

Consultation on School Funding 2011-12: Introducing a Pupil Premium

Consultation Response Form

The closing date for this consultation is: 18
October 2010

Your comments must reach us by that date.

THIS FORM IS NOT INTERACTIVE. If you wish to respond electronically please use the online response facility available on the Department for Education e-consultation website (<http://www.education.gov.uk/consultations>).

Information provided in response to this consultation, including personal information, may be subject to publication or disclosure in accordance with the access to information regimes, primarily the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Data Protection Act 1998.

If you want all, or any part, of your response to be treated as confidential, please explain why you consider it to be confidential.

If a request for disclosure of the information you have provided is received, your explanation about why you consider it to be confidential will be taken into account, but no assurance can be given that confidentiality can be maintained. An automatic confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system will not, of itself, be regarded as binding on the Department.

The Department will process your personal data (name and address and any other identifying material) in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998, and in the majority of circumstances, this will mean that your personal data will not be disclosed to third parties.

Please tick if you want us to keep your response confidential.

Reason for confidentiality:

Name ELIZABETH WILLIAMS
Organisation (if applicable) WILTSHIRE COUNCIL
Address: COUNTY HALL
BYTHESEA RD
TROWBRIDGE
BA148JB

If your enquiry is related to the policy content of the consultation you can contact either:

Juliet Yates on: telephone: 020 7340 8313 e-mail:

juliet.yates@education.gsi.gov.uk, or

Ian McVicar on: telephone: 020 7340 7980 e-mail:

ian.mcvicar@education.gsi.gov.uk

If you have a query relating to the consultation process you can contact the Consultation Unit on telephone: 0870 000 2288 or email:

consultation.unit@education.gsi.gov.uk

Please select **ONE** category which best describes you as a respondent:

<input type="checkbox"/> School	<input type="checkbox"/> Schools Forum	<input type="checkbox"/> Governor Association
<input type="checkbox"/> Teacher	<input type="checkbox"/> Local Authority Group	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individual Local Authority
<input type="checkbox"/> Teacher Association	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Trade Union/Professional Body	<input type="checkbox"/> Early Years Setting
<input type="checkbox"/> Campaign Group	<input type="checkbox"/> Parent/Carer	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

Please Specify:

1 Do you agree it is right to give a higher premium to areas that currently receive less per pupil funding? [Paras 24 - 27]

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Sure
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Comments:

2 What is your preferred deprivation indicator for allocating the pupil premium? [Paras 29 - 50]

<input type="checkbox"/> FSM - in year	<input type="checkbox"/> FSM ever - 3 year	<input type="checkbox"/> FSM ever - 6 year
<input type="checkbox"/> Out of Work Tax Credit	<input type="checkbox"/> ACORN/MOSAIC	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (not listed)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Sure		

Comments:

FSM Ever:
If an indicator of FSM eligibility is to be used Wiltshire would be in favour of using a FSM Ever model. However, a concern would be the work required to establish the baseline for this data and whether this task would fall to LAs. It is likely that the historical FSM data would need to be subject to significant data cleansing to ensure it is correct.

Acorn/Mosaic:
Wiltshire Council currently uses Mosaic data for the distribution of funding to schools and to create data profiles of schools in the county. The data is well used and well understood by Wiltshire schools.

General:

It is difficult to see from the consultation document how Wiltshire benefits or not under each option.

3 Do you agree the coverage of the pupil premium should include Looked After Children? [Paras 51 - 54]

Yes

No

Not Sure

Comments:

We believe that this will enhance the ability of our virtual headteacher to enhance pupil outcomes and work more closely with schools.

4 What are your views on the operation of the Looked After Children element of the pupil premium? In particular, how might the funding arrangements work at local authority level for pupils educated outside of the local authority with caring responsibility? [Paras 55 - 60]

Comments:

This proposal would need a common inter authority recoupment process in place to ensure it operated appropriately.

There may be issues if there are differential rates in the premium for each LA, for example a Wiltshire child in a Hampshire school may attract a lower rate than other LAC in that school.

The transient nature of the LAC population may cause issues with the accuracy of the data generating the payment. If a LAC moves school there would need to be a process of moving the money to follow the child – a managed move process.

If a LAC is with an alternative provider rather than a maintained school would the LA need to pay the premium to the provider or could it be retained to offset the cost of the placement which might already include additional support for that

individual?

5 Do you think the coverage of the pupil premium should be extended to include additional support for Service children? [Paras 61 - 66]

Yes

No

Not Sure

Comments:

Wiltshire has a significant population of service children and currently makes provision through the local funding formula to support the specific needs of these pupils. The pupil premium could ensure support is not fully delivered at the cost of other pupils in Wiltshire.

6 Should the pupil count for three year olds, used to allocate DSG for 2011-12, reflect actual take up or continue to reflect a minimum of 90% participation where lower? [Paras 75 - 76]

Actual Take-Up

90% Minimum

Not Sure

Comments:

Take up in Wiltshire is over 90%

7 Should the pupil count used to allocate DSG for 2011-12 continue to reflect dual subsidiary registrations for pupils at pupil referral units? [Paras 77 - 78]

x Yes

No

Not Sure

Comments:

We will lose c£412k DSG if this funding was removed.

8 Do you support our proposals for additional support for schools catering for Service children? [Para 79]

X Yes

No

Not Sure

Comments:

We already have a service school safety net which operates at the expense of other schools. This proposal could ensure that resources can be directed more equitably across all Wiltshire pupils..

9 Do you support our proposals for home educated pupils? [Para 80]

x Yes

No

Not Sure

Comments:

10 Do you think that there should be a cash floor at local authority level in 2011-12? [Para 85]

Yes

No

Not Sure

Comments:

11 Have you any further comments?

Comments:

Thank you for taking the time to let us have your views. We do not intend to acknowledge individual responses unless you place an 'X' in the box below.

Please acknowledge this reply

Here at the Department for Education we carry out our research on many different topics and consultations. As your views are valuable to us, would it be alright if we were to contact you again from time to time either for research or to send through consultation documents?

Yes

No

All DfE public consultations are required to conform to the following criteria within the Government Code of Practice on Consultation:

Criterion 1: Formal consultation should take place at a stage when there is scope to influence the policy outcome.

Criterion 2: Consultations should normally last for at least 12 weeks with consideration given to longer timescales where feasible and sensible.

Criterion 3: Consultation documents should be clear about the consultation process, what is being proposed, the scope to influence and the expected costs and benefits of the proposals.

Criterion 4: Consultation exercises should be designed to be accessible to, and clearly targeted at, those people the exercise is intended to reach.

Criterion 5: Keeping the burden of consultation to a minimum is essential if consultations are to be effective and if consultees' buy-in to the process is to be obtained.

Criterion 6: Consultation responses should be analysed carefully and clear feedback should be provided to participants following the consultation.

Criterion 7: Officials running consultations should seek guidance in how to run an effective consultation exercise and share what they have learned from the experience.

If you have any comments on how DfE consultations are conducted, please contact Donna Harrison, DfE Consultation Co-ordinator, tel: 01928 794304 / email: donna.harrison@education.gsi.gov.uk

Thank you for taking time to respond to this consultation.

Completed questionnaires and other responses should be sent to the address shown below by 18 October 2010

Send by post to: School Funding Consultation 2011-12, Funding and Technology Unit, Department for Education, Level 3, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3BT.

Send by e-mail to: dsg.consultation@education.gsi.gov.uk