



Schools Funding Forum 14th September 2017 ITEM 11

Subject Heading:

Centrally retained DSG

Report Author:

**David Allen – Strategic Finance
Manager**

Eligibility to vote:

All members

SUMMARY

This item is to seek the approval of the Schools Funding Forum for the central retention of funding from the DSG to continue the support and services agreed in previous financial years.

RECOMMENDATIONS

To agree the central retention of the budgets in 2018-19 as detailed below.

REPORT DETAIL

The revised funding arrangements for 2018-19 will include a fourth funding block for central services (the central schools services block). This block is to fund local authorities for statutory duties they hold for both maintained schools and academies.

The central schools services block (CSSB) brings together:

- Funding previously allocated through the retained duties of element of the Education Services Grant (ESG)
- Funding for ongoing central functions such as admissions, previously top-sliced from the schools block

- Residual funding from historical commitments, previously top-sliced from the schools block.

The operational guidelines on 2018-19 revenue funding set out the areas and activities for which DSG funding may be retained centrally.

Those budget areas are listed below together with the funding requested for 2018-19 against the funding agreed by the Schools Funding Forum for 2017-18.

Services	Budget 2017-18	Budget 2018-19
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Schools forum approval is not required (although they should be consulted)		
• High needs block provision	£19.1m	Not known
• Central licences negotiated by the Secretary of State	£161,580	£161,580 (estimate)

Schools forum approval is required on a line-by-line basis.		
• Funding to enable all schools to meet the infant class size requirement	£25,000 (inc in pupil growth)	£25,000 (inc in pupil growth)
• Back-pay for equal pay claims	£0	£0
• Remission of boarding fees at maintained schools and academies	£0	£0
• Places in independent schools for non-SEN pupils	£0	£0
• Admissions	£499,734	£499,734
• Servicing of Schools Forum	£43,250	£43,250
• Contribution to responsibilities that local authorities hold for all schools	£589,000	£589,000

Schools forum approval is required		
• Early years block provision	£730,000	£730,000
• Movement out of the Schools Block	£0	£0
• Any deficit from the previous funding period that reduces the amount of the schools budget	£0	£0
• Any brought forward deficit on de-delegated services which is to be met from the overall schools budget	£61,000	£61,000

Schools forum approval is required on a line-by-line basis. The budget cannot exceed the value agreed in the previous funding period and no new commitments can be entered into.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital expenditure funded from revenue (i.e. no new projects can be charged to the central schools budget) 	£87,490	£87,490
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribution to combined budgets 	£200,000	£200,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing termination of employment costs (i.e. no new redundancy costs can be charged to the central schools budget) 	£0	£0
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prudential borrowing costs 	£0	£0

Schools forum approval is required on a line-by-line basis, including approval of the criteria for allocating funds to schools.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding for significant pre-16 pupil growth, including new schools set up to meet basic need, whether maintained or academy 	£2,700,000	£2,700,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding for good or outstanding schools with falling rolls where growth in pupil numbers is expected within three years 	£500,000	£400,000