



Haringey Council

The Children and Young People's Service

**Agenda Item
6**

Report Status

For information/note
For consultation & views
For decision

Report to Haringey Schools Forum – Thursday 15 January 2015.

Report Title: Update on Dedicated Schools Budget 2015-16.

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Purpose: To inform members of the Dedicated Schools Grant allocations for the Schools and High Needs Block and further proposals on the use of the Dedicated Schools Budget.

Recommendations:

- 1. That members note the DSG allocated for the Schools and High Needs Blocks.**
- 2. That the £258k CRC adjustment is transferred to the HNB to meet continuing pressure in that Block.**
- 3. That members representing maintained primary schools agree to de-delegate funding for trade union facilities time.**
- 4. That members representing maintained secondary schools agree to de-delegate funding for trade union facilities time.**
- 5. That Forum member representing mainstream schools endorse the proposed formula change.**
- 6. That Forum members agree the transfer of £338k from the Schools to the High Needs Block to create the IYFAP budget.**
- 7. Recommendation. That members agree SB support costs of £192k.**

1. Introduction.

- 1.1. A report was presented to Forum on 4 December setting out an outline of the Dedicated Schools Budget (DSB) for 2015-16 and the Schools Block budgets the Council proposed to retain centrally.
- 1.2. This report provides an update using information not available when the earlier report was published.

2. Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) 2015-16.

- 2.1. The DfE published details of the Schools Block and High Needs Blocks for 2015-16 on 17 December. The allocation, together with the comparable figures for 2014-15 is shown in Appendix 1.
- 2.2. The Early Years Block (EYB) will use data from the January 2015 census and has not yet been updated. The Appendix shows the allocation for 2014-15 but excludes two year old funding. The EYB also includes an indicative allocation for the new Early Years Pupil Premium (£317k).
- 2.3. There is one significant change in methodology. In previous years funding for free schools and non-recoupment academies, such as Greig City, were excluded from local authority DSG calculations, this is changing for 2015-15 and £8.871m has been added for these institutions, but there will be a further adjustment for estimated pupil number changes.
- 2.4. Overall there will be an increase of £11.534m in the Schools Block (SB) made up of:
 - £2.406m for growth in pupil numbers,
 - £0.258m in respect of Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC) now reflected in a reduced School Block Unit of Funding.
 - £8.871m to fund free schools and non-recoupment academies.
- 2.5. The £2.406m for pupil number growth is more than required to meet the increase in pupil led funding for the increase of 449 pupils and will leave a small headroom of just over £0.1m within delegated budgets. In addition, the reduction in the Growth Contingency agreed at the last meeting will enable a further £0.4m to be delegated through the funding formula.
- 2.6. The CRC adjustment of £0.258 is a methodological change to reduce funding now we no longer need to provide for this energy tax. This sum could be added to the headroom in delegated budgets alternatively this sum could be transferred to the High Needs Block to meet continuing pressures there, see also 2.8.

- 2.7. The Early Years Block is the least complete of the three and will be updated by the January census. The DfE have excluded any funding for two year olds from the indicative settlement pending information from the January 2015 census, which will be the first in which the actual number of two year olds on roll will be used. Further information on this block will be brought to the meeting on 25 February including proposals on the allocation of full-time nursery places.
- 2.8. The High Needs Block (HNB) has increased by £0.245m as Haringey's share of the available additional high needs block top-up funding to reflect increasing demand in this area. Further work is underway on HNB budgets which remain under intense pressure. A report will be brought to the Forum on 25 February setting out the pressures and proposals for 2015-16.

2.9. **Recommendations.**

- 2.9..1. **That members note the DSG allocated for the Schools and High Needs Blocks.**
- 2.9..2. **That the £258k CRC adjustment is transferred to the HNB to meet continuing pressure in that Block.**

3. **De-delegation of TU Facilitators Time.**

- 3.1. As reported to Forum on 4 December 2014, in setting the budget for 2014-15 Forum decided not to de-delegate budgets for trade union representation. Issues have arisen from this and from concerns raised by both schools' managers and trade unions that subsequently led to a dispute.
- 3.2. Productive talks took place at ACAS Headquarters on Monday 17th November between Schools Forum and trade union representatives leading to significant agreement on key points of trade union representation and to an agreed protocol.
- 3.3. As a consequence, the NUT agreed to recommend to members in schools affected by strikes and ballots that these be suspended. This was agreed.
- 3.4. The representatives of the Schools Forum also agreed to recommend to that body a funding arrangement which will, if adopted, bring an end to the dispute with recognised trade unions.
- 3.5. In reaching an agreement a commitment was given to seek the Forum's agreement to fund the trade union facility time for the current financial year, until March 2015 – therefore eliminating the need for schools to sign up to a SLA. The Forum's agreement would also be sought to de-delegate this budget for 2015-16.

- 3.6. We are now seeking formal agreement from the Forum for this de-delegation. A background to trade union representation and the protocols agreed with ACAS are set out in Appendix 2.
- 3.7. The sum originally delegated to schools was £198k. The sum now sought for recovery through de-delegation from maintained schools and Service Level Agreements with academies is set out in Table 1.

Table 1. Estimated Trade Union Representative Costs 2015-16.

Role	FTE	FTE Cost (including oncost) £
NUT Secretary	0.8	52,522
NUT Branch Officer	0.2	9,479
Teaching Unions Secretary	0.2	13,130
Unison Joint Convenors including Health and Safety	1.0	38,004
Unison Branch Officer	0.9	27,798
NAHT Representation		3,000
Facilities		28,787
Total		172,720
Retained in HNB and EYB		-20,400
Amount to be recovered.		152,320

3.8. Recommendation. The Council strongly recommends:

- 3.8..1. **That members representing maintained primary schools agree to de-delegate funding for trade union facilities time.**
- 3.8..2. **That members representing maintained secondary schools agree to de-delegate funding for trade union facilities time.**

4. In Year Fair Access Consultation.

- 4.1. At the 4th December meeting we reported on a consultation with schools on the proposal to create a centrally retained budget to fund in year placements through the In Year Fair Access Panel (IYFAP). This is currently funded through an SLA with secondary schools but requires substantial negotiation that a central budget would remove.
- 4.2. The Council consulted with schools on this proposal and received only three responses, two in favour (one received after the consultation closed) and one opposed. The Council intends to proceed with this proposal.

4.3. The reduction in lump sum applies to all secondary schools including academies and former non-recoupment academies. The proposed IYFAP budget is £338k, as reported to secondary heads at the IYFAP meeting in November, and will require a reduction of £26k to £74k in the lump sum.

4.4. It should be noted that the change in academy budgets will not take effect until September 2015 so separate arrangements for academies will need to be made for the summer term 2015 only.

4.5. Recommendations.

4.5..1. **That Forum member representing mainstream schools endorse the proposed formula change.**

4.5..2. **That Forum members agree the transfer of £338k from the Schools to the High Needs Block to create the IYFAP budget.**

5. Schools Block Support Costs (Overheads).

5.1. These are the costs of allowing front line staff to do their jobs, including the provision of desks and equipment within suitably maintained and heated office spaces and the support received in respect of finance, human resources and information technology. More detail on these services are included in Appendix 3.

5.2. The support costs for 2015-16 have not yet been completed and need to take into account the substantial planned reductions in support services. In 2014-15 the amount retained was £280.1k but with reductions in central services this is estimated to be £192k in 2015-16. The reduction of £88k will be added to the sum to be delegated to schools through the funding formula. The support costs for SB centrally retained services based on this estimate are set out in Appendix 4 together with the services being recharged.

5.3. Recommendation. That members agree SB support costs of £192k.