

Subject Heading:

High Needs Budget Forecast 2023-24

Report Author:

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Manager**

Eligibility to vote:

All members

SUMMARY

This report provides a year end forecast of expenditure against the high needs budget for 2023-24.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Schools Funding Forum:

- (i) notes the year forecast of expenditure for financial year 2023-24

REPORT DETAIL

Appendix A shows the funding available for High Needs related expenditure in 2023-24 and the current forecast of expenditure across the range of provision within Havering.

The forecast for year end 2023-24 has been updated based on the current academic year (2023-24) cohort and with an update on the estimate on the number and level of support funded through EHC plans.

Projection

Expenditure

£m	
46.3	High Needs estimated expenditure 23-24
<u>46.3</u>	

Income

£m	
-37.7	High Needs funding allocation 23-24
-1.1	transfer from schools block
<u>-38.8</u>	

Balances

7.5	projected in-year deficit 23-24
8.5	deficit brought forward from 22-23
<u>16.0</u>	projected deficit carried forward to 24-25

Further details on the projected spend is shown at Appendix A.

In financial year 2022-23, the overspend of £8.6m was offset by £0.1m of underspends in other areas of the Dedicated Schools Budget (DSG). There remains a deficit carried forward into financial year 2023-24 of £8.5m.

This is the fourth year that the combined total of all year end balances of activities funded by the DSG has been in deficit. This is due to DSG underspends in other areas being insufficient to cover the overspend in the High Needs Block.

Any LA that has an overall deficit on its DSG account at the end of the 2022-23 financial year, or whose DSG surplus has substantially reduced during the year, is required to complete the Dedicated School Grant Management Plan or to have an equivalent framework.

The DfE have setup a Delivering Better Value (DBV) in SEND Programme, which commenced in financial year 2022-23, and Havering was in the second tranche of Local Authorities involved in the programme. The DfE prioritised the programme based on the size of the LAs DSG deficit.

Havering was successful at securing two years of funding totalling £1m for the Delivering Better Value in SEND implementation, which is to be used to support projects which aspires to deliver significant improvements to services for children and young people with SEND, alongside significant financial benefits over the next 5 years. This grant cannot be used to reduce deficit in DSG, and is to be used solely for activities to support SEND as part of the DBV.

The LA will continue to keep all areas of DSG spending under review to identify potential savings to meet the forecast overspend in the High Needs block.

High Needs funding task and finish group

A task and finish group was established in autumn 2021 to examine high needs funding rates for schools for the 2022-23 financial year, and the group was re-established last year to determine the arrangements for the current financial year 2023-24.

The group are due to meet after the Forum meeting has concluded and will feedback at the next Forum meeting due to be held on 30th November 2023.

High Needs Forecast 2023-24

Funding allocation before recoupment
Available funding after recoupment
Deficit cfwd from previous year
Transfer from Schools Block
Total funding for the financial year

Summary October 2023

£000
40,630
37,684
-8,493
1,109
30,300

Havering Special Schools Direct Expenditure Expenditure on therapies Direct Payments
Out of Borough Maintained Special Schools
Revised In-Borough Primary Top-up Out of Borough Mainstream Primary Expenditure on alternative tuition In year EHC Plans Total Primary High Needs funding
Revised In-Borough Secondary Top-up Out of Borough Mainstream Secondary Expenditure on alternative tuition In year EHC Plans Total Secondary High Needs funding
Schools with high nos. of pupils with SEN
Additionally Resourced Provision
In-Borough Post-16 Top-up In-Borough Post-19 Top-up Out of Borough Post-16 Expenditure on Post-16 Tuition Internships Total Post-16

Estimated Expenditure £000	No of Pupils/Places supported			
	Pre 16		Post 16	
	Apr-Aug	Sep-Mar	Apr-Aug	Sep-Mar
13,486	300	360	72	112
107				
375				
158				
1,650	57	62		
9,637	788	763		
403	32	31		
186				
430		151		
10,656	820	945	-	
4,904	435	466		
212	30	26		
524				
131		46		
5,771	465	538		
837				
2,384	121	155		
1,329			149	145
256				
687			97	106
102				
144				
2,518			246	251

Non-Maintained & Independent Special Schools Pre-16
Non-Maintained & Independent Special Schools Post-16
Early Years EHCPs
Alternative Provision
Central support teams
Total

Total funding available
Forecast overspend

Estimated Expenditure	No of Pupils/Places supported			
	Pre 16		Post 16	
	Apr-Aug	Sep-Mar	Apr-Aug	Sep-Mar
£000				
2,829	54	54		
967			8	13
149	257	165		
2,420				
2,076				
46,276	1,639	1,897	326	376

30,300

-15,976