

SCHOOLS FORUM

2018/19 Central School Services Block (CSSB)

December 2017

1 **Purpose of the Report**

This report is to ask the Schools Forum to support the Council's proposals to fund the statutory education functions of the authority for 2018/2019.

2 **Recommendations**

The Schools Forum is asked to note the contents.

3 **Background**

The Department of Education (DfE) has introduced a new block known as the Central School Services Block (CSSB) in 2018/2019, to fund local authorities for the statutory duties they hold for both maintained schools and academies.

The CSSB brings together funding previously allocated through the retained duties element of the Education Services Grant (ESG) and funding for ongoing central functions, such as admissions, previously top-sliced from the schools block.

The DfE provisional allocation for this block is £922k which is a 2.5% reduction from last year's centrally retained amount.

4 **Financial Summary**

Proposed allocation

Statutory Duties	Description of Service	Budget 2018/19 £000
Statutory & regulatory duties	Director of Children's Services, education staff and planning for the education service as a whole.	230
	Revenue budget preparation, preparation of information on income and expenditure relating to education, and external audit	120

Statutory Duties	Description of Service	Budget 2018/19 £000
	<p>relating to education.</p> <p>Authorisation and monitoring of expenditure not met from schools' budget shares.</p> <p>Formulation and review of local authority schools funding formula.</p> <p>Internal audit and other tasks related to the authority's Chief Finance Officer's responsibilities under Section 151 of LGA 1972 except duties specifically related to maintained schools.</p> <p>Consultation costs relating to non-staffing issues.</p> <p>Provision of information to or at the request of the Crown other than relating specifically to maintained schools.</p> <p>Standing Advisory Committees for Religious Education (SACREs)</p> <p>Plans involving collaboration with other LA services or public or voluntary bodies</p>	<p>72</p> <p>7</p>
Education Welfare Services	<p>Functions in relation to the exclusion of pupils from schools, excluding any provision of education to excluded pupils</p> <p>School attendance</p> <p>Responsibilities regarding the employment of children</p>	<p>2</p> <p>117</p>
Asset Management	<p>Management of the Local Authority's capital programme including preparation and review of an asset management plan, and negotiation and management of private finance transactions</p> <p>General landlord duties for all buildings owned by the local authority, including those</p>	<p>68</p> <p>13</p>

Statutory Duties	Description of Service	Budget 2018/19 £000
	leased to academies	
School Forum	Services to do with School forum administration.	4
School Admissions	Duties relating to the Admissions process	289
TOTAL		922

5 **Summary**

There are many education services offered to schools like Educational Psychology, various therapies and other health services which were previously funded by the Education Support Grant that the Council continues to provide without funding from the DSG. The estimated cost of these services is over £1m pounds.

School improvement is not included in the arrangements set out in the above tables, the budget for this area in 2017/18 was £320k, the local authorities receive a separate grant covering their statutory intervention functions and monitoring and commissioning of school improvement support.

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December 2017

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December 2017

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