

NOTICE OF MEETING

Haringey Schools Forum

THURSDAY, 5TH DECEMBER, 2024 AT 4.00 pm HRS - MICROSOFT TEAMS.

1. CHAIR'S WELCOME

2. APOLOGIES, SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS, AND OBSERVERS

Clerk to report.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declarations are only required where an individual member of the Forum has a pecuniary interest in an item on the agenda.

4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 17 OCTOBER 2024 (PAGES 1 - 10)

Matters arising

5. DEDICATED SCHOOLS BUDGET MODELLING FOR 2025/26 (PAGES 11 - 22)

6. TO CONFIRM THE DATE FOR THE NEXT SCHOOLS FORUM MEETING: EITHER 9 JANUARY OR 16 JANUARY 2025.

7. PROPOSED MEETINGS DATES FOR 2024-2025

- Thursday 9 January 2025 at 4pm
- Thursday 6 February 2025 at 4pm
- Thursday 13 March 2025 at 4pm
- Thursday 3 July 2024 at 4pm

8. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

Member item request: Special School funding for EYFS children.



Haringey Schools Forum Minutes

17 OCTOBER 2024 AT 16:00 HRS AT HEP:Inderwick Road, Crouch End N8 9JF

School Members		
Headteachers		
Special (1)	(A)Martin Doyle (Riverside)	
Nursery Schools (1)	(A)Sian McDermott (Rowland Hill)	
Primary (7)	Mary Gardiner (West Green)	Kate Stevens (St Aidan VC)
	(A)Hina Shah (Earlmead) substitute for Robert Lane (Welbourne)	Paul Murphy (Lancasterian)
	(A) Ian Scotchbrook (South Haringay)	Linda Sarr (Risley Avenue)
	Bola Soneye-Thomas (Rokesly Junior School)	
Secondary (2)	Jo Davey (Fortismere)	Vacancy
Primary Academy (1)	(A)Luke Renwick (Brook House) long term substitute for Simon Knowles (LDBS Academies Trust)	
Secondary Academies (3)	Michael McKenzie (Alexandra Park)	(A)Angela Wallace (Woodside High)
	Vacancy	
Alternative Provision (1)	(A)Gerry Robinson (Executive Headteacher HLP)	
Governors		
Special (1)	Phil Di Leo (The Vale)	
Nursery School (1)	Melian Mansfield (Pembury)	
Primary Maintained (7)	Vacancy	Dan Salem (Stroud Green Primary)
	Vacancy	
	(A)Helen Froggatt (St Aidan’s Primary)	(A)Jenny Thomas (Lordship Lane)
	Caroline Schloss (Alexandra Primary)	
Secondary Maintained (3)	Laurence Penn (Highgate Wood)	Vacancy
	Sylvia Dobie (Park View)	
Primary Academy (1)	Vacancy	
Secondary Academies (3)	Andrea Henry (Greig City Academy)	Vacancy
	Vacancy	
Alternative Provision (1)	Vacancy	
Non-School Members		
Non-Executive Councillor	Cllr Ibrahim Ali	
Trade Union Representative	(A)Paul Renny	
Professional Association Representative	(A)Ed Harlow	
Faith Schools	(A)Geraldine Gallagher	
CCCG Representative	Christine Bianchin	
Early Years Providers	Susan Tudor-Hart	
Independent member	Will Wawn [Chair]	

Observers	
None	
Cabinet Member for CYPS	
Cllr Zena Brabazon	
Also Attending	
Director of Children's Services	Ann Graham
Assistant Director, Schools & Learning	Jane Edwards
Assistant Director, Commissioning & Programmes	(A)Caroline Brain
Assistant Director, Early Help, Prevention & SEND	Jackie Difolco
Head of Service, Integrated SEND	Mary Jarrett
Head of Schools Finance	Neil Sinclair
Senior Finance Manager - Schools	(A)Patricia Harvey
Principal advisor for Early Years	(A)Nick Hewlett
Chief Executive HEP	(A)James Page
Lead for Governor Services (HEP)	Anne Etchells
Clerk (HEP)	Corinne David

(A) Absent

1 CHAIR'S WELCOME

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. New members were welcomed and introductions were made.
- 1.2 The Chair had been in contact with the previous Vice-Chair to invite her back to allow members to provide thanks to her for her hard work and dedication. Unfortunately, ill health had prevented this.

2 NEW MEMBERS, APOLOGIES, SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS AND OBSERVERS

- 2.1 New members to Schools Forum were welcomed to the meeting and noted as:
 - Kate Stevens (Headteacher: St Aidan VC)
 - Hina Shah (Headteacher: Earlmead)
 - Robert Lane (Headteacher: Welbourne) [Elected substitute Headteacher]
 - Christine Bianchin (Group Principal, Adults and HE: The College of Haringey, Enfield and NE London)
- 2.2 Resignations from Schools Forum were received and noted from:
 - Julie D'Abreu (Headteacher: Devonshire Hill Nursery & Primary)
 - Stephen McNicholas (Headteacher: St John Vianney)
 - Laura Butterfield (Governor: HLP)
 - Andrew Willett (Governor: Willow Primary)
 - Kurt Hintz (14-19 Partnership)
- 2.2.1 The Chair on behalf of Schools Forum, thanked those members that had resigned from the Forum for their work and support during their tenure.
- 2.3 Apologies for absence and substitute members were received and noted from:
 - Ian Scotchbrook (Headteacher: South Haringay)
 - Sian Mc Dermott (Headteacher: Rowland Hill)
 - Gerry Robinson (Executive Headteacher HLP)
 - Martin Dole (Headteacher: Riverside)
 - Hina Shah (Headteacher: Earlmead): substitute member: Robert Lane (Headteacher: Welbourne) was noted.
 - Paul Renny (Haringey Unison)
 - Helen Froggatt (Governor: St Aidan's Primary)
 - Carloine Brain (Assistant Director, Commissioning & Programmes)

- 2.4 The Chair informed members that Caroline Schloss [Alexandra Primary] had provided a Governor application to fill one of the vacancies, also from Alexandra Primary. The applicant had relevant financial experiences and was keen to join the Forum. Noted that Schools Forum currently held 3 primary maintained governor vacancies. Noted that it was not ideal to have 2 positions filled from the same setting; however, it was preferable to have vacancies filled. Further noted if there was an influx of applications from the same block then the position would be reviewed.

ACTION Chair to liaise with the applicant and provide an invitation to the next meeting.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- 3.1 No declaration of interests were made in respect of any of the agenda items.

4 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16 July 2024

- 4.1 **The minutes of the Schools Forum meeting held on 16 July 2024 were AGREED and RATIFIED as a correct record.** There were no matters of accuracy noted.

4.2 Matters arising

- 4.2.2 Item 4.2.2 Vacancies on the School's Forum membership
- a) All members to continue recruitment through all avenues to appoint to vacant positions.
 - b) Will Wawn to follow up with Secondary Academies to try and recruit to vacancies.
 - c) For each block that had vacancies, elections to take place to select members to the Forum.
 - d) HEP to continue to email all Governors regarding Governor vacancies on Schools Forum. Governor Forum members to make request for members at relevant Chairs and Governor meetings.

Noted all actions were ongoing.

- 4.2.3 Item 7 Vice Chair Election
- a) Chair to invite Laura Butterfield to the next meeting on 17 October 2024 to allow personal thanks to be provided.

Action completed: see item 1.2

- b) Election of Vice -Chair to be undertaken at the next meeting.

Action to be undertaken at the next meeting.

- 4.2.4 Item 8.1.4 Early Years Working block
- Verbal report/update on items 8.1.1 to 8.1.3 at the next Schools Forum meeting

See item 5.1

- 4.2.5 Item 9.5 Growth Fund
- Proposal to use unallocated Growth Fund to be received at the next Schools forum meeting

See item 9.

- 4.2.6 Item 10.6 Haringey Schools Audit
Haringey Audit to circulate the checklist and assurance criteria to schools.

ACTION Chair to liaise with Haringey Audit for an update.

- 4.2.7 Item 13.2 Chair and Neil Sinclair to liaise with commissioning regarding what could be possible with aggregated procurement agreements for schools to buy into.

Neil Sinclair informed Schools Forum of a meeting with DfE reviewing options for collaborative/consultative working moving forward.

ACTION Neil Sinclair to provide an update at the next meeting

5 UPDATE FROM WORKING PARTIES

- 5.1 To receive the minutes from the Early Years working party.

Melian Mansfield and Susan Tudor-Hart provide Schools Forum with an update from the Early Years working party. The following highlights were noted:

- a) No changes to the membership or terms of reference were received.
- b) The working party was reviewing options for the most suitable method for agreeing the specific financial cases details of children staying within EYFS settings (other than nursery attached to primary schools) beyond their 5th birthday.
- c) The working party was reviewing how information is disseminated to all settings and escalated to the LA. Noted only 20% of providers provide information on vacancies to the LA; which then impacts financial forecasting and place planning.
- d) Currently £435k in reserves; the review and allocation of reserves funds will be undertaken in January; with proposals received at February Schools Forum meeting.
- e) On 4 November Rowland Hill will be hosting a racial equality conference.

- 5.2 To receive the minutes from the High Needs working party.

Phil Di Leo provided Schools Forum with and an update from the High Needs working party. Analysis of how other Safety Valve LA's High needs working parties operate had been shared with members. Operational models included; twin track approach, disband until the completion of the Safety Valve Programme; to become a reference /focus group to work on specific tasks as required or to disband completely. Members enquired on and sought reassurances that the impact on SEND children was received and reviewed at alternative forums; before a determination on the future of the high needs block was made. Officers noted that those discussions occurred at the SEND Executive and Safety Valve Steering Group. Papers should be shared with all Headteachers.

AGREED **High Needs working party to be suspended and if required to reconvene to complete a specific task**

ACTION a) Phil Di Leo to liaise with Martin Doyle regarding the changes to the High needs working party remit.

b) At the next Headteacher briefings LA officers to clarify how issues relating to SEND are cascaded and escalated along with assurances that cases are pupil focused.

c) Primary and Secondary Headteachers representatives on SEND Decision making boards (SEND Executive, Safety Valve Steering Group and HEYPSHA) to cascade information to their Headteacher colleagues

- 5.3 To receive an update from the Dedicated School Block working party.

The working block had not met this academic year. The Chair, as Chair of the School Block Working Group (SBWG), outlined his view that, whilst Haringey had moved its APT to be aligned with the NFF from 2024/25, the SBWG still had an important role in respect of reviewing LA proposals relating to Block transfers and De-delegation prior to consultation with all schools.

The Chair clarified the current membership of the SBWG as Will Wawn, Mike McKenzie, Linda Sarr, Laurence Penn, Paul Murphy and relevant LA officers. The Chair requested relevant LA officers to organise an SBWG meeting after half term following the Government's end of October Budget.

6 2025-2026 DSG FUNDING MODEL STRATEGY

- 6.1 Neil Sinclair informed Schools Forum that LA's were expecting a budget announcement and investment in schools at the next budget announcement on 31 October 2024; once information has been disseminated to LAs, modelling will be undertaken and shared. The additional Core Schools Budget Grant will be rolled into the schools' block for 2025/26. The final amounts will depend on October census count.

7 HIGH NEEDS BLOCK (HNB) SECTION 251 REPORT (2023/24)

- 7.1 Neil Sinclair and Mary Jarrett informed members of the Section 251 commissioned specialist places for 2024-25; The following highlights were noted:
- a) 632 special school places at a cost of £6.253m.
 - b) The place and top up notional budget for Haringey maintained special schools stood at £17.531m.
 - c) Resource base notional funding from the High Needs budget stood at £658k.
 - d) PRU Funding and AP Budget of 78 core places, including 12 hospital places inclusive of top ups stood at £2.329m. Non-core places including SEMH stood at £0.792m. Teachers Pay and Pension grant is paid outside of High Needs budget from a separate grant. Respite Income directly from schools stood at £0.213m.
 - e) The High Needs Budget allocation was last reported to Schools' Forum in January. Latest published allocation is £58.115m less recoupment of £2.410m.

8 SAFETY VALVE PROGRAMME UPDATE

- 8.1 Mary Jarrett provided schools forum with an update since the previous meeting, noting the report had been circulated for members information. The following was noted:
- a) The new bandings and top up funding model was rolled out in September 2024. Through the moderation process, some children's needs resulted in a change of bandings with increase funding, equally there was a recognition that some children no longer required a plan with their EHCP ceased.
 - b) The first new primary resource provision opened at Earlsmead, with expansion of special school places at Riverside.
 - c) Primary schools are submitting expressions of interest for the next round of resource provisions.
 - d) The LA continue to seek a secondary school to accept an additional resource provision for high functioning children with ASD.
 - e) The LA continues to meet the DfE overall targets of reducing the total spend in the high needs block with the targeting of early interventions.

ACTION MJ to request to attend the next secondary Headteacher meeting the specification for the 34 place ASD resource provision.

At 5pm Michael McKenzie leaves the meeting.

9 PROPOSALS FOR THE USE OF ANY POTENTIAL UNALLOCATED GROWTH FUND

- 9.1 Jane Edwards informed Schools Forum that a paper on proposals for the reallocation of potential unspent growth fund would be received at the January meeting. Noted

that £150k was agreed at the July meeting to fund the establishment of a Haringey Integration Programme for Year 11 EAL new arrivals. Noted that the preference would be a proposal to support primary sector; not just a reallocation of funds to all schools.

ACTION Jane Edwards to submit the draft paper to the NLC Chairs to allow review and discussion of the proposals.

10 PROPOSED MEETING DATES FOR 2024-2025 AND WORK PLAN

10.1 The Chair noted that if the meeting scheduled for Thursday 5 December 2024 was required; this would be virtual via Teams. Schools' forum would be informed by 21 November if the meeting was required or not.

10.2 Officers sought a change of date for the January meeting; from 9 to 16 January to allow further time to for officers to complete papers, due to the Christmas holiday.

ACTION

- a) Clerk to email Schools Forum seeking their availability to attend.
- b) Anne Graham and Zena Brabazon to check deadline for the signing and submission of the APT.
- c) Neil Sinclair to check the APT submission.

10.3 The proposed meeting dates for Schools Forum for rest of 2024/25 were noted as:

- Thursday 9th (or 16th) January 2025 at 4pm
- Thursday 6 February 2025 at 4pm
- Thursday 13 March 2025 at 4pm
- Thursday 3 July 2024 at 4pm

11 ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

11.1 Neil Sinclair presented the late paper, titled 'Disapplication request for inflationary top ups for Special Schools'. Noted that the Safety Valve Programme was for 5-year period and endorsed by Schools Forum. However, a schools block transfer of 0.5% would take place every year for the life span of the programme, as a fixed percentage.

11.2 The Chair provided members with an overview of communication with the relevant LA officers on this matter. The Chair drew attention to his email sent prior to the meeting to all members and officers which outlined the School Finance Regulations, in relation to recommendation 1 a) outlined in the paper:

"That Schools Forum approves the application of a disapplication requests to the Department of Education to:

a) Transfer 0.5% of Schools Block into the High Needs Block to ensure that Haringey continues to meet the requirements of the Safety Valve Programme."

11.3 The Chair re-iterated his view within the email that there is no requirement for the LA to submit a disapplication request to Secretary of State regarding a transfer of up to 0.5% from the Schools Block, that there is only a requirement should Schools Forum not approve said transfer and that Schools Forum had no role or remit in terms of approving any LA disapplication request that might arise as a result.

11.4 In terms of Recommendation 1 (b) in the paper, the Chair re-iterated his understanding that Schools Forum does have a role/remit in approving this recommendation since Schools Forum minutes & papers (in accordance with written guidance in the 'Schools Operational Guide') are required alongside any LA disapplication request.

11.5 The Chair made reference to the School Finance Regulations 2023 outlined in the paper had been superseded by the 2024 Regulations.

- 11.6 *Question:* A Forum member asked about the wording in paragraph 2.2 of the paper which stated “...by transferring 0.5% of the DSG or £1.129m into the High Needs Block”, and what this meant? Did it mean that the amount was capped at £1.129m?

The DCS clarified that it was not a capped amount of £1.129m but 0.5%.
The Chair also pointed out that the wording should have been “of the Schools Block”, not DSG.

- 11.7 As a solution to the difference of view between Chair and the Head of Finance and with a view to the pending 18/11/24 DfE deadline for submission of LA disapplication requests in relation to Recommendation 1 a), the Chair proposed that Schools Forum members voted on the following worded proposal:

That Schools Forum APPROVE/SUPPORT the LA’s submission of a disapplication request, regardless of Schools Finance Regulations 2024, should they determine one required, of 0.5% block transfer from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block to continue to meet the terms and conditions of the Safety Valve Programme.

Schools Forum AGREED with the Chair’s recommendation for 1a.

- 11.8 The Chair sought Forum approval on recommendation 1b ‘To freeze top-up funding to Special Schools by retaining the inflationary uplift of 3.4% to contribute towards the savings to be delivered from the Remodel of Financial Support / Top ups workstream within the Safety Valve Agreement’

Schools Forum AGREED recommendation 1b

- 11.9 A member highlighted the increasing trend of parents electing to home school and the impact on safeguarding. Officers provided an overview of the actions the LA were undertaking to ensure there was a sharper focus on home schooling provision and overview.

The Chair closed the meeting at 5:45pm

SUMMARY OF AGREED ACTIONS TO BE CARRIED OUT FOR JANUARY 2025 MEETING

ITEM	ACTION	LEAD
2.4	Chair to liaise with the new primary school Governor applicant and provide an invitation to the next meeting.	WW
4.2.2	<u>Vacancies on the School's Forum membership</u> a) All members to continue recruitment through all avenues to appoint to vacant positions. b) Will Wawn to follow up with Secondary Academies to try and recruit to vacancies. c) For each block that had vacancies, elections to take place to select members to the Forum. d) HEP to continue to email all Governors regarding Governor vacancies on Schools Forum. Governor Forum members to make request for members at relevant Chairs and Governor meetings.	All WW All HEP
4.2.3	<u>Vice Chair Election</u> Election of Vice -Chair to be undertaken at the next meeting.	All/Clerk
4.2.6	<u>Haringey Schools Audit</u> Chair to liaise with Haringey Audit to circulate the checklist and assurance criteria to schools.	Haringey schools Audit/ WW
4.2.7	Neil Sinclair to provide an update on meetings with the DfE and other council directorates regarding possible aggregated procurement agreements for schools to buy into.	NS
5.2	<u>High Needs working party</u> a) Phil Di Leo to liaise with Martin Doyle regarding the changes to the High needs working party remit. b) At the next Headteacher briefings LA officers to clarify how issues relating to SEND are cascaded and escalated along with assurances that cases are pupil focused. c) Primary and Secondary Headteachers representatives on SEND Decision making boards (SEND Executive, Safety Valve Steering Group and HEYPSHA) to cascade information to their Headteacher colleagues.	PDL JD/MJ Headteachers
8.1	<u>Safety Valve Programme</u> MJ to request to attend the next secondary Headteacher meeting the specification for the 34 place ASD resource provision.	JD/MJ
9.1	<u>Proposals for the use of any potential Unallocated Growth Fund</u> Jane Edwards to submit the draft paper to the NLC Chairs to allow review and discussion of the proposals.	JE
10.1	<u>January meeting date</u> a. Clerk to email Schools Forum seeking their availability to attend.	Clerk

	b. Anne Graham and Zena Brabazon to check deadline for the signing and submission of the APT.	AB/ZB
	c. Neil Sinclair to check the APT submission.	NC

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Agenda Item 5



Report Status

For information/note ☒
For decision ☒

Report to Haringey Schools Forum – 5th December 2024

Report Title: Dedicated Schools Budget Modelling for 2025/26

Authors:

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Head of Finance (People)
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Report authorised by:

Jane Edwards
Assistant Director
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Purpose:

1. To provide the results of the 2025-26 Haringey primary and secondary schools DSG funding formula consultation and recommendations to set the distribution of the 2025-26 Schools block DSG for devolved school budgets.

Recommendations:

- a. Schools Forum are asked to note the changes to the funding for 2025/26 in section 3.
- b. Note the results of the 2025-26 Haringey primary and secondary schools DSG funding formula consultation.
- c. In relation to the previous Safety Valve Programme paper, note the decision to implement a 0.5% transfer from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block.
- d. Note the proposed allocations in Table 1 for block transfers and delegations, which are presented for approval to be incorporated into the DSG funding formula, subject to the consultation responses.
- e. Approve the delegation of the Local Authority's funding formula model for 2025/26 to the Schools Block Working Group, as outlined in Section 3. This will allow the SBWG to review the indicative funding allocations prior to seeking approval at the January 2025 Schools Forum.

2 Introduction.

- 2.1 This paper outlines the strategy for the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) formula in relation to schools' budget share allocations for the financial year 2025/26.
- 2.2 The Department for Education's (DfE) Summary Policy Note for the schools and high needs notional funding formula for 2025-26, published/updated on 6th November 2024, provides the background and principles of the new National Funding Formula (NFF) for schools. The full document can be accessed at:

[Summary Policy Note for Schools and High Needs National Funding Formula 2025 to 2026 - GOV.UK.](#)

- 2.3 Currently, there are no major changes to the DSG funding blocks, which remain divided into four notional categories: Schools Block, High Needs Block, Early Years Block, and Central School Services Block.

3 Changes in funding level for 2025/26.

- 3.1 The basic structure of the schools National Funding Formula (NFF) is not changing in 2025/26. There are a small number of changes in existing factors of the formula in 2023/24, listed in this section.

3.2 National Changes:

- The DfE have stated that schools will receive additional funding for 2025/26 through the following separate grants in 2024/25 being 'rolled into' the Schools Block:
 - Teacher Pay Additional Grant (TPAG)
 - Teacher Pension Employer Contribution Grant (TPECG)
 - Core Schools Budget Grant (CSBG)
- The DfE is now in the process of calculating the schools NFF allocations for 2025 to 2026 for publication NFF allocations by the end of November 2024.
- Factor values have been increased to take account of the rolling in of these grants, and the remaining funding available for schools in 2025 to 2026.

It is important to note that the increase in funding factor values stated above refer to the national picture and may not be relevant to Haringey.

3.3 Key features to the local funding formulae

- Local authorities will be able to set a Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) in local formulas, which for 2025-26 must be between -0.5% and 0%.
- Local authorities can transfer up to 0.5% of their total Schools Block allocation to other blocks within the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG), subject to Schools Forum approval. Transfers above 0.5% or any transfers without Schools Forum approval will still require a disapplication request to the Secretary of State (SoS).
- Schools with split sites will remain eligible for basic funding, including a lump sum for each site, and additional funding for sites more than 100 metres from the main site.
- Growth and Falling Rolls funding will continue to be incorporated into the formula, with the Authority Proforma Tool (APT) addressing these changes within the formula.

- 3.4 Following consultation with Schools in November 2024, the outcome of the consultation will be shared at Schools Forum in January 2025 with a recommendation to Schools Forum for the decision.

4 Approach to consultation with schools on 2025/26 Schools Funding

- 4.1 This year there has been a delay in the Department for Education (DfE) publishing their guidance with regard to the 2025/26 Dedicated Schools Grant, and the implications for Schools funding for 2025/26. This year the DfE has not yet released a draft Authority Proforma Tool (APT) for any LA to 'model' 2025/26 school budgets as they have done in previous years.
- 4.2 Due to the delay in receiving the provisional allocations for the 2025-26 financial year, our consultation with schools will be based on the principles established in last year's DSG allocation funding formula. Specifically, we will adopt 100% of the National Funding Formula (NFF) factor values (with Area Cost Adjustments) and the proposed amounts/percentages for block transfers and de-delegation, please see table 1.
- 4.3 The Schools Block working group will review any decisions made by the Schools Forum in December 2024.
- 4.4 The impact of adopting various levels of the Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) within the local flexible range of -0.5% to 0% will be evaluated.
- 4.5 The proposed consultation process to finalise the 2025/26 DSG formula is outlined below:
1. November 2024:
 - a. The School Finance Team issued the consultation to schools (Appendix A)
 2. December 2024:
 - a. Consultation responses from schools will be collated and evaluated.
 - b. The Schools Block Working Group will present the DSG funding model, incorporating proposed allocations as outlined in Table 1, for recommendations to the Schools Forum in January 2025.
 - c. Relevant disapplication requests submitted to the DfE, where appropriate
 3. January 2024:
 - a. The proposed recommendations and the Authority Proforma Tool (APT), following the consultation with schools, will be presented for approval by the Schools Forum.
 - b. Once approved by the Lead Member, the APT will be submitted to the ESFA.

5 Schools Block DSG Funding formula 2025/26 proposed models

- 5.1 Due to the timing of this paper, it is not possible to outline potential 2025/26 formula model that will be discussed by the school's block working group.
- 5.2 The Schools Forum will be consulted after gathering feedback from schools to finalise the 2025-26 funding formula, taking into account the consultation responses, during the Schools Forum meeting on 5th December 2024.
- 5.3 For 2025/26, Haringey adopted 100% of the National Funding Formula (NFF) values. Schools are being consulted on a single model that has to reflect the required alignment with NFF values, with the proposed allocations outlined in Table 1 below.
- 5.4 The indicative allocations will be shared with schools after the Schools Forum approval on 9th January 2025.
- 5.5 The **table 1** below includes allocations for 2025/26, showing centrally retained and de-delegation amounts

Allocation type	Schools Affected	Description	Proposed Amount
Block Transfer	All Schools	HNB transfer at 0.5%	*TBC
Top Slice	All Schools	Growth Fund/Falling Rolls Fund	£300,000
De-Delegation	Maintained only	Trade Union Facility	£210,147
Block Transfer	All Schools	CSSB for Education Welfare	*£122,000
Block Transfer	All Schools	EY for Nursery split site funding	**0
De-Delegation	Maintained only	Schools in Financial Difficulty Fund	£150,000

*Block transfers subject to disapplication request and Secretary of State approval

** The nursery school is currently operating on a single site.

- 5.6 As mentioned in section 3, the Schools Block working group will further develop the following:
- The initial DSG funding model, which involves adopting 100% of NFF factors, as was done in the previous year.
 - Various levels of Minimum Funding Guarantees.
 - Proposed allocations for the High Needs Block (HNB), Growth Funding, Education Welfare, Trade Union Facilities, and schools in financial difficulty, as outlined in Section 4.5.

Schools Block Funding Formula Consultation

Financial Year 2025/26

Start Date: 9:00am, 25th November 2024

Deadline: 12.00pm, 5th December 2024



**School Finance
London Borough of Haringey**

Schools Block of Dedicated School Grant (DSG) Funding Formula 2025/26

**Funding Consultation between Haringey School's
Forum and
Academies, Maintained Primary and Secondary
Schools**

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**Contact us:
s-SchoolsReturns@haringey.gov.uk**

1. INTRODUCTION

Under The School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2024, the local authority is required to consult with its Schools' Forum, maintained schools, and academies regarding any proposed changes to the school funding formula. This includes input on the factors and criteria considered, as well as the methods, principles, and rules applied.

This document serves as the basis for consulting with all Haringey schools and the Haringey Schools' Forum on the proposed changes to the school funding formula for the 2025/26 financial year. The consultation also addresses the strategic oversight of current challenges within the high needs block funding.

We encourage all schools to participate in this consultation by completing the [online survey](#), or by visiting the following web address:
<https://forms.office.com/e/xRrFubYpXZ>

The deadline for responding to the consultation is **12.00pm, 5th December 2024**. This deadline will enable Schools' Forum to take into consideration the views of schools before the Schools' Forum meeting scheduled for **4.00pm, 5th December 2024**.

The previous Government's intention for school budgets to be determined using a single national formula, known as the National Funding Formula (NFF) has, over the last few years, reduced any discretion Local Authorities used to have in terms of setting their local formula. For Haringey, any remaining local discretion ended, with our 2024/25 local formula becoming aligned with the National Funding Formula (NFF) values.

The NFF provides notional funding allocations for schools (once Area Cost Adjustments are added), which are then aggregated to calculate the total Schools Block funding for each local authority. The autumn school census serves as the primary basis for determining these funding allocations.

Changes for this year 2025/26

Due to the delay in receiving the provisional allocations for the 2025-26 financial year, our consultation with schools will be based on the principles established in last year's DSG allocation funding formula. Specifically, we will adopt 100% of the National Funding Formula (NFF) factor values (with Area Cost Adjustments) and

the proposed amounts/percentages for block transfers and de-delegation, please see table 1.

Due to changes in Government in the summer, this year there has been a delay in the Department for Education (DfE) publishing their guidance with regard to the 2025/26 Dedicated Schools Grant, and the implications for Schools funding for 2025/26. This year the DfE has not yet released a draft Authority Proforma Tool (APT) for any LA to 'model' 2025/26 school budgets as they have done in previous years.

As the Department for Education (DfE) is only set to publish the APT budget tool in December 2024, we are unable to model the provisional allocations at this stage. It will not be possible to delay the required consultation with schools until after the DfE have published the APT budget tool as there will be insufficient time available to do so. Therefore we are required to proceed with the consultation in advance of the Authority Proforma Tool (APT – schools allocations tool for Dedicated Schools Grant).

The Schools Block Working Group (SBWG) will meet to review the indicative allocation once the APT and the indicative DSG allocation have been published by the DfE. This will likely be in the last week of the School Autumn term. We will then present the individual school allocations to the Schools Forum for final approval of the APT at the scheduled January meeting for the 2025-26 financial year, after which Cabinet Member approval will be required. Once all formalities are complete, we will share the indicative allocations with the schools and final allocation by 28th February 2025.

The Department for Education (DfE) published general guidance on the indicative National Funding Formula (NFF) details for schools and high needs for 2025/26 on 6th November 2024.

A summary policy note for the schools and high needs national funding formula for 2025/26 is available at the following link: [Summary policy note for schools and high needs national funding formula 2025 to 2026 - GOV.UK](#)

2. NATIONAL CHANGES IN FUNDING LEVEL FOR 2025/26

The basic structure of the National Funding Formula (NFF) for schools will remain largely unchanged in 2025/26, with only a few national adjustments:

The DfE have stated that schools will receive additional funding for 2025/26 through the following separate grants in 2024/25 being 'rolled into' the Schools Block:

- Teacher Pay Additional Grant (TPAG)
- Teacher Pension Employer Contribution Grant (TPECG)
- Core Schools Budget Grant (CSBG)

These will be incorporated into higher NFF values for 2025/26 to reflect the integration of these grants.

Key Areas to consider locally:

- Local authorities will be able to set a Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) in local formulas, which for 2025-26 must be between -0.5% and 0%.
- Local authorities can transfer up to 0.5% of their total Schools Block allocation to other blocks within the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG), subject to Schools Forum approval. Transfers above 0.5% or any transfers without Schools Forum approval will still require a disapplication request to the Secretary of State (SoS).
- Schools with split sites will remain eligible for basic funding, including a lump sum for each site, and additional funding for sites more than 100 metres from the main site.
- Growth and Falling Rolls funding will continue to be incorporated into the formula, with the Authority Proforma Tool (APT) addressing these changes within the formula.

3. PROPOSED FUNDING MODELS

The Schools Forum will be consulted after gathering feedback from schools to finalise the 2025-26 funding formula, taking into account the consultation responses, during the Schools Forum meeting on 5th December 2024.

For 2024/25, Haringey adopted 100% of the National Funding Formula (NFF) values. Schools are being consulted on a single model that has to reflect the required alignment with NFF values, with the proposed allocations outlined in Table 1 below:

The indicative allocations will be shared with schools after the Schools Forum approval on 9th January 2025.

Table 1: Proposed allocations from the Schools Block DSG

Allocation type	Schools Affected	Description	Proposed Amount (£)
Block Transfer	All Schools	HNB transfer at 0.5%	*TBC
Top Slice	All Schools	Growth Fund/Falling Rolls Fund	£300,000
De-Delegation	Maintained only	Trade Union Facility	£210,147
Block Transfer	All Schools	CSSB for Education Welfare	*£122,000
Block Transfer	All Schools	EY for Nursery split site funding	**0
De-Delegation	Maintained only	Schools in Financial Difficulty Fund	£150,000

*Block transfers subject to disapplication request and Secretary of State approval

** The nursery school is currently operating on a single site.

High Needs Block: All schools: A 0.5% block transfer will be made to the HNB to support SEND growth and as part of the Safety Valve Programme Agreement with the DfE

Growth/Falling Rolls funding: All schools: The growth/falling rolls fund allocation will be set at £300K, based on current projections for potential growth in schools. This amount remains the same as last year and will be allocated within the Authority Proforma Tool (APT) in line with the changes to the 2025/26 school funding formula.

Trade Union Facility: Maintained schools only: The budgets for maintained schools will include de-delegated amounts to cover trade union duties. For the financial year 2025/26, the allocation will remain at £210K, the same as for 2024-25. Any unused funds will be ring-fenced for the Schools Block.

Education Welfare Charge: All schools: A block transfer of £122K will be made to the Central School Services Block (CSSB), the same amount as last year.

Schools in Financial Difficulty: Maintained schools only: to provide targeted support to these schools. This would assist school leadership teams in developing more robust financial forecasts and deficit recovery plans, any unused funds will be ring-fenced for the Schools Block. This is a new request, not made last year.

4. Consultation QUESTIONNAIRE

Feedback questionnaire for Haringey School Funding Formula 2025/26		
Question 1: To support High Needs Block Transfer of 0.5% from Schools Block <i>(as part of Safety Valve Program)</i>	Yes	No
Question 2: To support Growth/Falling Rolls Funding budget of £300k <i>(Yes or No)</i>	Yes	No
Question 3: To support Block Transfer of £122k for Education Welfare <i>(Yes or No)</i>	Yes	No
Question 4: MAINTAINED SCHOOLS ONLY To support de-delegated budget from maintained schools for Trade Union Facilities time of £210K <i>(Yes or No)</i>	Yes	No
Question 5: MAINTAINED SCHOOLS ONLY To support de-delegated budget from maintained schools for targeted support for Schools in Financial Difficulty of £150K <i>(Yes or No)</i>	Yes	No
<i>Thank you for taking the time to provide your feedback.</i>		

5. SCHOOLS VOTING RIGHTS

Each school will have two votes:

1. Headteacher
2. School Governor (Chair of Governor or Chair of Resources Committee)

6. CONSULTATION DEADLINE

All schools are encouraged to respond to this consultation using the [online survey](https://forms.office.com/e/xRrFubYpXZ) or Web Link: <https://forms.office.com/e/xRrFubYpXZ>

Commencement Date: **9:00am, Monday 25th November 2024**

Deadline: **12.00pm, Thursday 5th December 2024**

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