

Schools Funding Forum 1st December 2022

ITEM 5

Subject Heading:

Report Author:

Eligibility to vote:

Additional funding for schools – Autumn Statement 2022

Nick Carter – Principal Finance Officer (Schools)

All school and academy members

SUMMARY

This report provides details of the increase in funding for schools announced in the Chancellor's Autumn Statement on 17th November 2022 and of the recently announced pay awards for teachers and support staff.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Schools Funding Forum:

(i) notes the report

REPORT DETAIL

Additional funding announced in the Autumn Statement 2022

In the Autumn Statement on 17th November 2022 the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced an additional £2.3b for schools, both next year and the year after. After adjusting budgets downward to account for the removal of funding relating to the increase in National Insurance (reversed from 1 November 2022) this means that the core schools' budget will be £2.0b higher than previously announced.

The DfE has not yet announced how this funding will be allocated. In the autumn 2021 spending review an additional £1.6b was announced, £1.2b was distributed to schools

through the Schools Supplementary Grant and £325m was allocated to local authorities for high needs. Havering receiving £1.44m for high needs.

The Schools Supplementary Grant for 2022-23 was allocated to schools using a formula with a per pupil factor, an Ever6 free school meals factor and a lump sum. The median sum received by primary schools in Havering was £49k and the median sum received by secondary schools was £171k. There is no indication whether a similar model will be used to distribute the additional funding announced for 2023-24.

Increased salary costs

Teachers

Pay on the Leadership Scale, the Upper Pay Scale, the Unqualified Teacher Scale and for Main Scale Point 6 increased by 5% from 1 September 2022. Increases for Main Scale points 1-5 ranged from 8.3% for point 1 to 5.3% for point 5 as part of the move towards a starting salary of £34k in September 2023.

Support staff

Support staff pay increased by £2,229 on all spinal points from 1 April 2022. A national increase of £1,925 was agreed but this became £2,229 when applied to the Outer London pay scales. This represent a rise of 9.8% for staff on spinal point 5, the top of Grade 1/2, which will include most teaching assistants, midday assistants and cleaners.

Without an increase on this scale, pay rates outside of London would have fallen below the minimum wage from April 2023.

Havering payroll will be paying the increased salaries and arrears in December.

The impact on schools

Some LA maintained primary schools recalculating budgets based on the new salary rates are reporting a rise in projected costs of more than £100k, over and above the budget set which itself included an estimated pay rise. This scale of increase appears typical for a 3FE primary school with a nursery. Increases for a 2FE school without a nursery are in the region of £70k above the budget set.

With backdated pay arrears, the December 2022 payroll bill for LA maintained schools will be around 50% higher than the October 2022 bill.