Report from the School Funding Working Group

Purpose of report

1. To report on the meeting of the School Funding Working Group held on 21st November 2012.

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 in respect of reports to be considered at the meeting on 6th December.

4. Controls on Surplus Balances Scheme

The School Funding Working Group considered a report reviewing the controls on surplus balances scheme and considering whether it should be continued in to 2013-14.

It was recommended that the scheme should not continue to be operated in 2013-14 and that a new process enabling a wider view of financial management in schools should be developed (Proposal (iii) in the Controls on Surplus Balances Report).

5. DSG Estimate 2013-14

The group considered the report estimating the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) settlement for 2013-14.

It was recommended that the Schools Funding Working Group should meet prior to the EFA deadline for submission of the Schools Block proforma to finalise the funding values within the mainstream funding formula. It was also recommended that Stephen Clark should be invited to join that meeting to ensure that maintained secondary schools were represented within that decision making process.

6. Pupil Growth Funding 2013-14

The group considered the criteria currently used to allocate additional funding for pupil growth in schools and agreed that these criteria should be recommended for 2013-14.

Proposals

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

Carolyn Godfrey

Corporate Director

Report author: Liz Williams, Head of Finance

01225 713675

Elizabeth.williams@wiltshire.gov.uk