

AGENDA



SCHOOLS FORUM

Date : Thursday 21st March 2013

Time : 4.30pm

Place : Badminton Road Offices, Ground Floor, Room 0012

Distribution

Members of the Committee

Dave Baker	Mike Gregory
April Begley	Geoff Howell
Nicola Berry	Janet Hoyle
Steve Cook	Jeremy Hunt
Mark Dee	Keith Lawrence (Chair)
Peggy Farrington	Jim Lott
Steve Forecast	Jane Millicent
Mark Freeman	Steve Morris
Amanda Fry/Lisa Williams	Julie Phillips
Keith Geary	Max Reed
John Goff	Bob Symons
	David Turrell
	Andrew Wild

Richard Badley (sub)

Ann Reed (sub)

Appropriate Officers

Peter Murphy
Martin Dear

Councillors

Ian Blair
Sheila Cook
Robert Jones
Gareth Manson

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AGENDA

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|----|---|---------|
| 1 | WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS | 5 mins |
| 2 | APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE | 5 mins |
| 3 | EVACUATION PROCESS | 5 mins |
| 4 | ANY OTHER ITEMS THE CHAIR DECIDES ARE URGENT | 5 mins |
| 5 | MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10 JANUARY 2013 | 5 mins |
| 6 | THIRD QUARTER BUDGET MONITOR 2012/2013 | 5 mins |
| 7 | DFE: CONSULTATION ON THE REVIEW OF 2013/2014
SCHOOL FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS | 20 mins |
| 8 | FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS FOR AGREED BREACHES TO
SCHOOL ADMISSION NUMBERS | 20 mins |
| 9 | LOAN SCHEME AMENDMENT | 10 mins |
| 10 | DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT FOR 2013/2014 | 10 mins |
| 10 | DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS AND THE WORK
PROGRAMME 2012/2013 | 5 mins |
| 11 | ANY OTHER BUSINESS | 5 mins |

Department for Children and Young People

Schools Forum

Thursday 10 January 2013
Badminton Road Offices

PRESENT:

Dave Baker	Headteacher, Bradley Stoke Community School
Steve Cook	Headteacher, The Grange School and Sports College
Mark Dee	Executive Head, The Park & Parkwall Primaries
Mark Freeman	Headteacher, St Michael's Primary School, Stoke Gifford
Keith Geary	Headteacher, Marlwood Secondary School
Janet Hoyle	Headteacher, Watermore Primary School
Jim Lott	Governor, Stanbridge Primary School
Ann Reed	Governor, Kings Forest Primary School
Max Reed	Governor, Abbotswood Primary School
Andrew Wild	Church of England Diocesan Representative

Chair: Keith Lawrence Governor, Culverhill School

Officers: Peter Murphy, Director for Children, Adults and Health
Martin Dear, Head of Strategy, Quality and Standards

Other Attendees:

Clare Medland, Head of Asset, Management and Capital Planning
Tania Craig Headteacher, New Horizons Learning Centre

1. **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Attendees were welcomed by the Chair, Keith Lawrence. A specific welcome was given to Peter Murphy, the newly appointed Director for Children, Adults and Health, who gave a brief update on his past career and new role.

2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Nicola Berry, Richard Badley, Jon Cooke, Peggy Farrington, Steve Forecast, John Goff, Mike Gregory, Geoff Howell, Jane Millicent, David Turrell.

3. **EVACUATION PROCESS**

The Chair drew attention to the emergency evacuation procedure.

4. **ANY OTHER ITEMS THE CHAIR DECIDES ARE URGENT**

None

5. **MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON 18TH OCTOBER 2012**

The Minutes were agreed as a true record.
MD gave an update on the pensions enrolment. The Council has made a decision to defer until 2017, subject to a positive communications campaign over this time supporting employee admission to the pension scheme.

6. **SECOND BUDGET MONITOR 2012/2013**

MD said he was pleased to announce the DSG is on target to break even. There are no major changes to progress made on Capital Schemes. The report was noted and agreed.

7. **INVESTMENT PRIORITIES FOR THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE (CYP) CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2013/2014**

Clare Medland attended for this item. She gave an update on a paper that went to Children and Young People Committee on 7th November 2012. The report is normally presented to the Committee in January for comment prior to a decision by the Council in February. Due to the pressures on the Capital Programme, this report was presented earlier than usual.

The issues covered were basic need for primary places across the area with 300 additional primary places for the next 3-4 years.

In previous years the Authority has addressed high priority repairs and maintenance. However, looking at it again the volume of schemes in 2013/2014, there is pressure on finding the resources required.

The need for a specialist provision in providing an ASD base has been identified as a priority.

There was a recent announcement by the Government on the 2 year old funding for expanding the provision of 2 year old places from September 2013.

Central Government funding for Education Capital Projects has reduced over the years.

The Council is actively looking at options to identify additional funding this includes:

- the possible use of corporate capital receipts,
- use of balances or additional borrowing,
- short-term use of surplus secondary accommodation for primary age children, in and out of locality area,
- supporting free school applications in principle.

KL asked if there would be any change in future years and also the overall general infrastructure.

CM said she did not know next year's allocations but anticipate it to be in line with this year.

MD said that members should make comments to the Policy & Resources or CYP Committee Council members about the situation.

8. DEPLOYMENT OF THE DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT 2013/2014

MD explained that the paper concentrated on.

1. Decisions made by the Children and Young People Committee on the factors to be used in the allocation of funding to schools for 2013/2014
2. Further Delegations in 2013/2014
3. Further Trading Options in 2013/2014
4. Setting planned places for the academic year for special schools and resource bases in mainstream schools
5. Dedicated Schools Grant 2013/2014
6. New Regulations
7. Timetable for consultation and decision making

1. Decisions made by the Children and Young People Committee on the factors to be used in the allocation of funding to schools for 2013/2014

DfE have now recognised that as well as expanding schools there can also be a central contingency to meet infant class size regulations. MD said he could not allocate any of it unless the Schools Forum was in agreement, and it was for exceptional circumstances only.

2. Further Delegations in 2013/2014

These must take place from April 2013.

Work is currently taking place to look at trading opportunities in the areas of Ethnic Minority and Traveller Achievement Service, Inclusion Support and Behaviour Support Service. It would be sensible for any such new arrangements to start from September 2013 so an in/out of funding would need to take place to cover the costs of the existing services between April and August.

Pension/Severance costs MD said that from 1st April schools will make their own arrangements regarding Pension/Severance costs. Whilst an insurance pool could operate for Primary Schools, it was not felt that one could be provided for Secondary Schools. It was pointed out that it will be tougher for Secondary schools over the next few years. MD suggested the Authority could help out with a 2-3 year loan.

Union facility time This is a small budget. MD said it made administrative sense for it to come straight back to the Authority to be dealt with. A reply was received from NUT to delegate out to schools, then the Schools Forum can then decide to bring it back. It was commented that the Schools Forum would not operate under de-delegation as it thinks that all schools should make the decision.

3. **Further Trading Options in 2013/2014**

Welfare and Psychology - To trade as an element, at the edges.

SEN, Special Schools and Resource Bases - To assist special schools, and schools with resource bases, with SEN dealing with the paperwork and Traded Services dealing with the invoices.

Schools meals - Schools to pay the invoices in full.

4. **Setting planned places for the academic year for special schools and resource bases in mainstream schools**

Chris Jamrozy, SEN Team Manager, should be contacting schools to discuss planned places.

5. **Dedicated Schools Grant 2013/2014**

MD said he was pleased to say that the £173m was the level he had expected. He also said that the DSG for the Schools Block and the Early Years Block is cash flat; there is no provision to pay awards or increasing energy costs.

6. **New regulations**

Notification to schools of their formula allocation has to be done by 15th March.

7. **Timetable for consultation and decision making**

A return on the Schools Block has to be made to the Education Funding Agency by 22 January 2013. Papers were distributed that showed the proposed criteria allocation to be used and the draft allocations to individual schools.

It should be noted that for 2013/14 the Pupil Premium will rise to £900 per pupil and to £300 for Service children.

The other elements of the DSG will be discussed at the next meeting of the Schools Forum.

Members duly considered and agreed the proposal on the schools block.

Action: MD to get Schools Forum comments and present them to the Lead Members of the CYP Committee prior to Peter Murphy making a decision.

9. COUNCIL BUDGET

MD explained that this is a report of the Council's budget consultation which is the non-DSG element. Any comments on what the council is proposing should be made now or make them prior to February.

KL asked if the members were happy with the report and everyone agreed they were.

10. WORK PROGRAMME

Due to the Headteachers Residential on 7th and 8th March, it was decided to rearrange the 7th March date.

Action: MD to check dates and rearrange.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

MD asked what is happening about the report on schools balances and the remit the Schools Forum has about going back to CYP Committee with recommendations.

KL said he has a draft to put to them which will be ready soon.

Action: MD to put on the Forward Plan for CYP Committee.

Meeting closed at 17.45

THIRD QUARTER BUDGET MONITOR 2012/2013

This report provides information on the forecast of the outturn for 2012/13 for the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) and the Capital budget. It includes income and expenditure to the end of December 2012 and known commitments at that date.

At this stage in the financial year the 2012/13 outturn for the DSG is estimated to be a break even position against a grant of £168.987 million. Further details in Appendix A.

The position with Capital funding is that total scheme costs are within total budgets. There is a contingency of balance of £526,000 which is held in mitigation against future shortfalls within the capital programme and/or will be used to address other risks or urgent priorities. Further details are provided in Appendix B.

Recommendation

Members of the Forum are recommended to note this report.

Revenue - DSG Funded Budgets

The budget delegated to schools (the “Individual Schools Budget” or ISB), and many of the pupil related costs, such as Special Educational Needs are funded through the Dedicated Schools Grant.

	Full Year Budget £'000	Outturn £'000	Variance £'000	Variance %
School Central Budgets	4,635	4,635	0	0.00%
Nursery Education Grant	7,897	7,897	0	0.00%
Other (Predominantly Schools Budgets)	152,324	152,324	0	0.00%
Special Educational Needs (SEN)	4,131	4,131	0	0.00%
Total	168,987	168,987	0	0.00%

The Department is forecasting an overall breakeven position at the year end for the Dedicated Schools Grant. There is a £341,000 contingency budget due to the 2011/12 DSG outturn figure being less than the 2011/12 DSG overspend contingency. This is being used to offset Schools unfunded pensions, to cover any pressures within the SEN stated support budget.

Any pressures on the ISB schools budget and other DSG funded budgets will be contained within the balances held by schools and next year's funding allocations. It will not directly fall on the Council Tax payer.

Capital - Progress on Current Schemes

There are currently no significant scheme delays to report within the approved programme for the Department for Children and Young People.

Appendix 1 lists the planned and forecast completion dates, total approved scheme costs and details of spending against budget this year for all projects with total scheme costs greater than £100k.

The following table provides a comparison of the total planned spending for the year against latest outturn forecast.

Forecast figures as at 31 Dec 2012 (Quarter 3)			
Budget (£'000s)	Outturn Forecast (£'000s)	Variation (£'000s)	Spend to date (£'000s)
16,569	17,208	639	11,762

Variations in Total Scheme Costs and Scheme Delivery

Variance on total scheme costs

	£'000
Approved Total Scheme Costs (Budget) at 1 April 2012	118,728
Budget adjustments in previous quarters	125
Approved Total Scheme Costs (Budget) at 31 December 2012	118,853
Variance on Total Scheme Costs at 31 December 2012	-562
Current Forecast of Total Scheme Costs	118,291

The significant changes in variances in the 2012/13 payments budget from the second to the third monitor report are:

Project	2012/13 Payments Budget (£'000)	Variance at Q2 (£'000)	Variance at Q3 (£'000)	Change from Q2 to Q3 (£'000)
Downend School – boiler plant	560	6	148	142
St Michael's Stoke Gifford – remodelling and extension	854	-53	18	71

Explanations for the changes in variances from the second to the third monitor are:

Downend School – replacement boiler plant

Some works originally programmed for year 2 of the project have been brought forward to this financial year. There is no impact on the overall project budget.

St Michael's Stoke Gifford – remodelling and extension

This scheme has been reprogrammed to achieve an earlier completion. There is no impact on the overall project budget.

CYP Unallocated Balance

The current unallocated balance is £526K. This will be held in mitigation against future shortfalls within the capital programme, and/or will be used to address other risks or urgent priorities.

New Schemes

Scheme	Amount (£'000)	Funding Source	Constraints	Intended Use (Approval Sought)
Acoustic Improvements at Emersons Green Primary School	23	Virement from CYP unallocated balance	None	Essential acoustic improvement work to support the effective functioning of the Hearing Impaired Resource Base
Two Year Old Capacity Building	357	Department for Education (grant)	None	To support the capital investment necessary in the childcare sector to deliver free entitlement places for two year olds

Vinney Green – CCTV	14	Department for Education (grant)	To be spent by Aug 2013	To install CCTV cameras in the Life Skills Lodge to address health and safety issues
Vinney Green – CCTV	28	Department for Education (grant)	To be spent by Aug 2013	To install additional CCTV cameras in the Courtyard area
St Chad's Primary – Pipework	33	Virement from savings on a prior year R&M project	None	Essential work to replace the hot and cold water services. The total scheme cost is £42k, with the School contributing £9k of Devolved Formula Capital

Children & Young People		TOTAL SCHEME COSTS			2012/13 PAYMENTS				Comments
Scheme/Block Allocation (in excess of £100k)	Planned (p) Contractual (c) Forecast (f) Completion date	Budget	Forecast	Variation overspend (+)	Budget	Forecast	Variation Overspend (+)	Spend to date	
		(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	
Wick - refurbishment and remodelling	Mar 2014 (p) Mar 2014 (f)	2,042	2,042	0	192	262	70	148	Pre-contract work is progressing in line with the project budget and programme. Works are planned to start on site in spring 2013. Enabling works were successfully completed during the 2012 summer holidays. The temporary classroom units will be removed at the end of the project.
Hambrook - refurbishment and extension	Jun 2014 (p) Jun 2014 (f)	3,655	3,655	0	334	382	48	145	Scheme is currently out to tender for main works and is in line with the project budget. The temporary classroom units will be removed in summer 2014.
St Michael's S/G - remodelling and extension (phase 1)	Apr 2013 (c) Feb 2013 (f)	967	967	0	854	872	18	476	Works progressing on programme and due for completion in February 2013. Current outturn costs are within budget.
Filton Hill – refurbishment and remodelling	Aug 2014 (p)	1,200	1,200	0	60	60	0	0	Approved for future financial years with initial design works only during 2012/13.
Shield Road - re-roofing (phase 1) plus windows	Dec 2012 (c) Mar 2013 (f)	200	200	0	93	93	0	34	Re-roofing project completed on programme. Additional works to the windows are required in order to comply with Building Regulation requirements in respect of insulation works. Tendering for the windows is progressing. The work will be completed within the overall budget, in this financial year.
Sir Bernard Lovell – roofing	Dec 2012 (c) Jan 2013 (f)	1,200	1,200	0	1,163	1,168	5	905	Works have been delayed due to inclement weather, with completion expected in mid-January 2013. Forecast outturn costs are within budget, including the additional works to the Music Block.
Downend - replacement boiler plant	Aug 2012 (c) Aug 2013 (f)	990	990	0	560	708	148	696	Two year programme. First phase completed and some elements of the second phase works have been brought forward, resulting in the current year

Children & Young People		TOTAL SCHEME COSTS			2012/13 PAYMENTS				Comments
Scheme/Block Allocation (in excess of £100k)	Planned (p) Contractual (c) Forecast (f) Completion date	Budget	Forecast	Variation overspend (+)	Budget	Forecast	Variation Overspend (+)	Spend to date	
		(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	
									expenditure forecast being higher than planned. Overall, the scheme is within budget.
Warmley Park - boiler plant replacement and heating	Aug 2012 (p) Mar 2012 (f)	300	405	105	293	405	112	384	The School Energy Saving fund is being used to install a biomass boiler. This upgrade has resulted in a planned overall completion of March 2013. Essential additional work has resulted in a further projected overspend of £100k.
Additional Primary Accommodation (Basic Need)	Mar 2014 (p) Mar 2014 (f)	3,499	3,499	0	1,310	1,311	1	891	Schemes at several schools to install temporary accommodation and improve existing accommodation to increase capacity.
Devolved Formula Capital	Mar 2014 (p) Mar 2014 (f)	2,236	2,236	0	1,258	1,607	349	1,195	Funding devolved to schools.
Advance Design Fees	Mar 2014 (p) Mar 2014 (f)	222	222	0	70	70	0	-19	Ongoing development and feasibility work.
Short Breaks for Disabled Children Grant	Aug 2013 (p) Aug 2013 (f)	307	307	0	114	114	0	28	Capital modifications and equipment to facilitate the provision of short breaks for disabled children.
Future Years' R&M Schemes	Mar 2014 (p) Mar 2014 (f)	2,500	2,500	0	0	0	0	0	Held for major R&M schemes in 2013/14.
Approved 2014/15 expenditure	Mar 2015 (p) Mar 2015 (f)	6,946	6,946	0	0	0	0	0	Unallocated budget held for schemes in 2014/15.
Schemes under £100k	Various	529	532	3	409	417	8	307	

Children & Young People		TOTAL SCHEME COSTS			2012/13 PAYMENTS				Comments
Scheme/Block Allocation (in excess of £100k)	Planned (p) Contractual (c) Forecast (f) Completion date	Budget	Forecast	Variation overspend (+)	Budget	Forecast	Variation Overspend (+)	Spend to date	
		(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	
Completed Schemes									
Pucklechurch Primary – Extension and Remodelling	Nov 2011	2,197	2,176	-21	133	112	-21	37	Work complete. Final account agreed.
New Horizons Primary School	Nov 2011	2,984	2,984	0	311	311	0	7	Work complete.
Gillingstool Primary and New Siblands Primary – Replacement School	Aug 2010	10,166	10,060	-106	276	225	-51	151	Work complete. The final list of outstanding defects has been rectified. Final account now agreed subject to some minor changes.
St Peters Primary - Replacement School	Feb 2011	5,115	5,127	12	183	195	12	22	A small number of major concerns remain to be addressed by the contractor; hence monies are still being withheld. Settlement of the final account ongoing but claim/dispute anticipated.
Abbeywood School BSF Pathfinder Project	Jan 2011	29,735	29,399	-336	661	661	0	76	The contractor has addressed the outstanding defects. The effectiveness will be monitored for a short time prior to making final payments. The final accounts for this project will be agreed within budget, generating some saving.
Yate Youth Café	Mar 2011	650	650	0	0	0	0	67	Work complete. Project carried out in partnership with Yate Town Council. The final accounts are agreed and adjustments will now be made to the contributions made by each council to address the 2012/13 spend to date.
Staple Hill Primary - Replacement School	Sep 2011	7,001	6,719	-282	548	450	-98	133	Final accounts agreed resulting in an overall saving.
Marlwood - boiler plant (phased replacement)	April 2012	348	401	53	0	53	53	26	Work complete.

Children & Young People		TOTAL SCHEME COSTS			2012/13 PAYMENTS				Comments
Scheme/Block Allocation (in excess of £100k)	Planned (p) Contractual (c) Forecast (f) Completion date	Budget	Forecast	Variation overspend (+)	Budget	Forecast	Variation Overspend (+)	Spend to date	
		(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	
New Horizons Secondary School	Aug 2011	8,906	8,905	-1	201	200	-1	114	Final Account agreed within budget.
New Siblands Secondary	Jun 2012	5,827	5,827	0	446	446	0	344	All works complete. Contract now in defects period.
Staple Hill - CC/Nursery reinstatement	July 2012	1,242	1,240	-2	774	738	-36	653	Works complete. Current forecast outturn costs are within the project budget.
Yate International Academy – redevelopment	Aug 2012	16,370	16,370	42	5,020	5,020	0	3,817	The new buildings were opened on programme ready for the start of the September term. Demolitions and external works are on-going, due for completion March 2013. Additional asbestos has been found which may impact on the outturn costs, although the project team is working to mitigate this by identifying project savings.
Blackhorse – Resource Base expansion	Sept 2012	124	135	11	100	111	11	111	Works were completed on site in early September 2012. Outturn costs for construction works within contract sum.
Sir Bernard Lovell - rewire	Aug 2012	445	445	0	435	436	1	400	Works completed on programme and within budget. The works did not impact the start of term.
Pucklechurch - extension and remodelling (phase 2)	Nov 2012	700	700	0	527	534	7	419	Works complete.
Marlwood - replace front elevation	Dec 2012	250	252	2	244	247	3	195	Works complete.
		118,853	118,291	-562	16,569	17,208	639	11,762	

DFE: CONSULTATION ON THE REVIEW OF 2013/2014 SCHOOL FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS

The DfE issued a consultation document on the Review of 2013/2014 School Funding Arrangements on the 27 February 2013 with a response date of 26 March 2013.

The consultation seeks views on how the 2013/2014 funding arrangements have been implemented and outlines some specific concerns that have been raised.

Further details are provided in Appendices A and B.

Recommendation

Members of the Forum are requested to determine their response to this consultation.

DfE: Consultation on Review of 2013-14 School Funding Arrangements

(Attached as a separate document)

Review of 2013-14 School Funding Arrangements

Response Form

The closing date for responding is 26March 2013.

Your comments must reach us by that date.

The information you provide in your response will be subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and Environmental Information Regulations, which allow public access to information held by the Department. This does not necessarily mean that your response can be made available to the public as there are exemptions relating to information provided in confidence and information to which the Data Protection Act 1998 applies. You may request confidentiality by ticking the box provided, but you should note that neither this, nor an automatically-generated e-mail confidentiality statement, will necessarily exclude the public right of access.

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

Name:

Organisation (if applicable):

Address:

If you have an enquiry related to the policy content of the review document you can email Funding.REVIEW2013-14@education.gsi.gov.uk

Section 1: Are we moving towards national consistency?

Question 1: Should we set a minimum threshold for the pupil-led factors and, if so, at what level?

Question 2: On what basis did local authorities decide on the quantum or proportion of funding to target to deprived pupils?

Question 3: On what basis did local authorities decide on the per-pupil amounts for the prior attainment factors?

Section 2: Areas of concern and possible changes for 2014-15

Prior Attainment

Question 4: Do you agree that local authorities should continue to use EYFSP data as an attainment-related proxy or should we consider use of a different indicator to identify low cost SEN in primary schools? If so, what indicator?

Pupil mobility

Question 5: Would it help to allow an additional weighting to be given if a school experiences in-year changes to pupil numbers above a certain threshold? If so, where should this threshold be set?

The lump sum

Question 6: In areas with large numbers of small schools, could the problem of having a fixed lump sum be overcome by reducing the relevant AWPU?

Question 7: Would having the ability to apply a separate primary and secondary lump sum avoid necessary small schools becoming unviable? If so, how should we deal with middle and all-through schools?

Question 8: We said in June that we would review the level of the lump sum cap (currently £200,000) for 2014-15 in order to establish whether it is the minimum cap needed to ensure the sustainability of necessary small schools. If we continued with one lump sum for both primary and secondary, what would be the minimum level of cap needed to ensure the sustainability of necessary small schools? If we had separate lump sums for primary and secondary, what would be the minimum cap needed for each in order to ensure the sustainability of necessary small schools?

Question 9: Would using a school-level sparsity measure to target a single lump sum, based on distance between pupils and their second nearest school, avoid necessary small rural schools becoming unviable?

Question 10: What average distance threshold would be appropriate?

Question 11: If we had a sparsity measure, would it still be necessary to have a lump sum in order to ensure that necessary schools remain viable? Why? What is the interaction between the two?

Question 12: What alternative sparsity measures could we use to identify necessary small schools in rural areas?

Question 13: Would the ability for both schools to retain their lump sums for one or two years after amalgamation create a greater incentive to merge?

Targeting funding to deprived pupils

Question 14: If you think local authorities will be unable to use the allowable deprivation indicators in order to prevent significant losses to schools with a high proportion of deprived pupils, why do you think that is the case?

Service Children

Question 15: Do you have any evidence that service children (once we account for deprivation, mobility and pastoral care through the Pupil Premium) require additional funding in order to achieve as well as non-service children?

Other groups of pupils

Question 16: Have the 2013-14 reforms prevented local authorities from targeting funding to groups of pupils that need additional support? If so, which?

Schools with falling rolls

Question 17: In cases where a population bulge is imminent, what is preventing good and necessary schools from staying open?

Question 18: Are there any other circumstances in which falling rolls are unavoidable in the short term?

Section 3: Options for adjusting high needs funding in 2014-15 and beyond

Question 19: Would a formula factor that indicates those pupils who receive top-up funding be a useful addition to help deal with the funding of high needs?

Question 20: To address the variation in base funding between neighbouring local authorities, how fast should local authorities be required to move towards the £6,000 threshold? Should it be made a requirement from 2014-15?

Question 21: Should the Department play an active role in spreading good practice and model contracts/service level agreements?

Question 22: Do you have ideas about how the pre and post-16 high needs systems might be brought closer together?

Section 4: Schools Forums

Question 23: Do you think that Schools Forums are operating more democratically and transparently? If not, what further measures could the Department take in order to improve this?

Thank you for taking the time to let us have your views.

Completed questionnaires and other responses should be sent to the address shown below by 26March 2013.

Send by e-mail to: Funding.REVIEW2013-14@education.gsi.gov.uk

Send by post to:

Anita McLoughlin
Funding Policy Unit
4thFloor
Sanctuary Buildings
Great Smith Street
London
SW1P 3BT

FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS FOR AGREED BREACHES TO SCHOOL ADMISSION NUMBERS

With the agreement of the Schools Forum the Local Authority already holds a central contingency which is to be allocated to schools where:

- Schools have additional expenditure due to a significant growth in pupil numbers as a result of the local authority's duty to secure efficient primary education to meet the needs of the population of the area.

The allocation will be based on 7/12ths of the appropriate Basic Entitlement multiplied by the number of pupils/places in the planned expansion.

The Schools Forum must agree the criteria to be used for pupil growth funding and consulted before any allocations are made.

The above does not cover agreed in year breaches. The pressure to find suitable in year placements is increasing. Schools will be more willing to breach their admission numbers if additional funding was made available.

The allocation would be based on the Basic Entitlement and be proportionate to the time before the pupil is recognised in the school's annual funding allocation.

Recommendation

Members of the Forum are recommended to agree that a school agreeing an in year breach should receive funding in respect of the agreed breach.

LOAN SCHEME AMENDMENT

The Scheme for the Financing of Schools includes a loan scheme for schools.

The Scheme states “Schools may incur expenditure of a capital nature on an approved project in a financial year and fund it over a period not exceeding four years, including the year in which the expenditure is initially incurred”.

The Loan Scheme was recently amended so that schools which had brought forward their future allocations of Devolved Formula Capital could convert this deficit into an interest free loan.

One of the further delegations to schools in 2013/2014 is pension/severance costs. Whilst it is possible to offer a traded service as an ‘insurance’ for primary/special schools, this is not the case for Locally Maintained Secondary Schools.

To assist Locally Maintained Secondary Schools in addressing the financial impact of staff severance/redundancy decisions it is proposed that the loan scheme is expanded.

The proposal is that the cost of severance/redundancy can be met by the school over 3 years with the help of a loan.

Details of the proposals are attached as Appendix A.

Recommendation

Members of the Forum are recommended:

- i) To support the proposal of expanding the loan scheme to support Local Authority Secondary Schools, as detailed in Appendix A;
- ii) To recommend the Children and Young People Committee to expand the Loan Scheme to include support for Locally Maintained Schools in respect of severance/redundancy costs.
- iii) To request an annual report to the Schools Forum on the take up and details of loans made under this element of the loan scheme.

Scheme for the Financing of Schools – Loan Scheme

Proposal to expand the scheme to support locally maintained secondary schools with respect to severance/redundancy costs.

Purpose

To assist locally maintained secondary schools in meeting the costs associated with severance/redundancy decisions.

Background

Prior to 2013/2014 the cost of funding for redundancy, severance and pension payments made to school employees in situations where there are demonstrated financial reasons to reduce staffing levels and the school has complied with the specified scrutiny arrangements and followed necessary HR procedures were met centrally.

From 2013/2014 the centrally held element of the Dedicated Schools Grant will not be able to be used to support new severance/redundancy costs. The funding for severance/redundancy costs has been delegated to schools. However it is not possible to allocate this additional funding to match the severance/redundancy position at each school.

Proposal

It is proposed that to assist schools in meeting the financial impact of these decisions the cost is spread over three years.

The school will meet a third of the cost from its revenue budget with a loan to cover two thirds of the cost. The loan will be repaid in equal instalments on following two 1 April dates. This enables the cost to be spread over three financial years.

Loan Availability

The maximum amount, in total, that a school may loan, in respect of severance/redundancy costs, is £100,000.

Outstanding loans are to be repaid in full in the event of the school no longer being locally maintained.

Application Process

- a) 'In principle' request submitted to Head of Business Support.
- b) 'In principle' request discussed by Director for Children, Adults and Health and Head of Business Support and either agreed or returned for changes.
- c) Loan confirmed when outcomes of redundancy selection process are completed and the amount of the loan does not exceed the agreed 'in principle' amount.

The 'In principle' application process to use a basic proforma to summarise the number and type of staff reductions proposed, indicative costs, impact on school budget and demonstration that the loan can be repaid in future years.

DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT FOR 2013/2014

At the Children and Young People Committee meeting on 6 March 2013 a report was presented on the Revenue Budget 2013/2014.

The report covers:

- The allocation of the Dedicated Schools Grant for 2013/2014;
- The planned places for the 2013/2014 academic year for Special Schools and Resource Bases in mainstream schools;
- The rates to be used in the allocation of funding to early years providers;
- The policy budget headings for monitoring and virement purposes.

The report is attached as Appendix A.

Recommendation

Members of the Forum are recommended to note this report.

South Gloucestershire Council

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE COMMITTEE

6 March 2013

REVENUE BUDGET 2103/2014 (All WARDS)

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to determine :
 - a. The allocation of the Dedicated Schools Grant for 2013/2014
 - b. The planned places for the 2013/2014 academic year for special schools and resource bases in mainstream schools
 - c. The rates to be used in the allocation of funding to early years providers
 - d. The policy budget headings for monitoring and virement purposes

Policy

2. The Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) is a Department of Education grant that must be used to support School and pupil related expenditure. The grant is ring fenced and the functions covered by this grant are specified by the Department for Education (DfE) in regulations.
3. Under the School Finance Regulations, the local authority must determine annually the number of places to be funded at each of its special schools and resource bases in mainstream schools
4. The Council's financial regulations and standing orders set out the process for budget motoring and control. This requires quarterly monitoring of spending against approved budgets.

Background

The Allocation of the Dedicated Schools Grant for 2013/2014

5. The Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) allocation for 2013/2014 is presented in three blocks. The Schools Block and the Early Years Block have been set at cash flat per pupil. The High Needs Block brings together funding for all high needs pupils/students to enable commissioning of places for young people from 0-24 from a single stream.

For South Gloucestershire, the DSG 2013/2014 settlement is £172,845,000.

6. At the meeting on 23 January 2013 Members of the Children and Young People Committee received a report on the rates to be used in the allocation

of funding to schools for 2013/2014. This report is concerned with the wider deployment of the DSG.

The planned places for the 2013/2014 academic year for special schools and resource bases in mainstream schools

- The local authority must determine annually the number of places to be funded at special schools and resource bases in mainstream schools. Local authorities must not fund schools for fewer places than the number of registered pupils in resource bases or special schools as at the count date in the preceding financial year.

The rates to be used in the allocation of funding to early years providers

- The Early Years Block within the DSG will fund the provision of free education entitlement for and 3 and 4 year olds disadvantaged 2 year olds.

The policy budget headings for monitoring and virements purposes

- Following the Council approval of the revenue budget for 2013/2014, the Children and Young People Committee Budget needs to be identified on a detailed basis.

Issues

The allocation of the Dedicated Schools Grant for 2013/2014

- The DSG funds the budgets delegated to schools, Independent Providers and the budgets held centrally on behalf of pupils which includes School Improvement (LA intervention), Pensions (existing), Copyright Licences, Admissions, early years providers support and making payments, youth offending service, psychology, special educational needs.
- The table below gives a summary of the proposal for 2013/2014. Appendix A gives further details.

	£million
Schools Block	137.937
Early Years Block	10.956
High Needs Block	23.952
Total	172.845

The planned places for the 2013/2014 academic year for special schools and resource bases in mainstream schools

- Every year an assessment is made by the SEN Manager and Headteachers about the places required and the banding of those places (i.e. degree of required support). The table below gives a summary of the proposal for 2013/2014. Appendix B gives further details.

Resource Base School	Type	Change in Planned Places from Sept 2012	Planned Places Sept 2013	Financial Year 2013/2014 based on full occupancy £000s
Blackhorse Primary	Social Communication	0	22	444
Charborough Road	Speech and Language	0	20	230
Emersons Green	Visually Impaired/Physical Disabilities	0	13	433
Yate International (Primary Phase)	Hearing Impaired	-1	4	114
Yate International (Secondary Phase)	Hearing Impaired	1	6	146
Brimsham Green Secondary	Physical Disabilities	0	14	261
Hanham High	Language and Communication	0	25	519
Abbeywood Community Academy	Language and Communication	3	23	484
Chipping Sodbury	Autistic Spectrum Disorder	2	2	70
Culverhill	Complex Learning Difficulties	5	130	1805
New Siblands	Severe Learning Difficulties/Autistic Spectrum Disorder	5	90	1635
Warmley Park	Severe Learning Difficulties/Autistic Spectrum Disorder	3	120	2141
New Horizon Learning Centre	Behavioural, Emotional & Social Difficulties and Education Other Than At School	7	161	2932
TOTAL			630	11,214

Under the new funding arrangements specialist setting receive £10,000 per place (£8,000 for alternative provision i.e. PRU) plus top up funding. The analysis above is based on total cost and assumes full place occupancy.

13. Changes each year can be on the overall number of places available at a school, or the type of place. This means that whilst place numbers may not change, cost may do so if the type of place is changed.

The rates to be used in the allocation of funding to early years providers

14. The DfE wants to increase the supply of high quality, affordable childcare and early education. It wants to see providers striving to raise the quality of provision of early education and childcare for babies and young children, and where more money reaches the frontline.

15. The proposals include

- raising the status and quality of the workforce;
- freeing high quality providers to offer more places;
- improving the regulatory regime;
- giving more choice to parents.

16. The hourly funding rates for early years providers have not changed since 2009/2010 and are currently:

	3 and 4 year olds	2 year olds
Group Settings	£3.48	£4.85
Childminders	£3.96	£4.85

Based on the budget available in the early years element of the DSG there is an opportunity to increase rates as follows in 2013/14:

	3 and 4 year olds	2 year olds
Group Settings	£3.53 (5p increase)	£4.95 (10p increase)
Childminders	£4.00 (4p increase)	£4.85 (no change)

The funding rate for childminders for two year olds remains at the original DfE prescribed rate. This will be reviewed with childminders during 2013/14 to consider whether it should be aligned with the rate for three and four year olds, to reflect staff to child ratios.

The policy budget headings for monitoring and virements purposes

17. Appendix C shows the proposed budget headings to be used for 2013/2014 for monitoring and budget purposes

Consultation

18. Consultation on the revenue budget was included as apart of the overall budget consultation exercise. Consultation took place with schools,

Headteacher representatives, governor representatives, trade unions and the schools forum.

Risk Assessment

Financial Implications

19. The DSG in 2013/2014 is £172,845,000.

20. The School Finance Regulations set out the arrangements which Local Authorities must follow when allocating the DSG funding to schools. As the support for schools and other pupil related services expenditure is funded by the dedicated schools budget there is no charge to the Council Budget. Hence there is no charge to the Council Tax payer. **(Jason Manning – 01454 868214)**

Legal Implications

21. There is a legal requirement for the local authority to confirm with schools their budget allocations for 2013/2014 by 15 March 2013.

22. The Chief Financial Officer, after the end of the financial year, must confirm to the DfE that the grant conditions have been met. **(Michael Hewitt – 01454 863024)**

Human Resources Implications

23. Individual schools may need to address staffing implications associated with funding outcomes and will follow the procedures applicable under local management provisions. **(Gaynor Fisher – 01454 868193)**

Sustainability Implications (includes environmental, social and economic impacts)

24. The new funding arrangements have been developed to support the provision of education and wellbeing for children and young people attending schools and early years settings in South Gloucestershire.

Equality Impact Assessment

The Committee is reminded of the Council's statutory duty, in the exercise of its functions, to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by the Equality Act 2010.
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a protected characteristic and persons who do not share it. This means:
 - removing or minimising disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
 - taking steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
 - Encouraging persons who share a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.
- Foster good relations between persons who share a protected characteristic and persons who do not share it. This means:

- tackling prejudice;
- promoting understanding

25. The new funding arrangements for disabled pupils and pupils with high level SEN should not have an adverse impact on equality. Clarifying the financial contributions towards the cost of provision should improve accessibility and make a positive impact on equality of opportunity. The new funding arrangements have been developed to support the provision of education and wellbeing for children and young people attending schools and early years settings in South Gloucestershire.

Risks, Mitigations & Opportunities The revenue budget contains a small number of high risk budgets. These are subject to additional control and monitor processes. Should any of these budgets be the subject of demand led pressures, then management action will be taken across the Children, Adults and Health Department to keep it within the approved sum.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Members of the Children and Young People Committee are recommended to approve:

1. The allocation of the Dedicated Schools Grant for 2013/2014.
2. The planned places for the 2013/2014 academic year for special schools and resource bases in mainstream schools.
3. The rates to be used in the allocation of funding to early years providers.
4. The policy budget headings for monitoring and virements purposes.

Author

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Background Papers

Deployment of the Dedicated Schools Grant 2013/2014 – Children and Young People Committee 23 January 2013
Dedicated Schools Grant 2013/2014 – Children and Young People Committee 5 December 2012
School Funding Arrangements 2013/2014 – Children and Young People Committee 24 October 2012
Council Decision 20 February 2013

DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT

Policy Budget Heading	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000
Schools Block <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allocated to Primary and Secondary Schools Central Items 	145,894 2,573	10,530 -	135,364 2,573
Early Years Block <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allocated to Private Voluntary Independent Providers Central Items 	9,781 1,175	- -	9,781 1,175
High Needs Block <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allocated to Schools and Independent Providers Central Items 	22,174 1,778	- -	22,174 1,778
TOTAL	183,375	10,530	172,845

CENTRAL ITEMSSchools Block

Provision for expanding/new schools
Provision for Infant Class Size
Schools Carbon Reduction
School Improvement (LA intervention)
Pensions (existing)
Academy Adjustments
Schools Copyright Licences
School Planning
Admissions
Contribution to overheads

Early Years Block

Planning of provision
Support to providers
Scheme administration and making payments to providers
Contribution to Overheads

High Needs Block

Provision for increase in Statemented Support
BESD Prudential Borrowing
Youth Offending Service
Children Missing Education
Psychology
Special Educational Needs Section
Sensory Impairment Joint Arrangement
SEN Exceptional Needs Allocation
Ethnic Minority and Traveller Achievement Service
Inclusion Support Service
Contribution to overheads

Planned place changes at Resource Bases attached to mainstream schools

School	Type		Planned places September 2012	Planned places September 2013
Blackhorse Primary	Social Communication	Band A	14	13
		Band B	8	9
Charborough Road Primary	Speech and Language	Band A	8	7
		Band B	12	13
Emersons Green Primary	Visually Impaired/Physical Disabilities	VIT	3	1
		VIH	1	1
		VIM	0	1
		PDT	5	7
		PDH	4	3
Yate International Academy (Primary)	Hearing Impaired	Band A	2	3
		Band B	2	1
		Band C	1	0
Yate International Academy (Secondary)	Hearing Impaired	Band A	2	4
		Band B	2	1
		Band C	1	1
Brimsham Green Secondary	Physical Disabilities	A*	4	3
		A	3	3
		B	4	3
		C	3	5
Hanham High	Language and Communication	Band A	9	9
		Band B	16	16

Abbeywood Academy	Language and Communication	Band A	8	12
		Band B	12	11
Chipping Sodbury	Autistic Spectrum Disorder	ASD	0	2
			124	129

Planned place changes for Special Schools

School	Type		Planned places September 2012	Planned places September 2013
Culverhill	CLD	SLD	1	1
		AUTISTIC	10	9
		PD	9	5
		CLD	86	100
		CLD/CHB	11	9
		VHLN	8	6
		TOTAL	125	130
New Siblands	SLD/ASD	SLD	44	50
		AUTISTIC	12	14
		PMLD	17	13
		SLD/CHB	9	9
		VHLN	3	4
		TOTAL	85	90
Warmley Park	SLD/ASD	SLD	49	48
		AUTISTIC	41	45
		PMLD	19	19

		SLD/CHB	3	3
		VHLN	5	5
		TOTAL	117	120

New Horizon Learning Centre	BESD & EOTAS	PRU (Primary)	12	12
		PRU (Secondary)	30	30
		The Learning Centre	40	40
		Hospital	36	36
		BESD Standard	31	35
		BESD Enhanced	5	8
		TOTAL	154	161

Under the new funding arrangements specialist settings receive £10,000 per place (£8,000 for alternative provision i.e. PRU) plus top up funding. The analysis above is based on total cost and assumes full place occupancy.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE COMMITTEE – 2013/14 Budget

Appendix C

Council Mainstream Funds											
Policy Budget Heading		2013/14 Budget			Monitor			Variance			
		Expenditure	Income	Net	Expenditure	Income	Net	Expenditure	Income	Net	Net
		£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	%
1	Directorate	114		114	114		114	0	0	0	0
2	Education, Learning and Skills	6,067	317	5,750	6,067	317	5,750	0	0	0	0
3	Integrated Children's Services	28,275	13,080	15,195	28,275	13,080	15,195	0	0	0	0
4	Commissioning, Partnership and Performance	1,212	102	1,110	1,212	102	1,110	0	0	0	0
5	Business Support	4,709	520	4,189	4,709	520	4,189	0	0	0	0
6	Traded Services	3,936	3,936	0	3,936	3,936	0	0	0	0	0
Total Children and Young People		44,313	17,955	26,358	44,313	17,955	26,358	0	0	0	0

* Non DSG Income Includes (£000s): LACSEG Grant - Youth Justice Board - and Income From Other Local Authorities and Trading

Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG)											
Policy Budget Heading		2013/14 Budget			Monitor			Variance			
		Expenditure	Income	Net	Expenditure	Income	Net	Expenditure	Income	Net	Net
		£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	%
1	Schools Block:										
	Allocated to Primary and Secondary Schools	145,894	10,530	135,364	145,894	10,530	135,364	0	0	0	0
	Central Items	2,573		2,573	2,573		2,573	0	0	0	0
2	Early Years Block:										
	Allocated to Private, Voluntary, Independent Providers	9,781		9,781	9,781		9,781	0	0	0	0
	Central Items	1,175		1,175	1,175		1,175	0	0	0	0
3	High Needs Block:										
	Allocated to Schools and	22,174		22,174	22,174		22,174	0	0	0	0

Department for Children, Adults & Health - Schools Forum

21st March 2013

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	Independent Providers										
	Central Items	1,778		1,778	1,778		1,778	0	0	0	0
	Total Children and Young People	183,375	10,530	172,845	183,375	10,530	172,845	0	0	0	0

Glossary of Services

Directorate

- i) Contribution towards Directorate

Education, Learning and Skills

- i) School Transport
- ii) Community Learning
- iii) Education Welfare

Integrated Children's Services

- i) Early Intervention and Preventative Services
 - Children's Centres
 - Parenting and family support
 - Youth services
- ii) Children's Social Care
 - Child Protection
 - Looked After Children
 - Fostering and Adoption
- iii) Specialist Services
 - Emergency Duty Team
 - Vinney Green Secure Unit

Commissioning Partnerships and Performance

- i) Commissioning Unit
- ii) Safeguarding
- iii) Audit and Review
- iv) Performance Management
- v) Communication
- vi) Business Continuity
- vii) Equalities

Business Support

- i) Budget Planning and Financial Management
- ii) Asset Management
- iii) Capital Programme
- iv) Complaints and Freedom of Information
- v) Information, Risk Management, Business Support

Traded Services

- i) Catering and Cleaning
- ii) Meals in the Community
- iii) Swimming
- iv) Schools Personnel, Health and Safety
- v) Schools ICT and Information Management System
- vi) Schools Finance
- vii) School Improvement

DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS AND THE WORK PROGRAMME 2012/13

All meetings at 4.30pm at Badminton Road, Yate

9th May 2013 Room 0012 Ground Floor	4th July 2013 Room 0012 Ground Floor
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trading Arrangements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparing for 2014/15 (if known) • Provision Outturn 2012/13

12th September 2013 Room 0012 Ground Floor
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st Budget Monitor 2013/14

ANY OTHER BUSINESS