of MFG capping.

The Strategic Financial Support Manager discussed the amount of funding awarded to schools between 2013-14 and 2014-15, along with the size of the MFG over the two years and the percentage change in both years. The impact of capping was discussed by the Forum.

Resolved:

To note the content of the Minimum Funding Guarantee paper in relation to MFG Capping.

22 **Special School Top Up Rates 2014-15**

The Head of DCE Finance outlined the Special School 'Top Up Rates' report. The forum focussed on day and residential top up rates for special schools at the current rate, and the financial impact of amending the current rate.

Proposed changes to residential provision in Downlands school in 2014-15 would reduce the cost of residential top ups by £90k. It was proposed that the

remaining shortfall be transferred from the budget for Independent Special School places.

Resolved:

- 1) To set Top Up rates for Wiltshire Special Schools in 2014-15 as follows:

	Day	Residential
Band 1+	£18,054	£54,508
Band 1	£12,361	£40,250
Band 2	£9,514	£33,122
Band 3	£6,668	£25,993
Band 4	£2,814	£16,342
Band 5	£485	£10,060

23 **Free School Meal Pooling Scheme**

The Head of DCE Finance outlined the Free School Meal Pooling Scheme report, and gave a summary of the scheme. The Forum discussed the impact of Universal Entitlement for Infant Free School Meals and its impact on the Free School Meals budget. The Forum discussed alternative proposals and the risk factors associated with the fund. The Forum discussed cashback payments over the last 2 years and options for redistribution.

Resolved:

- 1) To amend the Free School Meal Pool from April 2014 as follows:

- a. Following implementation of the school funding reform, and the universal infant free school meal entitlement, the FSM pool will cease to be fit for purpose and should close from 31st August 2014.
- b. Part year quotations for premiums to be issued to schools based on the current rates per meal for those schools who may wish to join the pool from April to August 2014 (at a rate of 5/12ths) prior to the implementation of the universal entitlement for infants.
- c. The final balance on the pool after closure will be redistributed to schools that have participated in the pool since 1st April 2012 (the last date that any cashback was applied) based on the contributions each school has made to the pool over that period.

- 2) Small school transitional funding for the implementation of the universal infant FSM entitlement to be considered alongside the allocation of capital funding.

24 **Schools Forum Regulations**

The Head of DCE Finance outlined the Schools Forum Regulations report, to bring the Forum's attention to the updated Schools Forum Regulations 2012 published by the Department for Education (DfE) on 26th February 2014 in order to consider any implications for the operation of the Wiltshire Schools Forum. Forum members' attention was drawn to changes in membership and procedures.

Resolved:

- 1) **Agreed to note the advice issued by the DfE in February 2014 and the good practice documents that have been published in relation to the operation of Schools Forums.**
- 2) **Agreed to circulate 'appendix 2' to the report attached in the Agenda Pack to all schools and Chairs of Governors to increase understanding of the role of Schools Forum and the responsibilities of schools.**

25 **Urgent Items**

There were no Urgent Items to note.

26 **Future Meeting Dates**

The next meeting date was confirmed as being: 1:30 pm on 18 June 2014, to be held in the Kennett Rom, County Hall, Trowbridge.

(Duration of meeting: 1.45 - 3.30 pm)

The Officer who has produced these minutes is Samuel Bath, of Democratic Services, direct line 01225 718211, e-mail samuel.bath@wiltshire.gov.uk

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DEDICATED SCHOOLS BUDGET – BUDGET MONITORING 2014-15

Purpose of the Report

1. To present budget monitoring information against the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) for the financial year 2014-15 as at 30th September 2014.

Main Considerations

2. Appendix 1 to this report outlines the budget monitoring summary as at 30th September 2014. At this point in the year an overspend of £1.999 million is projected against the overall schools budget. Key variances are outlined below.

Top Up Budgets for High Needs Pupils

3. An analysis of projected expenditure against top up budgets for high needs pupils in 2014-15 is attached to this report as Appendix 2. It is currently projected that top up budgets will overspend by £3.1 million in this financial year.
4. Key areas of overspend are Named Pupil Allowances, top ups for pupils in non-Wiltshire schools and top ups for Post-16 placements.
5. *Named Pupil Allowances* – expenditure on NPAs is projected to be 17% higher than in the previous financial year and this relates to increased numbers of NPAs being funded. It is difficult to know if this relates to a genuine increase in need, an increase in requests or a change in practice in allocating NPAs, or a combination of one or more of these factors, and further work is taking place to try to analyse this.
6. *Post-16 top ups* – activity in terms of Full Year Equivalent students is approximately double what was budgeted for. The budget was set at the level of funding allocated for post-16 top ups within the DSG settlement. The activity analysis indicates that there are more residential placements across independent schools and colleges than initially budgeted for, and that they are at higher cost. The largest area of overspend, however, is day placements at FE colleges. For 2014-15 Wiltshire has 94 places with Wiltshire College funded by the EFA however there are currently 201 students identified with high needs at the college. This means that in addition to the top ups being funded for these students the Council is funding 107 additional places (Element 2 = £6,000 per place).

Early Years Budgets – Free Entitlement

7. Expenditure on the free entitlement for 3 & 4 year olds is currently projected to exceed the budget by £0.223 million. This forecast is based on uptake through the year to date and the profiles built in to the single funding formula model which reflects the historical variation in numbers at different points in the year. The DSG settlement will be adjusted to reflect the January Early Years Census data and so if uptake is higher than anticipated this may be addressed through additional funding.
8. The budget for the free entitlement for 2 year olds is currently projected to underspend by £1.2 million. This projection is based on the numbers of hours providers are currently expecting to deliver and has been updated for the autumn hours count for all settings.

Impact on Reserves

9. Any overspend against the DSG needs to be recovered as a first call against the grant in the following year. In previous years there have been underspends against DSG and these underspends have been held within an earmarked DSG reserve. The current position in respect of the DSG Reserve is as follows:

DSG Reserve 2014-15

	£m	£m
DSG Reserve b/f from 2013-14		3.502
<i>Committed June 2014:</i>		
Hard to Place Pupils	(0.150)	
Transition in to Primary	(0.200)	
Roll Forward Underspend on 2 yo to support hourly rate	(0.262)	
Term Time Only Back Pay	(0.636)	
Total commitments 2014-15		<u>(1.248)</u>
Projected Balance after agreed commitments		<u>2.254</u>

10. It should be noted that the expected drawdown for Term Time Only staff is currently an estimate as the figures are yet to be finalised.

11. The current projection against the budget for 2 year olds would indicate that the drawdown from reserves of £0.262m to support the hourly rate in 2014-15 will not be required. This would increase the projected year end balance on the reserve to £2.516m prior to any drawdown to support the projected overspend for this year.

Proposals

12. Schools Forum is asked to note the budget monitoring position at the end of September 2014.

Report Author: Liz Williams, Head of Finance (DCE)

Tel: 01225 713675 e-mail: elizabeth.williams@wiltshire.gov.uk

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0-25 Placements Budget & Activity Data Monitoring September 2014

Variance Analysis

Description	Volume Variance				Price Variance				Total Variance
	Budgeted Volume FTE	Projected Volume	% change in volume	Variance	Budgeted unit rate	Actual Unit rate	% change in rate	Variance	
Independent Special Schools									
38 Weeks	14.57	8.00	-45.1%	- 183,639	27,951	36,686	31.3%	69,882	- 113,758
52 Weeks	14.91	7.25	-51.4%	- 301,807	39,386	77,223	96.1%	274,214	- 27,593
Additional Support	12.47	2.19	-82.4%	- 242,963	23,640	44,839	89.7%	46,476	- 196,488
Boarding	13.26	7.39	-44.3%	- 170,732	29,082	38,212	31.4%	67,465	- 103,268
Day	50.16	37.22	-25.8%	- 382,818	29,577	29,021	-1.9%	- 20,718	- 403,535
Weekly	4.64	2.83	-38.9%	- 65,682	36,355	41,836	15.1%	15,529	- 50,153
	110.01	64.88		- 1,347,642				452,848	- 894,794
	FTE								
Named Pupil Allowance									
Individual NPA	291.17	445.10	52.9%	648,349	4,212	4,168	-1.0%	- 19,657	628,692
	291.17	445.10		648,349				- 19,657	628,692
	FTE								
Top up Special Sch Wilts Sch Wilts Pupil									
Day School in County Placed	409.40	418.90	2.3%	93,281	9,819	9,773	-0.5%	- 19,145	74,136
Boarding School in County Placed	98.87	89.96	-9.0%	- 312,348	35,056	35,349	0.8%	26,345	- 286,002
	508.27	508.86		- 219,066				7,200	-211,867
	FTE								
Top up Resource Bases Wilts Sch Wilts Pupils									
RB-Autistic Spectrum Disorder	74.68	44.58	-40.3%	- 162,058	5,385	6,757	25.5%	61,182	- 100,876
RB-Complex Needs	195.34	122.17	-37.5%	- 140,739	1,923	4,106	113.5%	266,627	- 125,887
RB-Hearing Impairment	27.63	15.67	-43.3%	- 84,490	7,062	4,962	-29.7%	- 32,901	- 117,391
RB-Physical Impairment	8.63	3.50	-59.4%	- 14,692	2,864	2,407	-16.0%	- 1,600	- 16,293
RB-Speech & Language	86.60	52.58	-39.3%	- 51,425	1,512	3,511	132.3%	105,153	- 53,728
	392.88	238.50		- 453,404				398,460	-54,945
	FTE								
Top up ELP Wilts Sch Wilts Pupils									
Enhanced Learning Provision 1	278.19	281.58	1.2%	6,665	1,964	2,914	48.4%	267,482	274,147
Enhanced Learning Provision 2	65.26	56.42	-13.6%	- 24,008	2,715	5,881	116.6%	178,622	154,614
Element 1 & 2	19.67	9.17	-53.4%	- 105,033	10,000	10,000	0.0%	-	- 105,033
	363.12	347.17		- 122,376				446,104	323,728
	FTE								
Top up Post 16									
38 Weeks	3.86	2.58	-33.1%	- 36,100	28,277	33,057	16.9%	12,350	- 23,750
52 Weeks	10.27	10.00	-2.6%	- 21,654	80,199	68,856	-14.1%	- 113,430	- 135,084
Additional Support	0.00	1.00	0.0%	-	-	179,782	0.0%	179,782	179,782
Boarding	30.49	45.46	49.1%	906,446	60,537	67,445	11.4%	314,036	1,220,482
Day	109.55	250.28	128.5%	2,339,201	16,622	13,047	-21.5%	- 894,685	1,444,517
Weekly	4.22	5.00	18.6%	50,584	64,575	41,110	-36.3%	- 117,404	- 66,820
	158.39	314.33		3,238,477				- 619,351	2,619,127
	FTE								
Top up Non Wilts Schools Wilts Pupils									
Mainstream Day	16.82	24.58	46.1%	30,002	3,865	4,764	23.3%	22,111	52,113
Special Schools Day	42.60	107.63	152.7%	696,007	10,703	10,128	-5.4%	- 61,926	634,081
Special Schools Boarding	0.63	1.00	58.7%	14,887	40,235	27,344	-32.0%	- 12,891	1,996
	60.05	133.21		740,896				- 52,707	688,190
	FTE								
Total Variance	1,884	2,052							3,098,131

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Wiltshire Council

Schools Forum 6th November 2014

Report from the School Funding Working Group

Purpose of report

1. To report on the meeting of the School Funding Working Group held on 20th October 2014

Main considerations for School Forum

2. The draft minutes of the meeting are attached at Appendix 1.
3. The Schools Funding working Group made the following recommendations to Schools Forum:

Split Site Allowances – High Needs Provision

4. It was agreed to support the principle of a split site allowance for High Needs provision however it was felt that the following criteria needed to be applied before funding was agreed:
 - a. That the split site provision is developed as part of an agreed strategy between the LA and the school and in the context of the SEN Places strategy as it is developed;
 - b. That the school would need to provide evidence of the expected additional costs of managing the additional site to enable the agreement of funding to be considered in the overall context of the high needs block.

Childcare Vouchers for Staff on Maternity Leave

5. Schools Funding Working Group considered a paper outlining a required change to the system for paying for childcare vouchers for school staff on maternity leave. Previously these costs have been borne by the LA as there has been no system in place for recharging schools however costs relating to school staff on maternity leave remain the responsibility of the school.
6. It was agreed that for maintained schools the costs of childcare vouchers for school staff on maternity leave should be charged to the central Maternity budget as long as that continued to be de-delegated, and that for academies the costs should be charged directly to the school as the maternity budget has been delegated to academies.

Proposals

7. That Schools Forum note the recommendations of the School Funding Working Group in relation to the allocation of split site allowances to special schools and other high needs provision. This issue is the subject of a separate paper on this agenda.
8. That Schools Forum agree that the costs of childcare vouchers for school staff on maternity leave be charged to the central maternity budget for maintained schools as long as this budget continues to be de-delegated and directly to academies as the maternity budget has been delegated to these schools.

Carolyn Godfrey
Corporate Director

Report author: Liz Williams, Head of Finance
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Schools Funding Working Group

20th October 2014, 8:30am, Council Chamber, County Hall

Minutes

Present: Liz Williams, Grant Davis, Susan Tanner, Neil Baker, Catriona Williamson, Martin Watson, Andy Bridewell, John Hawkins

Apologies: Steve Clark, Phil Cook

1	Minutes from Previous Meeting <i>Universal Infant Free School Meal Entitlement</i> – GD updated the group on the discussions at PHF in relation to capital funding and queries schools had raised in relation to ensuring that they received funding for the correct number of days.	
2	Split Site Allowance – High Needs Provision GD presented a paper outlining the development of split site provision at St Nicholas Special School and also at Greentrees Primary School where a new Resource Base would open in September 2015. Because high needs provision is not subject to the local funding formula it was not possible to support a split site through the formula in the same way as for a mainstream school however Schools Forum would have the discretion to agree that the additional costs associated with a split site school could be recognised and funded from the High Needs block. The Education Funding Agency (EFA) had advised that any allowance for a split site would need to be added to the top up for pupils attending the school and therefore a school specific top up rate would be required in such circumstances. It was agreed to support the principle of a split site allowance for High Needs provision however it was felt that the following criteria needed to be applied before funding was agreed: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. That the split site provision is developed as part of an agreed strategy between the LA and the school and in the context of the SEN Places strategy2. That the school would need to provide evidence of the expected additional costs of managing the additional site to enable the agreement of funding to be considered in the overall context of the high needs block. Action – GD to work with St Nicholas School to estimate the additional costs associated with the new building.	GD
3	Childcare Vouchers for Staff on Maternity Leave GD introduced a paper from the HR/Payroll Team outlining a change to the system for paying for childcare vouchers for school staff on maternity leave. At present these costs have been borne by the LA as there has been no system in place for recharging schools. It was agreed that for maintained schools these costs should be charged to the central Maternity budget as long as that continued to be de-delegated and that for academies the costs should be charged directly to the school as the maternity budget has been delegated to academies.	

	Action – GD to confirm arrangements and coding with the HR team	GD
4	<p>MFG Disapplications 2015-16</p> <p>GD updated the group on the application submitted for MFG Disapplications in 2015-16. As there were no formulaic changes proposed for 2015-16 no new exclusions had been required and the EFA had agreed those exceptions requested where appropriate.</p>	
5	<p>Schools Budget 2015-16 – Early Years Block</p> <p>EW outlined the main changes to the funding for the Early Years Block in 2015-16.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Participation funding for 2 year olds</i> – as expected the funding for the free entitlement for 2 year olds will move to a census based approach from April 2015. This would impact on the affordability of the hourly rate for 2 year olds and Schools Forum would need to agree a new hourly rate for 2 year old provision for 2015-16. 2. <i>Early Years Pupil Premium Grant</i> – an EYPPG will be introduced from April 2015 and will be paid as an addition to the hourly rate for eligible pupils. The rate would be £0.53 per hour, equating to £300 per year for an eligible pupil taking up the full free entitlement. <p>EW also informed the group that a consultation had been issued to all Early Years settings to seek views on a single hourly rate across all providers. This would need to be managed within existing resources and the implementation of a single rate would result in increases and decreases across different types of provider/setting.</p>	
6	<p>Schools Budget 2015-16 – Schools Block</p> <p>EW presented a paper updating the working group on issues affecting the schools block for 2015-16.</p> <p>No changes are proposed to the Wiltshire formula for 2015-16.</p> <p>A consultation was in process with maintained schools to consider the delegation/de-delegation of central schools block services and the outcome of the consultation would be brought to Schools Forum in November.</p> <p>In July 2014 the DfE had announced schools block funding values for 2015-16. The announcement confirms that Wiltshire will receive an increase in funding as a result of the fairer funding proposals. The schools block unit of funding for Wiltshire, after deductions for CRC savings, would be £4,302.41, an increase of 2.12% on the current year.</p>	
7	<p>Schools Budget 2015-16 – High Needs Block</p> <p>EW presented an analysis of expenditure and activity against top up budgets for the current financial year. Top up budgets are projected to overspend by £3.1m with the key pressures being Named Pupil Allowances (NPA) and top ups for Post-16 provision. The analysis indicated that in both areas activity was higher than budgeted for and it was noted that over 100 more students were now being supported at Wiltshire College than initially funded by the EFA.</p> <p>An Exceptional Place Numbers request had been submitted to the EFA to increase the places funded in 2015-16 however even if this was accepted there would be considerable pressures on the high needs budget for 2015-16</p>	

	<p>and options for savings would still need to be considered.</p> <p>It was agreed that options should include a review of top up rates for post-16 provision and a move to a banded funding system for NPAs, which would also support the move away from the use of hours in allocating funding.</p>	
5	<p>AOB</p> <p>FSM Pool – it was noted that the FSM Pool had now closed but final claims were still being received so the final balance on the pool could not yet be confirmed.</p>	
6	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>Tuesday 6th January 2015, 8:30am, Cullum Room, County Hall</p>	

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**SCHOOLS FORUM
November 2014**

SCHOOLS REVENUE SURPLUS AND DEFICIT BALANCES 2013/14

Introduction

1. This report presents the position of revenue balances of Wiltshire maintained schools as at 31st March 2014 and identifies those that are in deficit.
2. Balances relating to schools that converted to academy status during the financial year are excluded from this paper.
3. Schools Forum last considered a report on schools' balances and deficits in October 2013. In that report, 16 schools were in deficit with a total value of £1.212 million and the value of surpluses was £9.158 million.

Main Considerations

4. The DfE withdrew the requirement for local authorities to have a claw back mechanism in place with effect from April 2011. In response, Schools Forum agreed to remove the Wiltshire Council mechanism, the Controls on Surplus Balances Scheme, from 2013/14. This operated with permissible thresholds of 5% and 8% for secondary and primary/special schools respectively.

In 2012, the DfE consulted on improving the assurance system for financial management in local authority maintained schools and, in response, are now asking authorities to provide additional information where they have concerns that money is not being used with propriety and that value for money is not being secured (see paragraph 8). Significantly, from 2011/12, they are challenging authorities with 5% of schools that have had a surplus of 15% or more for the last 5 years.

In support of this, the classification of balances has now been reviewed as follows:

Balances above limit:	Greater than 15% of School Budget Share
Reasonable:	Positive, but below 15% of School Budget Share
Deficits:	Negative

5. The movement in net revenue balances over the past 3 financial years is summarised in the following table:-

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2013/14 Balances as % of 2013/14 Budget Share	Increase/ Decrease from 2012/13	Increase / Decrease from 2012/13
	£	£	£	%	£	%
Primary	7,932,379	7,499,409	7,807,796	5.24	308,387	4.11
Secondary	-238,132	-367,569	-370,978	-0.25	-3,409	-0.93
Special	1,068,324	814,200	1,192,496	0.8	378,296	46.46
	8,762,571	7,946,040	8,629,315	5.79	683,274	8.6*

*NB: this represents the total percentage increase in all schools balances between 2012/13 and 2013/14

The net revenue balances now stand at £8,629 million and represent 5.79% of budget shares for 2013/14. This reflects an increase of 8.6%, £0.683 million, when compared with 2012/13 net revenue balances of £7.946 million.

Appendix 1 details the overall position on schools' revenue balances as at 31st March 2014.

6. The number of schools in deficit is 15 with a total value of £1.314 million. This reflects a decrease in number of 1 and increase in value of £0.102 million when compared to 2012/13, as detailed in paragraph 3 above.

Appendix 2 details the position on deficits as at 31st March 2014.

7. In April 2012, the DfE published a consultation on strengthening the assurance system for financial management in Local Authority (LA) maintained schools. The proposals were designed to help ensure that authorities, and their schools, are managing the vast sums of public money they receive with propriety, securing value for money across all spending.

Having considered the responses, the DfE confirmed that from 2011/12 they would be asking local authorities to provide additional information where:

- a) The LA has overspent its Dedicated Schools Grant by 2% or more (i.e. it is 2% or more in deficit)
- b) The LA has underspent its Dedicated Schools Grant by 5% or more (i.e. it is 5% or more in surplus)
- c) The LA has 2.5% of its schools that have been in deficit of 2.5% or more for the last 4 years and their individual deficit must have been at least £10,000 each year. LA's will only be asked for more information where at least three schools meet the criteria
- d) The LA has 5% of schools that have had a surplus of 15% or more for the last 5 years and their individual surplus must have been at least £10,000 each year. LA's will only be asked for more information where at least three schools meet the criteria

Criteria (c) and (d) are pertinent to this report and an analysis of the Wiltshire LA position on each is included at Appendix 3 and 4 respectively. This indicates that the Wiltshire outturn data for 2013/14 would not trigger further enquiry from the DfE.

8. Following the removal of the Controls on Surplus Balances Scheme, Schools Forum considered the implementation of a more holistic approach to fulfilling the Authority's role in supporting schools to achieve sound financial control as required under Section 48 of the Schools Standard and Framework Act 1998. Officers are currently working on a format that would consolidate the existing reporting regime in a year end report to individual schools on the effectiveness of their monitoring, to be considered and ratified by the governing body. This will be presented to Schools Funding Working Group in January 2015 for implementation from the 2014/15 financial year.

Recommendations

9. Schools Forum members are invited to comment on this report.

Carolyn Godfrey
Corporate Director

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ANALYSIS OF REVENUE BALANCES 2013/14

Appendix 1

School Phase	Balances Above Limit				Reasonable Balances				Deficit Balances			
	Number	Balance Value	2013/14 Budget Share	Balance as % of Budget	Number	Balance Value	2013/14 Budget Share	Balance as % of Budget	Number	Balance Value	2013/14 Budget Share	Balance as % of Budget
Primary	14 *1	1,752,445	9,242,830	19.0%	151 *6	6,246,956	97,204,171	6.4%	11	-191,605	5,493,093	-3.5%
Secondary	0	0	0	0.0%	5	751,155	19,697,250	3.8%	4	-1,122,133	12,612,184	-8.9%
Special	1	389,492	1,509,018	25.8%	4	803,004	7,768,480	0.0%	0	0	0	0.0%
Total	15	2,141,937	10,751,848	19.9%	160	7,801,116	124,669,901	6.3%	15	-1,313,739	18,105,277	-7.3%

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Deficits as a percentage of positive balances

School Phase	Deficits	Positive Balances	Deficit as a % of Balance
Primary	-191,605	7,999,401	2.4%
Secondary	-1,122,133	751,155	149.4%
Special	0	1,192,496	0.0%
Total	-1,313,739	9,943,053	13.2%

Classification of Balances

Balances above limit: Greater than 15% of School Budget Share
 Reasonable: Positive, but below 15% of School Budget Share
 Deficits: Negative

*Indicates the number of schools that have converted to academy status since 31st March 2014

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Analysis of schools that have been in a deficit position in the last four years, i.e. 2010/11 to 2013/14

DfE No.	School	Type	2010/11		2011/12		2012/13		2013/14		Notes
			Deficit £	As a % of SBS	Deficit £	As a % of SBS	Deficit £	As a % of SBS	Deficit £	As a % of SBS	
2009	Bratton	Primary	-11,075	2.0	0	-	-382	0.1	0	-	
2037	Southbroom Infants	Primary	-1,105	0.2	0	-	0	-	0	-	
2159	Kiwi School	Primary	-4,803	1.1	-18,165	4.1	-21,365	4.5	0	-	
2170	Grove Primary School	Primary	-5,592	0.4	0	-	0	-	0	-	
2191	Manor Fields	Primary	-589	0.1	0	-	0	-	0	-	
3017	Longford CE	Primary	0	-	0	-	0	-	-42,257	14.6	
3022	Bulford C E	Primary	-42,671	7.0	-49,606	6.9	0	-	0	-	
3030	St Dunstan	Primary	-19,779	1.8	0	-	0	-	0	-	
3036	Chirton	Primary	0	-	0	-	0	-	-2,386	1.4	
3061	Durrington All Saints	Primary	0	-	0	-	-3,429	0.6	-28,516	5.3	
3094	Keevil	Primary	0	-	-8,014	2.2	-11,404	3.0	-3,103	0.8	
3134	Newton Tony	Primary	-7,648	4.3	0	-	0	-	-3,365	1.4	
3160	St George's CE	Primary	0	-	0	-	0	-	-22,716	7.7	
3192	Westbury CE Junior	Primary	0	-	0	-	0	-	-25,803	2.9	
3205	Warminster Sambourne	Primary	0	-	-6,394	1.2	0	-	0	-	
3222	St. Barnabas	Primary	-10,644	3.1	-8,293	2.0	-19,745	4.9	-18,107	5	
3239	St John's CE	Primary	-12,443	4.0	-12,935	3.6	0	-	0	-	
3331	St Peter's, Devizes	Primary	0	-	-30,696	9.6	-11,367	2.7	0	-	
3352	Heytesbury C.E. (aided)	Primary	-29,827	13.0	-40,094	15.8	-13,616	5.1	0	-	
3355	Idmiston C.E. (V.A.)	Primary	-28,404	10.5	-4,899	1.3	0	-	0	-	
3388	Seend	Primary	0	-	-14,815	4.0	-22,592	5.7	-1,814	0.4	
3402	Whiteparish	Primary	0	-	-10,373	2.5	0	-	0	-	
3435	Wardour Catholic	Primary	-17,538	6.2	-15,393	4.0	-23,408	5.7	0	-	
3450	Great Wishford	Primary	-25,885	6.8	-10,235	2.3	-6,131	1.4	0	-	
3457	Walter Powell CE VA	Primary	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	
3462	Amesbury Archer	Primary	0	-	0	-	0	-	-30,281	3.3	
3464	Old Sarum	Primary	0	-	0	-	-4,219	1.1	0	-	
3468	Amesbury Primary	Primary	-44,665	6.1	-2,626	0.3	0	-	0	-	
3471	Lyneham Primary	Primary	-64,372	5.9	0	-	0	-	-13,258	1.4	
4000	Abbeyfield	Secondary	0	-	-254,687	5.6	-312,628	7.1	-330,954	7.8	
4001	Wyvern College	Secondary	-308,436	15.5	-260,803	13.7	-164,634	9.3	-86,653	4.7	See note below
4070	Stonehenge	Secondary	0	-	0	-	0	-	-36,238	1.1	

DfE No.	School	Type	2010/11		2011/12		2012/13		2013/14		Notes
			Deficit £	As a % of SBS	Deficit £	As a % of SBS	Deficit £	As a % of SBS	Deficit £	As a % of SBS	
4071	Avon Valley College	Secondary	-43,031	1.3	-282,106	8.0	-547,981	16.2	-668,288	20.4	
5218	Clarendon Junior School	Primary	-9,126	1.0	0	-	0	-	0	-	
5412	South Wilts	Secondary	-74,145	2.3	0	-	0	-	0	-	
5415	Matravers	Secondary	0	-	0	-	-39,379	0.8	0	-	
5418	Salisbury High School	Secondary	-98,365	6.8	0	-	0	-	0	-	
			-860,142		-1,030,134		-1,202,280		-1,313,739		

Note: One school has been in deficit of 2.5%, or more, for each of the last 4 years and this equates to 0.53% of Wiltshire LA schools as at 31st March 2014. This is below the 2.5% threshold set by the DfE , see paragraph 6(c), and would not trigger an enquiry.

Analysis of schools that have had revenue balances in excess of 15% of their Total School Budget Share (excluding Pupil Premium funding) for the last 5 years

DfE No	School Name	Type	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
2003	Fynamore	Primary					✓
2022	Ivy Lane	Primary	✓	✓	✓		
2023	St Paul's	Primary				✓	
2029	Lypiatt	Primary	✓				
2065	Larkhill	Primary			✓		
2208	Pewsey	Primary					✓
3013	Box Primary	Primary	✓		✓	✓	✓
3018	Broad Hinton CE	Primary		✓			
3020	St Nicholas CE VC	Primary					✓
3040	Coleme	Primary	✓				
3049	Collingbourne CE	Primary					✓
3078	Grafton	Primary			✓		
3096	Kington St Michael CE	Primary					✓
3100	Lacock	Primary	✓				
3110	Lydiard Millicent	Primary	✓	✓			
3141	Oare CE	Primary				✓	✓
3190	St John's CE	Primary					✓
3207	Dilton Marsh CE	Primary			✓		
3216	St Peter's, Marlborough	Primary	✓				
3243	Great Bedwyn CE	Primary	✓				
3344	Forest & Sandridge CE	Primary					✓
3381	Rushall CE VA	Primary					✓
3387	St Martin's CE	Primary					✓
3467	Churchfields	Primary	✓				
3470	Wilton & Barford CE	Primary					✓
3472	Bellefield	Primary				✓	✓
5206	Studley Green	Primary			✓		
5219	Clarendon Infants	Primary			✓	✓	✓
7007	Downland School	Special	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Total number schools			10	4	8	6	15

Note: One school has had revenue balances in excess of 15% or more for the last 5 years. This is below the threshold set by the DfE and would not trigger an enquiry.

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Wiltshire Council

Schools Forum

6th November 2014

Budget Update 2015-16 – Schools Block

Purpose of report

1. To update Schools Forum on developments and issues for the Schools DSG block for 2015-16.

Main considerations for School Forum

Schools Block DSG Settlement 2015-16

2. The DfE has previously announced changes to the schools block for 2015-16 under its Fairer Schools Funding proposals. Under these proposals an additional £350m has been allocated nationally for 2015-16 to increase funding for the lowest funded authorities in terms of the Schools Block Unit of Funding (SBUF).
3. The initial proposals indicated that Wiltshire would benefit from this increase and, based on October 2012 pupil numbers, the increase was estimated at £5.4m.
4. In June Schools Forum agreed that any increase received for 2015-16 should be allocated via Age Weighted Pupil Units (AWPUs) as a % increase in order to increase funding to all maintained schools and to reduce the numbers of schools on MFG/Cap.
5. In July of this year DfE announced final SBUF values for 2015-16. For Wiltshire this has been confirmed as £4,309.92 per pupil, an increase of 2.3%.
6. Within the July announcement the DfE also confirmed the arrangements for applying the deduction for CRC savings in 2015-16 – nationally a deduction of £51m is deducted from the total DSG for this purpose. In 2015-16 this deduction will be applied on a per pupil basis and £7.51 will be deducted from the per pupil amount.
7. This will reduce the SBUF for Wiltshire to £4,302.41 per pupil, a final increase of 2.12%. Applying this increase to AWPU values will have the following impact:

Final SBUF Allocation

	2.1186%		
	Basic Entitlement (Primary)	Basic Entitlement (KS3)	Basic Entitlement (KS4)
Unit Increase	61.70	79.23	96.66
Revised Values	2,973.82	3,818.78	4,659.16
Increased Funding per factor	2,170,587.25	1,109,082.40	976,563.95

Delegation of Central Expenditure

8. In order to give schools greater choice over how to spend their budgets LAs are required to work on the basis that services within the notional Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Schools Block, and the funding for them, should be delegated to schools in the first instance. This means that a number of DSG funded budgets that have previously been retained centrally must now be delegated to schools. There are a number of exceptions to this and there are also a number of budgets that maintained primary and/or secondary schools can agree to de-delegate so that they continue to be provided centrally.
9. De-delegation cannot be applied to amounts delegated to academies or to special schools. Delegation or de-delegation cannot be agreed on an individual school basis for maintained schools but can be agreed by phase so a different outcome can be agreed for primary and secondary schools. Approval for de-delegation is by the relevant phase members of Schools Forum following responses to this consultation.
10. A consultation document was sent out to all maintained schools in the last week of September to seek views on the delegation of central budgets. The results are currently being analysed and an update will be sent to Schools Forum Members prior to the meeting as a supplement to this paper. The budgets/services being consulted on are as follows:
 - Schools contingency
 - Free School Meal Eligibility Service
 - Licences and Subscriptions (including SIMS, HCSS)
 - Trade Union Facilities costs
 - Maternity costs
 - Ethnic Minority Achievement Service
 - Travellers Education Service
 - Behaviour Support Service
11. There are a number of outcomes that could flow from the proposals to delegate the budgets. These include:
 - a. Following consultation with all schools, maintained schools agree that budgets should be de-delegated and retained centrally with services provided to all maintained schools;
 - b. Schools agree that budgets should be delegated and schools make/purchase their own provision as appropriate;
 - c. Schools agree that budgets should be delegated and they then cluster together to purchase or deliver services.
12. Under scenario (a) the LA would be able to retain a level of service to provide to maintained schools, this service may be reduced from current levels unless there is also buyback from academies. The size of the service may also need to reduce over time as the number of academies increases.
13. Under scenarios b and c the LA would not be able to continue to deliver a service unless there is sufficient buy back on a traded basis

from schools (maintained or academy) to enable retention of sufficient staff. This will be difficult to predict and the LA will need to decide whether it can afford to continue to deliver services centrally on a fully traded basis with full cost recovery. This would require a risk assessment.

Proposals

- 14.** That Schools Forum notes the final proposed value of the SBUF for 2015-16 and the impact on AWPU values.
- 15.** That Schools Forum decide on the delegation/de-delegation of budgets for central services within the schools block after consideration of the outcomes of the consultation with maintained schools.

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Wiltshire Council

Schools Forum 6th November 2014

Budget Update 2015-16 – Early Years Block

Purpose of report

1. To update Schools Forum on developments and issues for the Early Years DSG block for 2015-16.

Main considerations for School Forum

Early Years DSG Settlement 2015-16

2. The Early Years block within DSG covers the free entitlement to 15 hours of childcare for all 3 & 4 year olds. Since September 2012 the Early Years block has also included funding for the most vulnerable 2 year olds to be supported with access to 15 hours early education and childcare. In 2013-14 this was extended to cover 40% of two year olds.
3. Funding for 3 & 4 year olds has been based on the January census prior to the start of the financial year and from 2013-14 this has also been updated for any changes in the January census during the financial year. In 2013-14 and 2014-15 funding for disadvantaged 2 year olds has been based on a DfE formula which estimates the numbers of eligible 2 year olds to be funded. The funding for 2 year olds has also included trajectory funding to support settings in building capacity to take 2 year olds.
4. The DfE has now confirmed that from 2015-16 all funding for the Early Years block will be based on participation as measured by the early years census. This change has been expected but it will have a number of implications for the way in which the early years budget is set and managed.
5. In October the DfE published funding rates for the early education entitlement for 2 year olds and the rate for Wiltshire has been confirmed as £4.97 per hour. No changes are expected to the funding rates for 3 & 4 year olds.
6. The key impact of the change to full participation funding will be on the hourly rate that Wiltshire is able to pay for 2 year old places. The approach that has been adopted within Wiltshire to date is to set a higher hourly rate for 2 year olds than for 3 & 4 year olds. This was set in order to support settings in making provision for vulnerable 2 year olds and the increased rate was funded through the difference in take up compared with the funding allocation which was based on eligible 2 year olds taking up the full allocation of hours. An underspend rolled forward from 2013-14 against 2 year old funding is being utilised to support the continuation of the hourly rate of £5.43 in 2014-15.

7. The move to participation funding, ie., funding based on actual take up, will mean there is no scope to fund a higher hourly rate through reduced take up compared with an estimate. Schools Forum will need to consider what hourly rate should be set for provision for 2 year olds in 2015-16. Options will include reducing to the national funding rate or continuing to use any underspend against the two year old budget in 2014-15 to support a higher rate. The second option will only be possible if there is sufficient funding within the DSG Reserve and members are referred to the budget monitoring report elsewhere on this agenda which indicates that the overall DSG budget will overspend by approximately £2m in 2014-15.

Hourly Rate for 3 & 4 Year Olds

8. Following discussions at the Early Years Reference Group earlier in the year Schools Forum is asked to note that a consultation has been opened with early years providers to seek their views on moving towards a single hourly rate for all providers for the free entitlement for 3 & 4 year olds. That consultation closes on 11th November and any proposals for change will need to be considered by Schools Forum at the January meeting. No additional funding is available within the Early Years block and therefore any changes to the rate will need to be managed from within the existing budget.

Early Years Pupil Premium

9. DfE has announced that funding of £50m has been set aside in national spending totals to introduce a new Early Years Pupil Premium for disadvantaged 3 and 4 year olds in 2015-16. The detail of the proposal has been consulted on and the DfE is still analysing the feedback to that consultation. Key elements of the proposal include:
 - The pupil premium is valued at £300 per annum per eligible child taking up the full entitlement and will be applied as an hourly rate of £0.53 per child.
 - The eligibility of parents for the Early Years Pupil Premium will be the same as school age PPG. The allocation will not include 2 year olds as the funding for 2 year olds is already targeted at the most disadvantaged families.
 - Providers will be responsible for collating the parental information and the LA will be responsible for carrying out eligibility checks and paying the hourly rate.
 - 4 year old pupils in schools will not attract the early years pupil premium

Proposals

10. That Schools Funding working Group note the contents of this report and agree the approach to be taken in setting an hourly rate for 2 year olds for 2015-16.

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SCHOOLS FORUM

6th November 2014

Free School Meals Pooling Scheme

Purpose of the paper

1. To inform Schools Forum of the estimated closing balance on the free schools meals pool.
2. To propose the methodology for redistributing the closing balance on the free school meals pool.

Background

3. The Free School Meals Pooling Scheme (FSM) was set up in 2001 with the aim of offering schools some financial stability to the cost of providing free school meals to their pupils. Under the scheme a school could pay a premium into the pool and in return be reimbursed for the full cost of providing statutory free meals to pupils. The scheme has provided a useful means of enabling schools to have some degree of protection against unexpected changes in the number of free meals it has to provide.
4. The Children & Families Act places a legal duty on state-funded schools in England, including academies and free schools, to offer a free school lunch to all pupils in reception, year 1 and year 2. This duty came in to force September 2014 and funding for the new entitlement will be paid to schools by the government at a rate of £2.30 per meal taken by newly eligible pupils. Schools will still be responsible for providing meals for eligible pupils at key stages 2 to 4. In the light of this, at the meeting on 13th March Schools Forum agreed the following:
 - a. Following implementation of the school funding reform, and the universal infant free school meal entitlement, the FSM pool will cease to be fit for purpose and should close from 31st August 2014.
 - b. Part year quotations for premiums to be issued to schools based on the current rates per meal for those schools who may wish to join the pool from April to August 2014 (at a rate of 5/12ths) prior to the implementation of the universal entitlement for infants.
 - c. The final balance on the pool after closure will be redistributed to schools that have participated in the pool since 1st April 2012 (the last date that any cashback was applied) based on the contributions each school has made to the pool over that period.
5. In recent years any surplus balance within the pool has been redistributed to schools with a small working balance retained in the pool each year. Cash back to schools has been calculated pro rata to the balance of the amount paid in by each school less payments received by the school in claims, ie., the net contribution to

the pool. No cashback has been allocated to schools since 1st April 2012 and therefore the redistribution of the final balance would need to take in to account contributions and claims since that date.

Main Considerations

Estimated Balance 2014-15

6. The estimated balance at the end of 2014/15 is £165,829. This includes an estimate of claims still to be received and can be summarised as follows:

Balance b/f	£208,601	
Income	£87,290	
Expenditure	£127,562	
OS Claims	<u>£2,500</u>	(estimate)
	£165,829	(surplus)

7. As at 28th October there are claims outstanding from 8 schools. A letter will be sent to those schools advising that final claims need to be submitted by 21st November 2014 in order that the balance can be finalised and redistributed.

Options for Consideration

8. Schools Forum should consider the option of redistributing the 2012/13, 2013-14 & 2014 balance to schools. The redistribution would need to take in to account contributions from all schools that have participated in the pool since the last cashback payment was made and would therefore need to take into account all schools that have contributed since April 2012. If Schools Forum wish to make a redistribution of the balance it is proposed that the same methodology used in 2011/12 is applied.
9. It is proposed that the full balance remaining on the pool should be redistributed to schools. Based on the estimated closing balance this equates to approximately 86% cashback on the net balances for schools. Appendix A gives indicative cashback amounts based on 86%, the amounts will vary according to the final balance on the pool.

Recommendation

10. It is recommended that:
- The full balance is redistributed to schools following closure of the pool on 31st August 2014.
 - The balance will be redistributed to all schools that have contributed to the pool since cashback was last allocated on 31st March 2012.

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Appendix A: Free School Meals Pool Rebate: Participating Schools for financial years 2012-13, 2013-14 & 2014-15



DfE	Name of School	Total			Total			Total			Rebate based on surplus contribution %	
		Subscriptions 2012/13	Total Claims 2012/13	Balance 2012/13	Subscriptions 2013/14	Total Claims 2013/14	Balance 2013/14	Subscriptions 2014	Total Claims 2014	Balance 2014		Total Balance
												86
2003	Calne Fynamore	£ 13,493.04	£ 6,836.72	£6,656.32	£ 8,166.84	£ 9,406.10	£-1,239.26	£ 4,438.50	£ 2,417.91	£ 2,020.59	£7,437.65	6,396.38
2004	Salisbury Greentrees	£ 8,521.92	£ 7,754.89	£767.03	£ 8,521.92	£ 6,690.86	£1,831.06	£ 3,402.85	£ 2,503.93	£ 898.92	£3,497.01	3,007.43
2005	Devizes Nursted	£ 12,427.80	£ 8,160.68	£4,267.12	£ 11,362.56	£ 6,232.71	£5,129.85	£ -	£ -	£ -	£9,396.97	8,081.39
2006	The Mead	£ 7,811.76	£ 7,461.30	£350.46	£ -	£ -	£0.00	£ -	£ -	£ -	£350.46	301.40
2009	Bratton	£ 4,260.96	£ 5,574.47	£-1,313.51	£ 6,746.52	£ 5,772.69	£973.83	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	0.00
2028	Corsham Primary	£ 26,275.92	£ 18,748.62	£7,527.30	£ 27,341.16	£ 19,382.55	£7,958.61	£ 10,504.45	£ 5,817.57	£ 4,686.88	£20,172.79	17,348.60
2029	Corsham Lypiatt	£ 3,550.80	£ 2,419.78	£1,131.02	£ 355.08	£ 2,085.05	£-1,729.97	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	0.00
2031	Neston	£ 2,485.56	£ 1,417.46	£1,068.10	£ -	£ -	£0.00	£ -	£ -	£ -	£1,068.10	918.57
2032	Corsham Regis	£ 13,848.12	£ 13,176.02	£672.10	£ 15,978.60	£ 12,970.32	£3,008.28	£ -	£ -	£ -	£3,680.38	3,165.13
2045	Gomeldon	£ -	£ -	£0.00	£ -	£ -	£0.00	£ -	£ -	£ -	£0.00	0.00
2053	Horningsham	£ -	£ 123.42	£-123.42	£ 710.16	£ 719.95	£-9.79	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	0.00
2086	Stanton St. Quintin	£ 1,420.32	£ 1,464.21	£-43.89	£ 2,486.00	£ 1,681.13	£804.87	£ -	£ -	£ -	£760.98	654.44
2087	Ramsbury	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 1,420.32	£ 2,290.75	£-870.43	£ 1,035.65	£ 456.28	£ 579.37	£ -	0.00
2091	Salisbury Harnham Infant	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 2,009.00	£ 7,102.26	£-5,093.26	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	0.00
2134	New Close	£ 710.00	£ 776.05	£-66.05	£ 1,775.40	£ 1,077.12	£698.28	£ -	£ -	£ -	£632.23	543.72
2137	Westwood with Iford	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 265.54	£-265.54	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	0.00
2140	Wootton Bassett Infants	£ 2,840.64	£ 2,042.04	£798.60	£ 3,195.72	£ 2,191.64	£1,004.08	£ 1,035.65	£ 430.10	£ 605.55	£2,408.23	2,071.08
2162	Wootton Bassett Noremarsch Junior	£ 3,195.72	£ 1,954.15	£1,241.57	£ 2,840.64	£ 2,023.34	£817.30	£ 1,331.55	£ 1,129.48	£ 202.07	£2,260.94	1,944.41
2178	Warminster Princecroft	£ 8,877.00	£ 7,149.01	£1,727.99	£ 8,166.84	£ 9,177.96	£-1,011.12	£ -	£ -	£ -	£716.87	616.51
2189	Wootton Bassett Longleaze	£ 7,456.68	£ 8,648.75	£-1,192.07	£ 10,297.32	£ 12,158.74	£-1,861.42	£ 5,474.15	£ 3,768.05	£ 1,706.10	£ -	0.00
2190	Salisbury Woodlands	£ 23,080.20	£ 20,667.24	£2,412.96	£ 23,080.20	£ 17,093.67	£5,986.53	£ 10,356.50	£ 6,889.08	£ 3,467.42	£11,866.91	10,205.54
2196	Trowbridge Holbrook	£ 9,942.24	£ 6,588.01	£3,354.23	£ -	£ -	£0.00	£ -	£ -	£ -	£3,354.23	2,884.64
2198	Ludwell	£ 3,905.88	£ 2,212.21	£1,693.67	£ 2,485.56	£ 1,267.86	£1,217.70	£ 739.75	£ 504.90	£ 234.85	£3,146.22	2,705.75
2269	Cricklade St. Sampson's Infant	£ 6,391.44	£ 3,386.57	£3,004.87	£ 6,036.36	£ 4,903.14	£1,133.22	£ 1,923.35	£ 1,122.00	£ 801.35	£4,939.44	4,247.92
2218	Chippenham Kings Lodge	£ 7,811.76	£ 7,094.78	£716.98	£ -	£ -	£0.00	£ -	£ -	£ -	£716.98	616.60
2222	Trowbridge Walwayne Court	£ 8,877.00	£ 6,872.25	£2,004.75	£ 9,232.08	£ 8,422.48	£809.60	£ -	£ -	£ -	£2,814.35	2,420.34
2225	Westbury Bitham Brook	£ 14,203.20	£ 9,409.84	£4,793.36	£ -	£ -	£0.00	£ -	£ -	£ -	£4,793.36	4,122.29
2228	Queens Crescent	£ 9,587.16	£ 8,596.39	£990.77	£ -	£ -	£0.00	£ -	£ -	£ -	£990.77	852.06
3013	Box C.E.	£ 3,905.88	£ 1,720.40	£2,185.48	£ 1,420.32	£ 1,632.51	£-212.19	£ 1,183.60	£ -	£ 1,183.60	£3,156.89	2,714.93
3018	Broad Hinton C.E.	£ 1,065.24	£ 931.26	£133.98	£ 1,420.32	£ 824.67	£595.65	£ 443.85	£ 302.94	£ 140.91	£870.54	748.66
3019	Broad Town C.E.	£ 1,065.24	£ 431.97	£633.27	£ 1,420.32	£ 1,138.83	£281.49	£ 295.90	£ 499.29	£-203.39	£711.37	611.78
3021	Broughton Gifford C.E.	£ 3,195.72	£ 2,051.39	£1,144.33	£ -	£ -	£0.00	£ -	£ -	£ -	£1,144.33	984.12
3035	Cherhill C.E.	£ 4,616.04	£ 2,571.25	£2,044.79	£ 4,260.96	£ 1,490.39	£2,770.57	£ 887.70	£ 448.80	£ 438.90	£5,254.26	4,518.66
3038	Christian Malford C.E.	£ 355.08	£ 908.82	£-553.74	£ -	£ -	£0.00	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	0.00
3040	Colerne C.E.	£ 2,130.48	£ 1,800.81	£329.67	£ 2,485.56	£ 734.91	£1,750.65	£ 295.90	£ 486.20	£-190.30	£1,890.02	1,625.42
3047	Crockerton C.E.	£ 1,065.24	£ 360.91	£704.33	£ -	£ -	£0.00	£ -	£ -	£ -	£704.33	605.72
3086	Heddington C.E.	£ 1,065.24	£ 654.50	£410.74	£ 710.16	£ 465.63	£244.53	£ 147.95	£ 119.68	£ 28.27	£683.54	587.84
3088	Hilperton C.E.	£ 5,681.28	£ 4,119.61	£1,561.67	£ 4,971.12	£ 3,190.22	£1,780.90	£ 2,071.30	£ 1,454.86	£ 616.44	£3,959.01	3,404.75
3091	Hullavington C.E.	£ 2,485.56	£ 2,311.32	£174.24	£ 2,840.64	£ 2,156.11	£684.53	£ -	£ -	£ -	£858.77	738.54
3104	Lea & Garsdon C.E.	£ 2,485.56	£ 1,028.50	£1,457.06	£ -	£ -	£0.00	£ -	£ -	£ -	£1,457.06	1,253.07
3135	North Bradley C.E.	£ 2,840.64	£ 1,879.35	£961.29	£ -	£ -	£0.00	£ -	£ -	£ -	£961.29	826.71
3140	Oaksey C.E.	£ 710.16	£ 684.42	£25.74	£ 710.16	£ 684.42	£25.74	£ -	£ -	£ -	£51.48	44.27
3150	Purton St. Mary's C.E.	£ 7,811.76	£ 6,167.26	£1,644.50	£ 9,232.08	£ 7,053.64	£2,178.44	£ 4,290.55	£ 1,765.28	£ 2,525.27	£6,348.21	5,459.46
3160	Semington St George's C.E.	£ 2,130.48	£ 1,110.78	£1,019.70	£ 1,065.24	£ 628.32	£436.92	£ 591.80	£ 121.55	£ 470.25	£1,926.87	1,657.11
3161	Shalbourne C.E.	£ 1,420.32	£ 680.68	£739.64	£ 2,130.48	£ 661.98	£1,468.50	£ -	£ -	£ -	£2,208.14	1,899.00
3162	Shaw C.E.	£ 1,420.32	£ 2,290.75	£-870.43	£ 2,485.56	£ 4,162.62	£-1,677.06	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	0.00
3172	Stratford sub Castle C.E.	£ 9,942.24	£ 6,449.63	£3,492.61	£ 8,521.92	£ 4,910.62	£3,611.30	£ 2,811.05	£ 809.71	£ 2,001.34	£9,105.25	7,830.52
3174	Sutton Veny C.E.	£ -	£ -	£0.00	£ -	£ -	£0.00	£ -	£ -	£ -	£0.00	0.00

Appendix A: Free School Meals Pool Rebate: Participating Schools for financial years 2012-13, 2013-14 & 2014-15



DfE	Name of School	Total			Total			Total			Rebate based on surplus contribution %	
		Subscriptions 2012/13	Total Claims 2012/13	Balance 2012/13	Subscriptions 2013/14	Total Claims 2013/14	Balance 2013/14	Subscriptions 2014	Total Claims 2014	Balance 2014		Total Balance
												86
3191	Warminster Minster C.E.	£ 8,877.00	£ 6,017.66	£2,859.34	£ 7,811.76	£ 3,867.16	£3,944.60	£ -	£ -	£ -	£6,803.94	5,851.39
3199	Winsley C.E.	£ 2,485.56	£ 1,475.43	£1,010.13	£ 1,065.24	£ 1,050.94	£14.30	£ -	£ -	£ -	£1,024.43	881.01
3201	Winterbourne Earls C.E.	£ 3,195.72	£ 1,585.76	£1,609.96	£ 1,775.40	£ 1,000.45	£774.95	£ 887.70	£ 448.80	£ 438.90	£2,823.81	2,428.48
3203	Wootton Bassett St.Bartholomew's C.E.	£ 11,717.64	£ 9,058.28	£2,659.36	£ 11,717.64	£ 10,133.53	£1,584.11	£ -	£ -	£ -	£4,243.47	3,649.38
3207	Dilton Marsh C.E.	£ 9,232.08	£ 6,468.33	£2,763.75	£ 9,232.08	£ 8,925.51	£306.57	£ 4,586.45	£ 3,229.49	£ 1,356.96	£4,427.28	3,807.46
3216	Marlborough St.Peter's CEJunior	£ 9,587.16	£ 6,645.98	£2,941.18	£ 9,587.16	£ 5,677.32	£3,909.84	£ -	£ -	£ -	£6,851.02	5,891.88
3220	Minety C.E.	£ 355.08	£ 559.13	-£204.05	£ 710.16	£ 388.96	£321.20	£ -	£ -	£ -	£117.15	100.75
3222	Market Lavington St. Barnabas' C.E.	£ 5,681.28	£ 4,882.57	£798.71	£ 4,260.96	£ 3,094.85	£1,166.11	£ 1,479.50	£ 1,711.05	-£ 231.55	£1,733.27	1,490.61
3242	Brinkworth	£ 2,485.56	£ 1,438.03	£1,047.53	£ -	£ -	£0.00	£ -	£ -	£ -	£1,047.53	900.88
3243	Great Bedwyn C.E.	£ 1,065.24	£ 802.23	£263.01	£ 2,130.48	£ 746.13	£1,384.35	£ -	£ -	£ -	£1,647.36	1,416.73
3244	ByBrook Valley				£ 2,485.56	£ 2,436.61	£48.95	£ 887.70	£ 923.78	-£ 36.08	£12.87	11.07
3315	Chapmanslade							£ 443.85	£ 437.58	£ 6.27	£6.27	5.39
3326	Derry Hill C.E.	£ 4,260.96	£ 3,592.27	£668.69	£ -	£ -	£0.00	£ -	£ -	£ -	£668.69	575.07
3327	Trinity				£ 8,877.00	£ 7,092.91	£1,784.09	£ 4,438.50	£ 2,417.91	£ 2,020.59	£3,804.68	3,272.02
3355	St Nicholas Porton				£ -	£ -	£0.00	£ -	£ -	£ -	£0.00	0.00
3365	Morgan's Vale and Woodfalls C.E.	£ 2,485.56	£ 2,475.88	£9.68	£ -	£ -	£0.00	£ -	£ -	£ -	£9.68	8.32
3388	Seend C.E.	£ 1,775.40	£ 2,464.66	-£689.26	£ 2,840.64	£ 1,806.42	£1,034.22	£ -	£ -	£ -	£344.96	296.67
3400	West Ashton C.E.	£ -	£ -	£0.00	£ 355.08	£ 295.46	£59.62	£ 147.95	£ -	£ 147.95	£207.57	178.51
3402	Whiteparish	£ 710.16	£ 1,948.54	-£1,238.38	£ 2,840.64	£ 2,247.74	£592.90	£ -	£ -	£ -		0.00
3405	Winterslow				£ 710.16	£ 693.77	£16.39	£ 295.90	£ 237.49	£ 58.41	£74.80	64.33
3407	Woodford Valley C.E.	£ 2,840.64	£ 1,963.50	£877.14	£ 2,840.64	£ 1,503.48	£1,337.16	£ 591.80	£ 344.08	£ 247.72	£2,462.02	2,117.34
3449	Broad Chalke C.E.	£ 1,420.32	£ 1,744.71	-£324.39	£ 1,775.40	£ 3,160.30	-£1,384.90	£ 1,035.65	£ 1,122.00	-£ 86.35		0.00
3456	Great Cheverell The Holy Trinity C.E.	£ 4,616.04	£ 3,489.42	£1,126.62	£ -	£ -	£0.00	£ -	£ -	£ -	£1,126.62	968.89
3460	Alderbury & West Grinstead	£ 5,681.00	£ 4,069.12	£1,611.88	£ 6,746.52	£ 4,259.86	£2,486.66	£ -	£ -	£ -	£4,098.54	3,524.74
3462	Amesbury Archer	£ 6,391.44	£ 5,013.47	£1,377.97	£ 6,391.44	£ 8,560.86	-£2,169.42	£ 4,142.60	£ 2,696.54	£ 1,446.06	£654.61	562.96
3464	Old Sarum Primary	£ 4,261.00	£ 3,309.90	£951.10	£ 6,036.36	£ 5,791.39	£244.97	£ 2,515.15	£ 1,570.80	£ 944.35	£2,140.42	1,840.76
3467	Churchfields The Village School	£ 3,195.72	£ 3,152.82	£42.90	£ 3,550.80	£ 3,188.35	£362.45	£ -	£ -	£ -	£405.35	348.60
3470	Wilton/Barford	£ 9,587.16	£ 6,846.37	£2,740.79	£ 9,587.16	£ 5,486.58	£4,100.58	£ -	£ -	£ -	£6,841.37	5,883.58
3471	Lyneham Primary	£ 3,550.80	£ 4,364.58	-£813.78	£ 4,260.96	£ 3,958.79	£302.17	£ -	£ -	£ -		0.00
3472	Bellefield	£ 24,145.44	£ 17,621.01	£6,524.43	£ -	£ -	£0.00	£ -	£ -	£ -	£6,524.43	5,611.01
5200	Aloeric	£ 12,782.88	£ 12,919.83	-£136.95	£ 12,072.72	£ 14,801.05	-£2,728.33	£ 6,509.80	£ 5,114.45	£ 1,395.35		0.00
5222	Rowde	£ 6,036.36	£ 5,509.02	£527.34	£ 7,456.68	£ 8,919.90	-£1,463.22	£ 3,254.90	£ 2,311.32	£ 943.58	£7.70	6.62
7008	Salisbury Exeter House	£ 8,878.54	£ 5,613.94	£3,264.60	£ 6,746.52	£ 5,887.06	£859.46	£ 2,811.05	£ 2,202.68	£ 608.37	£4,732.43	4,069.89
		407,988.34	317,651.79	97,906.47	329,748.28	277,626.11	52,122.17	87,290.50	55,815.58	31,474.92	191,138.50	164,379.11

Wiltshire Council

SCHOOLS FORUM

6th November 2014

Split Site Allowance – High Needs Settings

Purpose of the paper

1. To seek approval from Schools Forum to implement a methodology for applying a split site allowance for special schools or schools with Resource Bases operating over more than one site.

Background

2. In a small number of schools within Wiltshire provision is delivered across more than one site. Where those sites are distinct and require travel for pupils and/or separate administration it is recognised that there are additional costs to a school compared with single site provision. Wiltshire has traditionally supported the use of split site funding for mainstream schools within its formula, to support schools meeting a distinct criteria.
3. The current criteria for 'split site' funding, as approved by Schools Forum states

“A school will receive split site funding if, of necessity, it has 2 (or more) distinct campuses between which

 - travel, by means of a public highway of more than one mile, is required and
 - Class teaching and learning must take place on all sites with physically detached administration (i.e., on all sites).”
4. These criteria only apply to mainstream schools and do not apply to those schools set within, and funded from, the High Needs budget. This is because high needs provision is not funded through the main formula and must be funded through the place plus mechanism.
5. There are currently 7 Primary Schools within Wiltshire entitled to the split site funding. Funding rates are £65,000 for a Primary School and £100,000 for a Secondary School. The total cost of the split site allowance within the 2014-15 financial year is £455,000. Until the current financial year there has been no high needs provision delivered on a split site basis.

Funding a Split Site from the High Needs Block

6. Since September 2014, the Local Authority has become aware of two instances where schools, both funded from within the High Needs

Block, will face financial pressures from the opening of a second site to support high needs provision. In both cases the provision has been developed with the support of the LA. The schools affected are St Nicholas Special School, Chippenham, and Greentrees Primary School, Salisbury.

7. Whilst the formulaic approach and criteria within the formula for mainstream schools cannot be applied to high needs provision, Schools Forum can consider whether resources should be made available from within the high needs block to support the additional costs associated with split site provision.
8. Guidance from the Department for Education has suggested that split site funding can be awarded from the High Needs Block but not through a lump sum or formulaic allocation. Instead, any funding in respect of a split site would need to be incorporated in to the top up rates for a special school or resource base. This would result in a school specific top up rate to enable the additional costs to be recognised.
9. Schools Forum is asked to consider the principle that the costs of operating over more than one site should be recognised within high needs provision as they are within mainstream provision.

St Nicholas Special School - Chippenham

10. St Nicholas School, Chippenham has developed off-site facilities for children and young people with severe and profound learning difficulties, in order to enhance the facilities at the school as well as free up space within the school to meet basic need.
11. The second site, formerly the Avon Vale Training (AVT) Building was identified at a purchase price of £337,500. The Strategic Planning and Places team secured an additional £414,000 from the Education Funding Agency (EFA) via the Demographic Growth Capital Fund (DGCF) specifically to renovate the Avon Vale Training Building.
12. The expansion of the off-site facilities has enabled the school to deliver a separate provision that will better provide for the growing needs of children and young people who attend the school. The financing for these developments has been funded by the Local Authority Accessibility money and a specific SEN grant held by the Local Authority.
13. The second site would fulfil the criteria for the mainstream split site funding, however as the DfE guidance does not extend to enabling the allowance for a special school no funding has yet been allocated to the school to support the second site.

Greentrees Primary School - Salisbury

14. Greentrees Primary School is underway with a new building for its Junior classes on a location that is 600m away from the current school site. The new school site is due to open from September 2015. The school has been asked by the LA to open up a Resource Base for 14 ASD pupils at the school in order to meet Basic Need requirements.
15. This school would not traditionally fulfil the requirements of the split site allowance, due to the second site being only 600m away from the main site. This exceptional circumstance has necessitated the requirement to consider a school-specific top-up allowance for this school in order to recognise the costs associated with the Resource Base split over two sites.
16. As with St Nicholas School, any funding would need to be met from the High Needs Block. As it is only the Resource Base, not the school, which would necessitate the funding for having a second site, any funding agreed should be proportionate to the distances between the schools.

Main Issues for Consideration

Value of split site allowance

17. The funding amounts for split sites in Primary and Secondary schools were agreed following the work of a small sub-group comprising head teachers from split site primary and secondary schools as part of the overall work on funding reform in 2012-13. The amounts of £65,000 for primary schools and £100,000 for secondary schools were felt to reflect the level of additional costs albeit that individual schools managed the provision across sites in different ways. At that time no special schools had split site provision and the costs of delivering across more than one site has therefore not been analysed in the same way. As a result it is not possible to simply apply either the primary or secondary rate as an accurate reflection of costs.
18. The School Funding Working Group considered this issue at its last meeting and, whilst the group supported the principle of a split site allowance, recommended that any split site allowance for high needs provision needed to:
 - a. Be developed as part of an agreed strategy between the LA and the school and in the context of the SEN Places strategy as it is developed;
 - b. Reflect the actual costs associated with the split site provision and therefore the school would need to provide evidence of the expected additional costs of managing the additional site to enable the agreement of funding to be considered in the overall context of the high needs block

19. In both cases the first of these criteria has been met as the additional provision has been developed in collaboration with the LA. Work would now need to take place with the schools concerned to estimate the additional costs associated with the split site provision.

Impact on Top Up Rates

20. Within Wiltshire a consistent set of banding values associated with agreed banding descriptors has been in place for special schools for many years. These were revised on the implementation of school funding reform but the principle of the same value for a pupil in a specific band across any special school still applies. More recently the same principle has been extended to Resource Base provision with the implementation of new top up rates in 2014-15.

21. The application of a split site allowance for high needs provision would require the development of school specific top up rates where a split site exists. The funding required for the additional site would need to be added to the top up rate for each band resulting, in this case, in a higher top up rate for a pupil in each band at St Nicholas School than in any other special school. This higher rate would not be because of additional needs of pupils compared with other schools but because of additional costs in the provision compared with a single site school. This principle would also apply to any split site funding agreed for Greentrees Primary School.

Overall Financial Implications

22. The cost of any split site allowance would need to be met from within the budget for top ups for high needs provision. Other papers on this agenda have highlighted the pressure that budgets within the high needs block are experiencing.

23. At this stage a split site allowance would only apply to the two settings detailed within this report. Currently there are no further plans to develop split site provision for special schools or resource bases and any further developments would need to be part of the overall place planning strategy.

24. The additional cost of split site funding needs to be considered in the context of developing quality local provision within Wiltshire schools rather than placing pupils in more costly external placements.

Proposals

25. Schools Forum agree to the principle that a split site allowance should be applied to provision funded from with the High Needs Block with the criteria recommended by the Schools Funding Working Group (paragraph 18).

- 26.** That work be carried out with St Nicholas School to identify the additional costs associate with the additional site in order to develop appropriate top up rates to be applied from September 2014.
- 27.** That specific proposals for a split site allowance for a Resource Base at Greentrees be considered at a future meeting.

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