

TITLE 19-20 Schools block budget

FOR CONSIDERATION BY School Forum on 16 January 2019

WARD None Specific;

DIRECTOR Director of Children's Services - Carol Cammiss

OUTCOME / BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY

N/A

RECOMMENDATION

Consultation on the final schools budget for 2019/20 and for Schools Forum to give a view on any potential disapplication request regarding all-through schools.

SUMMARY OF REPORT

The report reviews the draft budget presented to Forum in December, and the final budget following confirmation of funding from the DfE.

It also provides an update on the further modelling done in respect of all-through schools within the allocation methodology, as requested by Schools Forum in December.

2019/20 Schools Block Budget January 2019

.01 Purpose of the Report

This report is to update Schools Forum on the final Schools Block Budget against the draft 2019/20 budget presented in December.

The report also provides an update on the further modelling done in respect of all-through schools within the allocation methodology, as requested by Schools Forum in December.

.02 Recommendations

The Forum is asked to note and give a view on the contents of this report.

.03 Background

The Department for Education (DfE), on 17th December 2019 provided the Local Authority (LA) with the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) which provides funding for all schools. The DSG funding is provided in 4 blocks: the Schools Block, the High Needs Block, the Early Years Block, and the Central Schools Services Block.

At the December Schools Forum meeting a draft budget for the Schools Block was presented following modelling done by the Task & Finish Group, using the best available information. Since that meeting confirmation has been received from the DfE on the final budget for 2019/20.

The DfE now calculates a growth factor amount, which was detailed in the December Schools Forum report. Following receipt of the final budget figures, this has given the Council an increase in it's DSG allocation from the draft of £141k. The draft budget also had 6 more pupils than the final allocated numbers from the DfE, and this therefore reduced the budget from the draft by £12k. The total increase in budget from the indicative to the final is £129k. The total Schools Block Budget is as below, with the Growth Fund figure as approved by Forum in December:

Allocation to Schools	£103,421,576
Growth Fund	£800,000
Total budget	£104,221,576

.04 All-through schools funding methodology

Following conclusion of the Task & Finish Group modelling on the draft 2019/20 budget, a question was raised on the DfE allocation methodology for the one local all-through school. The Schools Forum, at the December 2018 meeting, therefore asked the Council and Task & Finish Group to review the impact of adjusting the all-through allocation basis to a more representative approach for the Wokingham school. This would allow Forum to take a view on the appropriateness of supporting a disapplication request to the Secretary of State on amending the formula allocation.

Should the Council submit a disapplication request, the DfE will make the final decision based on evidence provided.

Modelling was taken forward through the Task & Finish Group to reflect the pupils attending the school, 16% Primary and 84% Secondary, instead of the dictated DfE model of 58% Primary and 42% Secondary. This was following the agreement of the Forum in principle of an outcome where it was suggested that a small amount of money was adjusted from each school to fund the increase in the all through school budget.

Following completion of the models the results showed that 3 schools were significantly adversely impacted by around £70k in total, with other schools largely being protected by the minimum funding in the Wokingham model. A review of previously considered models by the Task & Finish Group did not provide any significantly different outcome.

The Task & Finish Group met to discuss the position on Friday 4th January 2019. While the group agreed that the DfE calculation doesn't take into consideration the characteristics of the local school, given that the results were not in line with the anticipated outcome Forum discussed in December and that a very small number of schools would be significantly adversely impacted, the group felt that a decision without further discussion or consultation was not appropriate.

Following consideration by the Assistant Director for Education, the Council's view is that the current evidence base does not support a disapplication request, informed by:

- The all-through school unit allocation per pupil is £4,495, significantly above the DfE stated minimum funding per pupil of £4,042;
- The 3 schools impacted have already seen significant funding reductions due to falling roll numbers and are likely to find it difficult to produce a balanced budget with further reductions;
- The change would not result in a fair allocation of resources in respect of other schools.

Schools Forum is asked to consider the opinions of the Task & Finish Group and the view of the Council in considering whether further consultation would be supported.

Should wider consultation be taken forward, and strong support for a disapplication request be made, then the Council will further consider the evidence for submission to the Secretary of State.

.05 **Financial Summary**

Appendix A shows the actual 2019/20 Schools Block Budget per school against the 2019/20 draft budget, and the current year's actual budget.

.05 **Summary**

The report provides detail on the final Schools Block Budget that is due to be submitted to the Department of Education (DfE) by 21st January 2019. If the Schools Forum require a consultation on the disapplication, this deadline will need to be extended for at least 2 weeks.

Coral Miller
Interim Senior Financial Specialist - Schools
January 2019

Bob Watson
Lead Specialist – Finance (deputy s151)
January 2019

APPENDIX A - Option 1 Final 2019-20 against Draft 2019-20 budget and Final 2019-20 budget against 2018-19 Final budget.

				A	B	C	D	E
School Name	Draft Oct 18 census NOR to be verified by DFE	NOR Variance against 18-19 NOR (oct 17 census)		18-19 Post MFG Budget	19-20 Draft Budget	19-20 Actual Budget	Variance between the Draft budget and Actual budget	Variance - between Actual and last year
Aldryngton Primary School	314	- 2		1,143,200	1,156,404	1,156,660	256	13,460
All Saints CofE (Aided) Primary School	275	3		1,219,180	1,245,261	1,245,261	0	26,081
Bearwood Primary School	256	1		1,059,826	1,075,628	1,075,628	0	15,802
Beechwood Primary School	366	8		1,307,069	1,343,640	1,354,312	10,672	47,243
Bohunt School Wokingham	805	282		2,610,510	3,951,384	3,951,384	0	1,340,873
Crazies Hill CofE Primary School	92	-		459,481	464,928	464,928	0	5,447
Earley St Peter's Church of England Primary School	484	- 3		1,692,951	1,715,715	1,704,514	-11,201	11,564
Emmbrook Infant School	173	- 7		755,147	736,202	736,202	0	-18,946
Emmbrook Junior School	246	- 1		944,031	957,117	953,799	-3,319	9,768
Evendons Primary Free School	346	39		1,089,710	1,221,459	1,221,620	161	131,910
Farley Hill Primary School	208	4		778,564	798,691	801,643	2,952	23,079
Finchampstead CofE VA Primary School	114	-		506,825	505,920	511,206	5,287	4,381
Floreat Montague Park Primary School	162	72		545,941	814,606	814,606	0	268,664
Gorse Ride Infants' School	158	- 4		692,262	681,692	681,692	0	-10,570
Gorse Ride Junior School	231	- 13		943,325	916,656	923,029	6,373	-20,296
Grazeley Parochial Church of England Aided Primary S	189	20		745,786	814,198	814,198	0	68,411
Hatch Ride Primary School	197	- 4		774,741	767,510	768,471	961	-6,270
Hawkedon Primary School	628	3		2,136,611	2,189,806	2,198,000	8,194	61,389
Highwood Primary School	269	34		1,027,207	1,152,359	1,152,359	0	125,152
Hillside Primary School	421	3		1,511,923	1,559,611	1,551,500	-8,111	39,577
Keep Hatch Primary School	394	- 3		1,441,940	1,466,264	1,469,508	3,244	27,568
Lambs Lane Primary School	223	4		870,055	893,611	895,195	1,584	25,140
Loddon Primary School	517	15		1,708,743	1,809,500	1,812,786	3,286	104,043
Maiden Erleigh School	1,387	9		6,335,864	6,657,600	6,657,600	0	321,736
Nine Mile Ride Primary School	339	3		1,213,831	1,223,694	1,225,027	1,333	11,196
Oakbank	510	30		2,556,693	2,717,474	2,717,474	0	160,781
Oaklands Infant School	168	- 4		679,596	683,766	679,783	-3,983	187
Oaklands Junior School	253	7		917,730	952,739	955,436	2,698	37,706
Polehampton Church of England Infant School	170	- 9		726,614	702,984	702,984	0	-23,630
Polehampton Church of England Junior School	239	1		908,530	927,844	932,701	4,857	24,171
Radstock Primary School	421	-		1,485,539	1,510,204	1,509,973	-231	24,434
Rivermead Primary School	410	9		1,415,724	1,471,968	1,462,725	-9,244	47,000
Robert Piggott CofE Infant School	106	- 16		533,893	489,726	489,726	0	-44,167
Robert Piggott CofE Junior School	179	5		707,641	738,184	735,257	-2,926	27,617
Saint Sebastian's Church of England Aided Primary Sc	146	- 7		693,857	682,176	682,176	0	-11,681
Shinfield Infant and Nursery School	268	1		1,107,317	1,122,702	1,122,702	0	15,385
Shinfield St Mary's CofE Junior School	356	36		1,228,345	1,350,547	1,350,547	0	122,202
Shinfield West Primary School	18	-		209,305	210,018	209,746	-272	441
Sonning CofE Primary School	209	2		792,611	804,459	806,228	1,769	13,617
South Lake Primary School	415	- 3		1,481,579	1,507,573	1,505,444	-2,129	23,866
St Crispin's School	958	18		4,548,771	4,598,400	4,598,400	0	49,629
St Dominic Savio Catholic Primary School	418	-		1,460,235	1,486,717	1,475,737	-10,980	15,503
St Nicholas Church of England Primary, Hurst	136	- 1		593,792	595,414	594,368	-1,046	576
St Paul's CofE Junior School	385	3		1,361,885	1,416,313	1,416,313	0	54,428
St Teresa's Catholic Academy	309	- 2		1,111,798	1,115,843	1,124,067	8,225	12,269
The Bulmershe School	959	113		4,293,017	5,015,345	5,015,345	0	722,328
The Colleton Primary School	389	6		1,363,292	1,423,903	1,421,257	-2,646	57,966
The Coombes Church of England Primary School	398	- 2		1,411,124	1,428,438	1,449,401	20,963	38,277
The Emmbrook School	733	- 22		3,727,727	3,774,441	3,801,660	27,219	73,933
The Forest School	664	- 116		3,771,080	3,316,464	3,337,182	20,717	-433,898
The Hawthorns Primary School	426	5		1,465,955	1,504,672	1,500,306	-4,366	34,351
The Holt School	1,067	35		4,728,434	5,121,600	5,121,600	0	393,166
The Piggott School	1,195	48		5,055,379	5,339,016	5,369,852	30,836	314,473
Waingels College	1,031	- 38		5,063,535	4,948,800	4,996,969	48,169	-66,566
Walter Infant School	273	8		998,443	1,025,951	1,029,252	3,302	30,809
Wescott Infant School	160	- 6		685,252	662,309	662,309	0	-22,943
Westende Junior School	237	- 2		925,912	932,477	933,063	586	7,150
Wheatfield Primary School	166	31		601,285	703,350	703,350	0	102,065
Whiteknights Primary School	419	11		1,549,650	1,601,483	1,596,609	-4,874	46,959
Willow Bank Infant School	180	3		699,740	722,605	722,199	-406	22,460
Willow Bank Junior School	239	3		895,350	921,335	919,396	-1,939	24,046
Windmill	197	44		706,101	864,262	864,262	0	158,161
Winnersh Primary School	443	- 20		1,604,042	1,598,159	1,583,497	-14,661	-20,544
Woodley CofE Primary School	314	1		1,161,223	1,182,937	1,181,153	-1,784	19,930
TOTAL	24,356	635		98,742,721	103,292,050	103,421,576	129,526	4,678,855

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