

## SCHOOLS FORUM

### 2018/19 Split Sites Criteria January 2018

#### 1 **Purpose of the Report**

This report is to ask the Schools Forum to support the Council's proposals to use the Split Site criteria factor in the 2018/19 School Block Budget.

#### 2 **Recommendations**

The Schools Forum are asked to consider and approve the proposal.

#### 3 **Background**

A local authority School Block Funding Formula can include a factor to provide additional funding to schools that operate on more than one site.

- Criteria for providing extra funding should be clear and transparent, incorporating clear and objective trigger points, and a clear formula for allocating additional funding.
- All schools and academies that meet the criteria will be eligible for split site funding.
- Schools sharing facilities, federated schools and schools with remote sixth forms, or remote early years provision, are not eligible for split site funding.

Examples of clear trigger points are (extract from the DfE summer guidance):

- the sites are a minimum distance apart, as the crow flies, and the sites are separated by a public highway.
- the provision on the additional site does not qualify for an individual school budget share through the DSG.
- the school has remote playing fields, separated from the school by a minimum distance, and there is no safe walking route for the pupils.
- a percentage of staff are required to teach on both sites on a daily basis, to support the principle of a whole school policy, and to maintain the integrity of the delivery of the national curriculum.
- a minimum percentage of pupils are taught on each site on a daily basis.

Examples of a clear formula for funding schools with split sites are:

- a lump sum payment
- a per-pupil rate
- a rate per square metre of the additional site

Values for primary and secondary schools may be different. There may be one rate of payment for the first additional site, and a separate rate for each additional site. Payment rates may be stepped, for example as the distance between sites increases.

#### **4 The Wokingham Borough Council Split Site Criteria**

The Council is proposing a set of 5 criteria to assess any school or academy who applies for this funding. The applying school will be required to meet the first criteria and then 2 from the other 4 before being considered for split site funding.

Must meet:

1. The provision on the additional site does not qualify for an individual school budget share through the DSG.

Then must meet 2 from the following 4:

2. The sites have to be at least 2 miles or 3.219 kilometers apart, as the crow flies, and the sites are separated by a public highway i.e an A or B road.
3. The school or academy has to demonstrate that they have increased leadership and administration costs due to having 2 sites, i.e. 2 Headteachers, 2 receptionists etc.
4. At least 20% of staff are required to teach on both sites on a daily basis, to support the principle of a whole school policy, and to maintain the integrity of the delivery of the national curriculum.
5. At least a minimum of 20% of pupils are taught on each site on a daily basis.

#### **5 Financial Summary**

Where a school or academy meets the criteria as described above, a lump sum will be provided at the DfE preferred National Funding Formula lump sum rate of £110k.

#### **6 Summary**

There has been one application for this funding from Charvil Piggott where additional costs have been incurred by having two sites.

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**Interim School Finance Manager**  
**January 2018**

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**January 2018**