

DEDICATED SCHOOLS BUDGET – BUDGET STATEMENT 2022-23

Purpose of the Report

1. To present the budget statement for the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) for the financial year 2022-23.

Main Considerations

2. Appendix 1 to this report outlines the budget summary as at 30th April 2022.
3. It is currently too early in the financial year to present an evidenced forecast of expenditure; however, it is likely that the pressure on the high needs block will be in line with increases in demand from recent years which are 6% for 2021-22 and 2020-21.

Early Years Budgets (Budget £28.521m)

4. The table below shows the funds allocated for 2022-23 – this is the provisional allocation which is updated by the Department for Education (DfE) in the summer.

	Budgeted PTE	Budgeted Rate	Budgeted Spend £m
2-year-olds	671	£5.69	2.175
3- & 4-year-olds	10,024	£4.42	25.254

5. This was not increased by a supplementary grant due to the national increases to the hourly rates and other funds. The ISF has been extended to 30 hours from 15 for 22-23 as part of the preparation for school programme within the high needs recovery plan.

COMF Grant Funding

6. Unspent COMF grant will be available for 2022-23.

Schools Budgets (Budget £328.594m)

7. The schools budgets were increased, in addition, schools have been allocated schools supplementary grant to alleviate increases in energy, national insurance and other costs. Following consultation, transfers of 0.5% was agreed from the schools block to support the high needs block and an amount equivalent to the 50% reduction in the school improvement brokerage and monitoring grant in January 2022 to replace the removal of this funding.

High Needs Budgets (Budget £65.105m)

8. High needs budgets have been set within the grant allocation. The estimates of requirement for 2022-23 exceeded this at the time of setting the budget by £11.160m.
9. When the level of funding available does not match the local needs, the budget cannot be set at an achievable level which inevitably creates a transfer to the DSG deficit reserve at year end.

Central Schools Services (Budget £2.604m)

10. The historical element of this block has been reduced by 20% in line with recent years despite this a limited sum continues to be transferred to support the high needs block.

DSG Reserve

11. The reserve brought forward of £25.973 million – prudent estimate of movement this financial year would be an increase in line with the original budget estimate; £11.160m leading to a £37.133m position at the end of the financial year, it is hoped that the on-going work of the high needs recovery group will mitigate this to a degree however, the impact of the majority of schemes is longer term.

Proposals

12. Schools Forum is asked to note the original dedicated schools budget statement and balance brought forward on the DSG reserve.

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