

The Cabinet

**10th January, 2018 at 6.00 pm
at the Sandwell Council House, Oldbury**

Present: Councillor Eling (Chair);
Councillors Carmichael, D Hosell, Khatun, Moore,
Shackleton and Trow.

Apologies: Councillors Costigan and Hackett;
Councillors Edis, E M Giles and Underhill.

In attendance: Councillors Hickey and P Hughes.

1/18 **Minutes**

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 13th
December, 2017 be confirmed as a correct record.

Strategic Item

2/18 **Schools Funding and De-delegated Budget Proposals 2018-
2019 (Key Decision Ref. No. SMBC06/12/2017)**

The Leader of the Council, in the absence of the Cabinet Member for Children's Services, presented a report on the outcome of Sandwell's consultation with schools, academies and other stakeholders on proposed changes to the school funding formula and de-delegated budget proposals for 2018-2019, as required by the Department for Education.

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As a result of the comments received, it was now proposed to implement the following proposals:-

- (a) continuation of the local authority funding formula primary: secondary ratio set at 1:1.23;
- (b) a Minimum Funding Guarantee of +0.5% be set, and the continuation of a cap being set on the amount schools could gain in order to ensure that the Minimum Funding Guarantee was cost neutral;
- (c) the Pupil Number Growth fund to be set at £2,269,000 based on the criteria agreed for 2017/18.

De-delegated budgets provided for centrally retained services to maintained mainstream primary and secondary schools with Schools Forum approval. Any decisions made to de-delegate would relate to that year only. Whilst de-delegation was not an option for academies, special schools, nurseries or pupil referral units, they would have the opportunity to buy back these services from the Council.

There were six de-delegated budget proposals that were consulted upon. Consideration was given to a summary of the responses now received.

The Schools Forum considered the outcome of the consultation with schools on the School Funding Formula and de-delegated budget proposals for 2018/19 as required by the Department for Education.

An equality impact assessment was not required for this proposal.

The Leader of the Council confirmed that the Minimum Funding Guarantee would be set at +0.5%.

Resolved:-

- (1) that the 2018-2019 Schools Funding Formula for Sandwell schools, following the outcome of the consultation proposals as agreed by the Schools Forum, as now submitted, be received as follows:
 - a) the funding formula option 1 be adopted which is a continuation of the primary: secondary ratio at 1: 1.23 in 2018/19;

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- b) a Minimum Funding Guarantee of +0.5% be set, and the continuation of a cap being set on the amount schools can gain in order to ensure that the Minimum Funding Guarantee is cost neutral be approved;
 - c) the Pupil Number Growth fund be set at £2,269,000 based on the criteria agreed for 2017/18 be approved;
- (2) that in respect of the de-delegated budgets for Sandwell maintained schools and the outcome of the consultation proposals as agreed by the Schools Forum for 2018-2019, as now submitted, be received;
- (3) that in respect of the Education Functions budgets for Sandwell maintained schools and the outcome of the consultation proposals as agreed by the Schools Forum for 2018-2019, as now submitted, be received;
- (4) that the Central Schools Services block and the line by line expenditure as agreed by the Schools Forum for 2018/19, as set out below, be approved:-

Central School Services Budget Proposals 2018/19	
Service	Total Budget
	£
Statutory & Regulatory, Education Welfare and Asset Management	1,176,000
Schools Forum	3,000
Admission Service	452,600
Pensions Administration	264,400
Total Central School Services	1,896,000

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- (5) that the provisional 2018-2019 Schools Funding Formula as set out below be approved:-

Item	Primary	Secondary
Primary: Secondary Ratio	1	1.23
Basic Entitlement	TBC	TBC
IDACI Band E	£71	£343
IDACI) Band D	£460	£667
IDACI Band C	£506	£734
IDACI Band B	£557	£807
IDACI Band A	£612	£888
Looked After Children	Removed	Removed
Prior Attainment	£1,225	£1,776
English as an Additional Language (EAL) (2 years)	£846	£1,227
Lump Sum	£129,057	£129,057
Split Site	£129,057	£129,057
Rates	Actual	Actual
Private Finance Initiative (PFI)	Actual	Actual
Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG)	TBC	TBC
MFG Ceiling	TBC	TBC

- (6) that the Director of Children's Services, in consultation with the Section 151 Officer, approve the 2018-2019 Schools Funding Formula following confirmation of the funding model from the Department for Education.

(Meeting ended at 6.06 pm)

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