

## Schools Funding Forum 13th June 2024

**ITEM 5**

**Subject Heading:**

**LA maintained schools' balances 2023-24**

**Report Author:**

**Hany Moussa – Principal Education  
Finance Officer**

**Eligibility to vote:**

**Representatives of LA maintained schools**

### **SUMMARY**

This report provides an analysis of the LA maintained school balances carried forward from 2023-24 into 2024-25.

### **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 for the 36 primary and one special school that were LA maintained at the end of financial year 2023-24. Three pairs of schools operate a single budget across their federations.

	Total income £m	Total c/fwd balance £m	Balance as a % of income
2023-24	122.5	1.8	1.5%
2022-23	110.8	3.9	3.5%
2021-22	106.4	4.5	4.3%
2020-21	101.4	4.7	4.7%
2019-20	96.3	2.3	2.3%
2018-19	91.5	3.6	3.9%

## 2. Total value of school surpluses and deficits

Year	Total surpluses £m	Total deficits £m	Net balances £m
2023-24	5.4	3.6	1.8
2022-23	5.3	1.4	3.9
2021-22	5.4	0.9	4.5
2020-21	5.8	1.1	4.7
2019-20	3.7	1.4	2.3
2018-19	4.3	0.7	3.6

## 3. School balances - percentage banding

	No. above 15%	No. between 10% & 15%	No. between 5% & 10%	No. between 0% & 5%	No. in deficit
2023-24	1	3	8	11	14
2022-23	1	3	11	7	15
2021-22	1	4	11	12	9
2020-21	1	4	15	7	11
2019-20	0	2	15	6	16
2018-19	0	4	14	9	12

#### 4. School in deficit – percentage banding

	No. above 10%	No. between 5% & 10%	No. between 1% & 5%	No. below 1%	Total No. in deficit
2023-24	7	5	2	0	14
2022-23	0	6	8	1	15
2021-22	1	3	4	1	9
2020-21	1	4	4	2	11
2019-20	2	4	9	1	16
2018-19	1	1	7	3	12

#### 5. Schools in deficit - duration

No. of years	No. of schools in deficit
> 5	8
5	1
4	0
3	0
2	5
1	0
Total	14

#### 6. Schools with balances above 10% - duration

No. of years	No. of schools above 10%
> 5	2
5	0
4	2
3	1
2	0
1	1
Total	6

The local authority will be in discussion with both LA maintained schools with balances above 10% and also those that are unable to set a balanced budget in 2024-25.