



## SCHOOLS FUNDING FORUM AGENDA

8.00 am	Thursday 1 December 2022	CEME Rainham, Room 233
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**Members 17: Quorum: 7**

### **MEMBERSHIP:**

#### **Representative Groups**

#### **LA Maintained School Representatives:**

**Primary:** Kirsten Cooper  
Georgina Delmonte/David Denchfield  
Hayley McClenaghan  
Chris Speller  
Garth Tucker  
David Unwin-Bailey

**Special:** Emma Allen

**Governors:** Dave Waters, Primary

#### **Academy Representatives:**

**Primary:** Kate Ridley-Moy

**Secondary:** Denise Broom  
Neil Frost  
Scott McGuinness  
David Turrell  
Vacancy x2

**AP Academy:** Gary Haines

**Non-School  
Representatives:**

**Early Years PVI Sector:** Emma Reynolds

**Post 16:** Vacancy

**Diocesan Board:** Vacancy

**Trade Unions:** John Delaney/John McGill, Teachers  
Peter Liddle, Support Staff

**For information about the meeting please contact:  
David Allen  
[david.allen@haverling.gov.uk](mailto:david.allen@haverling.gov.uk)**

## **AGENDA ITEMS**

**1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS OR OBSERVERS**

**2 TO AGREE THE NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON... (Pages 1 - 5)**

To agree the open and exempt minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2022 as a correct and accurate record.

**3 MATTERS ARISING**

**4 SCHOOL FUNDING CONSULTATION 2023-24 (Pages 6 - 20)**

Report attached

**5 ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR SCHOOLS - AUTUMN STATEMENT 2022 (Pages 21 - 22)**

Report attached.

**6 EARLY YEARS FUNDING 2022-23 REVIEW OF RATES (Pages 23 - 29)**

Report attached.

**7 DE-DELEGATION OF FUNDING FOR CENTRAL SERVICES 2023-24 (Pages 30 - 40)**

Report attached

**8 NEXT MEETINGS**

Future meetings have been arranged as follows:

12 January 2022

9 February 2022

15 June 2022

Meetings to start at 8.00 a.m. at CEME room 233

**9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**Zena Smith**  
**Democratic and Election Services Manager**

## **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE SCHOOLS FUNDING FORUM**

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2022 (8.00 – 10.15am)**

**Present:**

**Representative Groups**

**LA Maintained School Representatives:**

**Primary:** Kirsten Cooper  
Georgina Delmonte  
Hayley McClenaghan  
Chris Speller  
Garth Tucker  
David Unwin-Bailey

**Special:** Terry Hudson

**Academy Representatives:**

**Secondary:** Neil Frost  
Scott McGuinness  
David Turrell

**Non-School Representatives:**

**Early Years PVI Sector:** Beverley Nicholls

**Trade Unions:** Peter Liddle

### **1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS OR OBSERVERS**

Apologies were received from Emma Allen (Terry Hudson substituting), Denise Broom, Kate Ridley-Moy and Emma Reynolds (Beverley Nicholls substituting).

### **2 TO AGREE THE NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 22<sup>ND</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022**

The minutes of the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2022 were agreed as a correct record.

### **3 MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising.

#### 4 HIGH NEEDS FUNDING YEAR END FORECAST 2022-23

The Schools Funding Forum noted that the forecast in-year overspend for financial year 2022-23 had fallen from £3.0m to £2.5m. The forecast cumulative deficit, including the brought forward sum, was now £7.2m.

The Forum agreed to the re-establishment of a High Needs task and finish group to examine funding for Education Health Care Plans (EHCPs), Additional Resourced Provision (ARPs) and Alternative Provision (AP). Special school funding would also be included this year

The LA will continue to keep all areas of DSG spending under review and to identify potential savings to minimise the overspend in the High Needs Block.

It was noted that Havering had a high rate of applications for EHCPs compared with other LAs and that there had been a rise in the number of EHCPs in school nursery and PVI provision.

The Forum:

- (i) **noted** the forecast of expenditure for financial year 2022-23
- (ii) **agreed** to the re-establishment of a High Needs task and finish group

#### 5 EARLY YEARS FUNDING 2022-23 REVIEW OF RATES

At the end of the 2021-22 financial year there were unspent sums on the Early Years Block of the DSG totalling £218k. The DfE had also made an adjustment increasing funding for 2021-22 by £340k. The Forum noted that the LA intended to consult with the Early Years Provider Reference Group (EYPRG) on how the £558k available should be allocated. The outcome would be reported to the meeting of the Forum on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022.

The Forum were advised that the funding rates for 2023-24 shown in Appendix A had been taken from the Early Years Funding Formula Consultation considered in Item 6.

The Forum **agreed**:

that options on the use of funding should be referred to EYPRG.

#### 6 EARLY YEARS FUNDING FORMULA CONSULTATION

The Forum was advised that a Government consultation on Early Year formulae funding had been held between 4<sup>th</sup> July 2022 and 16<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

The LA had submitted a response to the consultation shown at Appendix A. This was a response on behalf of the LA, rather than on behalf of the Forum or Early Years providers in Havering. Providers had been reminded that the consultation was still open at the Early Years Term Preparation Session on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

The Forum **noted** the report.

## **7 DE-DELEGATION OF FUNDING FOR CENTRAL SERVICES 2023-24**

The primary LA maintained school representatives on the Forum reported back on the discussions held at cluster meetings on the de-delegation of services for the 2023-24 financial year.

Representatives reported that further information was required for the EAL Service, Behaviour Support Service and core school improvement activities before clusters could reach a decision. A decision on de-delegation for these service areas was deferred.

Following a discussion on trade union facility time, representatives agreed to the de-delegation of funding at the increased rate of £2.63 per pupil. They also agreed that the cost of maternity leave should continue to be reimbursed in full, which necessitated an increase in the sum de-delegated to £34.87 per pupil.

Forum members representing LA maintained schools **agreed** to de-delegation of the following services:

- (i) Contingency to support schools in financial difficulty
- (ii) Insurance
- (iii) Free school meals eligibility checking
- (iv) Maternity leave insurance
- (v) Trade Union Facility Time
- (vi) Statutory and regulatory duties

## **8 SCHOOLS' FUNDING 2023-24**

Forum members noted that the indicative figure for the DSG Schools Block for 2023-24 represented an increase of 2.24% from 2022-23. The Forum had agreed at the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2022 that Havering should continue to use the National Funding Formula (NFF) factors and values. This meant that the changes to funding arrangements for 2023-24, implemented by the DfE as part of the move to a 'direct' NFF, would not have any impact on Havering schools.

Decisions needed to be made on whether to transfer funding from the Schools Block of the DSG to the High Needs Block, whether to supplement the funding received from the DfE for growth and falling rolls, at what level to set the

Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) and at what level to set a gains cap if required.

The LA proposed that two funding options should be included in the annual consultation on school and high needs funding. Both these options included a transfer of £700k to the fund for growth and falling rolls, required if current funding arrangements were to be maintained, and in both options the MFG was set at 0.5%.

The Forum noted that in both Option A and B one school was still receiving funding from the MFG because historically they had received funding as part of the Excellence in Cities and Behaviour Improvement programmes.

Option A allowed for the transfer of 0.5% of the Schools Block to High Needs (£1.075m using the indicative allocation), as had occurred last year. In Option B, there was no transfer. The impact of the two options on individual schools, shown anonymously, was presented. The LA sought the view of the Forum on whether these two options should be those included in the funding consultation.

The Forum **agreed** that:

- (i) an additional £700k should be allocated to the funding of growth and falling rolls
- (ii) the options as proposed should form the basis of the 2023-24 funding consultation

## **9 ITEM 9**

This item was exempt from the public.

## **10 NEXT MEETINGS**

Future meetings have been arranged as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> December 2022  
12<sup>th</sup> January 2023  
9<sup>th</sup> February 2023  
15<sup>th</sup> June 2023

## **11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted



# Agenda Item 4



## Schools Funding Forum 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022

## ITEM 4

**Subject Heading:**

**Schools Funding 2023-24**

**Report Author:**

**Nick Carter – Principal Finance Officer  
(Schools)**

**Eligibility to vote:**

**All school and academy members**

### SUMMARY

This report provides details of the Consultation on Schools and High Needs Funding 2023-24 which closed on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2022. A summary of the consultation responses received from schools and academies will be presented at the meeting.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Schools Funding Forum:

- (i) considers the responses to the Consultation on Schools and High Needs Funding 2023-24 submitted by schools and academies
- (ii) considers whether any action is required following the results of the consultation and prior to Local Authority receiving final funding allocations from the Department for Education later this month

### REPORT DETAIL

#### **Consultation on Schools and High Needs Funding 2023-24**

At the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2022 the Schools Funding Forum received a report on the indicative Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Schools Block funding for financial year 2023-24.

The Local Authority presented two options for the distribution of funding to schools and academies. In the first of these options, Option A, there would be a transfer of 0.5% of the Schools Block to the High Needs Block, to maintain the increase in high needs funding introduced for 2022-23. The Minimum Funding Guarantee would be set at 0.5%, the maximum permitted, and there would be a gains cap of 2.6%.

In the second option, Option B, there would be no transfer of funds from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block, the Minimum Funding Guarantee would be set at 0.5%, the maximum permitted, and there would be a gains cap of 3.6%.

Both options used the DfE's National Funding Formula factors and rates and both options allowed for a transfer within the School Block of £700k to maintain funding rates for growth and falling rolls at the current levels.

The Schools Funding Forum agreed that the two options presented should form the basis of the consultation with schools and academies on funding for 2023-24.

The funding consultation was issued on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022 with a closing date of 29<sup>th</sup> November 2022. The closing date means that the responses could not be included on the agenda papers but will be reported at the meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022.

The consultation document, is shown at Appendix A and the response form at Appendix B.



# Consultation on Schools and High Needs Funding 2023-24

## Introduction

This consultation document proposes options for the allocation of funding to schools for the financial year 2023-24 through the funding formula and in support of pupils with high needs. Schools are asked to consider the funding options outlined and respond to the Local Authority for further consideration by the Schools Funding Forum.

At this stage, all figures used in the calculations are from the October 2021 Census, but with the National Funding Formula (NFF) rates that will apply in 2023-24 formula. The final calculation will be based on the October 2022 Census.

The DfE do not release the October 2022 Census data until late December 2022. Therefore LAs consult using the previous year's dataset to agree the principles for the forthcoming financial year.

## Process

A summary of responses to the consultation will be reported to the meeting of the Schools Funding Forum on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022, and will form part of the final decisions taken by the Local Authority in January, before schools are issued with their funding for the 2023-24 financial year.

## Responding to the Consultation

This consultation paper is sent to the Head Teachers of all schools and academies. Please bring this to the attention of Chairs of Governors, Chairs of Resources, Board Members and Trustees as appropriate.

Responses should be emailed to:

**[education.finance@havering.gov.uk](mailto:education.finance@havering.gov.uk)**

**Closing date of consultation:** Tuesday 29th November 2022

If you require clarification on any point please contact:

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or Hany Moussa  
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## **Schools Funding 2023-24**

### **Background to the funding options for 2023-24**

This year, as was the case for 2022-23, we are consulting schools on a single issue, whether to transfer funding from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block of the Dedicated Schools Grant. In short this means reducing the funding distributed through the schools funding formula and using the funding available to support pupils with high needs in schools. Local Authorities, with the agreement of their Schools' Funding Forum, are permitted to transfer 0.5% of the Schools Block funding to High Needs funding. Based on indicative figures for 2023-24 this would equal £1.075m.

Two options for the allocation of 2023-24 funding are presented in this consultation:

Option A - 0.5% transfer from Schools Block to High Needs

Option B – no transfer to High Needs

Further details of these options, and of the impact on schools' formula funding are outlined in this document and on the attached appendices.

It has become increasingly apparent that the cost of supporting pupils with high needs is placing an undue burden on school budgets. There is a risk that financial considerations begin to jeopardise inclusivity and that schools with a large number of pupils with high needs find it increasingly difficult to reach a balanced budget. To help address this, the funding consultation for 2022-23 included the option of transferring 0.5% (£1.03m) of the Schools Block to the High Needs Block so that this could be allocated to schools in support of pupils with high needs.

A Task and Finish Group, comprised of head teachers and staff from the local authority, was established to examine high needs funding for schools. This looked at how the £1.03m transferred, plus an additional £1.44m received following the Government spending review in autumn 2021, might be allocated.

In the funding consultation for 2022-23, 91% of respondents favoured the transfer of funds to high needs. Details of the increases in high needs funding that resulted from this are shown below in Section 3.1.1.

Having used the 0.5% (£1.03m) transferred from the School Block to establish high needs funding rates for 2022-23, it will be necessary to transfer 0.5% again in 2023-24 to ensure these rates can be maintained. The Task and Finish Group has been re-established to consider how high needs funding for schools in 2023-24 is distributed.

### **1 Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG)**

The Government announced in the autumn 2021 spending review that the total core school budget is increasing to £56.8 billion by 2024-25, a £7 billion cash increase compared with 2021-22. 2023-24 is the second year of the three year funding settlement. Overall core schools funding (including funding for mainstream schools and high needs) is increasing by £1.5 billion in 2023-24 compared to the previous year, on top of the £4 billion increase in 2022-23.

For 2022-23 budgets, the Government introduced a schools supplementary grant to allocate additional funding announced in the autumn 2021 spending review. This was distributed to schools separately from the main National Funding Formula allocation. For 2023-24 the schools supplementary grant is being rolled into the schools NFF to ensure that this additional funding forms an on-going part of schools' core budgets. Appropriate adjustments have been made to the NFF factor values and baselines to reflect this.

## 2 Havering's Schools Block funding 2023-24

Local authority allocations are based on primary and secondary units of funding (PUFs and SUFs). The indicative allocations released by the DfE are calculated using October 2021 data and will be updated in December for October 2022 pupil numbers.

	Actual primary unit of funding (PUF) £	Actual secondary unit of funding (SUF) £	Primary pupil numbers	Secondary pupil numbers	Pupil funding £	Schools Supplementary Grant £	Rates (NDR) £	Total funding £
2023-24 (Oct 2021 census data)	4,912	6,627	23,137	14,925	212,548,940	0	2,440,293	214,989,233
2022-23	4,667	6,285	23,137	14,925	201,779,794	6,072,320	2,430,762	210,282,876
Diff	245	341	0	0	10,769,147	-6,072,320	9,531	4,706,357

The total Schools Block allocation also includes funding for pupil growth and falling rolls which will be notified to the LA by the DfE in December. It is expected to be a similar amount to that received for 2022-23.

	Growth & falling rolls funding £	Total Schools Block and SSG funding £
2023-24 (estimate)	1,525,109	216,514,342
2022-23	1,525,109	211,807,985
Diff	0	4,706,357

### 2.1 The National Funding Formula

Havering took the decision to adopt the National Funding Formula (NFF) factors and values in 2018-19 when they were introduced. The Schools Funding Forum has

agreed that they should again be used in the calculation of schools' funding allocations for 2023-24

As part of the Government's national increase in funding for schools, the NFF funding rates have been increased. For core factors (such as basic entitlement and the lump sum) the increase is 2.4%. The FSM 'ever 6' and IDACI (Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index) factors have been increased by 4.3% so that additional support is directed to disadvantaged children.

A slight increase in the value of the Area Cost Adjustment has been applied to funding for Havering, which means that factor values have increased by slightly more than the percentages quoted above. The Area Cost Adjustment is effectively a London weighting.

In addition to the percentage rise in factor values resulting from the increase in national funding, the basic entitlement, FSM 'ever 6' and lump sum factors have also increased because the school supplementary grant has been rolled into the NFF.

The factor rates for 2023-24 and the difference from 2022-23 are shown in Appendix 1.

Having adopted NFF factors and values, decisions still need to be made each year on whether funding should be transferred from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) and whether to supplement the funding received from the DfE for growth and falling rolls. Decisions also need to be made on the level of the minimum funding guarantee and any gains cap to be applied.

Following a consultation held in summer 2021 the DfE has begun the move from a 'soft' NFF to a 'direct' NFF. The resultant changes for 2023-24, include a requirement to use only NFF factors in local formulas and to move 10% closer to NFF factor values. These have no impact for Havering schools as NFF factors and values have already been adopted in full.

As the move to a 'direct' NFF continues in future years, it is likely that there will be changes that impact on Havering schools, for example, there is likely to be less local flexibility in determining the formulas used to allocate funding for growth and falling rolls.

## **2.2 Minimum per-pupil Funding Levels for primary and secondary schools (MPPL)**

In allocating funding to schools, Local Authorities need to ensure that minimum per-pupil funding levels are met. For 2023-24 these are £4,405 for primary schools and £5,715 for secondary schools. This includes funding for the rolling in of the schools supplementary grant and a 0.5% increase.

In 2022-23 the MPPL levels were £4,265 for primary schools and £5,525 for secondary schools. Six primary and no secondary schools received funding at the MPPL level. From provisional modelling, using October 2021 census data, two primary and no secondary schools would be funded at MPPL levels in financial year 2023-24. This is subject to change once the final dataset for the October 2022 Census is received.

## 2.3 The Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG)

The Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) ensures that schools per pupil funding rises by a minimum percentage from the previous year. For 2023-24 local authorities can apply an MFG of between 0.0% and 0.5%. This means that where the per pupil funding for a school has risen by less than the MFG rate, the increase will be topped up to the level of the MFG.

As an example an MFG set at 0.5% would work as follows:

School's per pupil funding in 2022-23	£4,500
Formula funding for 2023-24	£4,400 (a fall from 2022-23)
School to be funded at 2022-23 + 0.5%	£4,523

For 2022-23 the MFG was set at 1.2%. In the 2023-24 funding consultation both Option A and B propose an MFG of 0.5%, the maximum permitted, as the funding released by reducing the MFG to 0.0% would not have a significant impact if used elsewhere.

## 2.4 Gains cap

Local Authorities are able to adopt a gains cap if there is insufficient funding left in the Schools Block to meet formula allocations and MFG requirements.

As an example a gains cap set at 2.6% would work as follows:

School's per pupil funding in 2022-23	£4,500
Formula funding for 2023-24	£4,635 (a rise of 3.0%)
School to be funded at 2022-23 + 2.6%	£4,617

For 2022-23 a gains cap of 2.8% was applied to enable the transfer of 0.5% of the Schools Block to High Needs. In the 2023-24 funding consultation Option A proposes a gains cap of 2.6%, with a transfer to High Needs and Option B a gains cap of 3.6% without a transfer to High Needs.

## 2.5 Pupil Growth and Falling Rolls Funding

As outlined above, the phased move to a direct NFF is likely to impact on the funding received by schools for growth and falling rolls in coming years but not for 2023-24.

The allocation that Havering receives for pupil growth and falling rolls has reduced in recent years because the funding is now allocated by the DfE based on a formula. This multiplies the difference between the pupil numbers from the latest October census and those from the previous year by per pupil amounts of £1,650 for primary and £2,470 for secondary.

Havering's growth and falling rolls funds support school expansions, bulge classes and those schools with falling rolls. The allocations for existing bulge classes, previous year expansions moving through year groups and for falling rolls, were set out for the Schools Funding Forum. A budget of approximately £2.2m is required to continue funding on the current basis, a similar amount to that required for the 2022-23 financial year.



The Schools Funding Forum agreed that pupil growth and falling rolls funding for schools needs to be protected at current levels whilst this is still permitted by NFF regulations. This will require the use of approximately £700k of the Schools Block funding. In the funding consultation for 2023-24 both Option A and Option B include this transfer.

### 3 Havering's High Needs Block funding 2023-24

Indicative funding for 2023-24 is as shown in the table below with comparable data from 2022-23. The DfE's High Needs formula uses 11 different factors. Only the pupil population factor is shown below, as along with historic spend, this distributes the largest proportion of funding to local authorities.

	Aged 2 – 18 Pupil Population Estimate	Provisional High needs NFF allocations £	Additional High Needs allocation announced December 2021 £	Total High Needs allocations (provisional)
2023-24	57,405	39,032,906	-	39,032,906
2022-23	56,766	35,110,164	1,411,237	36,521,401
Difference	639	3,922,742	-1,411,237	2,511,505

Although funding for 2023-24 will increase by £2.5m (6.9%), costs are expected to rise by at least that level due to an increase in the number of pupils with high needs and the complexity of need. The High Needs Block is expected to overspend by £2.5m in the current financial year. With a £4.7m deficit brought forward, this will bring the cumulative deficit to £7.2m.

#### 3.1 Transfer of Schools Block Funding to High Needs

In 2022-23, following consultation with schools, Havering transferred £1,028,678 (0.5%) from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block. For 2023-24 LAs are again able to transfer up to 0.5% of the Schools Block to other DSG blocks. Funding Option A for 2023-24 proposes that 0.5% of the Schools Block is again transferred to the High Needs Block. Using the indicative figures this equates to £1,074,946.

##### 3.1.1 High Needs funding rates for schools 2022-23

Following the transfer of £1,028,678 from the Schools Block to High Needs and the receipt of an additional £1,411,237 announced in the autumn 2021 spending review, the LA increased a number of the high needs funding rates for schools in 2022-23. The increased rates are expected to deliver £2.5m additional high needs funding for schools in the current financial year.

A High Needs Task and Finish group, made up head teachers and LA staff, was established by the Schools Funding Forum in autumn 2021 to review funding rates and to recommend a package of changes utilising the additional £2.5m available. The Schools Funding Forum approved the changes recommended and these have been implemented. They are:

- (i) An increase in the hourly rate in support of EHCPs from £14.00 to £16.00.
- (ii) Funding for EHCPs to be paid to schools after the first 9.6 hours of support rather than after the first 11.0 hours.
- (iii) An increase in the pupil top-up funding for ARPs of £4,059, from £6,667 to £10,726.
- (iv) The Inclusion Supplement (Headroom) to be calculated using a revised formula that references a school's Notional SEN budget. As a result the total sum allocated to schools and academies rises by around 50%.
- (v) The pupil top up funding rate for the Pupil Referral Unit is increased from £11,906 to £13,162. The percentage increase matches the increase in schools' pupil led basic entitlement since the rate was last reviewed.

### **3.2 High needs funding 2023-24 – Task and Finish Group**

Without the transfer of £1.03m from the Schools Block to High Needs it would not have been possible to increase high needs funding rates for 2022-23 to the levels shown above. The transfer from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block for 2022-23 represented 42% of the increase in high needs funding allocated to schools. This enabled, for example, the hourly rate in support of pupils with an EHCP to be increased from £14 an hour after 11 hours, to £16 an hour after 9.6 hours. Without the 0.5% (£1.03m) transfer the base figure would be £15.15 per hour after 10.2 hours.

Having used the 0.5% (£1.03m) transferred from the School Block to establish High Needs Funding rates for 2022-23, it will be necessary to transfer 0.5% again in 2023-24 so ensure these rates can be maintained.

As outlined above, the High Needs Task and Finish Group, set up last year, has been re-established. The Group will discuss options for the following areas:

- (i) Funding rates for EHCP supported hours. Members of the Schools Funding Forum requesting that the option of moving to a banding approach to funding be considered
- (ii) High needs inclusion supplement (headroom)
- (iii) ARP funding
- (iv) AP Funding
- (v) Special School Funding

The Task and Finish Group will be considering the arrangements and distribution of the funding for 2023-24 against a background of no additional funding being available. When the Group meets, the outcome of the consultation will be known. If Option A is preferred, and there is a transfer from the Schools Block to High Needs, then the total funding available will remain at the current levels. If Option B is preferred, and there is no transfer, then the total funding available will be lower than in the current year.

## 4 Funding Formula 2023-24 and Funding Options

The Schools Funding Forum feel that the issue of high needs funding remains a priority, that the increase in funding for 2022-23 has helped, and that schools should be consulted on transferring 0.5% from the Schools Block to the High Needs block again for 2023-24.

Participants in this consultation are asked to express a preference for one of two options. Option A, in which 0.5% of the Schools Block is transferred and Option B in which there is no transfer.

Details of these two options are shown below. The impact on individual schools is shown anonymously in **Appendix B**.

### Option A: 0.5% transfer from Schools Block to High Needs Block

- High Needs funding rates for 2022-23 retained as the base rate for 2023-24
- Minimum Funding Guarantee set at 0.5% (maximum permitted)
- A gains cap of 2.6%
- £700,000 moved to the Pupil Growth and Falling Rolls Fund

Based on current indicative figures, if 0.5% of the School Block is transferred to the High Needs Block, it is necessary to set the gains cap at 2.6%. This allows for an MFG at 0.5% and for the allocation of the additional £700k required to maintain funding for growth and falling rolls at the current level.

As the transfer of 0.5% was included in the calculation of high needs funding rates for funding rates for 2022-23, the transfer is required again for 2023-24 to retain rates at the current level.

The table below shows the figures.

	£
Total funding allocated with 0.5% MFG and 2.6% Cap	213,143,170
Total required for Pupil Growth/Falling Rolls	700,000
Transfer to High Needs (0.5%)	1,074,946
<b>Total funding required</b>	<b>214,918,116</b>
<b>Total funding available-</b>	<b>214,989,233</b>
<b>Funding remaining</b>	<b>71,177</b>

The number of schools receiving formula funding, MPPL and MFG protection is shown in the table below, together with the cost of the MFG protection and savings from the cap.

No of schools on MPPL		No. of schools on MFG at 0.5%		No. of schools to receive between 0.5% and 2.6%		No of schools capped at 2.6%		Cost of MFG £000s	Saving from cap £000s
Prim.	Sec.	Prim.	Sec.	Prim.	Sec.	Prim.	Sec.		
2	0	1	1	5	1	51	16	262	1,494

If there are additional funds available when the revised Schools Block allocation, based on October 2022 data, is received, this would be used to increase the level of the gains cap.

### Option B: No transfer from Schools Block to High Needs Block

- The base funding rates for high needs are lower than those for 2022-23. The 0.5% (£1.03m) transferred from Schools Block to High Needs in 2022-23 will not be available for 2023-24.
- Minimum Funding Guarantee set at 0.5% (maximum permitted)
- A gains cap of 3.6%
- £700,000 moved to the Pupil Growth and Falling Rolls Fund

Based on current indicative figures, if there is no transfer from the School Block to the High Needs Block, the gains cap can be set at the higher level of 3.6%. This allows for an MFG at 0.5% and for the allocation of the additional £700k required to maintain funding for growth and falling rolls at the current level.

The table below shows the figures.

	£
Total funding allocated with 0.5% MFG and 3.6% Cap	214,237,405
Total required for Pupil Growth/Falling Rolls	700,000
<b>Total funding required</b>	<b>214,937,405</b>
<b>Total funding available-</b>	<b>214,989,233</b>
<b>Funding remaining</b>	<b>51,828</b>

The number of schools receiving formula funding, MPPL and MFG protection is shown in the table below, together with the cost of the MFG protection and savings from the cap.

No of schools on MPPL		No. of schools on MFG at 0.5%		No. of schools to receive between 0.5% and 3.6%		No of schools capped at 3.6%		Cost of MFG £000s	Saving from cap £000s
Prim.	Sec.	Prim.	Sec.	Prim.	Sec.	Prim.	Sec.		
2	0	1	1	29	10	27	7	262	399

If there are additional funds available when the revised Schools Block allocation, based on October 2022 data, is received, this would be used to increase the level of the gains cap.

## 5 Conclusion

We hope that this paper and the accompanying appendices explain the funding options that form the basis of this consultation, and the rationale behind these options.

As explained above, these allocations are indicative and final calculations will be made once the validated data from the October 2022 census has been received from the DfE. The final funding allocations for 2023-24 will change, increasing or decreasing for each school depending on changes in schools' pupil numbers and changes in the additional needs data.

The consultation response form is provided in a separate document.

***Issued on 14/11/22 by Education Finance - Nick Carter, Hany Moussa, Sam Allen***



# Havering

LONDON BOROUGH

## Consultation on Schools and High Needs Funding 2023-24 – Response Form

<b>School name:</b>	
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Please place an **X** in the column provided against your preferred funding option for 2023-24:

Option A	A transfer of 0.5% from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block	Preferred option
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High needs funding rates for 2022-23 retained as the base rate for 2023-24</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimum Funding Guarantee set at 0.5%</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A gains cap of 2.6%</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>£700k moved to the Pupil Growth and Falling Rolls Fund</li> </ul>	

Option B	No transfer from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block	Preferred option
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The base funding rates for high needs are lower than those for 2022-23</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimum Funding Guarantee set at 0.5%</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A gains cap of 3.6%</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>£700k moved to the Pupil Growth and Falling Rolls Fund</li> </ul>	

Please enter any comments you have about this consultation in the space below and continue on following page

<b>Name:</b>	
--------------	--

<b>Designation:</b>	
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### **Submission details**

Please email the completed response form by Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2022 to:

[education.finance@haverling.gov.uk](mailto:education.finance@haverling.gov.uk)



## Schools Funding Forum 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022

## ITEM 5

**Subject Heading:**

**Additional funding for schools –  
Autumn Statement 2022**

**Report Author:**

**Nick Carter – Principal Finance Officer  
(Schools)**

**Eligibility to vote:**

**All school and academy members**

### SUMMARY

This report provides details of the increase in funding for schools announced in the Chancellor's Autumn Statement on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2022 and of the recently announced pay awards for teachers and support staff.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Schools Funding Forum:

- (i) notes the report

### REPORT DETAIL

#### **Additional funding announced in the Autumn Statement 2022**

In the Autumn Statement on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2022 the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced an additional £2.3b for schools, both next year and the year after. After adjusting budgets downward to account for the removal of funding relating to the increase in National Insurance (reversed from 1 November 2022) this means that the core schools' budget will be £2.0b higher than previously announced.

The DfE has not yet announced how this funding will be allocated. In the autumn 2021 spending review an additional £1.6b was announced, £1.2b was distributed to schools



through the Schools Supplementary Grant and £325m was allocated to local authorities for high needs. Havering receiving £1.44m for high needs.

The Schools Supplementary Grant for 2022-23 was allocated to schools using a formula with a per pupil factor, an Ever6 free school meals factor and a lump sum. The median sum received by primary schools in Havering was £49k and the median sum received by secondary schools was £171k. There is no indication whether a similar model will be used to distribute the additional funding announced for 2023-24.

## **Increased salary costs**

### **Teachers**

Pay on the Leadership Scale, the Upper Pay Scale, the Unqualified Teacher Scale and for Main Scale Point 6 increased by 5% from 1 September 2022. Increases for Main Scale points 1-5 ranged from 8.3% for point 1 to 5.3% for point 5 as part of the move towards a starting salary of £34k in September 2023.

### **Support staff**

Support staff pay increased by £2,229 on all spinal points from 1 April 2022. A national increase of £1,925 was agreed but this became £2,229 when applied to the Outer London pay scales. This represent a rise of 9.8% for staff on spinal point 5, the top of Grade 1/2, which will include most teaching assistants, midday assistants and cleaners.

Without an increase on this scale, pay rates outside of London would have fallen below the minimum wage from April 2023.

Havering payroll will be paying the increased salaries and arrears in December.

### **The impact on schools**

Some LA maintained primary schools recalculating budgets based on the new salary rates are reporting a rise in projected costs of more than £100k, over and above the budget set which itself included an estimated pay rise. This scale of increase appears typical for a 3FE primary school with a nursery. Increases for a 2FE school without a nursery are in the region of £70k above the budget set.

With backdated pay arrears, the December 2022 payroll bill for LA maintained schools will be around 50% higher than the October 2022 bill.



## Schools Funding Forum 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022

## ITEM 6

**Subject Heading:**

**Early Years Funding 2022-23 review of rates**

**Report Author:**

**Nick Carter – Principal Finance Officer (Schools)**

**Eligibility to vote:**

**All members**

### SUMMARY

This report provides an update on the use of brought forward balances in the Early Years Block of the Dedicated Schools Grant. It also examines funding rates over a period of time.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Schools Funding Forum

- (i) agrees the use of funding following feedback from the Early Years Provider Reference Group
- (ii) notes the changes in funding rates and how these compare to changes in the Minimum Wage / National Living Wage

## REPORT DETAIL

### Proposed use of balances brought forward

At the end of the 2021-22 financial year there were unspent sums allocated from the Early Years Block of the DSG as follows:

Provision for 2 year olds	<u>£65k</u>
Provision for 3&4 year olds	£100k
Provision for Early Inclusion Funding	<u>£53k</u>
Total for 3&4 year olds	£153k

**Total 2, 3&4 year olds                                    £218k**

In July 2022 the LA received notification from the DfE of the funding adjustment for 2021-22, which recalculated the allocation for autumn 2021 and spring 2022 using January 2022 census data. This year, unlike for 2020-21 there was an increase in funding as follows:

Funding for 2 year olds	£41k
Funding for 3&4 year olds	£299k

**Total 2, 3&4 year olds                                    £340k**

Taking the underspend and funding adjustments for 2021-22 there is £106k available for 2 year funding and £452k available for 3&4 year old funding.

### Funding proposal

At the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2022 the Schools Funding Forum were presented with two options for the use of the funds available which the LA intended to forward to members of the Early Years Provider Reference Group (EYPRG) for consideration. In the first option the whole sum available would be distributed through the hourly funding rate. In the second option part of the funding would be used to create a Sustainability Fund with the rest distributed through the hourly rate.

Following the October 2022 census the figures were recalculated and a more cautious estimate of hours for January 2023 used which resulted in a lower affordable hourly rate. In light of this, the fact that two third of the current financial year has now passed, and the result of the consultation on the creation of a Sustainability Fund held in January 2022, the LA proposed to EYPRG that all the available funding should be distributed via the hourly rate. The creation of a Sustainability and Sufficiency Fund can be revisited in the funding proposals for 2023-24.

A copy of the document sent to EYPRG is shown at Appendix A. The balance of £59k for 2 years olds forms a contingency against a change in the number of hours.

As the funding distributed comes from brought forward balances rather than additional new funding, the LA is proposing to distribute this as a supplementary hourly rate rather than as an increase in the base rates.

### Change in funding rates 2017-18 to 2022-23

The National Day Nurseries Association (NDNA) recently released a document showing the increase in the Minimum Wage / National Living Wage between 2017-18 and 2023-24 and compared this to the rise in funding for 3&4 year olds in early years settings in five local authorities in the south of England. Whilst the Minimum Wage / National Living Wage has increased between 30.4% and 44.9% (50.9% for apprentices) the rise in funding was between 0.0% and 8.8% in the five LAs. The NDNA forecast that if the rate of closure amongst early years settings were to continue at 2022 rates, then there would be no settings left by 2025.

Funding rates for 2023-24 in Havering will be determined early in 2023 after the provisional funding allocation for 2023-24 has been released by the DfE later in December. The table below shows the changes in funding rates between 2017-18 and 2022-23.

Year	LBH funding to settings – basic hourly rate		DfE funding to LBH hourly rate	
	2 yr olds £	3&4 yr olds £	2 yr olds £	3&4 yr olds* £
2017-18	5.28	4.39	5.66	4.87
2018-19	5.60	4.53	5.66	5.28
2019-20	5.60	4.80	5.66	5.28
2020-21	5.68	5.00	5.74	5.36
2021-22	5.76	5.09	5.82	5.42
2022-23	6.07	5.29	6.03	5.59

\* The hourly funding rate received from the DfE for 3&4 year olds is used to fund the basic hourly rate to providers and also funding distributed by the IDACI deprivation factor, the inclusion supplement and the central retention.

The increase in rates between 2017-18 and 2022-23 is as follows:

Age	LBH funding to settings – basic hourly rate		DfE funding to LBH hourly rate	
	£	%	£	%
2 yr olds	0.79	15.0	0.37	6.5
3&4 yr olds	0.90	20.5	0.72	14.8

The Minimum Wage / National Living Wage has increased over the time period as follows:

Age / category	2017-18	2022-23	Increase £	Increase %
Apprentice	3.50	4.81	1.31	37.4
Under 18	4.05	4.81	0.76	18.8
18-20	5.60	6.83	1.23	22.0
21-22	7.05	9.18	2.13	30.2
23 and over	7.50	9.50	2.00	26.7

The basic hourly funding rate for 3&4 year olds provided by Havering to settings has increased by more than the rate received by Havering from central government, 20.5% compared to 14.8%. One reason for this is that the central retention in Havering has increased by only 8.2% between 2017-18 and 2022-23.

The 20.5% increase for Havering providers, although higher than the increase received by Havering, and considerably higher than the increase in the five LAs referred to in the NADM document, still falls below the rise in the Minimum Wage / National Living Wage for all bar one age group.

**Early Years funding 2022-23 – use of brought forward balances****Background**

At the end of the 2021-22 financial year there were unspent sums allocated from the Early Years Block of the DSG as follows:

Provision for 2 year olds	<u>£65k</u>
Provision for 3&4 year olds	£100k
Provision for Early Inclusion Funding	<u>£53k</u>
Total for 3&4 year olds	£153k

**Total 2, 3&4 year olds                                    £218k**

In July 2022 the LA received notification from the DfE of the funding adjustment for 2021-22, which recalculated the allocation for autumn 2021 and spring 2022 using January 2022 census data. This year, unlike for 2020-21 there was an increase in funding as follows:

Funding for 2 year olds	£41k
Funding for 3&4 year olds	£299k

**Total 2, 3&4 year olds                                    £340k**

The LA and Schools Funding Forum have previously agreed that balances should remain within Early Years. Therefore, taking the underspend and funding adjustments for 2021-22 together, there is £106k available for 2 year funding and £452k available for 3&4 year old funding.

**Allocation of balances**

Appendix A shows the impact of allocating the total funding available in the form of a supplementary rate per hour. The hours shown for summer 2022 and autumn 2022 are taken from the termly censuses. Spring 2022 hours have been used as a guide for the estimate for spring 2023.

A supplement of 10p per hour for 2 and for 3&4 years olds can be made together with a 10p per hour rise in inclusion funding.

When looking at how the balances could be distributed the LA considered whether to ask EYPRG for their views on the creation of a Sustainability and Sufficiency Fund, to support Early Years providers, using some of the brought forward money. As there are now only four months of the financial year remaining, the LA felt that this was best deferred until funding for 2023-24 is discussed. The LA is therefore proposing to allocate the funding in the form of a supplement to hourly rates.

As the funding being allocated is made up from brought forward balances and the previous year adjustment, the additional 10p hourly rate does not form part of the base rate; it is a supplement for 2022-23 only.

## **Timescale**

Having sought the views of EYPRG, the LA will report back to the Schools Funding Forum at the next meeting on 1 December 2022 for ratification, so we would appreciate your comments before 29 November 2022.

## **Payment to providers**

If EYPRG support the proposals and ratification is obtained at the meeting of the Schools Funding Forum on 1 December 2022, the funding supplement will be paid as follows:

- supplement for the summer and autumn terms paid in the scheduled December 2022 payment run
- supplement for the spring term paid in the scheduled March 2023 payment run

Data from providers' claims via EYAM Actual and Adjustment hours will be used to calculate the supplement payments.

Using this approach should make it clearer to providers that this funding is a separate supplement and does not form part of their base rate funding.

	Two year old		Three/Four Year Old
Original rate 22-23	£5.97		£5.19
Increase of funding via Supplement Rate	£0.10		£0.10

## 2022-23 estimated funding from DfE

	Funding rate	Cohort	Weeks	Total LA funding	Funding rate	Cohort	Weeks	Total LA funding	Retention
Total estimated funding	6.03	533.34	38	1,730,304 *	5.59	6002.89	38	19,127,008 *	
Previous year (21-22) adj (Jul-22)		71.99		41,036				299,934	
Previous year cfwd (21-22)		114.67		65,364				152,901	
Central retention (funded from Estimated funding)								-790,000	4.13%
Available to distribute				<u>1,836,703</u>				<u>18,789,844</u>	

## 2022-23 estimated funds distributed to providers

	Funding rate	Cohort	Weeks	Total to providers	Funding rate	Cohort	Weeks	Total to providers
<b>Base rate funding</b>								
Summer term	5.97	500.36	13	582,492 <sup>v</sup>	5.19	6956.77	13	7,040,595 <sup>v</sup>
Autumn term	5.97	550.91	14	690,678 <sup>v</sup>	5.19	5000.26	14	5,449,785 <sup>v</sup>
Spring term	5.97	482.05	11	474,841 <sup>^</sup>	5.19	6002.89	11	5,140,575 <sup>^</sup>
Total				<u>1,748,011</u>				<u>17,630,955</u>
<b>Supplement funding</b>								
Summer term	0.10	500.36	13	9,757	0.10	6956.77	13	135,657
Autumn term	0.10	550.91	14	11,569	0.10	5000.26	14	105,005
Spring term	0.10	482.05	11	7,954	0.10	6002.89	11	99,048
Total				<u>29,280</u>				<u>339,710</u>
<b>Inclusion Fund</b>					5.19	138	38	408,245
<b>Inclusion Fund Supplement</b>					0.10	138	38	7,866
<b>IDACI</b>								401,227
<b>Sustainability Fund</b>								0
Total estimated payments				<u>1,777,291</u>				<u>18,788,004</u>
<b>In year balance 2022-23</b>				<u>59,412</u>				<u>1,840</u>

\* These figures includes an estimate of the retrospective funding adjustment for 2022-23 that will be release by the DfE in July 2023

<sup>v</sup> The cohort is based on final data from EYAM for Summer term and updated data for Autumn term

<sup>^</sup> The cohort is based on indicative number eligible for two year olds and previous year January Census (Jan-22) for three/four year olds



# Agenda Item 7



## Schools Funding Forum 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022

## ITEM 7

**Subject Heading:**

**De-delegation of funding for central services 2023-24**

**Report Author:**

**Nick Carter – Principal Finance Officer (Schools)**

**Eligibility to vote:**

**LA maintained school representatives**

### SUMMARY

This item considers, again, three proposed items for the de-delegation of funding to maintain services provided centrally.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

1. For LA maintained primary school representatives to agree the de-delegation of funding for the following services:
  - (i) EAL service
  - (ii) Behaviour support service
2. For LA maintained primary and special school representatives to agree the de-delegation of funding for the following:
  - (i) Core school improvement activities

### REPORT DETAIL

The de-delegation of funding for central services was an agenda item at the meetings of the Schools funding Forum held on 22<sup>nd</sup> September and 20<sup>th</sup> October 2022. At the meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2022, the representatives from LA maintained schools agreed to the de-delegation of funding for the following services:

- (i) Contingency to support schools in financial difficulty
- (ii) Insurance
- (iii) Free school meals eligibility checking
- (iv) Maternity leave insurance
- (v) Trade Union Facility Time
- (vi) Statutory and regulatory duties

A decision was deferred on the EAL service, Behaviour support service and Core school improvement activities to allow time for further discussion within clusters before taking a decision at this meeting of the Forum. Further information was requested regarding these services and this was sent to Cluster chairs and School Funding Forum Representatives.

### **EAL service**

The funding requested through de-delegation is as follows:

2023-24	Primary
Formula factor	EAL 3
Amount	£38.00
Total	£99,000

2022-23 rate	£38.00
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The additional information sent to Cluster chairs and Forum representatives is shown at Appendix A.

### **Behaviour support service**

The funding requested through de-delegation is as follows:

Formula factor	AWPU	FSM Ever 6	IDACI E	IDACI D	IDACI C	IDACI B	IDACI A	Low attainment	
Amount	£5.00	£2.00	£14.08	£22.08	£12.05	£7.71	£10.07	£5.00	
Total	£87,780	£6,836	£31,075	£26,082	£6,710	£4,671	£1,300	£24,859	£189,314

2022-23 rates	£5.00	£2.00	£14.08	£22.08	£12.05	£7.71	£10.07	£5.00
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The additional information sent to Cluster chairs and Forum representatives is shown at Appendix B.

## Core school improvement activities

The funding requested through de-delegation is as follows:

2023-24	Primary	Special
Formula factor	AWPU	Place
Amount	£5.11	£15.33
Total	£90,000	£2,400

2022-23	£5.11	£15.33
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The additional information sent to Cluster chairs and Forum representatives is shown at Appendix C.

## English as an Additional Language service

To retain a central EAL Team to maintain the high levels of support and response to Havering's maintained primary schools, it is proposed that £38 per EAL pupil be de-delegated in the financial year 2023-24. This would provide funding of £99,000 towards the costs of the team which would otherwise be put at risk should an insufficient number of schools decide not to buy into the service.

The level of funding requested in 2022-23 remains unchanged from 2022-23 despite an increase in the numbers of pupils with EAL (3.4% increase between 2018 and 2021).

Through the national funding formula, primary schools receive £629.61 per EAL3 pupil so would retain 94% of their funding to provide support to their EAL pupils.

## Rationale for maintaining a central team with EAL expertise in Havering

### Demographics are changing rapidly

Havering's demographic is continuing to change at an accelerated rate. Over a 2-year period from January 2020 to January 2022, the percentage of EAL learners in Havering Primaries has increased from 2.7% to 5.5% above National. Unlike the majority of local authorities, Havering saw an increase (rather than a decrease) in its EAL population during the pandemic.

The numbers continue to increase rapidly with children coming from a wide range of countries, including areas of conflict. From mid-August 2022 to the end of September, 158 Havering primary school applications were received from children transferring from abroad of whom 73 (46%) were recorded as having no English.

### The service is well-used by schools

From April to March 2021-2022:

- 37 LA-maintained primaries accessed the service for consultancy support and/or CPD. This figure does not include the additional ongoing support that was given to schools in response to telephone queries and emails, mostly related to individual pupils for whom detailed advice was given with signposting to key documents and links.
- 64 bookings to attend half-termly EAL networks were made by staff in LA-maintained primaries. It should be noted that these networks do not fit the Hsis Curriculum Matters model but instead alternate between online twilights and morning meetings to allow for the attendance of any staff, such as EAL TAs, that otherwise would not be able to attend. In addition to these networks, 106 bookings for EAL courses were made by staff in LA-maintained primaries.
- The HES EAL resources pages are well used by Havering schools. Whilst some of the content is available publicly, key documents can only be accessed via log in. Over the past year, there have been 410 views by staff logged in via their LA-maintained primary school HES accounts.

### Fluctuating school needs could put the service at risk

Unlike other service areas which generate a more consistent level of need, EAL needs fluctuate across schools due to changing populations and the experience and expertise of individual staff. School demographics can change rapidly which, in addition to changes in staffing, can lead to needs arising where there may have been none previously.

This makes it more difficult for the EAL team to project a guaranteed income to fund salaries. Without collective buy-in from schools, EAL support could cease to exist within HES and schools would have to source support from elsewhere. The sum de-delegated from a school is an average of £2,263, which means the majority of schools would benefit financially from de-delegation compared to the cost of buying a similar level of service externally.

### A discrete EAL service allows flexibility

The benefit of maintaining the current model, as opposed to incorporating EAL into the Hsis packages, is the flexibility of the support. Schools can request visits as and when required without having to allocate package time; they can request a number of short visits or online calls throughout the year which can be arranged in response to the admission of new children as opposed to full consultancy days which need to be timetabled in advance.

These flexible visits can cover a wide range of areas from pupil-focused observations to in-house EAL CPD and/or teacher surgeries. In addition, the model for EAL networks, as explained above, allows for networking between teaching assistants as well as teachers, helping maximise the real expertise that exists amongst our EAL TAs.

The EAL service could not, at this stage, be incorporated into the Hsis packages for the period 2023-24. If it were to be incorporated for the period 2024-25, this would lead to an increase in the overall costs of Hsis packages and the loss of the flexibility set out above.

### **EAL team capacity**

The EAL Advisers are available to provide termly EAL visits to schools as requested by individual EAL Co-ordinators/SLT. In terms of the impact of the Advisers' split Safeguarding/EAL role, the increased workload means they have less time to market services and chase up visits with individual schools, hence the onus is on the school to arrange these with their allocated Adviser. Schools are reminded by email at least three times a year of upcoming courses and the availability of support.

The capacity of the team has been enhanced with the addition of a specialist secondary EAL consultant who is increasingly working with secondary subscribers. If needs dictate, her role can be increased to work with a greater number of schools including primary schools.

Across the three Advisers, all requests for support have been met and, to date, there has been no instance of a request not being met.

**The offer for LA-maintained primaries:**

- Termly consultancy visits on request (more available as required, depending on the needs of individual schools – may be virtual or face-to-face)
- Consultancy visits may consist of: development of the role of the EAL co-ordinator; pupil-focused advice/observations; in-house EAL CPD; teacher surgeries/trouble-shooting; EAL reviews
- Twice-termly networks for EAL co-ordinators and EAL TAs (one virtual and one face-to-face per term)
- Unlimited access to centrally-held EAL CPD (may be virtual or face-to-face)
- Telephone and email support
- Access to the subscriber-only content on the HES EAL resources pages:  
<https://www.hes.org.uk/Page/147>

**Impact of the EAL team:**

The targeted work of the EAL team with EAL co-ordinators, class teachers and TAs helps schools tailor their provision to ensure EAL learners make rapid progress. As a result, pupils that start with limited English across all phases make accelerated progress in order to reach age-related expectations or close the gap towards this.

Havering is attracting considerable migration from other London boroughs, including families with limited proficiency in English. In addition, increasing numbers of displaced families are arriving from areas of conflict with very little English. Central EAL funding will ensure that schools receive EAL support in order to meet the needs of these vulnerable children as and when required.

## **Behaviour support service**

In previous years, the Schools Forum has been asked to approve the de-delegation of funding for the Behaviour and Attendance services. For 2023-24 the LA is seeking de-delegation for behaviour support services only, which now forms part of CAD.

De-delegated funding will be used to provide an enhanced resource of School Support Family Practitioners (SSFPs), meaning that this will be provided to maintained schools without an additional charge. This element of the service would, from April 2023, otherwise be chargeable or would cease.

The primary purpose of this service is to work closely with families of vulnerable children to prevent permanent exclusion, maintain placement and positive working relationships between home and school. SSFPs work in a similar way to family practitioners within Early Help, but with a focus on educational outcomes alongside family support.

## **Rationale for maintaining a central SSFP service in Havering**

For the 2023-24 financial year the LA is proposing that support provided by the SSFPs is financed from de-delegated funds for LA maintained primary schools.

The allocation of practitioner time is determined by reference to the schools' Vulnerability Table, which is produced by statistical analysis of the volume of SEN, LAC, mobility and EAL in each school.

SSFPs provide tailored support and interventions based on the identified needs of the family. This can include intensive work with those in care, on the cusp of care or stepping down from statutory services. In partnership with families and other agencies, specifically Education provisions, they carry out a comprehensive assessment, address identified needs and ensure sustainable long-term change is achieved.

They also have a thorough understanding of local need and available resources enabling them to engage partner agencies effectively to ensure that families achieve optimum outcomes.

## **The offer for LA-maintained primaries:**

Currently, the service includes 1 x Senior SSFP and 2 x SSFPs, which provides sufficient capacity to support c100 families per 12 month period.

Under the revised de-delegated arrangements, the service would be enhanced and would include 1 x Senior SSFP and 4 x SSFPs, providing sufficient capacity to support c180 families per 12 month period.

Referrals will be allocated based on a minimum of 2 cases per year per school (core offer = approx 90 families) and remaining referrals will be allocated (approx.

90) according to the vulnerability data and needs of the situation – with priority given to the more vulnerable schools. This would represent a 90% increase on the current offer.

Schools would complete an Inclusion Gateway Referral Form (IGRF) following the advice of their behaviour lead and/or discussion at the case load meeting, selecting the SSFP box and submit to [Inclusions@havering.gov.uk](mailto:Inclusions@havering.gov.uk) and these are triaged each Friday during term time.

The SSFP role supports the family in working alongside the child's current education setting where challenging behaviour is a concern giving the opportunity to work on shared goals and where possible preventing permanent exclusion, improving the quality of life and experiences for Havering families.

The provision is for children and young people aged between five and ten years old and their families who have been identified as risk of exclusion.

SSFPs provide tailored support and interventions based on the identified needs of the family. The SSFP will contact the family and within five days of case allocation, and undertake an initial home visit. The SSFP will complete an assessment with the family using the Outcome Star Assessment tool. This will in addition highlight any other areas of support needed and the wishes and feelings of the child / children will be gained. From the identified needs, an action plan will be devised for the family.

Once the assessment has been completed, TAF (Team Around the family) meetings will be facilitated at regular intervals, which will be dependent on the needs of the family and the level of support implemented. On average, this meeting will be scheduled every 4-6 weeks and provides an opportunity where the parent/s and a team of multi-agency professionals working with the family will review and update the SMART action plan.

The SSFP will work directly with the parents and child/ren offering support and interventions which will be tailored to the individual family needs. Various evidence-based parenting programmes are currently being run by qualified facilitators which parents can access through a referral with the main focus being around managing undesirable behaviours, enabling the child to return to mainstream education.

### **Impact of the SSFPs:**

The SSFPs receive very positive feedback from the schools that they support, and have successfully engaged children and families to ensure that behaviour improves, and the risk of suspension and/or permanent exclusion reduces.

102 families were supported in 2021 across 2 full time and 1 supervisory SSFP positions - 98% of these children are still within their original placements, 2% are now receiving their education outside of Havering in out-of-borough placements.

Below are a couple of direct quotes from parents.



*Parent A - "Carla was amazing and always there when we need her, without her we wouldn't get to where we are now. Thanks a lot for her help and support."*

Parent A is the parent of a young person with social communication needs, the SSFP was able to help the parents with seeking support from the appropriate health care professionals and organise next steps. The young man in question was previously receiving regular fixed term exclusions, SSFP was able to support the school in communicating with the parents and linking behaviour strategies to the home environment.

*Parent B - "Carla was amazing from the start, I didn't really know about Early Help I thought it was for bad parents. But Carla explained everything they do, Carla was very helpful and really listened to me, she went above and beyond what I expected. Carla really helped me with my relationship with the school and got the necessary outside agencies involved like Linda McKay. Carla was like an agony aunt, she was there for me at any time when I needed to let off steam about school. And she always found out answers for me if she didn't at the time. Carla really listened to XXXX as well, and at times XXXX enjoyed talking to Carla over zoom even asking when he will she be coming to his school. Carla has even helped me with housing information too. I feel without Carla, my situation with XXXXX and the school and the acorn centre would never have improved. We have all come along way since the beginning and it wouldn't of been able to do it without her."*

Parent B is the mother of a child with complex needs who had experienced multiple fixed term exclusions and was on the brink of permanent exclusion, following SSFP support his mother has built a positive relationship with the school/developed an understanding of her sons behaviour and how to manage it. She has also obtained support with applying for housing/ work and her son is no longer at risk of permanent exclusion.

## **Core school improvement activities**

In January 2022, the DfE announced that the School Improvement, Monitoring and Brokerage Grant paid to local authorities would be reduced by 50% for financial year 2022-23 and then removed completely from 2023-24.

At the same time, local authorities (LAs) were given the power to fund all improvement activity, including core activity, via de-delegation with the agreement of schools forums or the Secretary of State.

Havering received £178k in the 2021-22 financial year. Making up the 50% shortfall for 2022-23 required £89k of de-delegated funds, which equated to £5.11 for each pupil Year R-11. At the February 2022 meeting of the Schools Funding Forum, the members representing LA maintained primary schools agreed the de-delegation of £5.11 per pupil for core school improvement activities for the financial year 2022-23.

For 2023-24 the LA is proposing that de-delegation remains at £5.11 per pupil as this will be the first year of the new QA framework. This means that the LA is seeking to de-delegate only 50% of the total grant funding removed for the year.

## **Rationale for maintaining core school improvement activities**

During the Summer term, the LA worked with a group of school and academy leaders to refresh its Quality Assurance (QA) Framework. A key objective of the LA is that all children will attend a school this is judged to be Good or Outstanding by Ofsted. To support the maintenance of high standards, all LA maintained schools will be included in the QA cycle.

Following the pattern set by Ofsted of inspecting Good or Outstanding schools every five years, the LA proposes a five-year cycle of QA where schools retain a judgement of unreservedly Good or Outstanding. If graded Requires Improvement following a Graded Inspection, or the evidence gathered during an Ungraded Inspection suggests that the grade may be lower than Good if a Graded Inspection was to be carried out, then the school will become subject to 'Requiring Additional Support and Intervention' by the LA in the case of maintained schools.

For maintained schools (and academies by election), where a school is considered vulnerable and 'Requiring Additional Intervention & Support', the school relevant LA officers will discuss the situation fully with the Headteacher/Executive Headteacher/Principal and the Chair of Governors.

Where a school is judged to be 'Requiring Additional Intervention & Support':

- Progress Review Meetings (PRMs) will be implemented following an Ofsted grading less than good, or suggestion that it will be less than good following an Ungraded inspection.
- If significant risk is identified, this will lead to a full school or area review, and
- the school will be subject to regular PRMs.

The purpose of PRMs is for the LA to:

- oversee the implementation of action plans to secure rapid and sustained improvements, so are likely to be 'front-loaded' with more frequent meetings at the outset.
- monitor progress of actions taken to ensure they have maximum impact.
- commission additional resources when needed to support rapid improvement.

- monitor the impact of brokered support, including partnership support.
- where possible, gather direct evidence of progress for LA monitoring and reporting to Schools' Funding Forum' and for Ofsted.

In previous years, an average of 12 schools have been designated as a 'School Causing Concern' (or as 'Requiring Additional Intervention & Support' under the revised QA Framework) in each academic year. Of these, an average of 8 schools have been maintained schools, and therefore have been subject to regular PRM's. In addition to PRMs, these schools have also received in-school support, including a full school or area review. These have ranged from reviews of the whole phase, such as Early Years, to targeted areas such as SEN or Reading.

This number of schools subject to PRMs and direct intervention reduced in 2020-21 and 2021-22 due to the pandemic, and the subsequent reduction in Ofsted inspections and QA visits in schools.

However, as with the increased inspection activity and focus on Ofsted in schools, we are expecting this number to increase in the coming year, and are likely to see around 14 schools 'Requiring Additional Intervention & Support' and therefore subject to PRMs and/or further in-school support.

When schools are subject to PRMs, this is generally because they are at risk of not retaining their 'Good' or better Ofsted judgement at their next inspection. Over the past five years, the PRM process has proven to be effective, with currently 100% of maintained schools being graded as 'Good' or better by Ofsted. This includes schools which have been subject to PRMs and have been inspected over the period they have been under some form of intervention.

### **The offer for LA-maintained primaries**

PRMs will be resourced for maintained schools by the LA as part of their statutory QA offer and funded from Core Council funding.

However, further in-school support such as a full school review, or review of an area of the school's practice, would be chargeable if deemed that the school is a vulnerable school, and it is proposed that this would be charged to the de-delegated 'School Improvement Monitoring and Brokering Grant' (subject to Schools' Funding Forum approval). If this proposal is approved, spend will be reported to Schools' Funding Forum in the same way as the Schools Partnership and Schools Causing Concern Fund.

An analysis of expenditure will be presented to the Schools Forum after the year end, and any underspends at year end can be carried forward, or re-distributed, subject to Funding Forum approval.