SUPPORT FOR SCHOOLS IN FINANCIAL DIFFICULTY

EXTENSION OF CRITERIA FOR SCHOOLS WITH FALLING ROLLS

The DfE School Finance Regulations allow LAs to create a fund for schools with falling rolls where the capacity will be required in the next three years when the school population begins to rise. This fund may be used only for schools and academies judged to be Good or Outstanding at their last Ofsted Inspection.

With the approval of the Schools Funding Forum Havering has developed a scheme which supports secondary schools that fall within this category.

For maintained schools, it was agreed at the meeting of the Schools Funding Forum held in June 2014 to extend the criteria for supporting schools in financial difficulty that are not Good or Outstanding where falling rolls are the cause.

This is for maintained primary and secondary schools only for as long as the Schools Funding Forum continues to de-delegate a budget.

The arrangements replicate those agreed for Good and Outstanding schools through the Falling Rolls Fund as follows:

Surplus capacity as at the October count date exceeds 15% of the published admission number in Reception or Year 7

Local planning data shows a requirement for at least 90% of the surplus places within the next 3 years

Formula funding available to the school will not support provision of an appropriate curriculum for the existing cohort

The school will need to make redundancies in order to contain spending within its formula budget

Formula for distributing funding:

85% of the appropriate AWPU x vacant places below 85% of the PAN

Excluding factors are if the school has already received financial support through the pupil growth fund or if the carry forward balance from the previous year exceeded 5% for secondary or 8% for primary.