

Meeting of the Schools Funding Working Group 14th January 2011

Present: Liz Williams, Phil Cooch, Martin Watson, John Kimberley, Judith Finney, Neil Baker, John Hawkins

In attendance: Simon Burke, Sue Roles, Mary O'Malley, Martin Cooper

The purpose of the meeting was to develop proposals for the delegation of former standards funds that will be rolled in to DSG from 2011/12. Proposals to be taken to Schools Forum on 17th January 2011.

The grants to be rolled in to DSG are as follows:

- A School Standards Grant
- B School Standards Grant (Personalisation)
- C School Development Grant
- D Specialist Schools
- E High Performing Schools
- F School Lunch Grant
- G Ethnic Minority Achievement Grant
- H 1-2-1 Tuition
- I Extended Schools – Sustainability
- J Extended Schools – Subsidy
- K National Strategies – Secondary
- L National Strategies – Primary
- M Diploma Grant

Draft regulations for 2011/12 state that the Ethnic Minority Achievement Grant can continue to be held centrally by local authorities (LAs) and it has been recommended to Schools Forum that this should be the case in Wiltshire.

The group agreed the following principles for delegation of the remaining grants:

1. That where the predecessor grant is phase specific (ie., primary, secondary, special) then funding should be retained within that phase in future years. This had previously been agreed at Schools Forum.
2. That the Pupil Premium, to be implemented from April 2011, would reflect deprivation and therefore the principle for allocation of former standards funds should be to use a per pupil allocation wherever possible.
3. That it would be necessary in some cases to recognise commitments from the predecessor grants in 2011/12, for example staff employed on academic year contracts. This may mean a transitional allocation in year 1 with move to per pupil funding in subsequent years.
4. That the move to allocation on a per pupil basis may result in turbulence for some schools and therefore transitional protection may need to be applied in the first year.

The table below summarises the discussion in respect of each grant and the recommended distribution method for each grant over the next 3 years is summarised in Appendix 1.

Table 1 – summary of discussion in relation to distribution of former standards funds from April 2011.

Grant	Current Allocation Method and issues arising	Proposal for Schools Forum
A	<p>Schools Standards Grant Currently allocated by nationally applied formula</p>	Replicate the previous formula
B	<p>School Standards Grant (Personalisation) Currently allocated on national formula which takes prior attainment and deprivation in to account.</p>	Allocate on a per pupil basis Schools Forum to consider transitional protection in 2011/12 depending on impact of change
C	<p>School Development Grant SDG is an amalgamation of a number of predecessor standards funds and therefore in recent years each school's previous year's allocation has been inflated by the minimum funding guarantee. Allocations of the original grants could not now be replicated. Some funding retained centrally to fund Advanced Skills Teachers</p>	Propose that the grant be allocated on a per pupil basis. It is recommended that in 2011/12 the funding for ASTs be split out in year 1 and allocated to those schools who currently employ these teachers. Move to full allocation by pupil numbers from 2012/13
D & E	<p>Specialist Schools & High Performing Schools Allocated by the Department for Education according to the specialism of the school. Schools may have more than one specialism. It was noted that Training Schools are funding from the TDA and there has been no confirmation of this funding for 2011/12.</p>	<p>Special Schools – Special School Head Teachers had proposed that this funding be allocated across the 3 schools who have achieved specialisms. This is recommended to Schools Forum</p> <p>Secondary – it is proposed that funding for the first specialism be allocated on a per pupil basis across the secondary sector. Models to be produced to compare allocating funding for subsequent specialism on a per pupil basis versus replicating school allocations for year 1. Move to full allocation per pupil across the secondary sector from year 2</p>
F	<p>School Lunch Grant Currently allocated per pupil in schools who provide meals. In schools who only Provide meals to those eligible for free school meals, allocations can be small.</p>	Propose allocate per pupil via the AWPU – no variation in amount between phase.

Grant	Current Allocation Method and issues arising	Proposal for Schools Forum
H	<p>1-2-1 Tuition Allocation of the grant from the DfE based on factors including prior attainment, numbers of looked after children and free school meals. Allocation in Wiltshire has been targeted. Schools were invited to apply for funding for pupils in the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils entering KS2/3 or 4 National Challenge schools with lower than age related attainment in English & maths • Pupils not making expected levels of progress during the key stage • Pupils who are looked after. <p>Uptake has been patchy. £150k centrally retained but not committed after August 2011 (to be met from 2010/11 allocation)</p>	<p>Propose to allocated across Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3 AWPUs</p> <p>The group noted that looked after children will be in receipt of the Pupil Premium from 2011/12.</p>
I & J	<p>Extended Schools Sustainability and Subsidy Grants The focus of extended schools grants has been to support vulnerable pupils and on supporting parents. Funding has been allocated to extended school networks and held by lead schools in each cluster. Currently the sustainability funding is used to fund network co-ordinators and Parent Support Advisers, all of whom are employed in schools. It was confirmed that schools have been allocated the full funding for Network Co-ordinators until 31st March 2012 however the PSAs are on a rolling programme and therefore schools will still require funding for 2011/12 to honour existing contracts for that period. Subsidy grant is allocated to fund the Freetime Scheme and is allocated on the basis of deprivation. £100k is held centrally to fund professional supervision for PSAs and maintaining safe practice. The regulations for the treatment of these former standards funds do not allow for this funding to continue to be retained centrally from April 2011. It was noted that the network co-ordinators are currently engaged</p>	<p>Extended Schools Subsidy – allocate on a per pupil basis across all schools.</p> <p>Extended Schools Sustainability – move to a per pupil allocation but in year 1 topslice the current funding for PSAs and allocate to lead schools as in the current year. Year 2 full grant to be allocated on a per pupil basis across all schools.</p>

	with clusters of schools to develop forward plans for extended services over the period 2011-14.	
	Current Allocation Method and issues arising	Proposal for Schools Forum
K	<p>National Strategies – Secondary The grant currently has a combination of universal and targeted allocation to schools. Targeted funding is allocated on the basis of pupils not achieving 3 levels of progress KS2 to 4 in English & Maths combined, English, and Maths plus and allocation based on the achievement of pupils eligible for free school meals. Full grant is allocated to schools – no central commitments from April 2011.</p>	Propose allocate across KS 3 and KS4 AWPUs for Secondary and Special schools.
L	<p>National Strategies – Primary The grant currently funds a number of programmes across primary schools. Every Child Programmes (ECAR, ECAW, ECC) – currently in year 3 of a 3 year programme in consortium with Swindon BC. Schools apply for funding and focus is on narrowing gaps in achievement in areas of greatest deprivation. ECAR funding also contributes to the Reading Recovery Centre – one off contribution of £8.5k in 2010/11. Centrally funded leading teachers seconded from the Wiltshire Primary team – funded until August 2010. the group discussed the potential for this to be offered as a traded service from September 2011. Primary languages programme – it was noted that there is a centrally employed adviser currently funded from the standards funds. Early Years Foundation Stage – centrally employed teacher within the Early Years service. Other funding from the current grant is a combination of universal and targeted support for schools.</p>	<p>Proposal: Every Child Programmes – allocate on the KS1 AWPUs across primary schools. Remaining grant to be allocated across KS1 and KS2 AWPUs. Potential for transitional support in year 1 – impact to be modelled. It was proposed that Schools Forum consider using 2010/11 underspend to fund the central posts for EY Foundation Stage and Primary Languages for a further year, recognising that permanent contracts could not be ended by 31st March.</p>
M	<p>Diploma Grant Currently allocated to schools on the basis of learners studying</p>	Proposal – Grant to be allocated according to current methodology

	diplomas. Allocation for 2011/12 is based on the estimated cohort.	
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