

Schools Funding Forum 10th December 2015 ITEM 4

Subject Heading: Pupil Growth Contingency

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Manager

Eligibility to vote: All members

SUMMARY

This report is for the Schools Funding Forum to agree the funding to be allocated for pupil growth in the secondary sector from the centrally held Pupil Growth Contingency.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Schools Funding Forum considers an amendment to the current arrangements for funding growth in the secondary sector to allocate additional funding above one additional place per teaching group.

REPORT DETAIL

1. Introduction

At the meeting held on 13 July 2013, the Schools Funding Forum reviewed the criteria for allocating resources to schools that were expanding either through planned increases to their PAN or by accepting bulge classes. The paper that was considered and agreed by the Forum is attached at Appendix A.

The increase in pupil numbers in Havering has so far been contained within the primary sector only but from the academic year 2016 will require an increase in the capacity of some secondary schools in year 7.

2. Proposals

The more funding that is allocated for pupil growth through the pupil growth contingency, the larger the top slice from the DSG needs to be. This will have a direct impact on the funding that is available for distribution to schools through the funding formula.

Additional funding should be allocated only when additional costs have to be incurred in a school to meet the needs of the extra pupil numbers. It could be argued that up to a limit, additional pupils can be absorbed into existing classes with no additional costs being incurred but where this impacts on recommended group sizes in subject areas such as science and technology it is likely that additional staff will need to employed.

It is therefore proposed to allocate additional funding to secondary schools through the pupil growth contingency only above an additional 1 pupil for every year group.

e.g.

Current PAN	Increased PAN	Increase in PAN	Teaching Groups
172	180	8	6

Funded is allocated for 2 additional pupils

For academies this figure is at 12/12 because the financial year does not start until September. 5/12 will be recouped by the LA from the EFA.

$$2 \times £4,542 \times 85\% = £7,721$$

For maintained schools this figure is at 7/12 for the period September to March

$$= £4,504$$

Current PAN	Increased PAN	Increase in PAN	Teaching Groups		
192	210	18	7		
Funded is allocated for 11 additional pupils					
11 x £4,542 x 85% = £42,468 (academies)					

Consideration could also be given to placing a ceiling on the funding allocated.