



Haringey Council

The Children and Young People's Service

Report to Haringey Schools Forum – Thursday 23rd February 2012.

**Agenda Item
9**

Report Status

For information/note
For consultation & views
For decision

Report Title: 2012-13 Budget Strategy Update

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Purpose:

- 1. To update members on the outcome of consultation on proposed changes to the Schools Funding Formula for 2012-13.**
- 2. To update members on the Pupil Premium for 2012-13.**

Recommendations:

- 1. That the Forum recommends the introduction of a factor to guarantee a minimum of 24 funded places in KS1 bulge classes.**
- 2. That Forum notes the developments in the national allocation of the Pupil Premium.**

1. Background and Introduction.

- 1.1. We have reported on the proposed budget strategy to the Forum meetings on 8th December 2011 and 26th January 2012 and on the Pupil Premium at the latter. This report provides an update on the consultation with schools on proposed changes to Haringey's Schools Funding Formula and on the Pupil Premium.

2. Responses to Consultation.

- 2.1. We consulted on three main areas:

- Protection for Bulge Classes.
- Using only floor area in allocating general premises resources.
- Additional support for small secondary schools.

A summary of the responses is attached as Appendix 1.

- 2.2. **Bulge Classes.** Of those responding, the consensus was to support the proposal on bulge classes. We therefore ask the Forum to recommend that this proposal is agreed.

- 2.3. **Premises.** Of those responding the consensus, in both the primary and secondary sectors, was to reject the proposed changes on allocating premises funding. Given the response and the major changes that are likely to be made in school funding generally we are not recommending any changes in this element for 2012-13.

- 2.4. **Additional Support for Small Secondary Schools.** Of those responding the majority favoured some form of additional support; three of the five favourable returns thought that this should be provided outside of the formula for an agreed amount and time and linked to an action plan. We therefore do not recommend any changes to the Funding Formula recognising that there are existing mechanisms for additional support to be agreed and provided through the Contingency for Schools in Financial Difficulty.

3. Pupil Premium.

- 3.1. We reported to the last meeting on the Indicative Pupil Premium allocations for 2012-13. The DfE have now issued to schools, for checking, data on the current and historical eligibility for Free School Meals of current pupils. A comparison of the Pupil Premium due using this latest data and those given in the indicatives is shown in Appendix 2. This shows a reduced allocation.

- 3.2. Appendices 3 and 4 show the national year on year changes by Local Authority in the indicative allocation. Of the 152 LAs, only 22 received a lower percentage increase than Haringey; these included Newham,

Hackney and Tower Hamlets. The 129 with a higher percentage increase include Oxfordshire, Surrey and Devon.

- 3.3. We are concerned that the stated intention of the pupil premium, to target disadvantage, may not be met using the current methodology. It was always acknowledged that different proxy measures would give varying results and so we will continue to review this, including considering what evidence could be used to support an approach to the DfE, and will keep members of the Forum informed of any developments.

4. Recommendations.

- (i) That the Forum recommends the introduction of a factor to guarantee a minimum of 24 funded places in KS1 bulge classes.**
- (ii) That Forum notes the developments in the national allocation of the Pupil Premium.**