

Report for: Cabinet Member Signing – 21 January 2022
Title: Haringey Council’s Local Schools Funding Formula for 2022-23

Report authorised by: Ann Graham, Director of Children’s Services

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Ward(s) affected: All

**Report for Key/
Non-Key Decision:** Key

1. Describe the issue under consideration

- 1.1. This report seeks the Cabinet Members’ approval for changes to the Council’s local schools funding formula for the 2022-23 financial year in line with the Schools National Funding Formula set out by the Department for Education (DfE).
- 1.2. Following consultation by the Council with all maintained and academy schools in the borough, the Schools Forum asked the Council to adjust the existing local school funding formula. These are set out in the recommendations below.
- 1.3. The Schools Forum met to decide the 2022-23 funding formula on 13 January 2022. Cabinet Member approval is required following the Schools Forum and Council agreed grant allocations.
- 1.4. The funding allocation for the year 2022-23 must then be submitted to the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) via the Authority Proforma Tool (APT) by 21 January 2022.

2. Cabinet Member Introduction

- 2.1. On 16 December 2021, the Department for Education published school funding allocations going to every local authority in England.
- 2.2. The introduction of the National Funding Formula for schools has been a challenge up and down the country and Haringey supports equitable and local decisions that are responsive to local needs and benefits all schools in an equitable way.
- 2.3. The Schools Block of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) funding allocation set out in this report includes local adjustments to the formula to ensure schools

receive an across the board funding uplift for pupils and targeted allocations to support special educational needs for children in schools.

- 2.4. The Council has worked collaboratively with schools across the borough to ensure that the funding available is distributed as fairly as possible so that all Haringey schools can continue to deliver excellent outcomes for our children and young people.

3. Recommendations

The Cabinet Member is asked:

- 3.1. Following approval by the Schools Forum on 13 January 2022, to agree the following changes to the local schools funding formula for the 2022-23 financial year:
- (a) To adopt **Model 2B** with a 10% increase in AWPU for Primary schools.
 - (b) Transfer 0.25% of the Schools Block allocation (£525,732) from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block.
 - (c) The Growth fund to be set at £1.1m
 - (d) The Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) remains between +0.5% and +2.0% per pupil and is set at +1.58%.
 - (e) Block transfer of £122k from the Schools Block to the Central Block for Education Welfare Services.
 - (f) Provide £60K funding to a Haringey Nursery School on a split site.
 - (g) De-delegation of £165K for Trade Union Representation (for maintained schools only).
 - (h) Agree a second year lumpsum payment of £68k to Tiverton Primary School (subject to Secretary of State approval via disapplication request).

4. Reasons for decision

- 4.1 The Council is legally required to set the local schools funding formula and must submit this to the ESFA by 21 January 2022. These changes require approval by the Council in line with its local scheme of delegation to complete the Authority Proforma Tool, as required by the ESFA. Such approval can be given on behalf of the Council by the Lead Member.

5. Options Considered

- 5.1. Following agreement by the Schools Forum, all schools in Haringey were consulted on the proposed changes for 2022-23 to the Council's Schools Funding Formula via e-survey. The consultation started on 29 November, with a deadline of 10 December 2021 for responses from Head teachers and Chairs of Governors.
- 5.2. Table A shows options available and total responses received for all options.

- 5.3 Schools were consulted on local factors of the school funding formula for 2022-23 in November/December 2021, the results of the consultation are detailed in the Table A, below. This details the most supported local factors:

Table A Consultation Results:

Haringey Schools Consultation Authority Proforma Tool (APT) Survey Results	Total responses Received
Question 1: Select your single preferred funding model <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Model 1A: No Change in DSG formula factors · Model 1B: No Change in DSG formula factors + HNB transfer of 0.25% · Model 2A: Change in AWPU by 10% · Model 2A: Model 2B: Change in AWPU by 10% with HNB transfer of 0.25% 	 4 6 9 22
Question 2: To set Growth Funding budget to £1.1m <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Yes · No 	 40 1
Question 3: Block Transfer of £122,000 for Education Welfare <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Yes · No 	 37 4
Question 4: Early Years Block Transfer for Nursery Split Site funding of £60K <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Yes · No 	 34 7
Question 5: Do you agree with 2nd year Lump Sum payment of £68K for Tiverton Primary School having amalgamated with Stamford Hill Primary School in 2020-21 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Yes · No 	 29 12
Question 6: ONLY For Maintained Sector Schools: To increase the total amount de-delegated from maintained sector for Trade Union Facilities time from £132K to £165K <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Yes · No 	 20 10

- 5.4. Following the consultation results and confirmations of the published allocations of the APT on 16 December 2021, see **Appendix A** of the report for individual school allocations for 2022-23 in comparison with 2021-22.

6. Background information

- 6.1 The DSG is currently divided into four notional blocks:

- Schools Block
- High Needs Block
- Early Years Block
- Central School Services Block.

- 6.2 The policy document which sets out the background and principles of the new National Funding Formula for schools can be found at: [Pre-16 schools funding: local authority guidance for 2022 to 2023 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/101222/pre-16-schools-funding-local-authority-guidance-for-2022-to-2023.pdf)

- 6.3 The basic structure of the schools National Funding Formula (NFF) is not changing in 2022-23. There are a small number of changes in existing factors of the formula in 2022-23.
- 6.4 The business rates payment system for schools will be centralised and ESFA will pay billing authorities directly on behalf of state funded schools from 2022-23 onwards. This reduces the administration for schools and schools will see no difference in funding in this respect.
- 6.5 Haringey Council will ensure that all procedures are in place to meet the requirement to publish maintained school budgets by 28 February 2022 in line with guidance set by the School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2021.

7. Contribution to strategic outcomes

- 7.1. The local school funding formula is an important element in delivering the best possible outcomes for Haringey's children and young people under the People Priority.
- 7.2. The People Priority underpins the council's approach to ensuring young people in Haringey get the best start in life, through early help, excellent education, and support.

8. Statutory Officers comments (Chief Finance Officer (including procurement), Assistant Director of Corporate Governance, Equalities)

8.1. Finance

The recommended changes to the Council's local schools funding formula as applied to each school is detailed in Appendix A. This is affordable and contained within the total 2022-23 DSG funding allocation published by the ESFA in December 2021.

There are no direct implications from this decision in relation to the Council's General Fund.

8.2. Strategic Procurement

Strategic Procurement note the contents of the report and that there are no procurement issues associated with this decision.

8.3. Head of Legal and Governance (Monitoring Officer)

The School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2021 provide for local authorities' financial arrangements in relation to the funding of maintained schools and providers of funded early years provision in England. These Regulations require the Council to determine budget shares for schools maintained by them and amounts to be allocated in respect of early years provision in their areas, in accordance with the appropriate formulae which the Council must determine. The Council must consult its school's forum and schools

maintained by it about any proposed changes to the funding formulae, in relation to the factors and criteria considered, and the methods, principles and rules adopted. The same consultation obligation applies to proposed changes that will affect early years provider.

The Education & Skills Funding Agency operational guidance 'Schools revenue funding 2022 to 2023' (Updated December 2021) provides that:

“Reviewing and consulting on the pre-16 formula

31: The department appreciates that there may be limitations in the way local authorities are currently able to work due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) situation, although we expect a continued easing of restrictions.

32: However, local authorities must continue to do their best, within the circumstances, to engage in open and transparent consultation with all maintained schools and academies in their area, as well as with their schools forums, about any proposed changes to the local funding formula, including the principles adopted and any movement of funds between blocks.

33: Any consultation should include a demonstration of the effect of modelling such changes on individual maintained schools and academies.

34: Local authorities also need to be setting out whether changes would bring their local formula closer to, or further from, the NFF.

35: Local authorities should communicate proposed formula changes to all bodies affected by the changes.

36: The local authority is responsible for making the final decisions on the formula; however, each local authority's process should have ensured that there was sufficient time to gain political approval before the APT deadline in January 2022.

37: Political approval means approval in line with the local authority's local scheme of delegation, so this may be decisions made by the council cabinet, cabinet member or full council. The schools forum does not decide on the formula.

38: Local authorities should, as much as is possible, ensure that they allow sufficient time for wider consultation with schools, agreement by their schools' forum, and political approval if they wish to transfer funding out of the schools block, or submit a disapplication request.

The following legal principles apply when undertaking consultation:

- (a) The consultation must take place while the proposals are still at a formative stage (i.e., when the results of the consultation may still make a difference)
- (b) The consultee must be given sufficient information about, and reasons for, the proposal to be able to respond in a meaningful and intelligent way and given sufficient time to be able to respond.
- (c) Depending on the circumstances of the case, it may also be necessary to consult about other options that have been rejected.

(d) There must then be sufficient time for the responses to be considered properly, and the responses must be considered conscientiously, in the course of taking the ultimate decision.”

8.4. **Equality**

The Council has a Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act (2010) to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a relevant protected characteristic and people who do not share it
- Foster good relations between people who share a relevant characteristic and people who do not share it.

The three parts of the duty applies to the following protected characteristics: is age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy/maternity, race, religion/faith, sex, and sexual orientation. Marriage and civil partnership status apply to the first part of the duty.

The report proposes to revise the Dedicated Schools Grant Funding formula. This is in line with the Department for Education’s National Funding guidance and technical notes. No options are available to provide differential funding to schools in relation to the proportion of pupils with protected characteristics. The 0.25% transfer from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block will support provision for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities. Setting the higher Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) at +1.58% will help ensure continued high-quality educational provision for all pupils in Haringey. These changes demonstrate due regard for the protected characteristics of age and disability.

9. **Use of Appendices**

Appendix A: DSG Schools Funding Analysis 2022-23

10. **Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**

The following information was used in compiling this report:

- Department for Education, The national funding formula for schools and high needs:

[National funding formula tables for schools and high needs: 2022 to 2023 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/91222/national_funding_formula_tables_for_schools_and_high_needs_2022_to_2023.pdf)

[Pre-16 schools funding: local authority guidance for 2022 to 2023 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/91222/pre-16_schools_funding_local_authority_guidance_for_2022_to_2023.pdf)

[The School and Early Years Finance \(England\) Regulations 2021 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2021/1251/contents/made)