

Agenda Item 51

TITLE	2019/20 Contingency Breakdown
FOR CONSIDERATION BY	Schools Forum on 10 July 2019
WARD	None Specific;
LEAD OFFICER	Director of Children's Services - Carol Cammiss

OUTCOME / BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY

N/A

RECOMMENDATION

Schools Forum is asked to note the current allocation of the de-delegated schools' contingency budget for 2019/20.

SUMMARY OF REPORT

This report updates Schools Forum on how the Council has allocated the de-delegated school's contingency budget to date in the current financial year. The funding is provided by maintained schools to support schools in exceptional financial difficulties, where this has occurred through no fault of the school.

Of the £107,095 provided for in 2019/20, one allocation of £30,000 has been made to a school with exceptional financial pressures due to long term illness of the Head Teacher.

2019/20 Contingencies Breakdown July 2019

.01 Purpose of the Report

This report is to update Schools Forum on how the Council is applying the de-delegated school's contingency budget for the 2019/20 financial year.

.02 Recommendation

Schools Forum is asked to note the current allocation of the de-delegated schools' contingency budget for 2019/20.

.03 Background

The Department for Education (DfE) allow the Council to run specific services for its maintained schools, if the maintained schools require this type of support.

As part of the de-delegated service decisions taken by the maintained schools at the March 2019 meeting of Schools Forum, contingency of £107,095 was made for the 2019/20 financial year.

The contingency is managed by Finance with each claim assessed on its merit. Following an initial assessment by Finance, the request and evidence is passed for approval or not, by the Assistant Director for Education.

The schools' contingency is available to maintained schools as per the school budget guidance published by the DfE.

.04 Financial Summary

At present there has been one approved claim on the funding for the 2019/20 financial year, for £30,000.

The school involved will be closely monitored to identify any further issues or changes, as this support is provided to support their ability to deliver a balanced budget going forward.

Updates on any further allocations of funds will form part of regular reporting to Schools Forum.

Summary of allocations to date:

Description	Amount
Contingency made for 2019/20	(£107,095)
School A: The on-going long term sickness of the Head Teacher has caused tremendous pressure on the school's budget with cover staff arrangements. The school feels that it is now at the lowest staffing levels it can possibly be to run a school, without compromising its standards.	£30,000
Contingency not yet committed	(£77,095)

Coral Miller
Interim Senior Finance Specialist - Schools
July 2019

Bob Watson
Lead Specialist - Finance (deputy s.151 officer)
July 2019

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