

Schools Forum - January 2017
Decision Matrix for 2017-18 Budget

DSG Block	Decision Required	Inter-dependencies with other decisions	Proposal	Decision Maker			Decision - noted at meeting
				Local Authority	Schools Forum	DfE	
Overall Budget	Overall Schools Budget	individual decisions for blocks to feed in	Schools Budget to be set at level of DSG Settlement £330.806m	Decides	Proposes		No decision required. Council to set budget at overall level of DSG
	Confirm no LA Top Up			Decides			
Central Schools Block	Ongoing commitments eg Admissions, Growth Fund, Schools Forum support		Line by Line summary, appendix 1 to Central DSG Report. Summarised in Proposed Budget summary Propose as presented in Table	Proposes	Decides for each line	Adjudicates if Schools Forum does not agree LA proposal	Budgets for Admissions, Schools Forum Support, and Infant Class Size payments agreed as per Appendix 1 to the Central Schools Block Report Budget for Basic Need Element of Growth fund set at £0.9m and agreed virement between basic need and infant class size elements of growth fund if required during the year Confirmed previous decision not to implement a Falling Rolls Fund in Wiltshire
	Central spend on historic commitments	will inform any further funding to be delegated if spend is not agreed, is not evidenced or does not meet criteria	Propose agree eligible expenditure as per table in Appendix 3 Central DSG Report	Proposes	Decides for each line	Adjudicates if Schools Forum does not agree LA proposal	After considering eligibility and the evidence presented fundign was agreed for the following historic commitments: Support for Personal Education Plans for Looked After Children (£0.233m) Funding for Child Protection Adviser in Schools (£0.041m) Funding for Prudential Borrowing (£0.3m) Funding for ineligible commitments of £1.7m released for reallocation
	Decision required to reallocate any ineligible historic commitment spend		To be confirmed - SFWG/SEN Group recommendation to consider impact on moving to high needs block to support top up rates and capacity for change	Proposes	Decides for each line	Adjudicates if Schools Forum does not agree LA proposal	Agreed to release £1.7m from central schools block for allocation across other funding blocks
	Central Licences negotiated by Secretary of State		Propose Budget for central copyright licences set at £0.346m	Decides	None	None	Noted LA decision to set budget at £0.346m to reflect cost of licence
	Central Spend on services previously funded by the retained rate of ESG		Propose budget for retained ESG duties set at £1.005m as per funding settlement and analysis of costs	Proposes	Decides for each line	Adjudicates if Schools Forum does not agree LA proposal	Agreed budget to be set at £1.005m
	Central spend on general duties for maintained schools - services previously funded by ESG general duties rate	would be a top slice for maintained school budgets - impacts on delegated budget decision	No top slice proposed in initial reports	Proposes	Decided by maintained school members	Adjudicates if Schools Forum does not agree LA proposal	Agreed no spend to be retained centrally from maintained schools
Schools block - Delegated Budget	Values of pupil led formula factors - Deprivation, EAL, Prior Atainment, etc	Decision on Historic commitments will inform any additional funding to be delegated	Propose retain quantum as per 16-17 for pupil led factors	Proposes and decides	must be consulted	Ensures formula is compliant with regulations	Confirmed Lump Sum to remain £85,000 for Primary Schools and £175,000 for secondary schools Agreed to retain the quantum for pupil led factors (Deprivation, EAL and Prior Attainment) at 2016-17 levels. Impact will be small change in funding rates per pupil It was confirmed that the cost of the minimum funding guarantee would continue to be met through the capping of any gains
		De-delegation - most decisions made, still need to confirm Maternity		Proposes	Primary and Secondary school reps decide	Adjudicates if Schools Forum does not agree LA proposal	Agreed to de-delegate the budget for maternity costs, as in previous years all other de-delegation decisions made at the October meeting confirming delegation of contingency and licences but all others to remain as in previous years.
	Funding for Additonal School Improvement	new guidance allows for funding for "additional" school improvement to be de-delegated from maintained schools	No proposal brought to Schools forum	Proposes	Primary and Secondary school reps decide	Adjudicates if Schools Forum does not agree LA proposal	No further de-delegation for additonal school improvement costs

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High Needs Block	Central spend on High Needs provision		No change proposed to top up rates however other decisions may change this	Decides	none	none	Central spend on high needs provision to be increased with funding reallocated from central schools block. From this: £0.5m to be added to top up budget for mainstream schools £0.357m to be utilised to continue to fund Inclusion support fund from High Needs Block For remainder proposals to be brought to March meeting based on SEN strategy for consideration and approval
	Funding for exceptional numbers of statements		Separate paper on exceptional numbers of statements refers. Proposal to leave formula unchanged for 2016-17 but cap at £100k	Decides	none	none	Agreed to leave formula unchanged for 2016-17 and to cap expenditure at £100,000
	Inclusion of Therapies spend in central high needs budget - moved from ESG	additional pressure on HNB - may require movement from other blocks	Recommend High Needs Block to fund cost of speech & language service	Decides	none	none	Agreed Therapies budget to be met from High Needs Block
	Top Up values for NPAs, ELP, Resource Bases and Special Schools		Initial proposal no change from 201-17 values	Decides	none - but would consult Schools Forum	none	Agreed that £0.5m be added to the top up budget (from the £1.7m reallocation) to increase top up values for mainstream schools by 11% compared with 2016-17
	Funding levels for Alternative Provision		Propose additional £100k to support addition of UTC to list of participating schools	Decides	none - but would consult Schools Forum	none	Agreed £0.100m to be added to the alternative provision budget
	Additional Pressures within high needs block to be funded		Proposal for £100k to support development of funding mechanism to support children at key transition points	Decides	none - but would consult Schools Forum	none	Not agreed - proposals to be considered at March meeting
	Savings proposals to meet shortfall in high needs block		Propose to move funding of Inclusion Support Fund to Early Years Block	Decides	none - but would consult Schools Forum	none	Proposal to fund base budget for Inclusion support fund from Early Years Block not agreed
Early Years Block	Agree Wiltshire formula - including supplements to be applied		Proposed formula as per EY Block report with supplements for Rurality and Deprivation. Proposed Basic Hourly rate £4.06	Proposes and decides	must be consulted		Wiltshire Early Years Single Funding Formula (EYSFF) agreed. The agreed base rate of funding to providers was set at £4.14 per hour
	Level of Inclusion Support Fund and how funded	High Needs Block options	Proposed ISF £467,300, fully funded from Early Years Block				It was agreed that the increase of £110,000 to the Inclusion Support Fund be funded from the Early Years Block and that the base budget continue to be funded from High Needs Block
	% Pass Through to settings	impacts on potential top slice for schools	Proposal in Early Years report for 98% pass through	Proposes and decides	must be consulted		It was agreed that 98% of 3 & 4 year old funding would be passed through to providers.
	Hourly rate for free entitlement for 2 year olds			Proposes and decides	must be consulted		Agreed rate to be set at £5.32 per hour in line with funding allocation

Principles that have guided Schools Forum decisions in previous years:

- 1 Money should follow the pupil
- 2 Decisions should maximise the funding allocated to all pupils where possible
- 3 Support local specialist provision
- 4 Maintain relativities between phases (Primary/Secondary) in formula factors
- 5 Minimise the numbers of Schools on Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG)