

Blackpool Council

7 January 2019

SCHOOLS FORUM

Tuesday, 15 January 2019 at 9.15 am
in Room A, @The Grange (formally the City Learning Centre), Bathurst Avenue,
Blackpool, FY3 7RW

A G E N D A

1 WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are asked to declare any interests in the items under consideration and in doing so state:

(1) the type of interest concerned either a

- (a) personal interest
- (b) prejudicial interest
- (c) disclosable pecuniary interest (DPI)

and

(2) the nature of the interest concerned

If any member requires advice on declarations of interests, they are advised to contact the Head of Democratic Governance in advance of the meeting.

3 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

To elect a Chairman of the Forum until January 2020.

4 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

To elect a Vice Chairman of the Forum until January 2020.

5 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 9 OCTOBER 2018

(Pages 1 - 8)

To agree the minutes of the last meeting held on 9 October 2018 as a true and correct record and discuss any matters arising.

6 PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE (Pages 9 - 10)

Lynn Donkin, Consultant in Public Health, to provide a written update to the Forum on recent Public Health items.

7 LOCAL AUTHORITY UPDATE

Paul Turner, Head of Service for School Standards, Safeguarding and Inclusion, to provide a verbal update to the Forum on relevant Local Authority developments.

8 ACADEMY AND FREE SCHOOL UPDATE

Paul Turner, Head of Service for School Standards, Safeguarding and Inclusion, to provide a verbal update to the Forum on relevant Academy and Free School developments.

9 INCLUSION UPDATE

Paul Turner, Head of Service for School Standards, Safeguarding and Inclusion, to provide a written updates:

9a Inclusion (Pages 11 - 18)

To provide a written update to the Forum including the Blackpool Education, Registers and Admissions Panel (BERA) report.

9b Illuminate Funding (Pages 19 - 22)

To provide a written update to the Forum.

10 DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT BUDGET MONITORING 2018/2019 (Pages 23 - 26)

Mark Golden, Finance Manager, to provide a written update to the Forum.

11 HIGH NEEDS UPDATE (Pages 27 - 32)

Hilary Wood, Head of Business Support and Resources, to provide a written report.

12 DRAFT 2019/2020 DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT BUDGET PROPOSAL (Pages 33 - 36)

Hilary Wood, Head of Business Support and Resources, to provide a written update to the Forum outlining the 2019/2020 Budget Proposal.

13 SCHOOLS FUNDING FORMULA 2019/2020 PROPOSALS (Pages 37 - 44)

Paul Sharples, School Funding and PFI Manager to provide a written report on the School Funding Formula proposals for 2019-2020.

14 PUPIL GROWTH CONTINGENCY 2019/2020 (Pages 45 - 46)

Paul Sharples, School Funding and PFI Manager to provide a written report to the Forum on Pupil Growth Contingency.

15 DE-DELEGATION OF SERVICES AND RETENTION OF FUNDING FOR EDUCATION FUNCTIONS 2019-2020 (Pages 47 - 54)

Paul Sharples, School Funding and PFI Manager to provide a written report to the Forum on de-delegation of services and retention of funding for education functions.

16 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Forum to note the date of the next meeting as Tuesday 12 March 2019 at 9.15am @The Grange, Bathurst Avenue, Blackpool, FY3 7RW

Venue information:

Ground floor meeting room, accessible toilets, no-smoking building.

Other information:

For queries regarding this agenda please contact Danielle Bowater, Democratic Governance Adviser, Tel: 01253 477202, e-mail danielle.bowater@blackpool.gov.uk

Copies of the agendas and minutes of the Schools Forum are available on the Council's website at www.blackpool.gov.uk

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Present:

Primary School Head Teachers/Representatives

Ms J Hirst, Bispham Endowed (Chairman)

Primary School Governor Representative

Ms M Lonican, School Governor representative

Academy School Representatives

Mr S Brennand, Unity

Mr R Farley, Westminster

Ms T Harrison, Thames

Mr D Medcalf, St Georges

Ms L Riley, Highfield (on behalf of H McKenzie OBE)

Special School Academy Representative

Ms S Fielder, Park Academy

Non-Schools Members

Ms A Baines, Staff/Teacher Associations

Mr D Dickinson, Staff/Teacher Associations

Mr R Rendell, Early Years Strategic Group

Mr S Hughes, Blackpool and the Fylde College

Pupil Referral Unit

Ms W Casson, Education Diversity

In Attendance:

CLlr K Benson, Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning

Mr M Golden, Finance Manager

Mr P Sharples, School Funding and Private Finance Initiative Manager

Mr P Thompson, Head of SEND

Mr P Turner, Head of Schools, Safeguarding and Inclusion

Mrs H Wood, Head of Business Support and Resources

Mr C Williams, Democratic Governance Adviser (observing)

Mrs D Bowater, Democratic Governance Adviser (minutes)

1 WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES

Introductions were made and apologies for absence were received from Karen Haworth, Woodlands (Special School Maintained Representative), Janet Carroll, Roseacre (Academy School Representative), Nick Toyne, Devonshire (Academy School Representative), Edward Vitalis, Marton/South Shore (Bright Futures) and Lynn Donkin, Consultant in Public Health.

MINUTES OF SCHOOLS FORUM MEETING - TUESDAY, 9 OCTOBER 2018

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were noted.

3 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 19 JUNE 2018

The minutes of the Schools Forum held on 19 June 2018 were agreed as a correct record of the meeting, with the exception that the spelling of Richard Rendell be corrected at item 3 and the reference be amended to Langdale Free School at item 7.

Matters arising for the minutes were noted:

Item 4: a request for an update on the progression of the Children's Centre Consultation was made, the length of time it had taken to complete the consultation was highlighted. It was noted that consultation with schools continued and no update was available.

Item 6: it was noted that no job description for the School Safeguarding Adviser role had been circulated. Paul Turner confirmed that the job description was unchanged and an offer had been extended to one candidate.

Item 6: it was noted that a positive audit of the Pupil Welfare Service had been undertaken.

Item 8: it was reported that Paul Turner had met with various secondary school leaders to discuss the devolution of Alternative Provision funding and provide further information to them.

Item 9: it was reported that the elective home education (EHE) process now contained more quality assurance and a RAG rating system had been implemented. Any children identified as being in the red category were added to the children missing from education register, it was recognised that the majority of children educated at home were rated as green which indicated that the local authority were happy with the quality of education provision and the safeguarding of the child.

Item 11: the funding flowchart to outline funding options for pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities within mainstream settings would be presented to Primary and Secondary Headteachers at their respective meetings by Phil Thompson.

4 APPOINTMENT OF A VICE CHAIRMAN

It was noted that Nick Toyne had stepped down from his role as Vice Chair of the Schools Forum. The Forum agreed to defer the appointment of a new Vice Chair until the January 2019 meeting where both the Chair and the Vice Chair would be reappointed.

5 REVIEW OF SCHOOLS FORUM MEMBERSHIP AND CONSTITUTION

Paul Sharples, School Funding and Private Finance Initiative Manager, reported that the Schools Forum Membership and Constitution had been reviewed and no changes were

MINUTES OF SCHOOLS FORUM MEETING - TUESDAY, 9 OCTOBER 2018

required.

6 PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

Apologies from Lynn Donkin, Consultant in Public Health, were recorded at the meeting. No questions were presented arising from the report. It was noted that the Primary PSHE Support Officer appointed would be based within the Headstart team.

7 LOCAL AUTHORITY UPDATE

Paul Turner, Head of Schools, Safeguarding and Inclusion, provided an update and reported that the Local Authority teams were static. Inclusion had been considered and Ged McNally, Inclusion Manager, had made a positive contribution, acting as an advocate for children. Statutory assessment and moderation was considered good and moderators had been retrained resulting in Blackpool primary standards being close to the National standards.

Paul Turner was keen to highlight positive aspects of both primary and secondary schools in Blackpool. Improved leadership had been recognised in secondary schools and a reduction in fixed term exclusions compared to the previous year.

It was noted that a curriculum workshop was in development to look at the impact of curriculum and the inclusion of vocational strands.

Paul Turner reported that staffing in the Admissions Team was stable and the Pupil Welfare Team had increased to 21 team members through increased purchase of services from schools. It was recognised that Blackpool attendance was close to National average in primary schools.

It was reported that the successful candidate for the School Safeguarding Advisor post would be confirmed and details circulated once finalised.

In conclusion, Paul Turner indicated that promoting positivity of Blackpool and education was being highlighted as was praise to schools in Blackpool.

Jo Hirst reported that representatives from Highfield, South Shore and Bispham Endowed had been invited to join a UK and Singapore Building Bridges project operated by the Department for Education and British Council which would raise the profile of Blackpool.

8 ACADEMY AND FREE SCHOOL UPDATE

Phil Thompson, Head of SEND, provided an update on the new special Free School. It was reported that consultation with sponsors and the Department for Education (DfE) had been undertaken to look to open the Free School in September 2019 rather than March 2020 as planned. The proposal had suggested use of temporary accommodation until the dedicated new building had been completed. It was noted that the DfE would make the ultimate decision.

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To provide an update on Academies, Paul Turner reported that there had been no new applications for academy status. It was noted that representatives from single and multi-academy trusts now attended the Blackpool School Improvement Board. The local authority would look to rationalise how academies were held to account and it was noted that the local authority would discuss any support needs with the academies as required.

9 HIGH NEEDS UPDATE

Hilary Wood, Head of Business Support and Resources, provided an update on the latest developments relevant to the High Needs budget. The working group tasked to monitor the three-year plan had met and the plan had been updated and changes were summarised. It was noted that the assumptions underpinning the three-year plan remained ambitious, particularly with respect to numbers of pupils in specialist schools. It was recognised that in Blackpool 79% of pupils with Education, Health and Care Plans were placed in specialist provision, a rise from the previous year (72%) and higher than the National average of 50%.

It was reported that the working group had considered how the proportion of pupils with Education, Health and Care Plans in mainstream schools could be influenced. The Schools Forum further discussed how to manage the High Needs Block.

It was recognised that the Schools Forum were required to produce a plan to address the budget deficit.

It was reported that parent perception indicated that an Education, Health and Care Plan would lead to placement within specialist school provision which may not be required to meet the child's needs, adding to costs of placements and transport.

It was noted that good practice within Blackpool schools could be shared and encouraged. More training for staff was also discussed to maintain provision within the school setting. Better links with health colleagues was discussed as was Health representation at the SEND Strategy Group.

It was noted that meeting the needs of the pupils should remain a priority as well as consideration of financial pressures. It was also recognised that Headteachers needed to be better informed about the impact of the High Needs budget pressures.

Resolved:

- **The Schools Forum recommended that the High Needs Working Group review the high cost of placements and identify the alternative options.**
- **The Schools Forum recommended that Wendy Casson and Jo McNulty provide input to the Blackpool School Improvement Board Strategy Group to highlight behaviour and speech and language good practice.**
- **The Schools Forum recommended that consultation with other geographical areas be undertaken to identify good practice of addressing High Needs that may be**

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implemented in Blackpool.

- **The Schools Forum recommended that the report and recommendations of Premier Advisory Group on high needs provision be re-presented to the School Improvement Board for consideration. It was also requested that the Report be circulated to members of the High Needs Working Group and the Schools Forum.**
- **The Schools Forum resolved to receive an update with proposed solutions at the January 2019 meeting.**
- **The Schools Forum resolved to receive a more balanced budget forecast at the next meeting to identify best and worst case scenarios.**

10 INCLUSION UPDATE

Paul Turner provided a report to outline proposed changes to the Illuminate Funding criteria to enable more flexible criteria to better support young people. It was recognised that of the listed seven criteria options, a minimum of two should be met.

The Schools Forum agreed to changes of the criteria as outlined with the exception that point one be reworded. It was noted that those meeting the criteria would be back dated to September 2018 and the new criteria would be used going forward.

In response to a query, it was noted that the funding would generate automatically.

Paul Turner provided an update on the Devolution of Alternative Provision Funding. Since the previous meeting, Paul Turner had met with headteachers and senior officers within schools and academies and reported that all seemed happy to support the initial one year period to look at the Alternative Provision market.

It was noted that an Alternative Provision Lead would be employed to work with headteachers and senior officers to provide a partnership solution to Alternative Provision. It was noted that the project would be funded through the Opportune Area.

Resolved:

- **The Schools Forum resolved to agree the changes to the Illuminate funding criteria with the wording change as discussed.**

11 DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT BUDGET MONITORING 2018/2019

Mark Golden, Finance Manager, provided a report on the budget position of the 2018-19 Dedicated Schools Grant and the amount of Dedicated Schools Grant reserves as at 31 August 2018. It was noted that the main budget pressures would come from the High Needs Block which would impact on school reserves. It was suggested that the deficit forecast was optimistic.

No further questions or comments were received on the report.

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12 MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT FACTOR

Hilary Wood presented a report to inform the Schools Forum about the potential shortfall on the Management Improvement Factor (MIF) provision and requested a discussion of options for resolving the situation.

It was recognised that interest gained on the funds could be used which would total £11k per year.

Following discussion, Schools Forum Members agreed that the Local Authority Head of Legal should be consulted to determine who was responsible for payment and report back to the next Schools Forum meeting in January 2019.

Resolved:

- **Hilary Wood, after consultation with the Local Authority Head of Legal Services should determine who was responsible for payment and report back to the next Schools Forum meeting in January 2019.**

13 SCHOOLS FUNDING FORMULA 2019/2020 PROPOSALS

Paul Sharples, School Funding and Private Finance Initiative Manager, asked the Schools Forum to consider the local authority's proposals for the allocation of the schools funding formula for 2019/20.

The local authority had consulted with schools on options for the schools funding formula, and presented its recommendations. Of the six recommendations (2.1), the report indicated the majority were consistent with consultation responses or previous Forum decisions. Discussion focussed on the proposal to transfer 1% from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block. While 100% of respondents to the consultation had supported the need for a transfer again in 2019/20, only 45% supported the increase to 1%.

The Forum requested that briefings be made to the Primary and Secondary Headteachers to provide further information about the High Needs budget pressures and implications of the level of transfer from the Schools Block. It was noted that other Forum members would be welcome to attend the briefing sessions.

The Forum requested that the information provided should clearly state the consequence not just on individual schools but on all Blackpool children.

It was also requested that further information be provided to the Schools Forum on the implications of going into Dedicated School Grant deficit.

Paul Sharples noted that with either a 0.5% or 1% transfer, no school would lose funding within the model.

Following discussion, the Forum agreed to ask the Local Authority to inform the Secretary of State that they had approved a transfer from the Schools Block of up to 1%. At its

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meeting in January, Schools Forum would make a more informed decision about the level of transfer from the Schools Block within the 1% limit to be requested from the Secretary of State.

Resolved:

- **The Forum requested that briefings be made to the Primary and Secondary Headteachers to provide further information about the High Needs budget pressures and implications of the level of transfer from the Schools Block. Other Forum members would be welcome to attend the briefing sessions.**
- **The Forum requested that the information provided should clearly state the consequence not just on individual schools but on all Blackpool children.**
- **Further information to be provided to the Schools Forum on the implications of going into Dedicated School Grant deficit.**
- **The Forum agreed to ask the Local Authority to inform the Secretary of State that they had approved a transfer from the Schools Block of up to 1%.**

14 DATES OF MEETINGS FOR 2019

The Forum noted the dates for the Schools Forum Meetings in 2019.

15 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Forum noted the date of the next meeting as Tuesday 15 January 2019 at 9.15am, @The Grange (formally the City Learning Centre), Bathurst Avenue, Blackpool, FY3 7RW.

Chairman

(The meeting ended 12.13pm)

Any queries regarding these minutes, please contact:
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Report to: **SCHOOLS FORUM**
Relevant Officer: Lynn Donkin, Consultant in Public Health
Date of Meeting: 15 January 2019

PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To provide an update on the following public health items:

1. Oral Health Surveys
2. PSHE Support Officer
3. Adverse Childhood Experiences and Trauma

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To receive the update.

3.0 Background Information

3.1 Oral Health Surveys

Better Start CECD and Public Health department in the council are commissioning an oral health epidemiological survey of 3 year olds teeth. The survey will give us valuable information on patterns of oral health disease amongst the younger children in the town. The survey is due to commence on 7 January 2019, and will take around 3 weeks to complete. The survey fieldwork will be conducted by qualified dentists and dental nurses from Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. Parents will receive information on the survey via nurseries, and will be asked to return signed consent forms in advance of the survey. We plan to achieve a robust sample size for the survey of over 600 children, and that this will enable us to make comparisons between children in the Better Start wards and non-better start wards which will help in the evaluation of interventions.

3.2 Schools Health Education Unit (SHEU) Survey

Plans are underway to undertake the SHEU Survey again in March 2019 with Years 4, 6, 8 and 10. We are mindful that HeadStart have some data collection exercises ongoing Jan-Mar next year with Years 5, 7 & 9.

3.3 PSHE

Nicole Ronson (PSHE Primary Support Officer) started in post in September and is based with the HeadStart team. Nicole is in the process of contacting all Primary Schools to offer her assistance to schools in preparing for statutory Relationships Education and Health Education in September 2020. The offer will include:

- Audit of current PSHE provision and mapping against the curriculum draft guidance
- Provision of lesson plans
- PSHE Association membership
- Staff training
- PSHE Lead forum (first one to be held 27 February 2019, 1:30–3:30pm @the Grange)
- TLR available to release staff to attend training and forums

Nicole is also contacting Secondary schools to offer assistance, PSHE Association membership and invitations to PSHE Lead Forums. Teaching and Learning Responsibility (TLR)/Supply Teacher payments will be available to allow release of staff to attend the forums.

3.4 Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and Trauma

On 30 September, Blackpool will host Public Health England's Second North West Conference on Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs). The conference is fully booked and a waiting list is operating. <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/adverse-child-experience-conference-tickets-53013256076>

3.5 New Model of Stop Smoking support

A new model of stop smoking support is being introduced for Blackpool. This comprises a range of support from self-management, one to one support, and intensive support for pregnant women and hospital inpatients. The new model will include specific input for children and young people and Sam Osborne will be working over the next twelve months to develop and trial a new service for young people. Sam will be contacting schools to invite them to contribute to this development.

Report to: **SCHOOLS FORUM**

Relevant Officer: Paul Turner, Head of Service for School Standards Safeguarding and Inclusion

Date of Meeting: 15 January 2018

INCLUSION UPDATE

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 This report is to highlight the complexity of the inclusion issue in Blackpool and to show the demand that is placed upon Educational Diversity.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To receive the update.

3.0 Background Information

3.1 Educational Diversity has been over-subscribed for a number of years and high levels of permanent exclusions have added to the pressure on staffing, budget and resources. There is a growing demand for Elective Home Education. Information is presented in the attached Blackpool Education, Registers and Admissions Panel (BERA) Report.

List of acronyms:

OOSR – Out of School Register

EHE – Elective Home Education

CME – Children Missing Education

LAC – Looked After Child

EHC – Education Health and Care (Plan)

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Vulnerable Children Report for November 2018
Date of Meeting – Wednesday 12th December 2018
Conference Room 3e, Bickerstaffe House, 9.15am

BERA

Blackpool Education, Registers and Admissions Panel
Identification, Referral and Tracking of Children and Young People
at risk of Social Exclusion

OUT OF SCHOOL REGISTER													
(Children confirmed as moved to Blackpool but not yet on a school roll)													
Month	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	
2016-2017	93	47	38	54	37	43	53	73	82	57	94	169	
2017-2018	72	61	45	54	37	54	78	74	81	57	96	190	
2018-2019	114	81	72										
Active*	23	15	23										
Av no Days	2016-17	15	8	13	13	13	11	12	12	14	21	16	11
	2017-18	21	17	17	14	16	13	10	15	19	23	15	11
	2018-19	18	16	16									
Longest No of days	2016-17	89	38	52	66	51	58	25	36	51	71	85	87
	2017-18	109	123	142	71	63	63	50	63	80	67	81	85
	2018-19	105	107	58									
Unresolved 4's	2	1	3										
Added Referrals	114	67	89										
Resolved Referrals	190	100	98										
Total Referrals 2016-17	138	198	257	297	349	396	474	532	598	649	726	803	
Total Referrals 2017-18	102	159	214	251	311	383	467	536	594	647	714	817	
Total Referrals 2018-19	114	181	270										

*Active = education provision/start date not yet confirmed

OOSR STATISTICAL BREAKDOWN

OOSR BREAKDOWN = 72			
Yr R	-	Yr 6	4
Yr 1	11	Yr 7	8
Yr 2	12	Yr 8	2
Yr 3	5	Yr 9	6
Yr 4	6	Yr 10	10
Yr 5	5	Yr 11	3
Level 1	38	Level 3	5
Level 2	24	Level 4	5

Level 1 = 0-14 School Days
Level 2 = 15-29 School Days
Level 3 = 30-39 School Days
Level 4 = 40+ School Days

Percentage of Children on the OOSR reaching level 3 and level 4												
Month	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
2016-17	5.05	6.29	6.93	10.96	12.5	10.26	8.62	8.26	11.94	16.54	15.04	10.53
2017-18	10.25	18.6	15.93	16.46	12.73	9.52	6.15	4.2	18.4	30.3	17.6	7.04
2018-19	9.9	14.53	15.48									
Cumulative Figures	Sep-Sep	Sep-Oct	Sep-Nov	Sep-Dec	Sep-Jan	Sep-Feb	Sep-Mar	Sep-Apr	Sep-May	Sep-Jun	Sep-Jul	Sep-Aug
2016-17	5.05	5.88	6.07	6.89	7.24	7.01	7.13	7.88	8.4	9.82	9.77	9.18
2017-18	10.25	12.96	12.39	13.23	12.17	11.3	10.45	9.73	11.57	12.98	12.54	11.18
2018-19	9.9	11.26	11.71									

In Year Fair Access Referrals Year 2018-19

Total Referrals 2016-17 = 69 (including 2 students who did not go on roll until the 2017-18 period)

Total Referrals 2017-18 = 58 (including 6 students who did not go on roll until the 2018-19 period)

Current Yearly Total of Referrals = 24

Closed Referrals = 15

Provision	KS		2018-19 To date	2017-18	2016-17
	KS2	KS3			
Mainstream	KS2	-	4	31	29
	KS3	2			
	KS4	2			
Ed Diversity	KS2	-	6	17	26
	KS3	3			
	KS4	3			
Left area/missing out			-	4	10
LAC Residential			-	-	-
EHE			-	2	1
Over School Age/CME			-	-	3
No offer (LCC resident)			-	-	-
Reintegrations			5		

Active Referrals = 7

Name	Identified Provision
JS Yr 10	Montgomery
K.J. Yr 8	Montgomery
S.A. Yr 9	Highfield
F.B. Yr 11	Ed Div
L.W. Yr 2	Kincraig
B.H. Yr 11 EHE	Ed Div
M.C. Yr 8	TBC

Reintegration Active Referrals = 4*
(incl 2 c/f from 17/18 period *)

JH Yr 10 *	St Mary's
TR Yr 9 *	Unity
G.P. Yr 9	St Mary's
M.S. Yr 9	Unity

ELECTIVE HOME EDUCATION

Current Total on Register = 212

Yr R	-	Yr 3	11	Yr 6	21	Yr 9	29
Yr 1	6	Yr 4	9	Yr 7	13	Yr 10	43
Yr 2	4	Yr 5	7	Yr 8	32	Yr 11	37

Monthly Analysis on Elective Home Education

	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
Register 2016-17	121	138	141	144	157	151	172	175	181	158	161	155
Register 2017-18	162	166	179	188	195	206	207	204	211	183	185	182
Register 2018-19	187	195	212									
Visits/ Children seen	6/7	12/12	10/11									
Enquiries/ Remained in school	32/9	15/2	21/3									
Total seen 2016-17	1	4	18	26	26	30	48	52	57	68	70	74
Total seen 2017-18	20	28	39	46	55	70	81	90	97	105	108	109
Total seen in academic year 2018/19	7	19	30									

MISSING CHILDREN IN (Children reported as being in Blackpool, but not confirmed as living in the area)												
	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
Carried Forward	20	7	7									
Added	9	7	11									
Found	14	4	9									
Closed (not found)	8	3	0									
Total	7	7	9									

CHILDREN MISSING EDUCATION (On EHE but provision deemed unsuitable)												
	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
Carry Forward	0	0	0									
Added	0	0	0									
Closed	0	0	0									
Total	0	0	0									

MISSING CHILDREN OUT (Children moved out of area)												
Month	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
2016-17 Total referrals	91	113	92	91	89	96	90	88	94	99	88	149
2017-18 Total referrals	149	122	133	112	88	93	88	91	74	75	70	104
Total number of pupils being tracked as Missing Out	92	88	84									
Total number of new referrals	48	31	55									
Total number of AMBER cases (open over 3 mths)	3	12	8									
Total number of RED cases (open over 4 mths)	16	16	14									
Total number of pupils located	52	31	53									

LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN ON THE OOSR = 0			
Yr R		Yr 6	
Yr 1		Yr 7	
Yr 2		Yr 8	
Yr 3		Yr 9	
Yr 4		Yr 10	
Yr 5		Yr 11	
Total LAC Letters Issued = 0			

STATEMENTED/EHC CHILDREN ON THE OOSR = 3			
Yr R		Yr 6	
Yr 1	1	Yr 7	
Yr 2	2	Yr 8	
Yr 3		Yr 9	
Yr 4		Yr 10	
Yr 5		Yr 11	
OOSR SEN Referrals – Nov Total = 3			
OOSR SEN Referrals 2018–2019 Total = 13			

LAC and placing authority		
Name	Placing Authority	Provision identified

YOUTH OFFENDERS ON OOSR = 0			
Yr R		Yr 6	
Yr 1		Yr 7	
Yr 2		Yr 8	
Yr 3		Yr 9	
Yr 4		Yr 10	
Yr 5		Yr 11	

SOCIAL CARE ON OSSR = 7			
Yr R		Yr 6	1
Yr 1	1	Yr 7	
Yr 2	2	Yr 8	
Yr 3		Yr 9	1
Yr 4	1	Yr 10	
Yr 5	1	Yr 11	

PERMANENT EXCLUSIONS						
Total for 2016-17 = 45				November 2018 = 3		
Total for 2017-18 = 44						
Running Total for 2018-19 = 5*						
School	KS	Totals	Number dereg to EHE	Name	School	
Aspire	KS3	-	-	7	H.B. (Yr 10)	Montgomery
	KS4	-			K.H. (Yr 10)	St George's
Highfield	KS3	-	-	5	E.C. (Yr8)	South Shore
	KS4	-				
Montgomery	KS3	2	3	2		
	KS4	1				
South Shore	KS3	1	1	6		
	KS4	-				
St George's	KS3	-	1	3		
	KS4	1				
St Mary's	KS3	-	-	-		
	KS4	-				
Unity	KS2		-	9		
	KS3	-				
	KS4	-				
Ed Diversity	KS3	-	-	1		
LCC Schools			5	2		

*Includes figures for the current month – does not include LCC schools

EDUCATIONAL DIVERSITY
Numbers in Centres as at 3rd December 2018

SERF PROVISION					
	No attending	Capacity		No attending	Capacity
Bispham Smile Centre	8	8	Mereside – Pathways	6	8
Boundary	11	16	Pegasus	14	12

On Roll	PEGASUS	ORACLE	SPECIALIST	ATHENA	HHM	TOTAL
Yr 11		20	27 (2)	24 (1)	5 (1)	76
Yr 10		25	15 (2)	15 (2)	9 (3)	64
Yr 9	27 (2)	5		12 (2)	2 (2)	46
Yr 8	11 (2)			7 (3)		18
Yr 7	1			1 (1)		2
Yr 6	7 (1)				1 (1)	8
Yr 5	5 (2)					5
Yr 4	2				1	3
Yr 3						
Yr 2						
R / Yr 1						
Total	53	50	42	59	18	222
Capacity	70	50	60	75	15	270

* Numbers in brackets = children with an EHCP

Pegasus Willows & Oxford
Oracle KS4
Specialist Atlas/VALT

Athena Home & Hospital
HHM Home Tuition

	Centre	On Roll		Centre	On Roll		Centre	On Roll
KS2	Pegasus	14	KS3	Pegasus	39	KS4	Pegasus	0
	HHM	2		Specialist	0		Oracle	45
				Athena	20		Specialist	42
				Oracle	5		Athena	39
				HHM	2		HHM	14
	TOTAL			16	TOTAL			66

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Report to: **SCHOOLS FORUM**

Relevant Officer: Paul Turner, Head of Service for School Standards, Safeguarding and Inclusion

Date of Meeting: 15 January 2019

ILLUMINATE FUNDING

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To seek the approval of Schools Forum for revised criteria for Illuminate funding for primary and secondary pupils.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To approve the criteria for Illuminate funding set out in paragraphs 3.1 (Secondary), 3.2 (Primary) and 3.3 (Discretionary).

2.3 To agree that the revised criteria should be applied retrospectively to eligible pupils admitted since September 2018.

3.0 Background Information

3.1 To agree that additional funding (a one off payment of £1,000) will be considered for those accessing a place on a secondary school or academy roll who were allocated the place via Blackpool's agreed In Year Fair Access (IYFA) protocol:-

- 1) New to area secondary aged children placed in mainstream provision via the IYFA protocol.
- 2) Permanently excluded secondary aged children returning from Educational Diversity placed via the IYFA protocol.
- 3) New to area Year 11 children who were previously in PRU /Alternative provision who are placed on a secondary academy roll after October half term (including those with an interim placement in Educational Diversity).

3.2 For placements within these criteria payments will be made when any child has been admitted permanently and has been on roll for a full school term or 12 school weeks (whichever is the shorter period). This will be calculated retrospectively and will include any period of dual roll with Educational Diversity.

3.3 Changes to the eligibility for Illuminate funding and a reduced payment were requested by secondary head teachers and their representatives at the October 2018

In Year Fair Access Panel meeting.

3.4 To agree that additional funding (a one off payment of £2,000) will be considered for those accessing a place and on a primary school or academy roll who meet two or more of the following criteria:-

- 1) Where projections identified at the time of an admission request are that there will be very poor attainment (BLW at end of Key Stage 1 for primary).
- 2) A casual (non-essential) school transfer in the previous two school terms. This is a move instigated by the parent / carer which was not necessary*.
- 3) Previous attendance at 80% or below (not including any non-attendance generated by in-house delays –whilst an admission request is under consideration).
- 4) Prosecution for non-attendance (by any local authority) or SAO process initiated by Blackpool Council (pre – warning letter from School Admissions) – either within the previous 12 months.
- 5) Previous EHE of 1 term or more (whilst resident within another local authority area).
- 6) Two or more fixed period exclusions in the term prior to admission.
- 7) Previous and ongoing involvement of 2 (or more) recognised intervention or support agencies (external to what the school or academy would normally provide).
- 8) Children in Years 5 or 6 placed in the correct year group with no English language skills / ability (or virtually none).

**A school transfer accepted as being necessary will include where a family moved address and could not easily access the original school or academy (the statutory travel distances of 2 or 3 miles will be a consideration); where a family moved from one local authority area to another; where a managed move was agreed and successful or if a permanent exclusion necessitated a new school. (information will be obtained prior to a primary application for funding being considered).*

3.5 Primary children eligible for funding will be:-

- New to area Blackpool residents in all primary categories (above).
- All Year 6 and Year 5 requiring places after Easter; plus other year groups after Easter in exceptional circumstances (as accepted by the Council and / or IYFA Panel).
- Children returning from Educational Diversity - where the child has not previously been on roll at any Blackpool primary school or academy.
- Any primary child placed via the IYFA process.
- For families with multiple children allocated places at the same primary school where the criteria are met collectively by those children discretion may be exercised. This would be a total allocation of £2,000 for all the children if they meet the criteria collectively.

- 3.6 The changes and additions to the Illuminate criteria were discussed at primary head teacher meetings in September and October 2018. Head teachers requested the inclusion of criteria linked to a lack of English language skills and to multiple children from the same family attending the same school.
- 3.7 Payment to be made as soon as possible after a child has gone on roll at the primary school (except for re-integrations from Educational Diversity where a 1 term / 12 week rule will apply as for secondary).
- 3.8 To agree that the Head of School Standards Safeguarding and Inclusion and the School Organisation and Admissions Manager can consider discretionary allocations in liaison with individual head teachers and colleagues within Educational Diversity. These will support individual cases which are considered to be exceptional. A maximum of £2,000 per child will be allocated and the funding must be used by the school or academy to support that specific child.
- 3.9 Discretion may occasionally be exercised for new to area admission requests for children with complex backgrounds which do not meet the agreed secondary or primary criteria. These may include non-attendance; youth offending; exclusion; child protection issues; medical issues and previous and / or ongoing involvement of various support services and agencies. It is also expected that any discretionary allocations agreed will, in the main, focus on children transferring into the area during their Years 6 and 11 (but may be considered across the whole age range for statutory primary and secondary education).
- 3.10 The funding must be used by the school or academy to support the specific child to whom it is allocated. If the child fails to attend or is permanently excluded (within 1 school term) the funding must be reimbursed. This would either be in full or pro-rata depending on the circumstances (if support has been arranged or purchased and monies paid are non-refundable this will be taken into account). All allocations are one-off payments with no repeat funding for the same child in subsequent years (even where there is another change of school or academy).
- 3.11 Illuminate funding would not be available for those primary and secondary children with a full Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). It will not be available for Looked After Children (LAC) who receive the higher level of pupil premium funding which can be allocated to provide additional support.
- 3.12 It is requested that the revised criteria be applied retrospectively to eligible pupils admitted into schools since September 2018.

List of acronyms:

IYFA – In Year Fair Access

EHCP – Education, Health and Care Plan

LAC – Looked After Child

Report to: **SCHOOLS FORUM**
Relevant Officer: Mark Golden, Finance Manager
Date of Meeting: 15 January 2019

DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT BUDGET MONITORING 2018-2019

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 To report the budget position of the 2018-19 Dedicated Schools Grant as at 30 November 2018 - Appendix 10(a).
- 1.2 To report the amount of Dedicated Schools Grant reserves as at 30 November 2018 – Appendix 10(b).

2.0 Recommendation:

- 2.1 To note contents of the report.

3.0 Background:

- 3.1 The monitoring report at appendix 10(a) reflects the budgets as approved at the March 2018 Schools Forum.
- 3.2 As in 2017-18, the main pressures are within the High Needs Block. As at November 2018 there are four areas of concern:
 - Numbers in special schools are higher than planned resulting in a forecast overspend of £197k.
 - Numbers at the PRU are higher than planned resulting in a forecast overspend of £215k.
 - Numbers in Post 16 following the September intake are higher than planned resulting in a forecast overspend of £225k.
 - £460k of additional growth was built in to the Out of Borough budget based on 2017-18 spend and demand projections. However, placements are still forecast to overspend by £170k.
- 3.3 An announcement on 16 December 2018 by the Education Secretary Damian Hinds of additional funding for Children with special educational needs and disabilities has helped to offset these cost pressures. Blackpool's share of the £250m is £296,160 in each of the next two years.

4.0 List of Appendices:

- 4.1 Appendix 10(a) - Dedicated Schools Grant 2018-2019 Budget Monitoring Report to 30 November 2018.
Appendix 10(b) - Dedicated Schools Grant Reserves as at 30 November 2018.

List of Acronyms:

DSG	-	Dedicated Schools Grant
LA	-	Local Authority
HNB	-	High Needs Block
SSA	-	Special Support Assistant
ESFA	-	Education and Skills Funding Agency
SERF	-	Special Education Referral Unit
PRU	-	Pupil Referral Unit

Appendix 10(a) - Dedicated Schools Grant 2018-2019 Budget Monitoring Report to 30 November 2018

Service	2018/19						Comments	Movement since last Schools Forum
	Budget	In Year Adj.	Recoupment	Adjusted Budget	Forecast Outturn	Variance		
	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s		
Schools Block								
Local School Budget								
- Delegated	79,124	0	(61,697)	17,427	17,427	0		0
- Third Party & Public Liability Insurance (de-delegated)	290	0	0	290	290	0		0
- Union Duties (de-delegated)	18	0	0	18	18	0		0
- Free School Meals Eligibility Checks (de-delegated)	11	0	0	11	11	0		0
- Education Functions (retained)	154	0	0	154	154	0		0
Pupil Growth Contingency	76	0	149	225	225	0		0
	79,673	0	(61,548)	18,125	18,125	0		0
Central School Services Block								
Servicing of Schools Forum	15	0	0	15	15	0		0
Licences & Subscriptions	80	0	0	80	80	0		0
School Admissions	153	0	0	153	153	0		0
Contribution to Combined Budgets - Children's Centres	1,000	0	0	1,000	1,000	0		0
Former ESG Retained Duties								
- Education Welfare	204	0	0	204	204	0		0
- Asset Management	57	0	0	57	57	0		0
- Statutory / Regulatory Duties	77	0	0	77	77	0		0
	1,586	0	0	1,586	1,586	0		0
Total Schools Block	81,259	0	(61,548)	19,711	19,711	0		0
High Needs Block								
Special Schools								
Place Funding	4,092	0	(2,340)	1,752	1,752	0		0
Top-up Funding	2,453	0	0	2,453	2,650	197	Higher numbers in special schools	86
SERFs								
Place Funding	395	0	(155)	240	240	0		0
Top-up Funding	140	0	0	140	140	0		0
Transport	77	0	0	77	77	0		0
Pupil Referral Units								
Place Funding	2,580	0	0	2,580	2,580	0		0
Top-up Funding	1,107	0	0	1,107	1,322	215	Pace of reductions slower than forecast	49
Mainstream Schools								
Top-up Funding	810	0	0	810	844	34	Ad-hoc payments	34
Exceptional Circumstances Funding	119	0	0	119	119	0		0
Post-16 Education	1,746	0	(762)	984	1,209	225	Reflects September 2018 intake	175
Out of Borough	4,039	0	0	4,039	4,209	170	Journal correction of £37k moved to Post 16 line	(37)
Specialist Advisory and Referral Service (SARS)	1,092	0	0	1,092	1,079	(13)	Supplies and Services underspend	(13)
Access and Inclusion	335	0	0	335	294	(41)	School Safeguarding Advisor vacancy saving	(6)
Other High Needs Central Services (Management, Central Support, Admin, Pension Top-slice)	772	0	0	772	772	0		0
Total High Needs Block	19,757	0	(3,257)	16,500	17,287	787		288
Early Years Block								
2 Year Old Grants	1,651	0	102	1,753	1,745	(8)	Funding is adjusted by DfE based on participation	13
Early Years Pupil Premium	98	0	13	111	122	11	Funding is adjusted by DfE based on participation	(13)
3 & 4 Year Old Grants	5,996	0	698	6,694	6,667	(27)	Funding is adjusted by DfE based on participation	(110)
Early Years Inclusion Fund	10	0	0	10	10	0		0
Disability Access Fund	41	0	0	41	41	0		0
Early Years Central Services	382	0	0	382	376	(6)	Supplies and services savings	(10)
Total Early Years Block	8,178	0	813	8,991	8,961	(30)		(120)
Total Expenditure	109,194	0	(63,992)	45,202	45,959	757		168
Dedicated Schools Grant Income	(108,794)	0	64,302	(44,492)	(44,764)	(272)	Addtl £296k SEND grant (16th Dec), £24k adj re EY lines above.	(186)
Post-16 funding from the EFA	0	0	(310)	(310)	(310)	0		0
One off use of Reserves as approved at March 16 Forum	(400)	0	0	(400)	(400)	0		0
Total Income	(109,194)	0	63,992	(45,202)	(45,474)	(272)		(186)
In year (under)/over spend	0	0	0	0	485	485		(19)

Appendix 10(b) - Dedicated Schools Grant Reserves as at 30 November 2018

Description	Brought Forward 01/04/18	Total Expenditure FY 2018-19	Surplus / (Deficit) at 31st March 2019	Comments
Uncommitted DSG Reserve	25,677	0	25,677	
2018-18 DSG in year deficit	0	485,000	(485,000)	Overspend forecast as at 30th November 2018
Equal Pay Earmarked Reserve	0	0	0	
Rates Holding Account	0	0	0	
SSA Voluntary Redundancy Reserve	0	0	0	
Insurance Holding Account	0	0	0	
	25,677	485,000	(459,323)	

Report to: **SCHOOLS FORUM**
Relevant Officer: Hilary Wood, Head of Business Support and Resources
Date of Meeting: 15 January 2019

HIGH NEEDS UPDATE

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 To update Schools Forum members on latest developments relevant to the High Needs budget.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

- 2.1 To note and discuss the contents of this report.

3.0 Background Information

- 3.1 In common with many areas around the country, Blackpool is currently experiencing financial pressures on its High Needs Budget. The Isos Partnership has recently published a report commissioned by the Local Government Association entitled *“Have we reached a ‘tipping point’? Trends in spending for children and young people with SEND in England”*. The report analyses the reasons behind the national increases in spend on Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, and proposes some actions at local and national level to address the issues. The full report can be found at this link:
<http://www.isospartnership.com/uploads/files/LGA%20HN%20report%20corrected%2020.12.18.pdf>.
- 3.2 In order to address Blackpool’s financial concerns, a three-year plan was created in advance of the current financial year, which sought to bring expenditure within available funding by 2020/21. A sub-group of the Forum was established to monitor the plan, and the group continues to meet to discuss emerging issues and potential solutions.
- 3.3 The medium-term plan has been revised to take account of recent activity and updated forecasts, and has also been extended to incorporate forecasts for a further year up to and including 2021/22 (see Appendix 11 A to this report).
- 3.4 On 16 December 2018, the Secretary of State for Education announced additional funding for High Needs in 2018/19 and 2019/20. For Blackpool, the allocations

equate to an additional £296k in each year. The allocations have been calculated on the basis of population, so do not take account of relative need in each local authority.

- 3.5 While the additional funding is welcome, it does not offset the scale of current and forecast pressures on the High Needs budget. Since it was last reported at Schools Forum, the forecast overspend on the High Needs Block for 2018/19 has remained at a similar level, despite the injection of the additional cash. In 2019/20, the position has worsened by almost £400k, which is more than the additional funding will cover.
- 3.6 The main reason for the increasing pressures is the inclusion of more realistic and up-to-date costs and pupil numbers in special schools and post-16 settings. The plan also reflects the delay in the opening of the Lotus special free school, which will now not occur until at least April 2020, and has an impact on the timing of the savings to be derived on Out of Borough costs. Some savings are being realised by admitting pupils into the Pupil Referral Unit who might otherwise have been placed in Out of Borough settings, but this is having an impact on the planned reduction of pupil numbers in Educational Diversity.
- 3.7 The updated medium-term plan shows that there could be a deficit carried forward to 2019/20 of c.£500k, with a further £1 million to be added to the deficit next year. The in-year position does show that costs will be less than funding available from 2021/22, however, a cumulative deficit of some £1.8 million could have accrued by then without transfers from other blocks of the Dedicated Schools Block.
- 3.8 The Department for Education has introduced a new requirement for recovery plans to be produced by local authorities who have deficits of more than 1 per cent of their total Dedicated Schools Grant. For Blackpool, this would equate to a cumulative deficit of over £1 million, and so this requirement could be triggered by the end of 2019/20 if alternative solutions are not identified. The recovery plans have to state how local authorities plan to bring their deficits back into balance within a maximum of three years, and have to be accompanied by detailed information about what steps have been taken to reduce the number of pupils in specialist places.
- 3.9 At its meeting in December, the High Needs Working Group reviewed the list of Out of Borough placements, and considered other options for local provision in addition to the opening of the Lotus special free school. It was acknowledged that there is a gap for local provision for primary pupils with Social Emotional and Mental Health needs, as well as Autism. Options were discussed, and the Head of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities is exploring options for the creation of suitable provision which would meet the needs of pupils as well as reduce the costs of placements, and consequently derive savings to the benefit of the High Needs budget.

- 3.10 In summary, the medium-term plan shows that the plans in place will deliver savings that allow costs to be contained within the available annual High Needs budget by 2021/22. However, in spite of the additional allocations recently announced by the Department for Education, the cumulative deficit could rise to £1.5m by the end of 2019/20, peaking at £1.8m by 2020/21 without transfers from other funding blocks. While plans are progressing to end the reliance on the £1 million of funding within the Central Schools Services Block for children’s centres, there are too many uncertainties at present to be able to count on any savings in 2019/20 to contribute to the High Needs deficit.
- 3.11 For this reason, the local authority is recommending in the later agenda item that a transfer from the Schools Block of 1 per cent is required in 2019/20 in order to offset the short-term pressures. A further transfer is also likely to be required in 2020/21 in order to bring the overall Dedicated Schools Grant back into balance while there continues to be a soft funding formula, although the level of transfer can be reviewed in light of developments over the course of the next year.

List of Appendices:

Appendix 11 A – High Needs budget medium-term financial plan

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High Needs Block Medium-Term Financial Plan

Service	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	Notes Current Version
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	
	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	
High Needs Block						
New Free School (opening April 2020 - c£1m pa when full)	-	-	-	758	1,007	Assumes 24 commissioned places from April 2020, increasing to 48 from September 2020, with 12 being filled in April 2020, 36 from September 2020 and 48 from September 2021
Special Schools						
Place Funding	3,880	4,093	4,477	4,502	4,563	April 2018 to August 2018 234 (P), 63 (HF) and 100 (W); from September 2018 255 (P), 63 (HF) and 100 (W); from April 2019 255 (P), 76 (HF) and 105 (W); from September 2019 270 (P), 76 (HF) and 110 (W); from September 2020 260 (P), 76 (HF) and 110 (W); from April 2021 260 (P), 76 (HF) and 115 (W); from September 2021 260 (P), 76 (HF) and 120 (W)
Top-up Funding	2,151	2,650	2,478	2,420	2,492	
SERFs						
Place Funding	500	395	320	320	320	Highfield and Marton SERFs decommissioned from September 2018
Top-up Funding	280	140	105	105	105	Highfield and Marton SERFs decommissioned from September 2018
Transport	120	77	77	77	77	
Pupil Referral Units						
Place Funding	2,580	2,580	2,388	2,104	2,000	Reduced from 258 places to 225 from September 2019 and 200 from September 2020
Top-up Funding	1,436	1,322	1,088	1,036	1,036	Includes actual top-up payment for Summer Term 2018, then forecast reduced to 225 places from September 2018 and 200 from September 2019
Malpas Dean Schools						
Top-up Funding	777	844	833	833	833	SSA Manager post disestablished (part of SEN restructure), offset by increase in support following decommissioning of SERFs
Exceptional Circumstances Funding	57	119	163	163	163	Increase in funding to Highfield and Marton following decommissioning of SERFs
Post-16 Education	1,725	1,971	2,023	2,076	2,131	Increase in placement costs including inflationary increase @ 3%. Increase in proportion of Head of SEN post allocated to HNB from 2018/19
Out of Borough	3,225	4,208	4,440	3,517	2,740	Based on 16 year-olds leaving, and 20 new placements each year @£35k per place, offset by transfers into new Free School starting in April 2020
Specialist Advisory and Referral Service (SARS)	1,070	1,079	1,082	1,082	1,082	SEN restructure partially offset by £25k Park SLA finishing September 2018
Access and Inclusion	267	294	335	335	335	Restructure savings offset by School Safeguarding Advisor post
Other High Needs Central Services	772	772	772	772	772	
(Management, Central Support Costs, Admin Support, Pension Top-slice)						
Total High Needs Block Expenditure	18,840	20,543	20,580	20,100	19,655	
Available High Needs Block funding	18,840	19,253	19,496	19,876	19,976	Includes additional funding for new Special Free School
In-year (Surplus) / Deficit		1,290	1,084	224	(321)	
Schools Block Transfer		400	-	-	-	
Council Funding		400	-	-	-	
Cumulative (Surplus) / Deficit		490	1,574	1,797	1,476	
Potential transfer from Schools Block at 1%			830	830	-	
Potential transfer from Central Schools Services Block			21	21	-	
Potential Cumulative (Surplus) / Deficit			723	95	(226)	

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Report to: **SCHOOLS FORUM**

Relevant Officer: Hilary Wood, Head of Business Support and Resources

Date of Meeting: 15 January 2019

DRAFT DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT BUDGET 2019/20

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To share with Schools Forum the provisional estimates for the use of Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) in 2019/20.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To note the provisional estimates for future use of Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG), including the proposed transfer of one per cent from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block, to be considered under the next agenda item.

3.0 Background Information

3.1 On 17 December 2018, the Department for Education issued the provisional allocations of DSG for 2019/20. Blackpool's allocations, shown alongside the original allocations for 2018/19, are as follows:

	2019/20	2018/19	Increase
	£m	£m	£m
Schools Block	82.993	80.072	2.921
Central Schools Services Block	1.606	1.587	0.019
High Needs Block	19.496	18.957	0.539
Early Years Block	8.998	8.178	0.820
Total	113.093	108.794	4.299

3.2 Appendix 12 A to this report sets out the forecast expenditure against DSG for 2019/20. As reported in the previous report, the estimated costs of the High Needs budget exceed the available funding by £1.084m. In order to help to offset the pressure in the short-term, the local authority proposes that a transfer from the Schools Block of one per cent is agreed for 2019/20, which would reduce the pressure by £830k. Schools Forum members will be asked to formally note their views on this proposal under the next agenda item regarding the Schools Funding Formula.

3.3 In addition, the local authority proposes to contain costs on the Central Schools

Services Block at the same level as in 2018/19, subject to confirmation by the Department of Education of the cost of school licences. This would enable a transfer of a further c.£21k to the High Needs Block. As previously reported, plans are progressing to end the reliance on the £1 million of funding within this block for children's centres, however there are too many uncertainties at present to be able to rely on any savings in 2019/20 to contribute to the High Needs deficit.

- 3.4 It is proposed that the Early Years Block funding is fully allocated to Early Years provision and services. The central expenditure will be contained within the 5 per cent threshold set out in the Schools and Early Years Finance Regulations, so that at least 95 per cent is allocated to providers.
- 3.5 With the proposed transfers of funding from the Schools Block and the Central Schools Services Block, it is estimated that the in-year deficit on DSG will amount to £233k, which would add to the forecast deficit in 2018/19 of £490k.

List of acronyms:

DSG – Dedicated Schools Grant

List of Appendices:

Appendix 12 A – Draft DSG Budget 2019/20

	2019/20 Total	2018/19 Total	Movement	% Change	Notes
Schools Block					
Local Schools Budget (including de-delegated amounts)	82,086,295	79,123,753	2,962,542	4%	
- Third Party & Public Liability Insurance (de-delegated)	-	289,869	(289,869)	-100%	
- Union Duties (de-delegated)	-	18,148	(18,148)	-100%	
- Free School Meals Eligibility Checks (de-delegated)	-	11,262	(11,262)	-100%	
- Education Functions (retained)	-	154,031	(154,031)	-100%	
Pupil Growth Contingency	76,705	76,231	474	1%	
	82,163,000	79,673,294	2,489,706	3%	
Central Schools Services Block					
Servicing of Schools Forum	15,000	15,000	-	0%	
Licences & Subscriptions	79,962	79,962	-	0%	Provisional
School Admissions	152,712	152,712	-	0%	
Contribution to Combined Budgets	1,000,000	1,000,000	-	0%	
Former ESG retained duties					
- Education Welfare	204,000	204,000	-	0%	
- Asset Management	56,600	56,600	-	0%	
- Statutory / Regulatory duties	77,000	77,000	-	0%	
	1,585,274	1,585,274	-	0%	
High Needs Block					
Special Schools					
Place Funding	4,476,667	4,092,500	384,167	9%	
Top-up Funding	2,477,985	2,453,388	24,597	1%	
Total Special Schools	6,954,652	6,545,888	408,764	6%	
SERFs					
Place Funding	320,000	395,000	(75,000)	-19%	
Top-up Funding	105,260	139,840	(34,580)	-25%	
Transport	77,442	77,442	-	0%	
Total SERFs	502,702	612,282	(109,580)	-18%	
Pupil Referral Units					
Place Funding	2,387,500	2,580,000	(192,500)	-7%	
Top-up Funding	1,087,631	1,106,526	(18,895)	-2%	
Total Pupil Referral Units	3,475,131	3,686,526	(211,395)	-6%	
Mainstream Schools					
Top-up Funding	832,813	809,748	23,065	3%	
Exceptional Circumstances Funding					
	162,984	118,866	44,118	37%	
Total top-up for Mainstream Schools	995,797	928,614	67,183	7%	
Post-16 Education	2,022,759	1,746,440	276,319	16%	
Out of Borough	4,440,300	4,038,535	401,765	10%	
Specialist Advisory and Referral Service (SARS)	1,081,517	1,091,517	(10,000)	-1%	
Access and Inclusion	335,151	335,151	-	0%	
Other High Needs Central Services (Management, Central Support Costs, Admin Support, Pension Top-slice)	771,865	771,865	-	0%	
	20,579,873	19,756,818	823,055	4%	
Early Years Block					
2 Year Old Grants	1,749,615	1,651,547	98,068	6%	
3 & 4 Year Old Grants	6,659,183	5,996,279	662,904	11%	
Early Years Pupil Premium	110,617	97,607	13,010	13%	
Disability Access Fund	47,355	41,000	6,355	16%	
Early Years Inclusion Fund	10,000	10,000	-	0%	
Other Early Years Central Services (Management, Central Support Costs, Training, Admin Support, Pension Top-slice)	421,229	382,181	39,048	10%	
	8,998,000	8,178,614	819,386	10%	
Total	113,326,147	109,194,000	4,132,147	4%	
DSG	(113,093,000)	(108,794,000)	(4,299,000)	4%	
EFA	-	-	-		
Council Match Funding	-	(400,000)	400,000		
	(113,093,000)	(109,194,000)	(3,899,000)		
Deficit / (Surplus)	233,147	-	233,147		

	Schools Block	Central Schools Services Block	High Needs Block	Early Years Block	Total
Original DSG Allocations 2019/20	82,993,000	1,606,000	19,496,000	8,998,000	113,093,000
Proposed transfers between blocks	(830,000)	(20,726)	850,726	-	-
Council Match Funding	-	-	-	-	-
Allocations above	82,163,000	1,585,274	20,346,726	8,998,000	113,093,000

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Report to: **SCHOOLS FORUM**

Relevant Officer: Paul Sharples, School Funding and Private Finance Initiative Manager

Date of Meeting: 15 January 2019

SCHOOLS FUNDING FORMULA 2019/20 PROPOSALS

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To consider the local authority's proposal for the allocation of the schools funding formula for 2019/20.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To agree to the local authority's proposal for the allocation of school funding in 2019/20 by applying the following principles:

- Continue to apply the National Funding Formula unit values;
- Set a minimum funding guarantee of 0.5 per cent compared to 2018/19;
- Apply the one per cent funding floor protection compared to 2017/18 baselines;
- Increase the minimum per pupil funding levels in line with the national funding formula;
- Transfer one per cent of the total Schools Block funding to the High Needs Block;
- Continue to set the mobility factor unit value at an amount affordable within the total allocated funding for that factor;
- Set an effective cap at a level to ensure that the formula is affordable overall with scaling of 100 per cent above the cap.

3.0 Background Information:

3.1 In 2017 the Department for Education (DfE) announced its plans to introduce a national funding formula (NFF) for schools funding to local authorities. In 2018/19 and 2019/20 the NFF model is being used to determine the Schools Block total allocation for each local authority in the country as part of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) funding allocation.

3.2 The NFF model introduced from April 2018 included the following:

- At least one per cent increase per pupil by 2019/20, on "pupil-led factors" compared to 2017/18 allocated baselines;
- A gains cap of six per cent by 2019/20 compared to 2017/18 allocated baselines;

- At least £4,800 per pupil for each secondary school and £3,500 per pupil for each primary school by 2019/20; and
 - The overall Schools Block funding provided to local authorities ring-fenced, with some limited flexibility to transfer up to 0.5 per cent out of the Schools Block to any other block, subject to Schools Forum approval.
- 3.3 A further ministerial statement made by Nick Gibb published in July 2018 confirmed the Government's commitment to deliver the proposals set out above and included further adjustments to the NFF, as follows:
- From 2019/20 the DfE will allocate funding to local authorities to support schools with significant in-year growth in pupil numbers. This means that local authorities will be funded according to actual levels of pupil number growth, rather than on the basis of historic spending;
 - To provide stability for authorities and schools through the transition to a hard national formula, local authorities will continue to determine local formulae in 2020/21.
- 3.4 Unit values for the national formula in 2019/20 remain unchanged to those in 2018/19, with the exception of primary low prior attainment. This factor has reduced from £1,050 in 2018/19 to £1,022 for 2019/20, as a result of the number of pupils attracting the funding increasing, because of changes made to the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile in 2013. This increase comes from changes to the assessment, rather than changes to the underlying level of need. Therefore, to maintain the total proportion of spend on primary low prior attainment through the national formula the increase in the eligible cohort is to be balanced with a reduction in the factor value.
- 3.5 In addition, the DfE also made a change to the Authority Proforma Tool, between the October consultation model and the December final model, to remove the ability to weight the resulting primary low prior attainment numbers locally to be commensurate with the percentage of pupils not reaching 73/78 points under the old system. This has resulted in an in-year increase in the number of eligible pupil attracting funding from 2768 in 2018/19 to 4575 in 2019/20. Consequently, an additional £1.769m of funding, before the application of capping and scaling, has been redirected to the primary low attainment factor, increasing from £2.907m in 2018/19, to £4.676m in 2019/20. This has had a direct impact on the level of capping affordable in the formula, compared to the illustrations used in the consultation with schools in September 2018.
- 3.6 In line with the agreed principle to apply the NFF unit values, the local authority proposes to mirror the unit value at £1,022 per-pupil for primary low prior attainment. This results in a redistribution of funding between the primary and secondary sectors. The ratio of primary to secondary per-pupil funding has moved to 1 : 1.34 for 2019/20, compared to 1 : 1.39 in 2018/19. This compares to an overall

ratio nationally of 1 : 1.29 for 2018/19.

- 3.7 An updated school level analysis has been provided at Appendix 13 A to this report, to provide detailed information on the per-pupil funding increases and the impact of the proposals set out at the end of this report.
- 3.8 The DfE has not yet determined how some of the school-led factors (Rates, PFI, Split site and Exceptional Premises) will be calculated in a national formula beyond 2019/20, and will continue to work with stakeholders and experts in the sector to improve the method of funding. In 2019/20 these factors will continue to be allocated on an historic spend basis.
- 3.9 Growth funding enables local authorities to support schools with significant in-year pupil growth, which is not otherwise immediately recognised by the lagged funding system. In 2018/19 growth funding of £207,650 was allocated to Blackpool on an historic spend basis, which created a pressure in Blackpool's formula due to the opening of the new free school in that year. From 2019/20, growth funding is allocated to local authorities on a formulaic basis, based on the actual growth in pupil numbers they experienced the previous year. Growth is measured by counting the increase in pupil numbers in each middle super output area (MSOA) in the local authority between the two most recent October censuses. Only positive increases in pupil numbers will be included, so a local authority with positive growth in one area, and negative growth in another, will not be denied growth funding.
- 3.10 For each local authority, growth funding for 2019/20 allocates:
- £1,370 for each primary 'growth' pupil;
 - £2,050 for each secondary 'growth' pupil; and
 - £65,000 for each brand new school that opened in the previous year (that is, any school not appearing on the October 2017 census but appearing on the October 2018 census);
 - These calculations are subject to a separate floor protection and capping and scaling of gains.
- 3.11 In December 2018 the DfE confirmed final growth funding calculations for 2019/20 based on the new allocation methodology. Blackpool has been allocated £556k of growth funding, which is an increase of £348k compared to 2018/19. While this change in methodology is welcomed, there will still be a shortfall of some £275k required to fund all of the new places in Blackpool schools. Currently, three schools in Blackpool are expanding to provide new places: Armfield Academy, Gateway Academy and Mereside Primary Academy. With the planned expansion at Gateway and Mereside concluding in 2019/20, there will be at least an additional c.£235k available to redistribute via the formula in 2020/21. Local authorities continue to manage their growth funding factor locally in 2019/20, as they did in 2018/19.
- 3.12 With reference to the previous agenda items "Draft Dedicated Schools Grant Budget

2019/20” and “High Needs Update”, including detail of the medium-term High Needs pressures, the local authority proposes the following in respect of Blackpool’s 2019/20 schools formula:

- Continued use of the national funding formula unit values;
- A 0.5 per cent minimum funding guarantee (MFG). This means that all schools will see at least some increase in their per-pupil funding, compared to 2018/19;
- The application of funding floor protection to protect schools at a minimum of one per cent above their 2017/18 baseline funding levels;
- An increase to the minimum per pupil funding levels to the national funding formula levels of £3,500 per primary pupil and £4,800 per secondary pupil;
- The transfer of one per cent of the Schools Block to the High Needs Block. Given the increasing pressures on the High Needs budget discussed in the earlier agenda items, the local authority proposes to apply to the Secretary of State for Education for a disapplication of the funding regulations, to partially ease the pressures in the short term;
- The continued use of a mobility factor in the formula. The unit value been set at £565 per-pupil to remain affordable within the funding that is allocated to Blackpool based on historic spend. This compares to a unit value of £624 used in the 2018/19 formula;
- The setting of an effective cap at 1.91 per cent to ensure that the formula is affordable overall, with scaling above the cap set at 100 per cent. This compares to an effective cap of 1.47 per cent in 2018/19.

List of acronyms:

DfE – Department for Education

NFF – National Funding Formula

DSG – Dedicated Schools Grant

PFI – Private Finance Initiative

MFG – Minimum Funding Guarantee

MSOA – Middle Super Output Area

Appendices:

Appendix 13 A, School level budget illustrations

Appendix 13 B, Blackpool Local Authority Funding Proforma 2019/20

School	Option 1 - 0.5% Transfer to High Needs Block			Option 2 - 1.0% Transfer to High Needs Block			Variance between Option 1 & Option 2, 19-20 Post MFG Budget (G) = (D - A)
	19-20 Post MFG Budget	Notional Additional Allocation @ 18-19 NOR	19-20 MFG Unit Value Change %	19-20 Post MFG Budget	Notional Additional Allocation @ 18-19 NOR	19-20 MFG Unit Value Change %	
	MFG Protection 0.5% Floor Protection Yes Effective Cap 2.68%			MFG Protection 0.5% Floor Protection Yes Effective Cap 1.91%			
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G) = (D - A)	
1	£2,442,771	£59,013.59	2.68%	£2,425,731	£42,058.20	1.91%	£-17,040
2	£826,612	£3,306.86	0.50%	£826,612	£3,306.86	0.50%	£0
3	£1,688,327	£21,719.95	1.42%	£1,688,327	£21,719.95	1.42%	£0
4	£1,486,742	£35,459.46	2.68%	£1,476,632	£25,271.48	1.91%	£-10,109
5	£1,478,718	£26,431.93	2.02%	£1,477,314	£25,051.25	1.91%	£-1,405
6	£971,797	£22,472.08	2.68%	£965,372	£16,015.55	1.91%	£-6,425
7	£783,188	£3,431.24	0.50%	£783,188	£3,431.24	0.50%	£0
8	£1,579,050	£38,591.43	2.68%	£1,568,070	£27,503.60	1.91%	£-10,981
9	£889,678	£10,713.36	1.40%	£889,678	£10,713.36	1.40%	£0
10	£839,817	£18,614.63	2.53%	£835,455	£14,078.54	1.91%	£-4,362
11	£806,462	£8,777.84	1.28%	£806,462	£8,777.84	1.28%	£0
12	£800,485	£3,366.96	0.50%	£800,485	£3,366.96	0.50%	£0
13	£1,490,000	£33,830.46	2.68%	£1,479,887	£24,110.51	1.91%	£-10,113
14	£2,293,974	£54,414.62	2.68%	£2,278,055	£38,780.57	1.91%	£-15,919
15	£1,922,118	£46,251.65	2.68%	£1,908,566	£32,962.93	1.91%	£-13,552
16	£877,892	£20,612.56	2.68%	£872,172	£14,690.29	1.91%	£-5,720
17	£1,248,295	£28,254.02	2.68%	£1,239,823	£20,136.26	1.91%	£-8,472
18	£1,716,489	£32,656.10	2.68%	£1,704,548	£23,273.56	1.91%	£-11,941
19	£1,710,574	£41,275.87	2.68%	£1,698,617	£29,416.76	1.91%	£-11,957
20	£2,288,667	£56,525.25	2.68%	£2,272,426	£40,284.79	1.91%	£-16,240
21	£2,079,000	£49,843.29	2.68%	£2,079,000	£35,522.64	1.91%	£0
22	£2,117,500	£50,358.86	2.68%	£2,117,500	£35,890.09	1.91%	£0
23	£1,828,524	£46,871.41	2.68%	£1,815,678	£33,404.62	1.91%	£-12,846
24	£2,489,170	£62,555.82	2.68%	£2,471,401	£44,582.69	1.91%	£-17,770
25	£793,983	£3,454.02	0.50%	£793,983	£3,454.02	0.50%	£0
26	£1,208,523	£8,339.52	0.70%	£1,208,523	£8,339.52	0.70%	£0
27	£2,149,000	£53,168.69	2.68%	£2,149,000	£37,892.61	1.91%	£0
28	£1,800,391	£43,828.55	2.68%	£1,787,772	£31,236.02	1.91%	£-12,619
29	£961,333	£17,338.07	2.16%	£959,228	£15,312.79	1.91%	£-2,105
30	£1,941,563	£47,898.05	2.68%	£1,927,897	£34,136.30	1.91%	£-13,666
31	£573,707	£4,180.17	0.94%	£573,707	£4,180.17	0.94%	£0
32	£4,260,289	£107,819.03	2.68%	£4,229,482	£76,841.18	1.91%	£-30,807
33	£3,919,087	£91,556.75	2.68%	£3,890,778	£65,251.27	1.91%	£-28,310
34	£4,519,415	£128,798.52	2.68%	£4,486,644	£91,792.97	1.91%	£-32,771
35	£5,987,820	£160,000.60	2.68%	£5,943,949	£114,030.28	1.91%	£-43,871
36	£5,270,323	£133,339.14	2.68%	£5,231,785	£95,029.02	1.91%	£-38,538
37	£5,351,023	£137,421.03	2.68%	£5,311,914	£97,938.12	1.91%	£-39,109
38	£5,368,301	£25,067.25	0.50%	£5,368,301	£25,067.25	0.50%	£0
39	£1,740,168	£3,022.63	0.50%	£1,740,168	£3,022.63	0.50%	£0
Total Funding for Schools Block Formula	£82,500,777	£1,740,581.27		£82,084,129	£1,277,874.69		£-416,648
Growth Fund	£76,705			£76,705			
Total Funding for Schools Block	£82,577,482			£82,160,834			
Transfer to High Needs Block %	0.50%			1.00%			
Transfer to High Needs Block	£414,965			£829,931			
DSG Schools Block Funding	£82,993,061			£82,993,061			
% allocated of total schools block	99.50%			99.00%			
MFG	0.50%			0.50%			
Floor Protection	Yes			Yes			
Cap on Gains	2.18%			1.41%			
Effective Cap on Gains	2.68%			1.91%			
% Check	99.50%			99.00%			

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Local Authority Funding Reform Proforma														
LA Name:	Blackpool				Total DSG schools block allocation		£82,993,060.70							
LA Number:	890				Total Funding For Schools Block Formula as a percentage of DSG schools block allocation		99.00%							
					Total funding allocated to schools as a percentage of DSG schools block allocation		98.90%							
					Total funding allocated to growth and falling rolls as a percentage of DSG schools block allocation		0.09%							
Premises costs to exclude from allocation when calculating the minimum funding level		Mobility	Rates	PFI	Split Sites									
		No	No	Yes	No									
Primary minimum per pupil funding level		Secondary (KS3 only) minimum per pupil funding level		Secondary (KS4 only) minimum per pupil funding level		Secondary (KS3 and KS4) minimum per pupil funding level								
£3,500.00						£4,800.00								
Pupil Led Factors														
Reception uplift		No		Pupil Units		0.00								
Description		Amount per pupil		Pupil Units		Sub Total		Total		Proportion of total pre MFG funding (%)	Notional SEN (%)			
1) Basic Entitlement														
Age Weighted Pupil Unit (AWPU)														
Primary (Years R-6)		£2,747.00		11,826.00		£32,486,022		£58,117,553		38.56%	0.00%			
Key Stage 3 (Years 7-9)		£3,863.00		3,869.33		£14,947,235				17.74%	0.00%			
Key Stage 4 (Years 10-11)		£4,386.00		2,436.00		£10,684,296				12.68%	0.00%			
Description		Primary amount per pupil	Secondary amount per pupil	Eligible proportion of primary NOR	Eligible proportion of secondary NOR	Sub Total	Total	Proportion of total pre MFG funding (%)	Primary Notional SEN (%)	Secondary Notional SEN (%)				
2) Deprivation							£13,055,079	15.50%						
FSM		£440.00	£440.00	3,239.06	1,757.25	£2,198,376			10.00%	10.00%				
FSM6		£540.00	£785.00	4,803.66	3,002.00	£4,950,546			10.00%	10.00%				
IDACI Band F		£200.00	£290.00	1,489.27	811.32	£533,137			50.00%	50.00%				
IDACI Band E		£240.00	£390.00	809.69	403.25	£351,593			50.00%	50.00%				
IDACI Band D		£360.00	£515.00	795.14	416.97	£500,992			50.00%	50.00%				
IDACI Band C		£390.00	£560.00	1,139.14	625.70	£794,656			50.00%	50.00%				
IDACI Band B		£420.00	£600.00	1,407.87	768.67	£1,052,509			50.00%	50.00%				
IDACI Band A		£575.00	£810.00	2,559.23	1,483.60	£2,673,271			50.00%	50.00%				
3) Looked After Children (LAC)		LAC X March 17		£0.00		216.50		£0		0.00%	0.00%			
4) English as an Additional Language (EAL)		EAL 3 Primary		£515.00		573.44		£295,319		0.49%	0.00%			
		EAL 3 Secondary		£1,385.00		83.10		£115,100			0.00%			
5) Mobility		Pupils starting school outside of normal entry dates		£565.00		£565.00		204.76		80.31	£161,063		0.19%	0.00%
Description		Weighting	Amount per pupil (primary or secondary respectively)	Percentage of eligible pupils	Eligible proportion of primary and secondary NOR respectively	Sub Total	Total	Proportion of total pre MFG funding (%)	Primary Notional SEN (%)	Secondary Notional SEN (%)				
6) Prior attainment														
Primary Low Attainment			£1,022.00	38.68%	4,574.89	£4,675,535			75.00%					
Secondary low attainment (year 7)		63.59%		25.35%										
Secondary low attainment (year 8)		58.05%	£1,550.00	20.97%										
Secondary low attainment (year 9)		48.02%		25.44%	1,467.78	£2,275,061	£6,950,596	8.25%		75.00%				
Secondary low attainment (years 10 to 11)				22.30%										
Other Factors														
Factor		Lump Sum per Primary School (£)		Lump Sum per Secondary School (£)		Lump Sum per Middle School (£)		Lump Sum per All-through School (£)		Total (£)	Proportion of total pre MFG funding (%)	Notional SEN (%)		
7) Lump Sum		£110,000.00		£110,000.00						£4,290,000	5.09%	0.00%		
8) Sparsity factor		£0.00		£0.00		£0.00		£0.00		£0	0.00%	0.00%		
Please provide alternative distance and pupil number thresholds for the sparsity factor below. Please leave blank if you want to use the default thresholds. Also specify whether you want to use a tapered lump sum or the NFF weighting for any of the phases.														
Primary distance threshold (miles)		Primary pupil number average year group threshold				Fixed, tapered or NFF sparsity primary lump sum?		Fixed						
Secondary distance threshold (miles)		Secondary pupil number average year group threshold				Fixed, tapered or NFF sparsity secondary lump sum?		Fixed						
Middle schools distance threshold (miles)		Middle school pupil number average year group threshold				Fixed, tapered or NFF sparsity middle school lump sum?		Fixed						
All-through schools distance threshold (miles)		All-through pupil number average year group threshold				Fixed, tapered or NFF sparsity all-through lump sum?		Fixed						
9) Fringe Payments								£0		0.00%				
10) Split Sites								£0		0.00%				
11) Rates								£628,405		0.75%				
12) PFI funding								£105,490		0.13%				
13) Exceptional circumstances (can only be used with prior agreement of ESFA)														
Circumstance								Total (£)		Proportion of total pre MFG funding (%)	Notional SEN (%)			
Additional lump sum for schools amalgamated during FY18-19								£0		0.00%	0.00%			
Additional sparsity lump sum for small schools								£0		0.00%				
Exceptional Circumstance3								£0		0.00%				
Exceptional Circumstance4								£0		0.00%				
Exceptional Circumstance5								£0		0.00%				
Exceptional Circumstance6								£0		0.00%				
Exceptional Circumstance7								£0		0.00%				
Total Funding for Schools Block Formula (excluding minimum per pupil funding level, funding floor protection and MFG Funding Total)								£83,718,605		99.37%				
14) Additional funding to meet minimum per pupil funding level								£65,136		0.08%				
Total Funding for Schools Block Formula (excluding funding floor protection and MFG Funding Total)								£83,783,741		99.45%				
15) Funding floor protection (select Yes if applying this protection)				Yes				£465,621		0.55%				
Total Funding for Schools Block Formula (excluding MFG Funding Total)								£84,249,362						
16) Minimum Funding Guarantee				0.50%				£179,353						
Apply capping and scaling factors? (gains may be capped above a specific ceiling and/or scaled)								Yes						
Apply alternative gains cap for schools gaining more than 15%?								No						
Capping Factor (%)		1.41%		Scaling Factor (%)		100.00%								
As you have set your MFG at 0.5% the capping factor entered will cap gains above 1.91%														
Total deduction if capping and scaling factors are applied								-£2,344,585						
								Total (£)		Proportion of Total Funding(%)	Notional SEN (%)			
MFG Net Total Funding (MFG + deduction from capping and scaling) (Please note that the total deduction for capping and scaling is greater than the total MFG)								-£2,165,232		-2.64%	100.00%			
Total Funding for Schools Block Formula								£82,084,129			£6,715,685			
High Needs threshold (only fill in if, exceptionally, a high needs threshold different from £6,000 has been approved)														
Additional funding from the high needs budget								£100,000.00						
Growth fund (if applicable)								£76,705.00						
Falling rolls fund (if applicable)								£0.00						
Other Adjustment to 18-19 Budget Shares								£0						
Total Funding For Schools Block Formula (including growth and falling rolls funding)								£82,160,834						
% Distributed through Basic Entitlement								69.37%						
% Pupil Led Funding								93.96%						
Primary: Secondary Ratio								1 :		1.34				
Total funding for schools block formula contains funding from outside of the 2019-20 Schools Block allocation?														
										No				

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Report to: **SCHOOLS FORUM**

Relevant Officer: Paul Sharples, School Funding and Private Finance Initiative Manager

Date of Meeting: 15 January 2019

PUPIL GROWTH CONTINGENCY 2019/20

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 Approval is sought for the 2019/20 level of Pupil Growth Contingency.

1.2 An annual review of the criteria for the contingency is required. Information is also provided in respect of the allocation of the pupil growth contingency in 2018/19.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To approve the value of the pupil growth contingency at £77k in 2019/20, which has been calculated based on the October 2018 census data.

3.0 Background Information:

3.1 Under the Schools and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2018, Schools Forums can agree to set aside from Dedicated Schools Grant a specific schools contingency to support those schools that, with the prior agreement of the local authority, are permanently expanding.

3.2 This growth fund can only be used for the purposes of supporting growth in pre-16 pupil numbers to meet basic need and must be available on the same basis for the benefit of both maintained schools and academies.

3.3 The Department for Education (DfE) requires local authorities to establish transparent and consistent criteria which set out the circumstances in which a payment could be made to schools and provide a basis for calculating the sum to be paid.

3.4 The criteria currently in place for 2018/19 are as follows:-

“Funding will be allocated where a school, academy or free school plans with the local authority to increase its planned admission number to incorporate an additional class or classes in response to basic needs requirements, Agreed Pupil Increase (API).”

- 3.5 The allocation from the pupil growth contingency will be calculated as (API x 7/12th x pupil-driven factors) in respect of the Agreed Pupil Increase (API) from the forthcoming September.
- 3.6 The pupil-driven factors to be included in the calculation incorporate:
- Basic entitlement per pupil
 - Total deprivation funding divided by number on roll
 - English as an Additional Language funding divided by number on roll
 - Pupil Mobility funding divided by number on roll
 - Prior attainment divided by number on roll
- 3.7 Where a new site is opening, the pupil-driven factors will be taken from the average of the three closest schools until such a time as data becomes available for the cohort of pupils at the new site.
- 3.8 A pupil growth contingency of £76k was agreed by Schools Forum in 2018/19 for pupil growth at Mereside Primary Academy, which is now the only school that meets the eligibility criteria.
- 3.9 According to the criteria, the requirement for the pupil growth contingency is estimated to be £77k in 2019/20 in order to allocate sufficient additional resources to the schools that will be expanding their provision as planned at Mereside School. As in 2018/19, Gateway and Armfield academies will again be funded via estimated pupil numbers through the funding formula.
- 3.10 As both Gateway Academy and Mereside Primary Academy will have completed their expansion to all year groups in 2019/20, there will be an estimated £235k of additional funding available to redistribute via the funding formula in 2020/21.

List of acronyms:

API - Agreed Pupil Increase

DfE - Department for Education

Report to: **SCHOOLS FORUM**

Relevant Officer: Paul Sharples, School Funding and Private Finance Initiative Manager

Date of Meeting: 15 January 2019

DE-DELEGATION OF SERVICES AND RETENTION OF FUNDING FOR EDUCATION FUNCTIONS 2019/20

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 Approval is sought for the continued de-delegation of services and the retention of funding for Education Functions.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To agree to the local authority's proposal for the continued de-delegation of services and the retention of funding for Education Functions, as follows:

- That de-delegation is approved by maintained primary school representatives for 2019/20 in respect of Free School Meal (FSM) Eligibility Checks and Union Duties;
- That Insurance costs for 2019/20 are charged directly to each maintained primary and special school in accordance with the corporate apportionment calculation based on staffing numbers;

2.2 Maintained primary school representatives, special and pupil referral unit members, are asked to approve an amount to be retained from school budgets in respect of education functions, previously funded by the Education Services Grant.

3.0 Background Information:

3.1 De-delegation of Services

3.2 The Schools Finance Regulations that came into effect in April 2013 require the delegation to schools of the entirety of the Schools Block funding, subject to certain prescribed exceptions.

3.3 Maintained, mainstream schools may choose, by vote at Schools Forum, to de-delegate some of these prescribed elements of funding to be managed centrally by the local authority on behalf of them. Delegation means the allocation of funding

to schools through the local schools funding formula. De-delegation means the retention of funding by the local authority.

- 3.4 Decisions are to be made by primary and secondary phases separately, and voting is restricted to school members representing those phases. De-delegation does not apply to academies, which could instead choose to buy into local authority services. It also does not apply to special schools, as they no longer receive delegated budgets in the same way that mainstream schools do, but they will be able to access any collective arrangements using their funding.
- 3.5 The difference between de-delegation and buy back is that, with de-delegation, all maintained schools in that phase will not receive additional funding in their delegated budgets, and the local authority will hold the de-delegated budgets centrally and provide services on behalf of all schools. If de-delegation is not voted for, all schools will receive the additional funding, and may choose, on a school-by-school basis, how to fund those responsibilities. As with any item of expenditure, should Forum not vote for de-delegation, groups of schools could still choose to combine their resources in order to achieve best value, including buying services back from the local authority where available.
- 3.6 In 2018/19, maintained schools voted to de-delegate the following services:
- a) Free School Meal eligibility checks
 - b) Insurance
 - c) Union duties
- 3.7 Decisions are now required whether to continue to de-delegate the functions listed in 3.6 above for the 2019/20 financial year, as detailed below.

Free School Meal eligibility checks

- 3.8 This service is carried out by the Council's Benefits Team, who access DWP and Council benefits information in order to determine eligibility for free school meals. Eligibility is reviewed on a weekly basis and communicated to schools. The full FSM eligibility checking service specification includes:
- Establishing entitlement to FSM for each pupil via Housing Benefit and Council Tax Reduction Scheme claims for parents/guardians;
 - Processing of Free School Meal applications for parents who are not entitled to Housing Benefit and Council Tax Reduction, i.e. those in receipt of Universal Credit, by completion of the Free School Meal application form;
 - Processing of claims relating to FSM entitlement, including collection and verification of evidence when required, notification of entitlement to parent/guardian/school, and maintenance of records, within 10 working days

of receipt of all information;

- Provision of a comprehensive enquiry and resolution service for the school and parents or guardians, to be resolved within 5 working days;
- Maximisation of income available to parents by awarding Free School Meals in all appropriate cases;
- Production and issue of standard weekly reports to the school;
- Notification to parent/guardian when entitlement ceases due to a change of circumstances, within 10 working days of receipt of all information;
- Processing changes of address/school;
- Provide information as required to assist the school in their reconciliation of data and quarterly census returns;
- Provision of guidance to the school as and when required;
- Secure storage of data to comply with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR).

3.9 Schools are not permitted to access the benefits information directly from the relevant agencies, and therefore a school based solution would necessitate the regular provision by parents of benefits entitlement, significant administrative resource for schools, as well as the development of technical expertise. For this reason, the local authority would strongly advise the continued de-delegation of funding for this purpose.

3.10 In order to fund the current level of service as described in paragraph 3.8, the de-delegation amount per Free School Meal pupil will be set at £12.06 in 2019/20, compared to £11.83 in 2018/19, a 2% increase.

3.11 **Vote** – do maintained mainstream primary school members agree to the continued de-delegation of funding for free school meal eligibility checks?

Insurance

3.12 The current centrally-retained budget for insurances relates to the following:

- Third party liability
- Employer liability
- Professional indemnity
- Fidelity insurance
- Personal accident
- Cyber Crime
- Medical malpractice

3.13 The local authority is currently in the final stages of tender evaluation in respect of bids for the provision of various insurance lots across the corporate portfolio,

including those premiums detailed in paragraph 3.12. All policies are for a period of three years, with the option to extend for further two years. While the tender award has yet to be agreed and there are still some terms of insurance to negotiate, current forecast premiums indicate a significant reduction in costs when compared to 2018/19. Executive approval for the award of the contract is to be sought on 21 January 2019.

3.14 The forecast reduction in cost is in contrast to the overall trend over the previous 4 years, where we have seen Government increases in Insurance Premium Tax from 6% to 12%; an industry-wide adjustment to the personal injury discount rate calculation, resulting in forecast increases in future claims costs; and, a decrease in the number of schools covered. Based on the calculated cost per pupil, the insurance cost trend over this period is as follows:

- 2015/16 +8.96%
- 2016/17 -5.61%
- 2017/18 +15.36%
- 2018/19 +11.91%

3.15 As indicated above, over this period a contributing factor to the increase in cost per pupil has been the reduction of schools covered by the corporate policy due to the increase in academy schools. Every time a school converts to academy, there is not a corresponding reduction in the policy cost, resulting in all parties paying a little extra to cover the total cost. In addition, during the year in which a maintained schools converts to an academy, the current school funding regulations allow the DfE to recoup the proportion of budget for which the school is an academy, thus leaving insufficient funds in the centrally funded pot to cover the apportioned maintained school cost.

3.16 The current apportionment calculation method utilised by the local authority uses workforce statistics. However, the only method available for de-delegation, under current Department for Education regulations, is on a per-pupil basis. Therefore, there is a difference between the school level insurance charge apportioned to the centrally funded pot, and that which each school contributes based on pupil numbers. i.e. where a school has a high staff to pupil ratio, such as in a special school, the risk of exposure to claims for these employee related insurances will not be represented properly by the de-delegation cost to the schools budget.

3.17 In light of the information above, the local authority recommends that maintained schools move to a direct charge method based on the corporate apportionment calculation, and not to continue de-delegation of funding for insurances listed above.

3.18 A school-level illustration of the two options are provided below, compared to the 2018/19 de-delegation cost to schools:

- Option A - Current forecast insurance costs for 2019/20 under a Direct Charge apportionment method, calculated using the number of full time equivalent employees;
- Option B - the continuation of de-delegation method of calculation based on pupil numbers.

3.19

	2018/19 Actual De-delegation amounts	Option A - Direct Charge		Option B - De-delegation	
		Total Forecast Premium 2019/20	2019/20 Forecast Increase / (Decrease) on De-delegation amounts	2019/20 De-delegation amounts (£46.33)	2019/20 Forecast Increase / (Decrease) on De-delegation amounts
Primary	£9,967	£8,963	(£1,003)	£7,506	(£2,461)
Primary	£12,778	£10,018	(£2,760)	£9,405	(£3,373)
Primary	£13,161	£9,227	(£3,934)	£9,498	(£3,663)
Primary	£13,289	£8,436	(£4,853)	£9,591	(£3,698)
Primary	£13,289	£8,436	(£4,853)	£9,637	(£3,652)
Primary	£13,353	£7,909	(£5,444)	£9,313	(£4,040)
Primary	£13,353	£8,963	(£4,390)	£9,405	(£3,948)
Primary	£23,064	£17,927	(£5,138)	£16,494	(£6,570)
Primary	£23,703	£13,709	(£9,995)	£17,884	(£5,819)
Primary	£24,853	£16,609	(£8,245)	£17,884	(£6,969)
Primary	£25,812	£15,027	(£10,785)	£19,042	(£6,769)
Primary	£26,450	£16,872	(£9,578)	£18,996	(£7,454)
Primary	£38,270	£23,199	(£15,071)	£27,892	(£10,378)
Primary	£38,526	£18,454	(£20,072)	£28,448	(£10,078)
Special School	£4,024	£14,763	£10,739	£2,919	(£1,105)
Special School	£6,389	£20,036	£13,647	£4,633	(£1,756)
Total	£300,282	£218,548	(£81,734)	£218,548	(£81,734)

3.20 If funding is de-delegated, the local authority will continue to insure these elements on behalf of maintained schools collectively as previously. Premium levels for 2019/20 are not yet available and therefore the de-delegation amount is based on estimated premiums currently forecast at £46.33 per pupil, compared to £63.89 per pupil in 2018/19, a 27.48% decrease.

Vote – do maintained mainstream primary school members agree to move to:

Option A – Direct Charging

Option B – continued de-delegation at £46.33 per pupil

Union duties

3.21 Historically, this budget is held centrally in order to fund the facilities time of the teaching unions. Agreement is reached between unions through the Professional Teaching Association (PTA) regarding the number of days that each union can claim from the central pot.

3.22 To retain current levels of support for those schools that are part of the collective agreement, the de-delegation amount for 2019/20 shall be frozen for the fourth year in a row at £4.00 per pupil.

Vote – do maintained mainstream primary school members agree to the continued de-delegation of funding for PTA union duties at £4.00 per pupil?

Education Functions

3.23 In the 2015 Spending Review, the Government announced that it would be cutting £600m from the Education Services Grant (ESG), a funding stream paid to local authorities outside of the local government finance settlement in respect of certain education functions.

3.24 There were two elements of ESG – the retained grant, and the general grant. Retained ESG was only paid to local authorities, and funded the responsibilities they hold for all pupils in the area, regardless of whether they are educated in maintained or academy schools. The general element of ESG was paid to local authorities in respect of the pupils in maintained schools. It was also paid separately to each academy in respect of the pupils in their own school.

3.25 In November 2016, details were released of how the £600m of savings would be realised. The retained element of ESG was transferred into Dedicated Schools Grant from April 2017, and has formed part of the Central Schools Services Block since April 2018. The general element of the grant ended in September 2017 for both local authorities and academies.

3.26 The functions of the local authority covered by the general element of the grant include:

- School improvement
- Statutory and regulatory duties in respect of maintained schools, such as best value and procurement advice, internal audit compliance, pension scheme administration
- Education welfare, including the inspection of attendance registers
- Asset management to ensure maintained school buildings are in a satisfactory condition
- Central support services, such as music tuition, visual, creative and performing arts, outdoor education centres
- Monitoring of National Curriculum assessments

3.27 The local authority remains responsible for providing these functions on behalf of its maintained schools, and financial regulations allow for funding to be retained from

the budgets of maintained schools in order to cover the costs.

3.28 In 2018/19, Schools Forum agreed to allow the local authority to retain an amount of £33.96 per pupil from maintained school budgets. In arriving at this figure, the local authority has taken regard of the functions and support provided to maintained schools (but not to academies) at no cost. The education functions covered by the retention in respect of maintained schools include:

- Budgeting, accounting and finance functions, e.g. production of statement of accounts, year-end audit, VAT advice, treasury management
- Production of and monitoring of compliance with the Scheme for Financing Schools
- Internal audit compliance visits
- Administration of local government and teachers' pension schemes
- Provision of information to or at the request of the Crown
- Functions under the Equality Act 2010
- Asset management, including condition surveys to ensure assets are in suitable state of repair
- Monitoring of National Curriculum assessments

3.29 The 2019/20 amount has been calculated at £34.63 per pupil, which equates to a 2% increase on the 2018/19.

Vote – do maintained school members, including primary, special and pupil referral unit members, agree to the amount of £34.63 per pupil being retained from school budgets for the purpose of funding education functions?

List of acronyms:

FSM – Free School Meals

DWP – Department for Work and Pensions

ESG – Education Services Grant

GDPR - General Data Protection Regulations

DfE – Department for Education

PTA – Professional Teachers Association

VAT – Value Added Tax

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