

Agenda Item



Report Status

For information/note
For decision

Report to Haringey Schools Forum 2nd December 2021

Report Title: SEN Contingency Funding 2022-2023

Authors:

Brian Smith

Finance Manager

Email: Brian.smith@Haringey.gov.uk

Mary Jarrett

Head of SEND Services

Email: Mary.jarrett@Haringey.gov.uk

Report authorised by:

Josephine Lyseight

Head of Finance

Email: Josephine.Lyseight@haringey.gov.uk

Purpose:

1. To note the proposal to extend and increase the SEN contingency fund for 2022-2023 pending further review during the year 2022 with a potential new formulation agreed for 2023

Recommendations:

- a. To note the proposal to increase the amount available in the SEN contingency fund via a transfer of 0.25% from Schools Block of DSG to the High Needs Block. This is approximately £537k for the financial year 2022-23 and is part of the schools' consultation on the DSG allocations. Confirmation of the outcome of this consultation and recommendation will go to Schools Forum in January 2022.
- b. To note maintaining the formulation of the SEN contingency fund to ensure that schools with higher numbers of EHCPs benefit from the redistributed resources.

- c. To review the formulation and distribution of the SEN contingency funding as part of the high needs block recovery plan and potentially a new offer from September 2023.

1 Proposal.

- 1.1 Haringey has over 9,000 children with identified SEND needs of whom 2600 have Education, Health and Care Plans. Haringey has a strong and well-established tradition of delivering high quality and inclusive education which the Local Authority wishes to support and maintain. The Local Authority recognises that the distribution of pupils with SEN needs across the school's establishment is variable with factors such as parental preference and the impact of high levels of deprivation impacting on school's ability to delivery high quality SEND services.
- 1.2 The Local Authority is undergoing a significant review of the funding for SEND services and the distribution of the High Needs Block. The high needs recovery plan includes a proposal to seek external facilitation and consultation to remodel the governance and distribution of the High Needs block to schools. To that end the Local Authority will commission the ISOS partnership to work in co-production with key stakeholders to ensure a fair, open, and transparent distribution of resources, supported by good governance.
- 1.3 The current agreement for SEN contingency funding consists of £1.3m split into two different distribution methods:
- a) £900k distributed solely to secondary schools; and
 - b) £400k split between primary and secondary schools.
- 1.4 The £900k for secondary schools is equivalent to £75k for each of the 12 secondaries and is re-distributed amongst secondary schools, with the intention of maintaining a consistent offer to all pupils with SEN across Haringey.
- 1.5 The £400k is distributed to primary and secondary schools where there is a disproportionately high number of pupils with an EHCP. Based on a weighting method, a share of £400K is shared amongst qualifying schools. In the current financial year, £299k was allocated to 28 primary schools and £101k was allocated to 3 secondary schools.
- 1.6 As an interim proposal to support schools with a higher distribution of pupils with EHCPs, the Local Authority is proposing that a 0.25% block transfer from the school's block (approximately £537k) is added to the existing SEN contingency fund (£1.3m). This fund will be distributed as per previous criteria for the £400k according to numbers of children with EHCPs. This would create a combined pool of £937k and the estimated split would see £700k go to primary schools and £237k go to secondary schools.