

Schools Funding Forum 18th January 2017

ITEM 7

Subject Heading:

De-delegation of funding for a central attendance, behaviour & traveller service and central insurance

Report Author:

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Eligibility to vote:

LA maintained school representatives

SUMMARY

At the last meeting of the Schools Funding Forum, decisions were made on the de-delegation of funding from the budgets of maintained schools for a range of central services permitted by the Schools Funding Regulations. This was not concluded for two services: the Attendance, Behaviour and Traveller Service and Central Insurance

RECOMMENDATIONS

- (i) To note the decision to de-delegate the funding from primary schools in 2017-18 for the Attendance, Behaviour and Traveller Service
- (ii) To consider the de-delegation of school insurance for maintained primary and secondary schools in 2017-18

REPORT DETAIL

Funding for de-delegated services must be allocated through the formula but can be passed back, or 'de-delegated', for maintained mainstream primary and secondary schools with Schools Forum approval. De-delegation is not an option for special schools, PRUs or academies.

At the last meeting of the Schools Funding Forum approval was given for de-delegation relating to the following services:

Services	Primary schools	Secondary schools
Support for schools in financial difficulty	Yes	Yes
EAL Service	Yes	No
Free school meals eligibility	Yes	Yes
Maternity cover	Yes	Yes
T.U. facility time	Yes	Yes

Decisions were not concluded for the Attendance, Behaviour and Traveller Service and for Central Insurance pending a survey of views from head teachers of primary schools for the Attendance, Behaviour and Traveller Service and clarification on the expiry of the Borough's insurance contract.

1. Attendance Behaviour and Traveller Service

A full description of the service was provided at the last meeting.

At the request of the Schools Funding Forum, a letter was sent to the head teachers of primary schools to ask if they wished to continue with the de-delegation of funding in 2017-18. Of the 29 responses received, 28 were in favour.

In view of the timescales for the allocation of funding in 2017-18, the Schools Funding Forum representatives of maintained primary schools were asked by email if they agreed to de-delegation in view of the positive response from head teachers. Of the 7 representatives eligible to vote, 4 were in favour and 3 were not.

The LA has therefore included the de-delegation of funding in the process of setting of budgets for 2017-18.

2. Central Insurance

At the last meeting it was understood that the Borough's insurance contract was due to expire in December 2016 but it has now been extended until June 2018.

In previous years the decision has been to de-delegate funding to retain insurance arrangements centrally and the decision now needs to be made for 2017-18.

The charges for insurance cover:

Buildings and Contents
Employer and Public Liability

The total cost for these for maintained primary and secondary schools in 2016-17 is £559,000 compared to £687,765 last year.

LA maintained special schools will be invoiced direct for their share of this as for them, de-delegation is not permitted.

The proposed charges for maintained primary and secondary schools are as follows:

	2016-17	2017-18
Primary	£31.50	£28.28
Secondary	£20.00	£20.00