

NOTICE OF MEETING

Haringey Schools Forum

TUESDAY, 3RD JUNE, 2025 AT 11.08 am HRS - HEP: INDERWICK ROAD,
CROUCH END N8 9JF.

1. CHAIR'S WELCOME

**2. APOLOGIES, SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS, OBSERVERS AND FORUM
MEMBERSHIP UPDATES**

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 PREVIOUS MEETING (PAGES 1 - 8)

Matters arising

13 March 2025

Matters arising

5. FORUM MEMBERSHIP AND TERMS OF REFERENCE (PAGES 9 - 22)

A To review the membership and terms of reference of the Forum [Anne Etchells]

B To receive a verbal report on long term vacancies on the Forum and proposed
actions [Clerk & Chair]

6. ELECTION OF THE CHAIR [FOR DECISION]

7. ELECTION OF THE VICE-CHAIR [FOR DECISION]

8. UPDATE FROM WORKING PARTIES

To receive an update from the working parties not covered within the agenda.

A To receive the minutes from the Early Years working party.

B To receive the minutes from the High Needs working party

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

9. OUTCOME OF INTERNAL AUDIT [FOR NOTING]

Vanessa Bateman/ Minesh Jani

**10. DEDICATED SCHOOLS BUDGET OUTTURN 2024-2025 [FOR NOTING]
(PAGES 23 - 28)**

Muhammed Al /Neil Sinclair

11. SAFETY VALVE PROGRAMME UPDATE [FOR NOTING] (PAGES 29 - 36)

Karen Flanagan/Jackie Difolco

**12. CONTINUATION OF EAL INTEGRATION FOR YEAR 11 NEW ARRIVALS
AND OUTREACH SUPPORT (GROWTH FUND) [FOR DECISION] (PAGES
37 - 42)**

Jane Edwards.

13. PROPOSED MEETING DATES FOR 2025-2026

- Thursday 16 October 2025 at 4pm: face to face
- Thursday 4 December 2025 at 4pm – *TBC if the meeting is occurring closer to the time.*
- Thursday 15 January 2026 at 4pm
- Thursday 12 February 2026 at 4pm
- Thursday 19 March 2026 at 4pm
- Thursday 2 July 2026 at 4pm

14. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS



Haringey Schools Forum Minutes

13 MARCH 2025 AT 16:00 HRS: VIRTUAL VIA TEAMS

School Members		
Headteachers		
Special (1)	Martin Doyle (Riverside)	
Nursery Schools (1)	(A)Sian McDermott (Rowland Hill)	
Primary (7)	(A)Mary Gardiner (West Green)	Kate Stevens (St Aidan VC)
	Hina Shah (Earlsmead)	Paul Murphy (Lancasterian) [leaves at 5pm]
	Ian Scotchbrook (South Harringay)	Linda Sarr (Risley Avenue)
	Bola Soneye-Thomas (Rokesly Junior School) [leaves at 5pm]	
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)	(A)Michael McKenzie (Alexandra Park)	(A)Angela Wallace (Mulberry Woodside Academy)
	Vacancy	
Alternative Provision (1)	(A)Gerry Robinson (Executive Headteacher HLP)	
Governors		
Special (1)	(A)Phil Di Leo (The Vale)	
Nursery School (1)	Melian Mansfield (Pembury)	
Primary Maintained (7)	Vacancy	Dan Salem (Stroud Green Primary)
	(A)Oliver Simms (Alexandra Primary)	
	Helen Froggatt (St Aidan's VC)	(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	(A)Cllr Ibrahim Ali	
Trade Union Representative	(A)Paul Renny	
Professional Association Representative	(A)Efe Kurtluoglu substitution for Ed Harlow	
Faith Schools	(A)Geraldine Gallagher	
CCCG Representative	Adam Beral substitution for 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	(A)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 Schools Finance	Neil Sinclair
Senior Finance Manager - Schools	Ali Muhammad
Chief Executive HEP	James Page
Lead for Governor Services (HEP)	(A)Anne Etchells
Clerk (HEP)	Corinne David

(A) Absent

1. CHAIR'S WELCOME

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES, SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS, OBSERVERS AND FORUM MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

- 2.1 Apologies for Absence were received and noted from:
 Mary Gardiner (Headteacher: West Green)
 Sian McDermott (Headteacher: Rowland Hill)
 Oliver Simms (Governor: Alexandra Primary)
 Paul Renny (Trade Union representative)
 Cllr Ibrahim Ali
 Anne Graham (Director of Children's Services)
 Caroline Brain (Assistant Director, Commissioning & Programmes)

- 2.2 Substitution
 Adam Beral substitution for Christine Bianchin (CCCG Representative)

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

4. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

- 4.1 The minutes of the Schools Forum meeting held on 6 February 2025 were **AGREED** and **RATIFIED** as a correct record of the meeting.

4.2 Matters arising

- 4.2.1 Item 4.2.1 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.

All actions were noted as ongoing actions.

4.2.2 Item 4.2.2 Vice Chair Election

Election of Vice -Chair to be undertaken at the July meeting.

Action to be undertaken at the July meeting.

4.2.3 Item 8.7 Engagement of Health Services in supporting EHCP

a) Schools to provide their experiences of engaging with Health for the EHCP review process to Jackie Difolco.

b) Jackie Difolco to discuss with Health colleagues the challenges schools have experienced to engage with different services.

Jackie Difolco had followed up with Health colleagues and provided feedback. The action was closed.

4.2.4 Item 8.8 Representation on the Safety Value Programme Board

Jackie Difolco to arrange for early years representation on the Safety Valve Steering Group.

Melian Mansfield had been invited to attend the Safety Value Programme Board. Action was closed.

4.2.5 Item 9.1 Schools in Financial Difficulty paper

LA to circulate updated paper to schools for comment by end of next week.

See item 6. Action was closed.

5. **UPDATE FROM WORKING PARTIES**

5.1 No update was received from the Early Years Block working party. Noted that the working party will be next meeting in June.

5.2 No update was received from the High Needs Block Working Party.

ACTION An update on the future direction of the High Needs Block Working Party to be received at the next meeting.

5.3 No update was received from the Dedicated School Block working party.

6. **SCHOOLS IN FINANCIAL DIFFICULTY UPDATE**

6.1 Neil Sinclair took Schools Forum through the paper titled 'Schools in Financial Difficulty Update'; the following was noted:

- a) The total balance for all schools combined has shifted from a surplus of £11.2m to a deficit of between £3.8m and £5.5m over the last 4 years.
- b) At the end of quarter 3, 36 schools had a forecast deficit position with 28 in a forecast surplus position.
- c) Of the 36 schools are facing deficits, 20 schools have sought licensed deficit loans or cash flow assistance.
- d) Identified areas affecting financial stability were noted as: falling rolls, national pressures on funding SEND, Reduced income from school activities, inflection impact and rising staffing costs.

6.2 The School's Finance team have limited capacity and are unable to support all schools. The proposed strategy for supporting schools under the programme would be to support schools facing financial challenges, targeted assistance from experienced School Business Managers (SBMs) focuses on three key areas: Budget monitoring and forecasting; procurement practices; and restructuring support.

- 6.3 The proposal would also be to develop a schools targeted support programme, designed to allocate resources for financial oversight and restructuring in 57 schools. To deliver the programme a requested to de-delegate £150,000 from the Schools Block to increase the capacity of the School's Finance team.
- 6.4 The de-delegation would be for one year. Should the Targeted Support Programme be successful, consideration will be given to requesting a further de-delegation to cover an on-going programme. Any unspent funding at the end of the financial year will be returned to schools.
- 6.5 The Chair invited questions from School Forum members.
- 6.6 *Q: Has the number of schools requesting licence deficits increased?*
A: There are fewer schools that have loans and the LA are steering schools to apply for a licence deficit, which provide schools with their recovery plan to a balanced position.
- 6.7 Members noted that personal allocated to support schools should receive strategic training; which will allow them to support with budgets and account reconciliation.
- 6.8 In advance of an audit; schools to receive a list of what is required for a successful financial audit.

ACTION Chair and Vanessa Bateman/ Minesh Jani to follow up regarding financial audit check list.

- 6.9 Members discussed opportunities as detailed within 6.4.4 and how centralised procurement could save money for schools including a review of the most easily achieved set of centralised procurement contracts across the entire estate of schools; for example: photocopying, computers, catering, cleaning. Officers recognised the challenges of aggregated procurement against an individual settings need. However, economies of scales were only achievable if significant numbers of schools agreed to narrow field of requirements within each identified area i.e. the same computers or photocopiers. Officers noted that areas and specifications would have to be explored and determined prior to any contract procurement exercise.
- 6.10 Members suggested a potential loan situation from school's forum which would be paid back once identified saving had been achieved. Officers noted that this action wouldn't be possible as it would be taking a loan against an overall deficit position. Officers further noted that the proposals, as detailed in the paper was to allow the Council to be proactive to support schools and prevent future significant school deficit positions.
- 6.11 *Q: Is there a benchmark of what a safe and effective staffing structure within a primary, secondary and special school has been undertaken?*
A: some schools have undertaken restructures and have not come back to a balanced position. However, how far a school can go in terms of restructure will be a challenge. Some schools have undertaken a restructure which has stabilised their financial position. Officers are working with those schools to support them to achieve a balanced position.
- 6.12 *Q: Is there a forecast for the number of licence deficits applications the LA is expecting for 2025/26?*
A: There are 36 schools in a deficit position, officers are also aware that some school currently in surplus are moving towards a deficit position. There is potential for the teams work load to increase. Officers will also need to monitor recovery plans to ensure schools finances move towards a balanced position. Ensuring that plans are realistic and all parties working together for budgets to move into a balanced position.

Noted that the DfE requirement is for schools to have a three-year recovery plan. Further noted that the Council supports plans that are realistic and moves schools into a balanced position.

6.13 *Q: Is the £150k de-delegation isn't agreed how will the service support schools?*

A: Schools are asking the school finance team for support now; where there is currently very limited capacity. If pressures increase with no further funding for the team, then school will have to find their own solution and capacity. The most vulnerable schools may not be able to afford to procure quality services.

6.14 Members commended the support currently provided by Finance Team with their limited resources and recognised the challenges schools faced trying source quality SBM / finance capacity if it was lacking within their own setting. Members echoed the requirement of multifaceted support (i.e. finance, HR, premises) provided at both junior and senior level which had both operational and strategic oversight.

6.15 Members applauded the contextual review of the issues facing schools and options to support schools. Members further noted that across the Haringey school estate there were examples of exempla SBM practice which could be deployed within the modelling. Officers noted Headteachers suggestions to increase capacity of SBMs; with positional of using those experienced SBM to develop and support newer SBMs.

6.16 Officers provided reassurances that there would be clear accountability for the spend of the money with reports back to Schools Forum.

6.17 *Q: How many Local Authorities across London are facing similar situations and is there any joint work/ discussions?*

A: We are aware of other LA's facing similar challenges, however there is no routine report that is published. There hasn't been any joint work, however they may be looking to also increase their capacity to be able to support schools in challenging financial circumstances.

6.18 *Q: Are those LA facing difficulty all joining together and lobbying the DfE?*

A: This is a national issue being faced with varies groups highlighting concerns to the DfE. Noted that the National funding formula has moved monies outside of urban areas to more rural areas.

ACTION Chair to approach other London Chairs of Schools Forum regarding a joint approach to DfE on school funding levels.

6.19 *Q: How confident can we be that £150k will achieve the required intended?*

A: From Q2 to Q3 there was a shift in the deficits reported by some schools which means officers have low confidence in the figures being reported. A risk is the quarterly reporting; this needs to improve. There will be a range of measures to ensure impact, including: restructure support and minimum competency levels for SBMs.

6.20 *Q: Who would be providing the training to upskill staff? Have the gaps been identified?*

A: There is training planed and further is being developed. Officers have recognised that there are gaps in skills across schools. Ideally further sessions would be held; however, the Team does have capacity issues and pressures.

6.21 Members enquired if there was a set of guidance, based on current intelligence of percentage increases for areas such as inflation, utilities, staff pay awards, pupil numbers etc. Officers noted that information is circulated from Schools HR; with Finance assumptions also circulated.

6.22 Cllr Brabazon commended the paper noting that the £150k was aggregated procurement to allow every school opportunity to access support; which is more cost effective than individual schools sourcing their own support.

6.23 *Q: How confident are officers that they will be able to source good quality candidates?*

A: The LA would be reviewing a range of skills and people including those within Haringey SBM to provide a mixture of solutions. Potential external support and agency staff. Officers will be held accountable and unspent balances will be returned to schools.

6.24 Members discussed the extent the parent community were aware of the school funding crisis. The following sites were noted by members, which could be shared with their parent communities:

<https://schoolcuts.org.uk/>

<https://ifs.org.uk/publications/annual-report-education-spending-england-2024-25>

<https://ifs.org.uk/microsite/education-spending>

ACTION

- a) Cllr Brabazon to provide an update at the July meeting in regards to lobbying to DfE from other Lead Members.
- b) Cllr Brabazon and the Chair to review options of lobbying local Haringey MPs over school funding challenges

6.25 A member noted that they had consulted with other primary Headteachers where the main concerns were around: taking money from schools already in financial difficulty to pay for this, effectively pushing them further towards/into debt. Schools are already paying finance and HR SLAs with this as another cost. There is variability in support previously received by schools in financial difficulty from the finance team and a lack of clarity in terms of what the support will look like and how this will be different to, and more effective than, what is already in place.

6.26 *Q: Is there SLAs that schools in financial difficulty have to pay into?*

A: There is specific SLAs for some settings. Noted that there is a requirement under the new agreed scheme of financial delegation for Haringey, that schools that are in cash flow or deficit have to pay.

6.27 The Chair summarised the main points of discussion:

- a) The LA are presenting a request of de-delegation in total of £150k, equivalent to £7.15 per child.
- b) A proactive collaborative approach to support all schools.
- c) Involvement of schools to procure the right support.
- d) Reporting measures back to Schools Forum.

6.28 The Chair drew the Forum to a vote on the proposal noting the vote was only for primary and secondary maintained schools including foundation, VA and VC schools. Nursery schools, special schools and Academies cannot vote.

Primary Maintained Sector

Three members voted in favour of the proposal.

Six members voted against of the proposal.

There were no absentia votes.

Secondary Maintained Sector

Two members voted in favour of the proposal.
One member voted against of the proposal.
There were no absentia votes.

- 6.29 The Chair recommended that officers reviewed the potential de–delegation amount just from the secondary sector and if that would be sufficient to undertake the proposed work as detailed within the paper. Noted that there would be conversations with secondary schools only about what the support package provided with the funds.

ACTION Finance and LA officers to review with secondary schools the best avenue to proceed.

7 SAFETY VALVE PROGRAMME

- 7.1 Noted that a Safety Valve project update would be circulated to all parties along with the minutes from this meeting.

ACTION Clerk to circulate the project update presentation.

8 PROPOSED MEETING DATES FOR 2024-2025

- 8.1 The date for the next meeting was noted as Thursday 3 July 2024 at 4pm face to face.

9 ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

- 9.1 No urgent AOB items were received.

The Chair closed the meeting at 6pm.

SUMMARY OF AGREED ACTIONS

Item	Action	Lead
4.2.1	<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
4.2.2	<u>Vice Chair Election</u> Election of Vice -Chair to be undertaken at the July meeting.	Clerk/WW
5.2	An update on the future direction of the High Needs Block Working Party to be received at the next meeting.	Martin Doyle
6.8	Chair and Vanessa Bateman/ Minesh Jani to follow up regarding financial audit check list.	Chair and Vanessa Bateman
6.18	Chair to approach other London Chairs of Schools Forum regarding a joint approach to DfE on school funding levels.	Chair
6.24a	Cllr Brabazon to provide an update at the July meeting in regards to lobbying to DfE from other Lead Members	Cllr Brabazon
6.24b	Cllr Brabazon and the Chair to review options of lobbying local Haringey MPs over school funding challenges.	Cllr Brabazon & Chair
6.29	Finance and LA officers to review with secondary schools the best avenue to proceed.	Finance and LA officers & Secondary Schools



Agenda Item 5

The Children and Young People's Service

Report to Haringey Schools' Forum: 3 July 2025

Report Status

For information/ notes

For consultation and views

For decision

Report Title: Schools' Forum Membership and Terms of Reference

Authors: Anne Etchells

Telephone: 020 3967 5093

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Purpose: To review the membership and Terms of Reference of the Forum

Recommendations:

1. Agree the allocation of Schools Forum places based on the proportion of pupil places in schools at the January 2025 Census.
2. Adopt the amended Terms of Reference for the 2025/26 academic year, with possible review going forward due to the impact of some long-term vacancies.

Report

1. Membership

- 1.1 At the October 2024 Schools Forum Meeting, the Forum's membership was agreed upon until July 2025. The pupil numbers across Haringey from the January 2024 census were used to agree revision to Forum membership for 2024/25.
- 1.2 There is still a requirement for the annual review of the number of pupils to ensure that School Forum membership is proportionately representative of pupil numbers, encompassing maintained and academy across Special, Alternative Provision, Nursery, Primary and Secondary schools, based on the total number of pupils registered as on roll.
- 1.3 The January 2025 census data has been used to inform this report. There has been a small reduction of pupils on roll overall since the January 2024 census data, with some changes in pupil populations. Whilst the number of children on roll in Alternative Provision is stable, there is also significant outreach work completed, which is not reflected in this figure.

This report recommends amending the number of primary representatives to better reflect the number and proportion of School Forum places as follows:

2024-25 Primary representatives	2025-26 Primary representatives
7 Headteachers and 7 Governors	6 Headteachers and 6 Governors
1 Headteacher and 1 Governor	2 Headteachers and 2 Governors

Following discussion with the Chair, I would advise there is a review of the long-term vacancies on Schools' Forum and discussion of their impact.

- 1.4 Table A, below, sets out the number and proportion of pupils' attendance across the school settings and phases.

A general summary of the January 2025 census data shows:

- a total of 37,394 pupils were on roll in Haringey schools (37,996 Jan 2024)
- 8671 pupils on roll at Secondary Academy schools (8,708 Jan 2024)
- 6,277 pupils on roll at Maintained Secondary schools (6,497 Jan 2024)
- 4,375 pupils on roll at Primary Academy and Free schools (4,386 Jan 2024)
- 16,902 pupils on roll at Primary Maintained schools (17,281 Jan 2024)

Table A

Membership category	No of pupils	Places on Schools Forum
School Members		
Special Maintained	513 (470 Jan 2024)	Percentage allocation 1.4% 1 x Headteacher place 1 x Governor place
Special Academy and Free	147 (128 Jan 2024)	Percentage allocation 0.4%

Nursery	392 (419 Jan 2024)	Percentage allocation 1% 1 x Headteacher place 1 x Governor place
Primary Maintained	16,902 (17,281 Jan 2024)	Percentage allocation 45% 6 x Headteacher places 6 x Governor places
Primary Academy and Free (Incl. Harris Tottenham all though Primary places)	4375 (4386 Jan 2024)	Percentage allocation 12% 2 x Headteacher places 2 x Governor places
Secondary Maintained	6,277 (6,497 Jan 2024)	Percentage allocation 17% 2 x Headteacher places 2 x Governor places
Secondary Academy (Incl. Harris Tottenham all through Secondary places)	8671 (8,708 Jan 2024)	Percentage allocation 23% 3 x Headteacher places 3 x Governor places
Alternative provision	117 (107 Jan 2024)	Percentage allocation 0.3% 1 x Executive Headteacher place 1 x Management Committee place
Total school places	37394	32
Non School Members		
Non-Executive Councillor	N/A	1 x Place
Trade Union Representative	N/A	1 x Place
Professional Association Representative	N/A	1 x Place
Faith Schools	N/A	1 x Place
14-19 Partnership	N/A	1 x Place
Early Years Providers	N/A	1 x Place
Independent chair	N/A	1 x place
Total Non-School member places		7
School members and non-school members combined total		39

2. Terms of Reference / Future of Schools Forum

- 2.1 The current terms of reference for Schools Forum can be found in Appendix A.
- 2.2 The amendments suggested to the Terms of Reference are indicated in red to reflect the recommendations in 1.3

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Haringey Schools' Forum

Part 1 - Constitutional and Procedural Matters

1. Background

1.1 The role of the Schools' Forum is a statutory consultative body in respect of matters relating to the Dedicated Schools Budget (DSB) of an authority. The Schools' Forum advises Haringey Council on proposed changes to the formulae they use for determination of schools' budget shares. The Local Authority consults the Schools' Forum on matters concerning the funding of schools and on financial matters relating to the Schools Budget.

2. Membership and proceedings of the Forum

2.1. The Haringey Schools' Forum consists of 39 members made up of 22 maintained school members, 10 academy members and 7 non-schools' members.

2.2. Schools Members are elected to the Forum by the members of the relevant group or Sub-group. Further clarification is set out in "The Schools' Forum (England) Regulations 2012. The groups are: -

- a) Representatives of nursery schools;
- b) Representatives of primary schools other than nursery schools;
- c) Representatives of secondary schools;
- d) Representatives of special schools;
- e) Representatives of the Haringey Learning Partnership

2.3 Academy members must be elected to the schools Forum by the governing bodies of the Academies in the Authority's area. If there is only one Academy the governing body of the Academy must select the person who will represent them on the Forum.

2.4 Non School Members must be appointed to the Forum and include:

- a) One or more persons to represent the local authority 14-19 partnership
- b) One or more persons to represent early years providers

2.5 In addition, the Local Authority may appoint additional non – schools' members to represent the interests of other bodies

2.6 The Executive Member or relevant officer of the Council may not be a member of the Forum as a non-school member.

2.7 The following persons may speak at meetings of the Forum, even though they are not members of the Forum: -

- (a) the director of children's services at the authority or their representative;
- (b) the chief finance officer at the authority or their representative;

(c) any elected member of the authority who has primary responsibility for children's services or education in the authority;

(d) any elected member of the authority who has primary responsibility for the resources of the authority;

(e) any person who is invited by the forum to attend in order to provide financial or technical advice to the forum;

(f) an observer appointed by the Secretary of State; and

(g) any person presenting a paper or other item to the forum that is on the meeting's agenda, but that person's right to speak shall be limited to matters related to the item that the person is presenting.

Membership

There will be full members of the Forum, representing the following:

No of places	Representing	Nominating organisation
School members - maintained		
1	Nursery school staff	Haringey Primary, Early Years and Special Heads Association
1	Nursery school governor	Governor Services
6	Primary school staff	Haringey Primary, Early Years and Special Heads Association
6	Primary school governor	Governor Services
2	Secondary school staff	Haringey Secondary Heads Association
2	Secondary school governor	Governor Services
1	Special school staff	Haringey Primary, Early Years and Special Heads Association
1	Special school governor	Governor Services
1	Alternative provision staff	Management Committee
1	Alternative provision Management committee member	Management Committee
22	Sub-total School Members	
Non-school members		
1	Haringey Councillor	Haringey Council Cabinet
1	Children’s Service Consultative Committee (Trade Union)	Children’s Service Consultative Committee
1	Teachers’ Professional Associations	Haringey Teachers’ Panel
1	Faith Sector	The Local Authority
1	14-19 Partnership	Haringey 14-19 Partnership Board
1	Early Years Provider	The Local Authority
1	Independent Chair	Schools Forum
7	Subtotal non-school members	
Academy members		
2	Academy school members - Primary	Academies in Haringey
3	Academy school members - Secondary	Academies in Haringey
2	Academy governor members - Primary	Governor Services
3	Academy governor members - Secondary	Governor Services

No of places	Representing	Nominating organisation
10	Subtotal academy school members	
39	Total membership	

Notes:

- School Staff Members must be drawn from schools' senior management teams.
- This Councillor may not be an Executive Member of the Council.
- Early Years Providers are as defined in the School Forum Regulations.
- School Members and Academy Members together must comprise at least 2/3rds of Forum membership

2.8 Notwithstanding any elections to the Forum due to the filling of vacancies, the Forum will be re-elected on a triennial basis. If, however a member of the Forum has been elected to the Forum within the preceding 6-month period, they will remain as a member of the new Forum without the need for formal re-election, unless they are replaced by a decision of the nominating organization. An existing Forum will only be dissolved once the process for re-election has successfully concluded.

2.9 The Clerk will initiate a re-election process by notifying a Forum meeting, no less than 4 months before the Forum's term of office expires, that the re-election process is to take place, and by writing to the nominating organizations subsequently inviting nominations for appointment to the Forum, including a return deadline no later than 3 months from the date of the Forum meeting when the re-election process was notified.

2.10 A successful process will be deemed to have taken place provided that valid nominations are received by the clerk covering at least 4/5 ths of the total membership.

2.11 A newly elected Forum will take office at the start of the meeting following the notification by the Clerk to the nominating organizations that a successful appointment process has taken place. In the event that a successful re-election process has not taken place within 6 months of the notification referred to in 2.3 above, the Clerk will convene an extraordinary meeting of the Forum to consider only the matter of Forum re-election.

2.12 At any meeting convened under paragraph 2.5 above the actions available for decision will be limited to:

- (i) Agreeing an extension to the term of office of the existing Forum to allow a successful re-election to conclude but in any event limited to a period of 2 months without a further extraordinary meeting being held; or
- (ii) Decisions which vary the membership of the Forum, subject to the relevant regulations, which will permit or facilitate the successful conclusion of the Forum re-election.

2.13 Each nominating organisation set out in the Table above will be responsible for determining the method by which they elect and/or nominate their representatives, substitutes and for the filling of any vacancies that may arise. The Local Authority can offer guidance to assist with this process.

2.14 Substitute members are acceptable and have the same speaking and voting rights as the member for whom they are substituting. Substitutes can only be made by the nominating organization, and not by the Forum Member, and must qualify for the membership category of the person they are substituting for. Substitute nominations, including standing substitutes, can be made at any time; however, the Clerk must be notified by the nominating organization of substitutions with at least 3 working days' notice before any meeting, in order that attendance and voting rights are given.

2.15 Each nominating organisation must notify the Clerk in writing of the method by which they have chosen to elect their representatives and of any subsequent changes to this process. Any differing approaches to fill, for example, a single vacancy, must be separately identified. The authority will consider whether the process notified constitutes a 'fair process' in the spirit of the work of the Forum and will notify any organisation if it disagrees with the process proposed setting out those changes that it considers necessary.

2.16 The Clerk will make a report to the Forum where they believe that a nominating organisation has failed to follow its election process or submit a process. Only those nominated through fair processes will be considered by the authority for admission as members to the Forum.

2.17 Members of the Forum will cease to become members if they no longer occupy the office which they were nominated to represent. It is the nominating organisation's responsibility to ensure that their nominated members remain eligible and to notify the Clerk of any member who ceases to become eligible.

2.18 Within 1 month of the triennial reconstitution of the Forum, the Authority will inform the governing bodies of all schools maintained by them and of any academies in their area of the full membership of the Forum.

2.19 Within 1 month of the appointment of any Non-schools Member the Authority will inform the governing bodies of all schools maintained by them and of any Academies within their area, of the name of the member and the name of the body that member represents.

2.20 Members of the Forum are responsible for notifying their apologies and reasons for absence to the Clerk, under normal circumstances, no later than 3 working days before any Forum meeting. Members of the Forum who do not attend, or whose apologies have not been accepted by the Forum, on three consecutive occasions will cease to hold office within the Forum. The relevant nominating organisation will be asked to hold elections/nominate a member to fill the resulting vacancy/ vacancies in accordance with their method of nomination.

3 Election of a Chair/ Vice Chair

3.1.1 The Clerk will invite nominations for the election of a Chair/ Vice Chair of the Schools' Forum. The Chair and Vice Chair must be a voting member. Elected members or officers of the authority cannot be elected as the Chair/ Vice Chair. All nominations must be proposed and seconded by a voting member of the Forum.

3.1.2 The Forum will agree the term of office for the Chair/ Vice Chair and the number of Vice Chairs that it wishes to appoint.

3.1.3 Elections for the Chair/ Vice Chair will be carried out by way of either a show of hands, or in the event of two or more nominations a secret vote. All voting members will have a vote, including those nominated for either position(s). All those nominated will be given the opportunity to speak briefly in support of their nomination.

3.1.4 The Chair/ Vice Chair will be elected at a quorate meeting of the Forum. Where a substantive Chair has not been elected the Forum will elect, from its qualifying membership, a Chair to preside over that meeting of the Forum. A Chair elected for a single meeting will hold the role of Chair until

the start of the next meeting. A Chair elected for a single meeting may be appointed through a seconded proposal followed by a majority show of hands in favour of the proposed candidate.

3.1.5 All members of the Forum have a single vote in electing the Chair/ Vice Chair. The Chair/ Vice Chair will be elected on a simple majority. In the event of a tie between two members in the election of the Chair, the Clerk will determine the outcome by the toss of a coin. In the event of more than two nominations for Chair/ Vice Chair achieving equal numbers of votes the Clerk will draw the successful candidates name from a 'hat' containing the names of all tied candidates.

4 Rights and Roles of Schools' Forum Attendees

School Members, Non School Members and Academy Members

4.1.1 All substantive members of the Forum - School Members, Non School Members and Academy Members, have full speaking rights. It is the responsibility of individual members to arrange through their nominating organisation, for substitute members to attend in their place if they are unable to attend a meeting of the Schools' Forum. Substitute members have the same rights as substantive members.

Official Observers

4.1.2 Certain members of the Forum are formally classified as observers and these are defined in the table above. Observers have the right to speak but have no voting rights. The Cabinet Member for Children and Young People has observer status providing a link between the Forum and the decision-making executive of the Council.

Officers

4.1.3 Officers will generally attend the Forum to present reports and give advice to Forum members. All relevant Officers and elected Members of Haringey Council may attend and speak at meetings of the Forum but have no voting rights. In the context of Forum business, the term 'Officers' applies to the Director of Children's Services, and the Director of Corporate Resources or any officer employed or engaged to work under the management of those Directors other than one who directly provides education to children or who manages such a person or who is a school improvement partner.

Members of the Public

4.1.4 Meetings of the Forum are open to the public, although provision is made for certain matters to be held in private discussion. Members of the public wishing to attend a forum meeting must email the Clerk at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting date. During meetings members of the public are required to state any declarations of interest at the beginning of the meeting. Members of the public do not have the rights to either speak or vote on Forum matters.

5 Quorum

5.1.1 Any meeting of the Forum will be deemed quorate provided that two fifths of the total membership (excluding vacancies) of the Forum are present at a properly constituted meeting.

6 Administration and Support to the Forum

The Clerk

6.1.1 The Local Authority will appoint a Clerk to assist with the efficient operation of the Forum. The Clerk will work to an agreed Job Description which will include, amongst other things, reference to their responsibility in respect of the following matters:

- Administration of the process for electing members to the Forum, using their best endeavours to ensure that vacancies are minimized.
- Recording and maintaining records of the election processes of nominating organisations.
- Attendance at each meeting of the Forum.
- Maintaining membership lists and records of attendance.
- Receiving and reporting apologies.
- Manage the process for Electing a Chair/ Vice Chair.
- Advice on relevant procedural matters governing the operation of Forum and its business.
- The production and agreement of agenda, minutes and reports of a procedural nature.
- Making available on publicly accessible website(s) the membership, agenda, and minutes of the Forum.
- Make arrangements for the training and induction of Forum members

Local Authority Officers

6.1.2 The Director of Children's Services (The Director) will make available officers to produce and present written reports and provide advice to the Forum on all matters which fall within the scope of the Forum's powers and responsibilities and/ or any other relevant matters that the Forum may request from time to time.

6.1.3 Officers may also provide purely administrative support to assist the Clerk in the discharge of their duties where it is efficient to do so.

6.1.4 If the Director considers that a request for information from the Forum falls outside the remit of the Forum or is unreasonable, they will notify the Clerk and the Chair of the Forum of their decision and the reasons for reaching it.

7 Conduct of Forum Business

General

7.1.1 The Forum will meet in public at least four times a year.

Forum Papers

7.1.2 The Forum may only consider items that have been properly notified. All members will be sent a Notice of Meeting giving at least seven days' notice of a meeting. An agenda and associated reports will also be provided in advance of the meeting.

7.1.3 Such papers will be deemed to have been properly notified provided that they have been sent to either the email address notified by a member of the Forum or a relevant communication address. Good practice suggests that seven days' notice of Forum papers will be given although the Forum may be asked to consider any matter where no less than three days' notice has been given.

7.1.4 Dates and locations of forthcoming meetings shall be publicly available through the London Borough of Haringey's website.

7.1.5 Minutes of meetings will be placed on the London Borough of Haringey's website, and all schools and associated groups shall be notified when new minutes are available.

Declaration of Interests

8.1.4 Members of the Forum and observers including members of the public are required to declare an interest in and withdraw from the meeting for any relevant matter under consideration in which they have a direct pecuniary interest. Each Agenda will remind members, observers and members of the public of their obligation to declare interests on items proposed on it.

8.1.5 Matters are only deemed to be relevant where a decision would result in a member of the Forum or a member of their immediate family, benefiting other than indirectly through the role in which they are nominated to the Forum.

8.1.6 Such matters would therefore apply to consideration of contracts where a member or their immediate family had interests in any of the contractors being considered.

8.1.7 There is not deemed to be a declarable interest where the Forum considers the allocation of resources between institutions in which members are employed, even if their institute is the only one to benefit, although any member may voluntarily declare their interest in an item.

8.1.8 If a member has any doubt about whether an interest needs to be declared they should, as soon as any potential conflict becomes apparent, seek advice from the Clerk.

Private Matters

9.1.9 The agenda may include provision for items to be held in private. The Director of Children's Services will decide, in consultation with the Chair, which items are to be held in private. Matters considered in private should be restricted to those of a sensitive nature relating to individuals or where commercially sensitive information is being or likely to be heard.

9.1.10 When considering items in private, all individuals who are not Forum members or elected members or relevant officers of the authority will be excluded. The minutes of privately held matters will be restricted to those having rights of attendance regardless of whether they were actually in attendance.

Protocols for Debate during Meetings

10.1.11 All members of the Forum who wish to speak on any matter will do so through the Chair. The Chair will be responsible for the orderly conduct of meetings and ensuring the correct balance between the airing of views and discussion on items is made against the need to consider and make resolutions in a timely way.

Urgent Items

10.1.12 Each Agenda will allow for Any Other Urgent business to be raised and considered although it is at the discretion of the Chair whether the Forum can be asked to make a decision on any such item if less than 3 days' notice has been given of the relevant facts to all Forum members.

10.1.13 Only the Chair may determine how to consider any urgent and important matter where no meeting of the Forum is scheduled to take place prior to the deadline for decision. Under such circumstances the Chair is empowered either to convene a special meeting of the Forum to consider the matter or agree that the Forum can be consulted by post or email.

10.1.14 The Chair cannot take a decision on behalf of the Forum, no matter how urgent the matter in question. However, the Chair will be asked to express an opinion on a matter on which Forum members are to be consulted in the absence of a meeting and this view will be included in the

relevant paperwork circulated to Forum members and seeking their agreement or views on a course of action. The Chair will determine whether and if so at what level a minimum level of response from members is necessary to have reached a decision or recommendation.

Voting

10.1.15 All members having voting rights are entitled to a single vote with decisions being carried upon a simple majority. The Forum will be informed of the outcome of any matter upon which their views, or a decision, has been sought.

10.1.16 Non School Members other than those who represent Early Years providers must not vote on matters relating to the funding formulae to be used to determine the amounts to be allocated to schools in accordance with the regulations.

10.1.17 Voting on items which are the subject to de-regulation, which are specified in the financial regulations is restricted to the relevant maintained school members of the Forum.

Decisions

10.1.18 Any decisions taken by the Forum will be made available on publicly available website(s) by the Clerk.

10.1.19 In some cases, the Forum will resolve to advise the Council on matters which are for the Council's Executive to decide. In such cases the minutes will record both the advice given to the Authority and the decision taken subsequently by the Council's Executive.

Working Parties

10.1.20 The Forum may agree to constitute working parties to consider in more detail specific issue(s) relevant to the work of the Forum.

10.1.21 Working parties may consist of Forum members, officers of the Council and other people with relevant experience. Each working party should elect from its members a Chair who must not be an officer of the authority. The working party should, from within its membership, maintain formal records of its deliberations in the form of agenda's, minutes, action points etc. as appropriate.

10.1.22 Any working party constituted by the School Forum must provide a brief report to each meeting of the Forum setting out the number of times that the group has met since the last report together with a summary of the stage the work has reached.

Budgets and Expenses

10.1.23 The Forum will be consulted annually on the level of the budget that it believes it is necessary to support its activities. The budget forms part of the Dedicated Schools Budget (DSB) and can, for example, be used both to pay the legitimate expenses of Forum members in accordance with the Council's expenses policy and also to engage external advice, support and assistance to assist in the discharge of its duties. The Authority will accordingly notify the Forum of the budget it has made available.

10.1.24 Any purchases made from the School Forum budget will be undertaken on behalf of the Forum by an officer of the Council and must comply with any relevant Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and Procurement Codes of Practice that are in force.

11 Review of the Constitution.

11.1.1 The Authority will keep under review the content of the Forum's Constitution, Procedural Matters and Terms of Reference taking into account best practice and the latest advice, guidance and any directed revisions made from time to time by the relevant government department.

11.1.2 In addition to bringing forward any proposed changes to the above documents the authority will confirm annually to the Forum that a formal review of the Constitution, Procedural Matters and Terms of Reference has taken place.

Haringey Schools Forum

Part 2 – Terms of Reference

1. Background

1.1. The Forum will discuss and be consulted upon the following matters: -

2. Consultation on School funding formula

2.1. Haringey Council will have regard to the advice of the Forum on proposed changes to the formulae they use for the determination and re-determination of schools' budget shares.

2.2. As set out in the constitution non School Members other than those who represent early Years providers are not permitted to vote on matters relating to the funding formula.

3. Consultation on Contracts

3.1. The authority shall, at least one month prior to the issue of invitations to tender, consult the forum on the terms of any proposed contract for supplies or services being a contract paid or to be paid out of the authority's schools' budget where the estimated value of the proposed contract is not less than the threshold which applies to the Authority for that proposed contract pursuant to regulation 8 of the Public Contracts regulations 2006.

4. Consultation on financial issues

4.1. The authority shall consult the forum annually in respect of the relevant authority's functions relating to the schools' budget, in connection with the following:

- a) the arrangements to be made for the education of pupils with special educational needs;
- b) arrangements for the use of pupil referral units and the education of children otherwise than at school;
- c) arrangements for early years education;
- d) administrative arrangements for the allocation of central government grants paid to schools via the authority;

4.2. The authority may consult the forum on such other matters concerning the funding of schools as they see fit. The forum may also ask the Authority to consult them on any financial matters relating to the Schools Budget.

5. Other Items

5.1. The Forum shall have the following powers:

- a) to agree minor changes to the operation of the minimum funding guarantee, where the outcome would otherwise be anomalous, and where not more than 50% of the pupils in schools maintained by the authority are affected;
- b) to agree to the level of school specific contingency at the beginning of each year;
- c) to agree arrangements for combining elements of the centrally retained Schools Budget with elements of other Local Authority and other agencies' budgets to create a combined children's services budget in circumstances where there is a clear benefit for schools and pupils in doing so;

5.2. Additionally, and in exceptional circumstances only:

- a) to agree an increase in the amount of expenditure the Local Authority can retain from its Schools Budget above that allowed for in the regulations;
- b) to agree an increase in centrally retained expenditure within the Schools Budget once a multi-year funding period has begun; and,
- c) to agree changes to an authority's funding formula once it has been announced prior to the start of a multi-year funding period.

**Agenda Item
10****Report Status**

For information/note
For consultation & views
For decision

Report to Haringey Schools Forum – July 2025**Report Title: DSG and Schools 2024/25 DSG Outturn and DSG Allocations 2025-26.****Authors:****Neil Sinclair**

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Email: Muhammad.Ali@haringey.gov.uk**Report Authorised by:****Jane Edwards**

Director Schools and Learning

Email: Jane.edwards@haringey.gov.uk**Purpose:**

1. To inform members of the 3 years DSG allocations including 2025-26.
2. To inform members of the provisional DSG position 2024-25.
3. To note the schools closing balance as of 31st March 2025.

Recommendations:

1. To note the DSG 2024-25 provisional outturn and schools' balances.

1 Introduction.

- 1.1 This report sets out the provisional outturn for the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) for 2024/25. The outturn shows that the overall deficit of the DSG grant stands at £9.507m.
- 1.2 This paper sets out a summary of the DSG analysis of the four blocks' financial position for the financial year 2024/25 and the indicative allocations for the financial year 2025/26.
- 1.3 The DSG is currently divided into four blocks: Schools, High Needs, Early Years and Central School Services blocks.

2 Analysis of Dedicated Schools Grant Allocations

- 2.1 Graph A below sets out Haringey's DSG allocations for 2023/24, 2024/25, and the indicative DSG allocations for 2025/26.

Graph A: Dedicated Schools Grant Year on Year Allocations

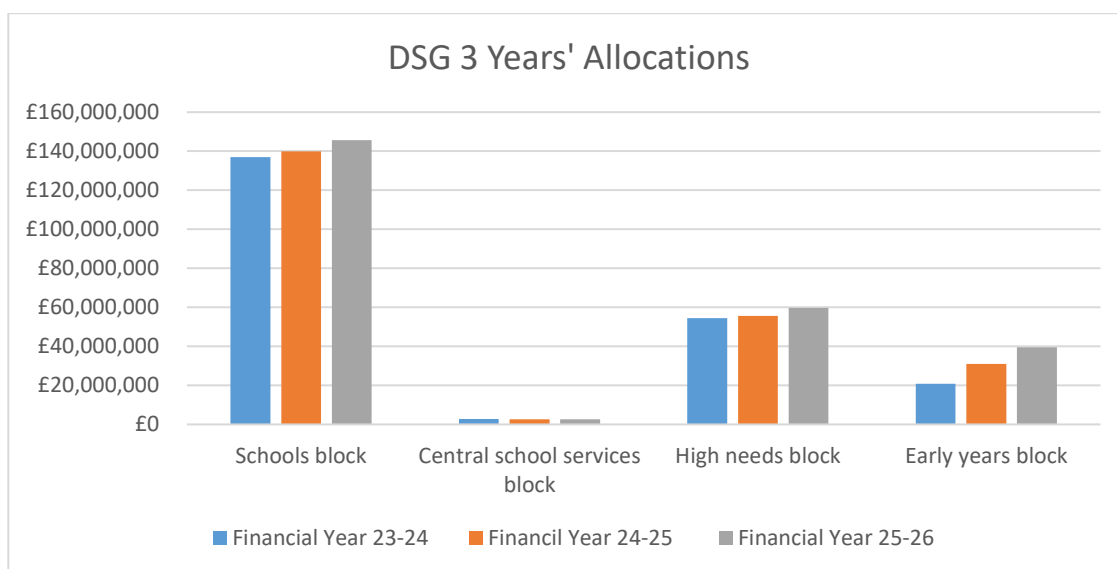


Table A: Dedicated Schools Grant Year on Year Allocations

Funding breakdown	Financial Year 23-24	Financial Year 24-25	Financial Year 25-26
Schools block *	£137,003,968	£139,862,802	£145,634,875
Central school services block	£2,709,791	£2,648,894	£2,703,149
High needs block	£54,475,762	£55,661,711	£59,665,064
Early years block	£20,793,959	£30,957,107	£39,522,570
Total	£214,983,480	£229,130,514	£247,525,658

* Schools block increased in 2024/25 due to CSBG grant being rolled into DSG

- 2.2 The funding formulae are largely based on pupil census numbers, and the funding is passported to the schools and nurseries. There has been a year on year decrease in the Central School Services Block rate per pupil has decreased by 2.5% each year. The High Needs Block has seen an increase in the funding rate

as well as an increase in the number of pupils funded. However, there is a lag in funding the increased demand and the actual cost of per pupil expenditure currently exceeds the available budget.

3 DSG closing position – 31st March 2025.

- 3.1 The Schools Block began the financial year with a zero-opening balance. A total budget of £139.86 million was allocated for 2024/25, and the actual outturn matched this figure exactly, indicating 100% funding passported to schools as budgeted, after the block transfer of 0.5% from the High Needs Block (£1,167,130), along with the block transfer of 0.05% (£122,000) to the Central School Services Block for the Education Welfare Service, and the allocation of £328,254 to the Growth Fund.
- 3.2 Similar to the Schools Block, the Central Block also started the year with an opening balance of £0. The budget for the year was set at £2.65 million. With no variance between the planned and actual spending, the block closed the year with a balanced position of £0.
- 3.3 The High Needs Block started the year with a significant deficit of £10.72 million, highlighting ongoing financial pressures. Despite a budget allocation of £57.57 million for 2024/25, the actual outturn exceeded this by £608,538, bringing the total expenditure to £58.18 million. As a result, the deficit increased further to £11.33 million by the end of the year. This growing shortfall underscores the need for continued monitoring and potential intervention to address the structural funding challenges in this block.
- 3.4 The Early Years Block started the year in a positive position, with a surplus of £742,278. A budget of £30.96 million was allocated, but actual spending came in lower at £29.88 million, resulting in an underspend of £1.08 million. This led to an increased closing surplus of £1.82 million.

Table B: 2024/25 DSG Provisional Outturn

DSG Block Closing Position 24-25	Opening balance at 01/04/24	Budget	Outturn 2024/25	Outturn Variance 2024/25	Closing Balance at 31/03/25
	£	£	£	£	£
Schools Block	0	139,862,802	139,862,802	0	0
Central Block	0	2,648,894	2,648,894	0	0
High Needs Block *	(10,718,601)	57,571,711	58,180,249	(608,538)	(11,327,139)
Early Years Block **	742,278	30,957,107	29,879,646	1,077,461	1,819,739
Total	(9,976,323)	231,040,514	230,571,591	468,923	(9,507,400)

* High Needs Block – Includes £1,910,000 from the DfE as part of the Safety Valve allocation, and a £1,167,130 (0.5%) block transfer from the Schools Block for the 2024–25 financial year.

** EYE Block - Opening position after £423,608 clawback for the FY 23-24

4 Overview of Schools balances as at 31st March 2025

- 4.1 The analysis below provides an update on the schools' year end balances as at 31st March 2025. Graph C illustrates the movement in school reserve balances from 2020–21 to 2024–25, while Table C provides a detailed overview of the changes specifically during the 2024–25 financial year.

Graph C: Schools Reserve Balances

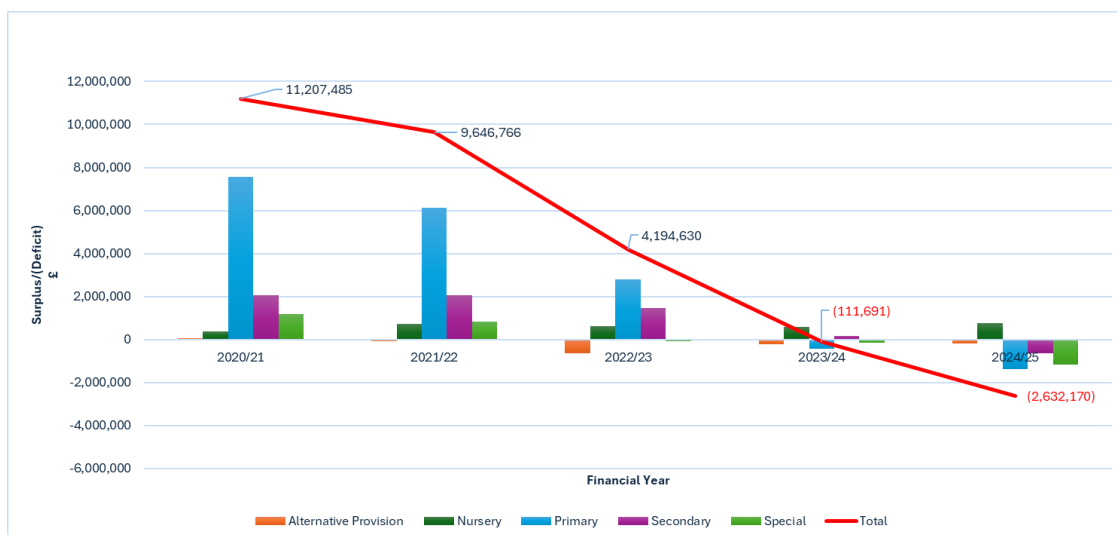


Table C: Schools Reserve Balances

Type of School	Number of Schools with Deficit	(Deficit) £'000s	Number of schools with Surplus	Surplus £'000s	Total net (deficit) / surplus	Schools with Licensed Deficit Recovery Plan
Nursery	1	(21)	2	770	749	0
Primary	24	(5,380)	26	3,997	(1,382)	20
Secondary	3	(1,461)	2	820	(641)	0
Special	3	(1,185)	1	25	(1,160)	0
Alternative Provision	1	(198)	0	0	(198)	1
Total	33	(8,245)	31	5,612	(2,632)	21

Licensed Deficits

- 4.2 At the end of financial year 2024-25, 21 schools had a licenced deficit with the total amount outstanding of £2.947m in comparison to financial year 2023/24, 19 schools had a licenced deficit, when the total amount outstanding was £4.231m.

Schools in Financial Difficulty

- 4.3 The council has supported schools in financial difficulty with dedicated central finance support, providing cashflow advances and assisting with redundancy

costs of restructures relating to permanent staff savings via the Restructure and Scrutiny Panel.

- 4.4 Haringey Council will shortly be issuing a Terms of Reference document on “Schools in Financial Difficulty” to all maintained schools, following the necessary approvals by council officers. This document will apply to all Haringey maintained schools identified as being in financial difficulty. Specifically, schools with a cumulative financial deficit exceeding £100,000 or 5% of their budget for primary schools, and £200,000 or 3% of their budget for secondary schools, will receive support from the “Schools in Financial Difficulty Group.” The Terms of Reference will outline the expectations and procedures for these schools, including the requirement to report on and manage the repayment of their cumulative financial deficits in a structured and transparent manner.

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Haringey Safety Valve Programme Stakeholder Progress Report – May 2025



Haringey Schools Forum 3 July 2026

Jackie Difolco
Director: Early Help, Prevention and SEND



Haringey
LONDON

Summary of Safety Valve Projects

Demand management	Commissioning / Capital	Culture, Governance and Leadership
A.1 SLT	B1.1 Primary ASC capital	C.1 Core standards
A.2 Autism	B1.2 Secondary and post 16 ASC capital	C.2 Culture change
A.3 SEMH pathway	B.3 Complex needs capital	C.3 Process mapping
A.4 Thresholds and Annual Reviews	B.4 Alternative Provision (oversight)	C.4 WFD
A.5 SEND Supported Internships	B.2 and B.5 Placements (including post 16)	
A.6 Early Years	B.6 Bandings and Top Ups	

Summary Report for May 2025

The aim of these projects is to improve outcomes for children and young people with SEND and through the implementation of an early intervention and graduated approach which will reduce the number of EHCPs to be in line with London and National averages.

Main points of progress:

- **A1: Speech, Language and Communication Graduated Response:** Further embedding of the SLCN pathway to ensure a consistent approach in all settings is continuing.
- **A2: Increase capacity in mainstream schools to meet needs of children with Autism:** Children are continuing to be supported with intervention. The Project is business as usual.
- **A3: Increase capacity in mainstream schools to meet needs of children on SEMH:** The pathway to support children with Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs has been established and has been operating since September in schools. You can refer to it here: [Social, Emotional Mental Health \(SEMH\) Guidance for Schools](#)
- **A4: Thresholds and Annual Reviews (AR) of EHCPs:** In this area we are increasing capacity as new staff joined in April. This will allow us to drive up our current completion rate and improve timeliness of annual reviews. We have continued to effectively complete 55% of annual reviews this has not changed in the last two months.
- **A5: Review of Post 16 offer:** Employer engagement continues to be a focus, following National supported Internship day in March an event happened to raise awareness of the internship programme. This resulted in 3 departments offering internships from September 2025. We have 45 interns engaged in the programme. From Sept, over 120 internships available from 8 employers with 40 courses: [send-supported-internship-brochure-2025-v5-compressed.pdf](#)
- **A6: Early Years Funding Review:** The introduction of the Early Years Inclusion Fund is continuing to work well, providing funded support for children aged under 5 without an EHCP. We intend to track the progress of these children for two years.
- **B2 and B.5: Commissioning and Brokerage:** Haringey is committed to providing its pupils with commissioned services that are tailored to their specific needs, represent excellent value for money, and are focused on delivering positive results. This commitment is being realised through a continuous process of redesigning commissioning frameworks and contractual arrangements to ensure an adequate supply of appropriate services within the borough, enabling students to stay close to their homes and communities.
- **B.4 Alternative Provision:** HLP post 16 provision has been extended until Aug 25 to enable provision to be developed. From Sept 25, HLP will return to being a PRU. The team are currently in the process of the procurement of services for this. The new service is to begin delivery in September 2025.
- **B.6 Bandings and Top Ups:** Our new bandings model is in place from this academic year ensuring we have an equitable funding system for children to be supported wherever they choose to learn. This will be reviewed Jan 2026.
- **B.8 Transfer from Schools Block:** Secretary of state approved the 0.5% transfer from Schools Block to High Needs Block

Strategic Overview: Safety Valve Capital Update

- **Earlsmead Project RP (ASC) (B1.1)** - delivered one year ahead of schedule with 3 children attending provision, **3/4** additional pupils are expected to be phased into the provision during this financial year, bringing the total number of pupils to **6**. The provision is on track to reach full capacity with **15** pupils by FY 2028/29.
- **Riverside (Complex needs expansion) (B3.1)** - The Riverside project was also delivered a year early, and all pupils have now been successfully phased in.
- **The Brook(Complex needs expansion) (B3.2)** – The Brook project is due for completion by September 25 and has a planned intake of **10** pupils for this financial year, with a further **8** pupils expected to be admitted in 2027/28. There may be a delay of one month due to scheduled capital works, mitigation in place to ensure children can still start in Sept within an alternative temporary space.
- **Alexandra Primary Project RP (SEMH) (B7.1)** - The Alexandra Primary project is due for completion by September 2025. There may be a delay of one month due to scheduled capital works, mitigation in place to ensure children can still start in Sept within an alternative temporary space.
- **Fortismere Project RP (ASC) (B1.2)** - The Fortismere project remains in the exploratory phase with the school. It is now scheduled to go live by September 2026..
- **Park View Project RP (SEMH) (B7.2)** - The Park View provision is also expected to be completed by September 2026.

Total number of Placements: 126

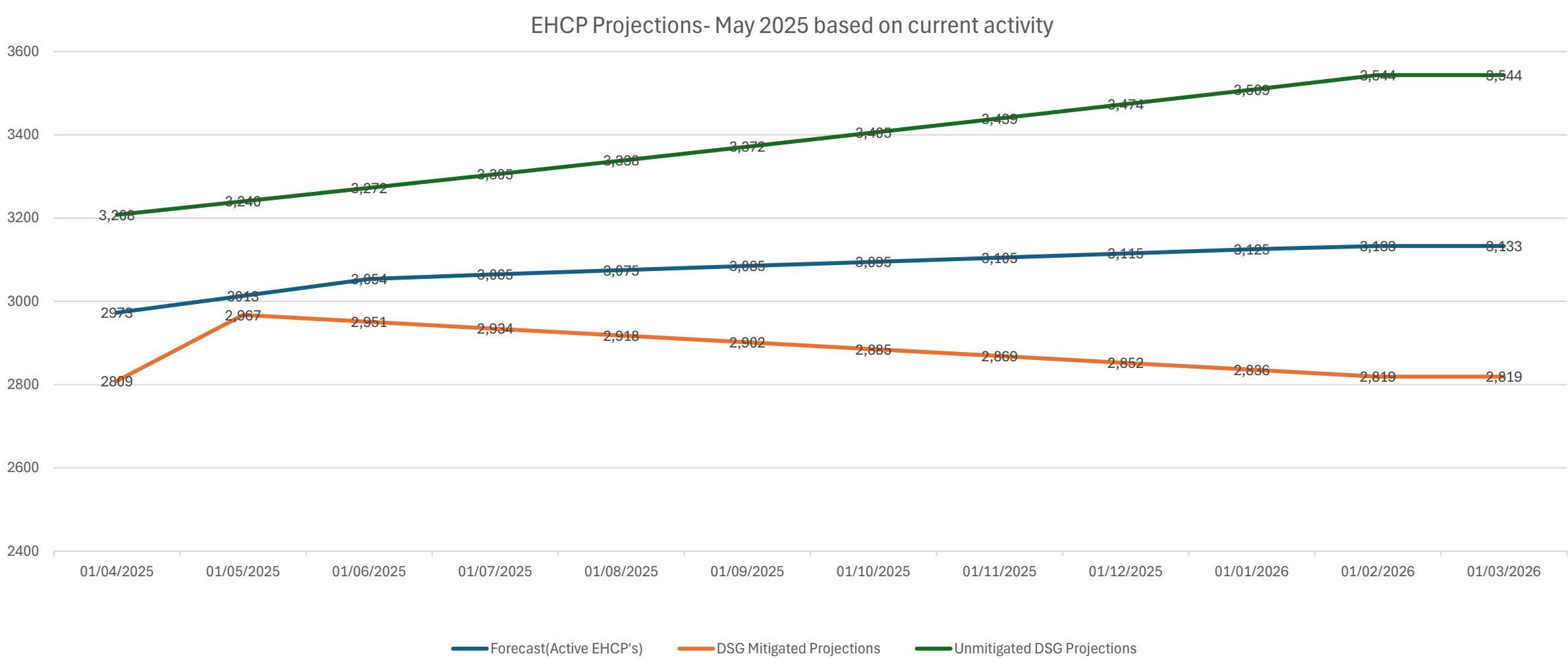
Safety Valve Measure- Forecast EHCP's to 27th May 2025

The Graph compares the number of active EHCP against the Safety valve target and the unmitigated estimated number of plans: The current number of Plans as at 27th May 2025 is 3,013.

The Green line: This shows the estimated increase in EHCP (unmitigated) if no intervention was made at 31st March 26 would have been 3,544 plan.

The Blue line: As of March 2026, Haringey Estimated on Actual EHCP is 3,133.

The Orange: This shows the revised target for EHCP of 2,911.



Safety Valve Programme Targets and Delivery to Date as at 270525

Green-
Savings or
above
delivered

Amber -
Partial
delivery of
savings

Blue- Early
Delivery/ of
savings

Safety Valve Programme Targets	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	Total
	In Year Forecast £000	Revised Forecast '£000	Revised Forecast '£000	Revised Forecast '£000	Revised Total '£000
A1. Review Therapeutic Support for Speech & Language Communication	-133	-158	-167	-176	-633
A2. Increase Capacity of mainstream schools to meet the needs of children with Autism	245	£307	£436	£694	1,682
A3. Increase Capacity of mainstream schools to meet the needs of children with SEMH	0	168	288	400	856
A4: Threshold and Annual Reviews of EHCP	774	£1,280	£1,648	£1,275	4,977
A5. Increase Supported Internships for young people with EHCP's	0	541	1,024	1,789	3,354
A6. Early Years Funding Review	286	£655	£875	1055	2,871
Total Demand management Reviewed	1,173	2,793	4,104	5,037	13,107
B1.1 Develop primary and ASC Resource Units in mainstream schools.	-17	180	145	266	575
B1.2 Develop secondary and ASC Resource Units in mainstream schools.	0	0	850	1,353	2,203
B2: Ensure cost-effective commissioning & brokerage of services	403	348	643	1,118	2,512
B3. Complex needs	382	732	498	539	2,151
B4. Review of Alternative provision and funding model	349	349	349	349	1,396
B5. Commissioning post 16 learners	123	197	830	920	2,070
B.6 Remodel financial support\top ups to mainstream schools.	400	-516	-437	-521	-1,075
B.7.1 Develop primary resource SEMH Resource Units in mainstream schools	0	-42	459	467	884
B.7.2 Develop secondary resource SEMH Resource Units in mainstream schools	0	0	690	1,098	1,788
B.8. School Block Transfer to High Needs Block	1,129	1,167	1,167	1,167	4,630
Total Commissioning Reviewed	2,769	2,415	5,194	6,756	17,134
SV Programme Total	3,942	5,208	9,298	11,793	30,241
Original Plans	-133	8,559	13,759	20,518	51,263
Impact of Early Delivery(+Surplus)/(-Defict)	185	-3,351	-4,461	-8,725	-21,022

Please Note: Where a Green, Amber and Dark blue colour has not been entered, these schemes are still being worked on to achieve the target set.

Stakeholder and Comms Engagement

The latest updates on key milestone events and timelines regarding the Safety Valve programme can be accessed on the [Safety Valve Programme webpage](#).

May 2025

- Special Schools Headteachers Meeting 9 May
- SEND Executive Board 13 May

Upcoming June 2025

- Special Schools Headteachers Meeting 6 June
- DFE/NHSE Annual Engagement Meeting 11 June
- Safety Vave Sprint Session 12 June
- Safety Valve Steering Group 2



Ways to get involved and learn more about the programme



- [Overview of the Safety Valve Programme which supports children and young people with SEND in Haringey](#)
- [Monthly Highlight reports published on Local Offer](#)
- [Sign up to our SEND newsletter for regular updates](#)
- [Give us your feedback by emailing: \[sendcomms@haringey.gov.uk\]\(mailto:sendcomms@haringey.gov.uk\)](#)
- [Join SEND Power, your local parent carer forum](#)
- If you would like to be part of developing this programme going forward, please register your interest at sendcomms@haringey.gov.uk



Agenda Item 12

Report Status

For information/note ☒
 For consultation & views ☐
 For decision ☒

Report to Haringey Schools Forum – 3 July 2025

Report Title: Continuation Of EAL Integration For Year 11 New Arrivals and Outreach Support (Growth Fund)

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Purpose:

Approval is sought from Schools Forum — consistent with the previous year's decision — for the allocation of Growth Fund to support the Park View Year 11 Integration Programme for newly arrived students. This funding will enable the continuation of a dedicated, high-quality provision that effectively addresses the needs of these learners and fosters positive educational outcomes.

Recommendations:

1. **To acknowledge** the continued high volume of in-year admissions of Year 11 pupils arriving from overseas.
2. **To reaffirm approval**, as granted in the previous year, for the allocation of Growth Fund to support the Park View Integration Programme for newly arrived Year 11 EAL students.

1. Introduction.

Background and current position

- 1.1. There continues to be a significant number of in-year applications from families with Year 11 pupils arriving from overseas. This trend is particularly evident in the months immediately following the end of the Autumn Term, a period during which schools are typically focused on preparing pupils for their final exams.
- 1.2. It is widely acknowledged that schools face considerable limitations in delivering meaningful outcomes for pupils who arrive late in the academic year. This is especially true for secondary schools that lack specialist provision or dedicated EAL (English as an Additional Language) staff to support new arrivals effectively within the mainstream curriculum or to guide them towards appropriate post-16 education, employment, or training pathways. In some cases, schools receive in-year applications for Year 11 as late as April, just weeks before the commencement of exams in May.
- 1.3. Prior to the establishment of the Park View EAL Integration Programme, the majority of newly arrived Year 11 pupils from overseas were typically referred to college placements arranged by the Local Authority. These pupils generally attended college establishments such as CONEL, Haringey Sixth Form College, or other further education providers.
- 1.4. In 2023, the Local Authority conducted a review of best practices concerning the statutory duty to safeguard and monitor the attendance of compulsory school-aged Year 11 EAL learners. The review raised concerns regarding the suitability of college placements for this cohort, particularly for vulnerable pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEN) or those exhibiting trauma-related symptoms. Instances were identified where children of compulsory school age were being educated alongside significantly older young adults. Additionally, SEND professionals expressed concerns about the appropriateness of such settings for vulnerable young people with SEN and known to social care services.
- 1.5. In response to these concerns, a working group comprising Local Authority officers and secondary headteachers was convened to review existing processes and pathways for Year 11 EAL learners. Following a series of detailed discussions focused on safeguarding and educational outcomes, the group concluded that establishing a dedicated Year 11 EAL resource provision within a Haringey school would be the most effective solution. It was agreed that a school-based environment would best serve the educational and pastoral needs of this cohort.
- 1.6. In July 2023, the Haringey Commissioning Board approved a funding allocation from the Alternative Provision Budget. Schools were subsequently invited to submit expressions of interest to deliver provision for newly arrived Year 11 EAL pupils. Park View submitted a proposal in December 2023, which was further developed through collaborative discussions involving Park View, the Commissioning Team, and the Schools and Learning Service.
- 1.7. A full-time, on-site provision at Park View was established from January 2025 for students allocated through the Fair Access Panel. Additionally, a cross-borough outreach programme was launched at the beginning of the academic year in September 2024 to extend support to pupils across the wider area.
- 1.8. The curriculum offer at the Park View EAL provision included ESOL Entry 1, Life in the UK, Mathematics, Reading, Art, E-Learning, ICT, Physical Education, Food & Nutrition, and a social curriculum delivered during form time. To ensure students were adequately prepared for post-16 education, the programme has incorporated career pathways guidance and support with college applications. The Life in the UK component addresses British values, cultural enrichment activities, and elements of the social curriculum. Pupils also have the opportunity to gain qualifications in ESOL Entry 1, GCSE Community Languages, and Entry Level Mathematics.

- 1.9. Between January and May 2025, the Pupil Integration Programme has admitted a total of 14 Year 11 EAL pupils from overseas. At present, 11 pupils remain enrolled, as some families have either relocated or their children have transitioned into the mainstream school setting.
- 1.10. Of the pupils currently in the programme, 8 have successfully attained qualifications in ESOL Entry 1 and Entry Level 1 Mathematics and have also completed a GCSE examination in their heritage language — Spanish, Arabic, or Portuguese. The remaining 3 pupils were unable to achieve any qualifications, primarily due to their late entry into the programme, which limited the time available for them to develop sufficient English language proficiency. Nonetheless, the school has ensured that all pupils have submitted college applications and secured appropriate post-16 education placements.

2. Contextual data on Growth Fund allocation and in-year admissions increase for Yr 11 pupils

- 2.1. Under the Schools Finance (England) Regulations of 2012, local authorities, with the agreement of the Schools Forum, are permitted to retain DSG to form a specific schools' contingency to support schools experiencing significant in-year pupil roll increases. This specific schools' contingency is known as the Schools Growth Fund. For the 2025/26 financial year, £300,000 has been earmarked by Schools Forum for Growth Fund for contingency purposes.
- 2.2. This funding is intended to support the additional revenue costs associated with an expansion or in-year increase; teaching and support staffing costs, resourcing classroom equipment and share of senior management salaries cost.
- 2.3. There continues to be a significant number of in-year applications for Year 11 pupils arriving from overseas. Between September 2024 and June 2025, a total of 71 Year 11 applications were received, of which 57 were arrivals from overseas. This figure includes 5 children in care (CIC) who arrived from abroad. The majority of these pupils originated from countries such as Brazil, Nigeria, and Bulgaria.

September 2024 – May 2025

IYFAP Dates	Total number of YR 11 cases	Yr 11 new arrivals from overseas	Year 11 CIC from overseas
11/09/2024	21	18	
25/09/2024	10	5	1
16/10/2024	5	4	1
13/11/2024	9	6	1
11/12/2024	1	1	
15/01/2025	3	3	
12/02/2025	10	6	1
12/03/2025	7	6	
23/04/2025	3	2	
21/05/2025	2	1	1
Total	71	52	5

- 2.4. In comparison, during the previous academic year (September 2023 to July 2024), a total of 105 Year 11 applications were received, with 81 pupils arriving from overseas, including 2 children in care. The highest number of pupils during this period came from Bulgaria, Peru, Brazil, and Turkey.

September 2023 – July 2024

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IYFAP Dates	Total number of Yr 11 new arrivals from cases	Yr 11 new arrivals from overseas	Yr11 CIC from overseas
13/09/2023	18	12	
27/09/2023	11	6	
11/10/2023	11	8	
15/11/2023	11	8	1
13/12/2023	15	12	1
10/01/2024	4	4	
07/02/2024	11	9	
13/03/2024	10	10	
17/04/2024	6	5	
15/05/2024	3	2	
05/06/2024	3	1	
03/07/2024	2	2	
Total	105	79	2

- 2.5. It is important to acknowledge that the number of Year 11 overseas arrivals can vary from year to year and is inherently difficult to predict, however, we continue to receive a high volume of applications. Not all overseas arrivals are eligible for placement within the Park View EAL provision. Pupils who demonstrate sufficient English language proficiency and are able to access the mainstream curriculum are typically integrated directly into a mainstream secondary school.
- 2.6. However, it is important to note that the current cohort referred to the Park View EAL provision—comprising 14 pupils—was allocated from the start of January 2025. The revised proposal seeks to extend the provision to commence at the start of the academic year in September 2025. This adjustment is anticipated to result in a higher volume of referrals, particularly given the historically high number of Year 11 arrivals during the months immediately following the summer holiday (21 in September 2024 and 18 in September 2023).
- 2.7. The proposal to extend the provision to a September start was prompted by feedback from secondary schools, which indicated that they were unable to fully meet the needs of newly arrived learners to the same standard as the dedicated, high-quality EAL provision offered at Park View. Additionally, the cost of supporting these pupils internally or referring them to external providers often exceeded the value of the allocated Age-Weighted Pupil Unit (AWPU). This challenge was further compounded by the requirement for some schools to admit pupils following the October census, placing additional strain on funding and resources.
- 2.8. Under the new proposed model, the service will begin accepting referrals from September 2025 and will operate with a capacity of up to 40 pupils (two classes of 20). Where appropriate, and based on individual progress, the school will have the discretion to either reintegrate pupils into mainstream classes or consider placement in a lower year group to better support their educational development. It should also be noted that the outreach component of the programme will be discontinued and will not be commissioned for the upcoming academic year.

3. Risks

- 3.1. In the period preceding the establishment of the Park View Year 11 EAL Integration Programme, it was agreed that schools would begin enrolling newly arrived pupils from overseas from January 2024 onwards. Funding for these placements was allocated to schools from the High Needs Block Alternative Provision (AP) budget. From January 2024, schools received pro-rata funding equivalent to the cost of a placement at CONEL. With this

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funding, schools either supported pupils directly or referred them to a college placement of their choice—on a dual registration basis—if CONEL was not the preferred option.

- 3.2. Should the Park View EAL Integration Programme not be recommissioned for the 2025/26 academic year, the Local Authority would need to revert to a model that incentivises individual schools to accept referrals and, where appropriate, to refer pupils to college placements such as CONEL. Prior to the implementation of the Park View provision, this incentive-based model placed a significant financial burden on the High Needs Block AP budget due to the high volume of referrals.
- 3.3. This previous model also proved to be administratively complex and resource-intensive for the Local Authority, which was responsible for managing and calculating funding allocations, as well as tracking pupil placements to ensure they were enrolled in school, CONEL, or an alternative college. If the financial incentive to schools were withdrawn, there is a risk that schools may be less willing to accept Year 11 referrals. Consequently, some pupils could be left without a school place, particularly if schools were unwilling to admit them or do not operate policies that allow placement outside of chronological age groups. It is also important to note that currently, there are no EAL programmes being delivered at CONEL to support learners with English as an Additional Language.

4. Updated costing proposal

Item	2 classes of 40 pupils
Staffing	£190,904.33
IT costs	Funded in 2024/25
Exam entries	£7,200
Teaching resources- stationery, books etc	£3,000
Enrichment	£4,000
Total	£205,104.33
Less AWPU adjustment for pre-census pupils 10%	£-20,510.43
Total funding	£184,594

- 4.1. The table above presents a breakdown of the revised cost proposal for the second year of commissioning the Park View Year 11 EAL Integration Programme. One-off expenditures from the previous year—such as IT equipment and an additional screen—have been excluded. Additionally, the allocation for teaching resources has been adjusted from £6,000 to £3,000. A 10% reduction has also been applied to account for pre-census AWPU (Age-Weighted Pupil Unit) pupils. As a result, the total proposed funding for the provision amounts to **£184,594**.

- 4.2. Based on this revised funding model, 40 pupils allocated through the Fair Access Panel will begin attending the Park View EAL Provision from September 2025.

5. Recommendation

- 5.1. It is recommended that Schools Forum approve the continuation of the Year 11 EAL Integration Programme hosted by Park View School. This will ensure that newly arrived pupils continue to benefit from a dedicated, high-quality provision that effectively meets their educational needs and supports positive outcomes.
- 5.2. Commissioning this service through a block arrangement with a school offers the advantage of enabling joint funding from both the Growth Fund and the Alternative Provision (AP) Budget. As with all block contracts, pupil numbers may vary; therefore, it is proposed that the provision be established for up to 40 pupils, commencing in September 2025, under a one-year contract. This arrangement would be subject to annual review prior to any further extension being agreed.
- 5.3. The recommended funding model proposes that 11% (£20,000) of the total cost be met from the AP Budget, with the remaining 89% (£164,594) funded through the Growth Fund. The Growth Fund is intended to address in-year pressures, and it is proposed that **£164,594** be drawn from the £300,000 allocation reserved by Schools Forum for the 2025/26 financial year to support this provision.