

SCHOOLS FORUM

2018/19 High Need Block Consultation January 2018

1 **Purpose of the Report**

This report is to consult the Schools Forum on how the Council will allocate the High Needs Block budget (HNB).

2 **Suggested Actions**

The Schools Forum are asked to comment on the proposal.

3 **Background**

Extract from the DfE High Need Block Guidance

“High needs funding is provided to local authorities through the High Needs Block of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG), and local authorities must spend that funding in line with the associated conditions of the grant, and the School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations. High needs funding is also provided directly to some institutions by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA).

The high needs funding system supports provision for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) from their early years to age 25, enabling both local authorities and providers to meet their statutory duties under the Children and Families Act 2014. High needs funding is also intended to support good quality AP for pre-16 pupils who cannot receive education in schools.

Financial year 2018/19 marks the introduction of national funding formulae for schools, high needs and central school services. The final national funding formulae for 2018/19 and 2019/20 have been confirmed, alongside the analysis of responses to the national funding formulae consultations and government’s conclusions. These formulae will be used to calculate the blocks within the DSG that are allocated to local authorities”.

4 **Financial Summary**

Please see Appendix A which reports the proposed allocation of the £18.58m of the 2018/19 High Needs Block Budget together with a comparison to the 17/18 budget and projected outturn.

APPENDIX A				
SUMMARY				
2018-19 High Needs Block Budget				
	A	B	B	C
			November	
	£	£	£	£
	2016-17	2017-18	2017-18	2018-19
	£000	£000	£000	£000
	Out-turn	Budget	Forecast	Budget
INCOME				
2017-18 DSG allocation	16,900	17,558	17,558	16,697
Transfer from the school block (0.5% half a percent)	0	0	0	498
Academy Place funding	808	1,386	1,386	1,386
Total Funding from the DFE for the HNB	17,708	18,944	18,944	18,580
EXPENDITURE				
Expenditure no longer required due to 18-19 funding changes	0	0	0	-264
Funding given to the Academies directly from WBC HNB	0	1,386	1,386	1,386
Funding given to the Academies directly from WBC HNB 16-17	808	0	0	0
RESOURCE BASES - MAINTAINED				
Place funding - Resource bases	669	750	750	750
Top up funding - Resource bases	139	202	252	202
	1,617	952	1,002	952
The Oaks	200	200	200	285
Various top - up				
MAINTAINED STATEMENTED (ehc) initial allocation	532	697	942	942
Wokingham Academies (ehc) initial allocation	291	297	255	297
Additional funding for full year	240	247	240	247
Special school allocation - Addlington and Northern House	5,704	5,313	4,951	4,862
PRU	470	470	470	470
INDEPENDENT SPECIAL SCHOOL	6,155	6,619	6,778	6,442
CENTRALLY RETAINED				
Out of Borough topups	878	617	793	617
Post 16 top ups	0	615	814	615
Sensory Impairment	235	235	235	235
ABA Programme	55	55	55	55

Education out of school	638	720	638	638
SEN staffing support	18	20	20	20
Moderating Panels	183	150	200	150
Support for inclusion	401	507	507	401
SEN Transport	230	230	230	230
	2,638	3,149	3,492	2,961
TOTAL I & E	17,847	19,330	19,715	18,580
Variance against budget	139	385	771	0

5 Conclusion

Pressures on the HNB in recent years are partly explained by the increase in the number of pupils in the SEND cohort, including those who have an EHCP. There are also additional costs being incurred due to a lack of suitable local provision for some pupils resulting in out of borough placements. This pressure is unlikely to reduce in the short term.

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January 2018

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January 2018

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