

Annual Review of De-delegated Services

Purpose of the Report

- .01 To explain the regulations around de-delegation and to propose that de-delegation from schools to the Council continues on the same basis in 2017/18 as 2016/17.

Suggested Action

- .02 The Forum are asked to agree the recommendation and to consider any other additional areas of service which schools may wish to procure as a traded service.

Background

- .03 Funding for delegated services must be allocated through the Authority Proforma Tool (APT) formula but can be de-delegated for maintained primary and secondary schools with Schools Forum approval. This de-delegation may only be agreed for one financial year at a time; and must therefore come to Forum on an annual basis for review. This is that review paper.

De-delegation is not an option for academies, special schools, nurseries and pupil referral units. However, where the provision of de-delegated services has been agreed for maintained schools the Council may offer the same service on a traded service basis to those schools and academies which are unable to de-delegate.

Schools Forum members for primary and secondary maintained schools must decide separately for each phase whether the service should be provided centrally and the decision will apply to all maintained mainstream schools in that phase.

Funding for these services will then be removed from the Formula before school budgets are issued. There may be different decisions for each phase.

- .04 **Services that may be de-delegated**

The services which may be de-delegated are shown below:

1. Contingencies (including schools in financial difficulties and deficits of closing schools);
2. Behaviour Support Services;
3. Support to underperforming ethnic groups and bilingual learners;
4. Insurance;
5. Licenses / subscriptions;
6. Staff costs supply cover (e.g. maternity, paternity, trade union and public duties.)

The table below shows the amounts de-delegated by phase for each of the above for financial year 2016/17. These are subject to change as part of the 2017/18 budget setting process. Any unspent de-delegated funding may be carried forward to the following funding period and can be used specifically for de-delegated services if the authority wishes.

| | Primary | Secondary | |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|--|
| Contingencies | £ 2,490.57 | £ 2,490.57 | |
| Insurance | £ 10,528.30 | £ 10,528.30 | |
| Licences/ subscriptions | £ 4,226.41 | £ 4,226.41 | |
| Staff costs supply cover | £ 6,962.26 | £ 6,962.26 | |
| Support to underperforming ethnic minority groups and bilingual learners | £ 2,754.71 | £ 2,754.71 | |
| Behaviour support services | £ 6,551.02 | | |
| | £ 33,513.27 | £ 26,962.25 | |
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.05 Recommendations

That Forum agree that the services listed above are de-delegated for 2017/18. Although it is anticipated that the rates are essentially those above they may be subject to change as a result of the Indicative DSG allocations announcement expected in mid December 2016. For example, if more pupils move to Academies (who cannot de-delegate) the cost burden would be spread over fewer schools resulting in higher rates.

.06 Next Steps

Following receipt of the revised position from the DfE the amounts de-delegated are to be revised and presented to the January 2017 Schools Forum.

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December 2016**