

Wiltshire Council

Schools Forum
3rd October 2013

Report from the School Funding Working Group

Purpose of report

1. To report on the meeting of the School Funding Working Group held on 27th September 2013.

Main considerations for School Forum

2. The draft minutes of the meeting are attached at Appendix 1.
3. The Group agreed the following recommendations to be made to Schools Forum to be considered at the meeting on 3rd October 2013.

4. **Minimum Funding Guarantee Exceptions 2014-15**

The School Funding Working Group considered a report on the proposed application to disapply the MFG in 2014-15. Because the deadline for submissions was 30th September, prior to the Schools Forum meeting, the following applications were approved:

1. **New school allowances and new school new year group funding:** To seek DfE approval to remove this funding from the MFG.
2. **Rents, where the school no longer qualifies under the revised funding proposals** - To seek approval from the EFA 1) to decrease the qualifying threshold from 1% to 0.75% of school budgets, and 2) to continue to remove rent from the MFG calculation.
3. **Split site funding where a school no longer qualifies** - To seek approval from the EFA to remove split site funding from the MFG where a school no longer qualifies under the revised definition.
4. **Changes categories of, or spending on, central budgets** – To seek approval from the EFA to exclude new additional categories or changes in spend on central services budgets should the consultation recommend such changes to the delegation or de-delegations.

- 5. Schools with special units** – to seek approval from the EFA to amend the baselines of schools with special units to reflect the new deduction of places from the number on roll, rather than the number of pupils, in order to calculate MFG protection on a consistent basis.

- 6. Requests to vary the protection for special schools and academies** – to seek approval from the EFA to allow amendment to the baseline of special schools and academies in order to not overfund the school via the MFG mechanism as day and residential pupil numbers have changed.

Proposals

- 5.** That Schools Forum note the minutes of the School Funding Working Group and the recommendations outlined above.

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