

Agenda Item

9



Report Status

For information / note
For consultation & views
For decision

Report to Haringey Schools Forum – 9th February 2023

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

Authors:

Brian Smith
Interim Schools Finance Manager
Email: Brian.Smith@haringey.gov.uk

Muhammad Ali
Schools Finance Business Partner
Telephone: 020 8489 4491
Email: Muhammad.Ali@haringey.gov.uk

Report authorised by:

Neil Sinclair
Interim Head of Finance (People)
Email: Neil.Sinclair@haringey.gov.uk

Purpose:

To provide a review of the DSG Central School Services Block (CSSB) usage and the indicative 2023-24 allocation.

Recommendations:

1. Schools Forum to note the central retention and revised allocations of the 2023-24 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, academies and maintained schools in England.

- 1.2. The block covers the two distinct elements of:
 - 1.2.1. ongoing responsibilities which have 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.

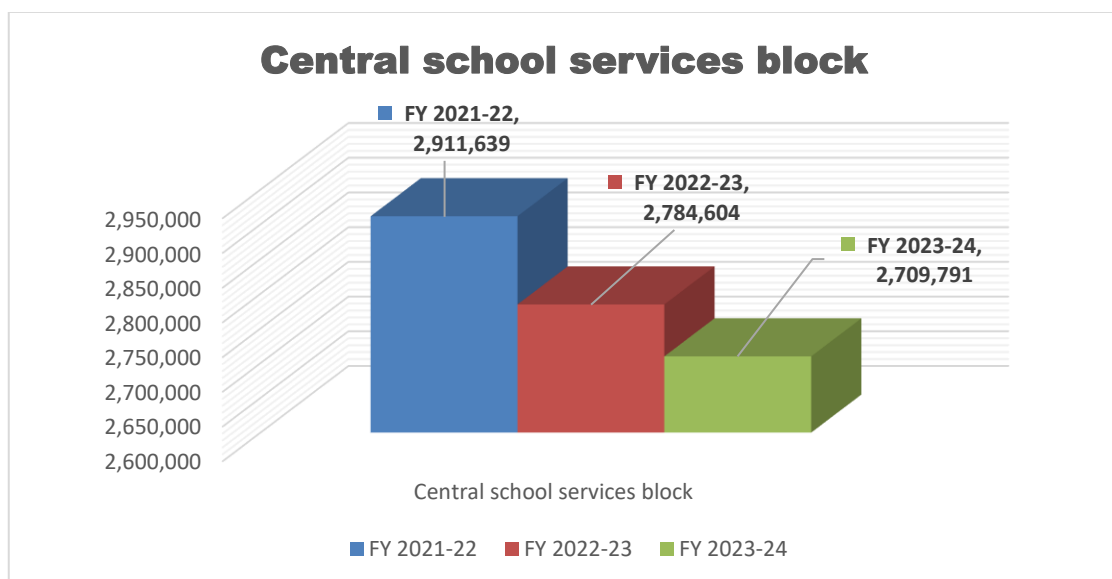
- 1.4. Further detail on CSSB block for 2023-24 can be found on the following weblink: [Central school services block national funding formula: technical note \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

- 1.5. This paper sets out the 2021-22 allocation and sets out Haringey's e planned expenditure for 2023-24.

2. Central Schools Services Block

- 2.1. Haringey's provisional CSSB allocations for the financial year 2023-24 is £2.710m (£2.785m FY 2022-23).

- 2.2. **Graph A** below demonstrates the year-on-year allocation for Haringey CSSB.



2.3. Table A below demonstrates the year-on-year reduction for Haringey CSSB.

Financial Years	2021-22 Actual	2022-23 Actual	2023-24 Actual	2024-25 Estimate (-2.5%)
Funding rate per pupil	£ 86.82	£ 84.65	£ 82.53	£ 80.47
Number of pupils	33,536.5	32,895.5	32,834.0	32,834.0
CSSB funding allocation	£2,911,639	£2,784,605	£2,709,791	£ 2,642,152
year on year reduction (%)		-4.4%	-2.7%	-2.5%
Year on year reduction (£)		-£ 127,034	-£ 74,814	-£ 67,639

2.4. **Financial year 2022-23:** The maximum per-pupil funding for ongoing responsibilities each LA received was -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 reduced by 4.4%.

2.5. **Financial year 2023-24:** The maximum per-pupil funding for ongoing responsibilities each LA will receive is minus 2.5%. Haringey has seen the funding rate reduce by 2.5% and the pupil numbers fall by 0.2% and the overall funding for Haringey has reduced by 2.7%.

2.6. **Financial year 2024-25:** The maximum per-pupil funding for ongoing responsibilities each LA will receive is minus 2.5%. If the pupil numbers remain static, then this will be a cash further cash reduction of almost £68k.

3. **Central Schools Services Block proposed allocation 2023-24**

- 3.1. As outlined in section 2 the reduction in the CSSB grant for 2022-23 is £74,813.
- 3.2. The allocation for copyright licences for Haringey Council has gone up by £27,518 for the financial year 2023-24. The net reduction has been allocated against the line for Looked After Children Placements. The CSSB contributes towards the cost of this service and so will be a cost pressure for Haringey's General Fund of £102k.
- 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 to help offset the future £68k reduction in grant outline in paragraph 2.6 above.
- 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. It should be noted that the amounts earmarked for the HEP commissioned services funded from CSSB DSG have been held at the same level as 2021-22 when the HEP and the council entered into a further 3 year contract.

3.6. **Table B** below presents a comparison of funding allocations for planned expenditure for 2022-23 and the proposed allocations for 2023-24.

Table B: Proposed allocations of CSSB for 2023-24

Financial Years	Financial Year 2022-23		Financial Year 2023-24	
	Local Authority Managed Services	Commissioned Services	Local Authority Managed Services	Commissioned Services
Other Statutory Duties including SACRE	352,851.00	25,000.00	352,851.00	25,000.00
Statutory Education Welfare Service	172,000.00		172,000.00	
Schools Standards		273,000.00		273,000.00
<i>* Looked After Children Placements</i>	<i>636,432.73</i>		<i>534,100.00</i>	
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	
<i>* Copyright Licences</i>	<i>175,321.27</i>		<i>202,840.00</i>	
Sub-total	2,346,605.00	438,000.00	2,271,791.00	438,000.00
Total Allocation for the Financial Year	2,784,605.00		2,709,791.00	

**Indicates changed levels of funding from 2022-23 to 2023-24*