

Agenda Item



Report Status

For information / note
For consultation & views
For decision

Report to Haringey Schools Forum – 24th February 2022

Report Title: Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) - Central School Services Block (CSSB) Update

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Purpose:

To provide a review of the DSG Central School Services Block (CSSB) usage and the indicative 2022-23 allocation.

Recommendations:

1. Schools Forum to note the central retention and revised allocations of the 2022-23 Central School Services Block DSG (section 3)

1. Introduction

1.1. The Central School Services Block (CSSB) within the DSG provides funding for local authorities to carry out central functions on behalf of compulsory school age pupils in state-funded, maintained schools and academies in England.

1.2. The block covers the two distinct elements of:

- 1.2.1. ongoing responsibilities which has been reduced by 2.5%, and
- 1.2.2. historic commitments which are reduced by 20% - however, Haringey has no historic commitments.

1.3. CSSB funds local authorities for the statutory duties that they hold for both maintained schools and academies. It brings together:

- a) Funding for ongoing responsibilities, such as admissions, previously top-sliced by each local authority from its Schools Block allocation
- b) Funding previously allocated through the retained duties element of the Education Services Grant (ESG), and
- c) Residual funding for historic commitments, previously top-sliced by the local authority from the Schools Block.

1.4. Further detail on CSSB block for 2022-23 can be found can be found on the following weblink: [CSSB Technical Annex \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

1.5. This paper sets out the 2021-22 allocation and sets out Haringey's e planned expenditure for 2022-23.

2. Central Schools Services Block

2.1. Haringey's provisional CSSB allocations for the financial year 2022-23 is £2.785m (£2.912m FY 2021-22). The allocation funded at the rate of £84.65 (£86.82 FY 2021-22) per pupil for 32,895.50 (33,536.50 FY 2021-22) pupils recorded in the October 2021 census.

2.2. Table A below demonstrates the year-on-year reduction for Haringey CSSB based on the indicative pupil numbers:

Table A: Reduction of CSSB from 2021-22 to 2022-23

Table A Ongoing Responsibilities	Pupil Nos.	£ Per pupil	£ Total
FY 2022-23	32,895.5	84.65	2,784,604
FY 2021-22	33,536.5	86.82	2,911,639
Difference	-641	-2.17	-127,035

2.3. The maximum per-pupil reduction in funding for ongoing responsibilities each LA will receive is -2.5%. Haringey has seen the funding rate reduce by 2.5% and the pupil numbers fall by 1.9% and the overall funding for Haringey has reduced by 4.4%.

3. Central Schools Services Block proposed allocation 2022-23

- 3.1. As outlined in section 2 the indicative reduction in the CSSB grant for 2022-23 is £127,035. Helping to offset this reduction is a lower allocation for copyright licences as the council is able to reclaim the £30k VAT on the amount withheld for this purpose. The net reduction of £97k has been notionally allocated against the line for Looked After Children Placements. The CSSB is a contribution towards the cost of this service and so will be a cost pressure for Haringey's General Fund.
- 3.2. It should be noted that the amounts earmarked for the HEP commissioned services have been held at the same level as 2021-22.
- 3.3. Further investigation and analysis would be beneficial to understand the outputs of the different services funded and the cost drivers for the services to see if any changes to the delivery methods may release savings.
- 3.4. Further consultation with schools will inform the type and level of support desired and any room for savings or growth for the funding of each of the areas funded by CSSB.
- 3.5. Table B below presents a comparison of funding allocations for planned expenditure for the financial year 2021-22 and the proposed allocations for 2022-23.

Table B: Proposed allocations of CSSB for 2022-23

Financial Years	Financial Year 2021-22		Financial Year 2022-23	
	Local Authority Managed Services	Commissioned Services	Local Authority Managed Services	Commissioned Services
Description of Services				
ESG - Other Statutory & Regulatory Duties	352,851.00	25,000.00	352,851.00	25,000.00
ESG - Statutory Education Welfare Service	172,000.00		172,000.00	
Schools Standards		273,000.00		273,000.00
Looked After Children Placements	733,788.00		636,432.73	
Early Help	350,000.00		350,000.00	
Servicing of School Forum		10,000.00		10,000.00
Admissions	300,000.00		300,000.00	
Governor Support		130,000.00		130,000.00
Music & Performing Arts	168,000.00		168,000.00	
Supports Costs	192,000.00		192,000.00	
Copyright Licences	205,000.00		175,321.27	
Sub-total	2,473,639.00	438,000.00	2,346,605.00	438,000.00
Total Allocation for the Financial Year		2,911,639.00		2,784,605.00