



Haringey Council

Agenda Item

7

Report Status

For information/note
For consultation & views
For decision

Report to Haringey Schools Forum – Thursday 23 October 2014

Report Title: Dedicated Schools Budget Strategy.

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Purpose: To give members an outline to the budget strategy report to be brought to Forum in December and its links to Early Help and Traded Services.

Recommendations:

- 1. That members note the report.**

1 Introduction.

- 1.1 Schools Forum in December will receive a report setting out the proposed Dedicated Schools Budget (DSB) strategy for 2015-16 and future years.
- 1.2 This report, together with other agenda items, gives an outline of the proposed strategy to give members the opportunity to consider and discuss issues prior to the completion of the December report.
- 1.3 Some of the elements in the strategy have already been presented to previous Forum meetings or have recently been discussed at Network Learning Communities (NLCs). Others are new and driven by the many changes taking place within Haringey and local government generally.
- 1.4 There will be an increasing emphasis on the school as commissioner with an incremental increase in funding delegated to schools or devolved to NLCs. The incremental approach will enable the Council to restructure its service offer to ensure only the highest quality services are traded.

2 Dedicated Schools Budget 2015-16 (DSB).

- 2.1 The report in December will set out the estimated DSB. The funding comes from the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG), post 16 funding provided by the Education Funding Agency (EFA) and the Pupil Premium, including the new Early Years Pupil Premium.
- 2.2 It will then set out the proposed use of this funding. This will be examined on a block by block basis.
- 2.3 Schools Block.
 - 2.3.1 Schools Funding Formula. Following two years of substantial change we are not proposing any local changes to the funding formula, other than the possibility of creating an In Year Fair Access Panel budget (see 2.5.3). There are no significant national changes for 2015-16 but there remains the possibility of a national funding formula being introduced for 2016-17. The Minimum Funding Guarantee remains at the same level as last year.
 - 2.3.2 Retained funding. We will seek to retain a Growth Fund as in previous years. We will report to the December meeting on the proposed size of the Fund
 - 2.3.3 De-delegated budgets. We are seeking de-delegation for the Contingency for Schools in Financial Difficulty and for Support to Under-achieving Ethnic Minority Groups. In the latter case we will be seeking de-delegation until 1 April 2017; thereafter this will be delegated with central services being offered on a traded basis.

2.3.4 Centrally Retained Budgets. In 2015-16 we will seek to retain funding in the areas shown below but in some will be at a lower level than in 2014-15 with further reductions in 2016-17 and 2017-18; in some cases DSG funding will cease in 2016-17 or 2017-18. This links with the increased commissioning role of schools and the expansion of traded services and there will be a presentation on traded services at the meeting. Also on the Agenda of this meeting is a report on Early Help that links with the proposed continued retention of the Family Support and LAC Residential Placement budgets within the Schools and High Needs Blocks..

- Music Tuition
- Family Support
- Admissions
- Schools Forum
- Governor Support
- School Standards and Improvement
- LAC Residential Placements
- Licences
- Corporate Overheads
- Supplementary Schools.

2.4 Early Years.

2.4.1 The main pressure in this block is the need to find savings in the longer term in order to fund the £6 per hour rate for two year olds; which exceeds the £5.28 received per hour. A separate report on this agenda looks at the current position on two year old provision with financial projections to 2018-2019.

2.4.2 In 2015-16 we will seek to retain the current central budgets. Continuing work in this area will look at:

- Full time places from September 2015,
- Childcare Subsidy,
- Three and four year old funding formula.

2.5 High Needs Block.

2.5.1 The December meeting will receive an update on the projected outturn for 2014-15. We will look to reconvene the former High Needs Block Working Group to review this area prior to the December meeting.

2.5.2 At this stage we are not suggesting any changes to the total of centrally retained budgets for 2015-16 but will be considering delegating and trading some of these services from 2016-17. There will be some restructuring of budgets to reflect the creation of an alternative provision commissioning budget and the need to create a

budget for high needs pupils in the two, three and four year old programme.

- 2.5.3 In Year Fair Access Panel (IYFAP). We will explore the creation of a budget within the High Needs Block for late admissions in Year 11. This will require creating a budget through reductions in the current secondary funding, probably through the secondary lump sum.
- 2.5.4 Special School Funding. This will be looked at as part of the High Needs Block budgets and the review of inclusion and banding in special schools.