SCHOOLS FUNDING 2020-21 - CONSULTATION WITH SCHOOLS

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES

No. of schools responding:		
Primary	13	21%
Secondary	<u> </u>	<u>5%</u>
Total	14	18%

	YES	NO
Q1. To keep to within the funding available, the maximum increase to schools per pupil is capped at 4%.	Pri. 10	Pri. 2
	Sec. 1	
Comments:		
1. As a school we would lose money.		

Q.2.(a) That the minimum funding guarantee should be set at 0.5% per pupil; or	Pri. 12	Pri. 1
		Sec. 1
Q.2 (b) If affordable in the final figures, the minimum funding guarantee should be		Pri. 10
increased to 1.84% to the benefit of 12 schools; or		Sec. 1
Comments:		

- 1. We would have liked a middle ground option modelled before committing; we felt that the models represented two fairly diverse options.
- 2. Because as a school in financial difficulty it is not right that we are capped, whilst other schools who have increased reserves, continue to receive large increases.

Q.3 To use approx. £800k of the additional funding available within the DSG	Pri. 11	Pri. 1
Schools Block to maintain the Pupil Growth and Falling Rolls Fund at the current level.	Sec. 1	
Comments:		

The grant should be increased to support schools in financial difficulty, particularly those who have been poorly funded. It is only the children in those schools who will miss out otherwise.

Q.4 To use £500k of the additional funding available within the DSG Schools Block to support the current deficit in the High	Pri. 12	
Needs Block given that the additional funding in 2020-21 for High Needs will only meet current commitments.	Sec. 1	

General comments:

- 1. We lose £9,952 as a result of the 4% cap but are willing to accept this to support other colleagues. We support the mfg being set at 0.5% on the assumption that any surplus be redistributed evenly.
- 2. As a leader of a school which has been historically poorly funded and is therefore now in financial difficulty, it is incredibly disheartening to know that our funding which is much needed is now going to be capped and the school is going to lose out on money as a result.

It will just result in more schools going into deficit and having to be bailed out by Schools Forum in the end anyway. I know there are schools with large and increasing reserves who are going to be given even more funding in the next year. There should be a mechanism to ensure that the money is distributed to the schools that need it most so that it does not result in schools having to be "bailed out".

3. Thank you for the opportunity for some genuine consultation.