



**Haringey** Council

**The Children and Young People's Service**

**Report to Haringey Schools Forum – 16<sup>th</sup> January 2014**

**Agenda Item**

**7**

**Report Status**

For information/note   
For consultation & views   
For decision

**Report Title: Growth Fund 2013-14**

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**Purpose:**

**To inform members of the location of former John Loughborough School pupils in Haringey schools and the implications of different options on the Growth Fund.**

**To inform members of the criteria for accessing KS1 Class-Size Funding.**

**Recommendations:**

- 1. That members agree one of the options set out in Paragraph 2.4 in respect of former John Loughborough School pupils.**
- 2. That members agree to continue KS1 Class-Size Funding as set out in Paragraph 3.3.**

## **1. Introduction.**

- 1.1. Forum on 2 December 2013 agreed allocations to date from the 2013-14 Growth Fund. Two issues were raised at that meeting that require a further report.

## **2. Former John Loughborough School (JLS) Pupils.**

- 2.1. An Any Other Business item at the meeting identified a significant increase in pupils at St Thomas More. Because this increase was within the academy's planned numbers it would not usually attract funding from the Growth Fund. A case was made at the meeting that pupils from the former JLS were a major part of the increase and as the residual part of the budget for the former school had transferred to the Growth Fund, this Fund should be used to provide funding in these exceptional circumstances.
- 2.2. The Forum was of the view that there was a need to establish where all the former JLS pupils had been placed before the request from St Thomas More could be considered. It was agreed that officers consider options and report back to the next meeting.
- 2.3. Appendix 1 shows the destination of JLS pupils in Haringey schools. It also shows the cost of applying the formula allocation for bulge or expansion classes, a pro-rata Age Weighted Pupil Unit (AWPU) plus £500 per pupil. Depending on Schools Forum's preferred option, any balance remaining in the Growth Fund at 31 March 2013 is rolled forward and added to the total to be distributed through budget shares in the following year.
- 2.4. Options for members to consider are:
  1. Not to agree to an exceptional allocation and roll forward £338k to add to school budget shares in 2014-15.
  2. Agree to an exceptional allocation using the criteria for bulge and expanding classes, with the £500 representing other funding elements and additional work relating to the exceptional circumstances. This would leave £54k to roll forward.
  3. Agree to apply the AWPU only, leaving £98k to roll forward.

## **3. Criteria for KS1 classes forced to exceed 30 pupils as a result of appeals.**

- 3.1. At the last meeting it was noted that there were several ways in which a KS1 class could be forced to exceed 30 pupils. Further clarification was requested on the circumstances in which this funding would be triggered.
- 3.2. The legal position is:

**Infant class size** – *Infant classes (those where the majority of children will reach the age of 5, 6 or 7 during the school year) **must not** contain more than 30 pupils with a single school teacher. Additional children may be admitted under limited exceptional circumstances. These children will remain an 'excepted pupil' for the time they are in an infant class or until the class numbers fall back to the current infant class size limit. The excepted children are:*

*a) children admitted outside the normal admissions round with statements of special educational needs specifying a school;*

*b) looked after children and previously looked after children admitted outside the normal admissions round;*

*c) children admitted, after initial allocation of places, because of a procedural error made by the admission authority or local authority in the original application process;*

*d) children admitted after an independent appeals panel upholds an appeal;*

*e) children who move into the area outside the normal admissions round for whom there is no other available school within reasonable distance;*

*f) children of UK service personnel admitted outside the normal admissions round;*

3.3. In these circumstances, therefore, it is not necessary to take on an additional teacher; however, it has been the practice in Haringey, and other councils, to continue to provide funding for KS1 classes forced to exceed 30 pupils. This practice is recognised by the DfE in its allowable criteria and we recommend that it continue as an incentive to schools to willingly accommodate these pupils at the start of their school career. Our recommendations are:

1. That class size funding continues in the circumstances shown in Paragraph 3.2.
2. That KS1 class size funding recognises the local arrangement that requires a school to take a twin even when this puts the school over number.
3. That only one enhancement is made per school even if more than one KS1 class is over-size.