

Schools Funding Forum 18th June 2020

ITEM 4

Subject Heading:

LA maintained schools' year end balances 2019-20

Report Author:

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Eligibility to vote:

Representatives of LA maintained schools

SUMMARY

This report provides an analysis of the LA maintained school balances carried forward from 2019-20 into 2020-21.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Schools Funding Forum notes the report.

REPORT DETAIL

1. Year on Year Comparison of School Balances

The table below shows the total balances carried forward each year of the 43 primary and one special school that were LA maintained at the start of financial year 2019-20. Two pairs of schools operate a single budget within their federations.

	Total funding £m	Total c/fwd balance £m	Balance as a % of funding
2019-20	96.3	2.3	2.3%
2018-19	91.5	3.6	3.9%
2017-18	85.9	3.5	4.1%

2016-17	77.5	3.8	5.0%
2015-16	74.8	5.2	6.9%
2014-15	72.3	6.6	9.1%

2. School 2019-20 balances with % bandings

	No. above 15%	No. between 10% & 15%	No. between 5% & 10%	No. between 0% & 5%	No. in deficit
2019-20	0	2	15	6	19
2018-19	0	4	14	11	13
2017-18	0	6	11	16	9
2016-17	1	4	14	20	3
2015-16	3	7	14	14	4
2014-15	5	9	17	9	2

No. of years	No. of schools above 10%	No. of schools in deficit
5	1	1
4	0	2
3	0	4
2	0	5
1	1	7
Total	2	19

	No. above 10%	No. between 5% & 10%	No. between 1% & 5%	No. below 1%	No. in deficit
2019-20 deficits	2	4	11	2	19
2018-19 deficits	1	1	7	4	13

Note: of the schools in deficit, three were by less than £1,000 in 2018-19 and one in 2019-20.

The local authority is in discussion with both LA maintained schools with balances above 10% and also those that are unable to set a balanced budget in 2020-21.