

Schools Forum

**MONDAY 23rd JANUARY 2017 AT 2.30PM
AT WEST BROMWICH TOWN HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Agenda

(Open to Public and Press)

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Members to declare any interest in matters to be discussed at the meeting.
3. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 5th December 2016 as a correct record.
4. School Funding Formula 2017/18 – Additional information
5. School Funding Formula 2017/18 – Consultation Responses
6. Additonal meeting to consider school funding outcome
7. Children's Services Contributions
8. Schools & High Needs National Funding Formula – Stage 2 Consultation – Set up working group

Next Meeting:

Date, venue and time to be confirmed.

Schools Forum Distribution to Members:

Head Teachers Advisory Forum - Primary Schools (6)

Mr R Kentish, Mr P Jones, Ms K Bickley, Mr A Orgill, Ms C Walsh,
Ms P Thompson.

Head Teachers Advisory Forum – Secondary Schools (4)

Mr P Shone, Mr A Burns, Mr D Redmond, Ms M McMahon

Head Teachers Advisory Forum – Special School (1)

Mr N Toplass

School Governors (4)

Mr B Patel, Ms. C. Gallant, Mr J Smallman, Mr N Edge, Ms A
Cysewski

Trade Union (1)

Mr. D Barton

Early Years Partnership (1)

Ms A Sahota

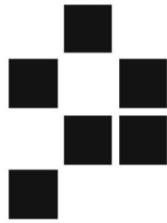
14-19 Provider (1)

D Holden

Pupil Referral Unit (1)

T Lecointe

Agenda prepared by Prakash Patel
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Sandwell

Metropolitan Borough Council

Minutes of the Schools Forum

Held on Monday 5th December 2016 at 12.30 p.m.
Committee Room 1, Oldbury Council House

Members Present: P Jones, K Bickley, P Shone, A Burns, J Smallman, N Edge, D Barton, A Sahota, D Redmond, R Kentish, M McMahon,

Officers Present: R Kerr, C Ward, P Patel, R Maher, L Bradbury, J Gill, D Sant

Apologies: P Thomson, K Walsh, A Orgil, N Topless, B Patel

Observers: R Fisher,

44/16 **Agenda Item 1 - Apologies**

As Above.

45/16 **Agenda Item 2 – Declaration of Interest**

None

46/16 **Agenda Item 3 – Minutes Of previous Meeting**

The minutes for the forum held on the 17th October 2016 were agreed.

47/16 **Agenda Item 9 – Schools Funding Consultation – Document 2**

R Maher outlined the report informing members that the local authority is planning to delay the submission on the Authority Proforma Tool model (APT)

Schools Forum –
IL0 unclassified

M McMahon asked what the implications would be if for delaying the submission of the APT. R Maher informed the group that she wasn't sure what the implications were, but she has contacted the DfE and requested an extension for the deadline.

R Kentish asked what the potential changes to the consultation document might be, to warrant the delay in issuing. C Ward indicated that there has been a significant reduction in the Education Service Grant (ESG) and that the LA duties need to be properly reflected in the consultation document.

The recommendations were agreed subject to a further update regarding the match funding approach. Members have asked for more information on funding as the case by case approach to funding was not favourable. Members also requested additional resources for English work but this would be subject to funding being available.

10 in Favour. 0 Against. 0 Abstention

48/16

Agenda Item 4 – Maths Support

L Bradbury outlined the report highlighting the maths support for schools.

M McMahon asked how schools ask for the maths support. L Bradbury informed members that she has been in contact with schools and they have been made aware of the maths support programme and how they can access it. Schools requesting additional days for the maths support may have to match fund the additional costs but this would be reviewed by case to case basis.

Forum members noted the report and agreed to the recommendations.

49/16

Agenda Item 5 – Apprenticeship Levy

D Sant outlined the report indicating the financial implications of the apprentice levy which will take effect from April 2017

P Shone asked does he have to budget for an additional 0.5% for his salary budget. D Sant indicated that employers that have a pay bill over £3m will need to budget for the 0.5% apprentice levy. Academies that have a payroll over £3m will have their own digital account and maintained schools will have a digital account with Sandwell. The levy funds can only be used for training purpose and cannot be used towards the employee's salary.

It was suggested by members that it should be based on the principle of maintained schools being able to access exactly what they 'paid in'

The contents of the report were noted by forum members.

50/16

Agenda Item 6- High Needs Block Update

J Gill outlined the report for the High Needs Block (HNB) indicating that the HNB would be overspent in 2016/17. R Kentish queried why there is an over spend. J Gill informed the group that there has been an increase in pupil numbers that has caused the pupil top up funding to overspend.

M McMahon asked if the pupil increase would continue and if it would continue causing future budget pressures. J Gill replied that the pupil increase will eventually peak and that new pupils receiving SEN would be offset by the pupils who are no longer in education, but this would take a considerable time given the numbers entering the system within EYFS.

C Ward highlighted that due to the increase in pupil numbers, future years budget will have to have the staffing structures reviewed and that Sandwell SEN pupils are currently well funded compared to other local boroughs but this will also need to be reviewed.

P Jones asked about a breakdown of the recharges figure in the high needs block.

J Gill agreed to bring details on how the 2017/18 HNB budget will be set for the next forum.

51/16

Agenda Item 7 – HNB Contribution to Childrens Services

C Ward informed members that C Sandland is currently working on a bench marking exercise comparing Sandwell's costs to other authorities. C Sandland is still waiting for some authorities to come back to her, but C Ward gave an overview of the benchmarking information received to date. The preliminary benchmarking received will be sent out to members.

52/16

Agenda Item 8 Schools that work for Everyone Consultation

R Kerr outlined the report informing members that the DfE deadline for responded is 12th December 2016. If members wish to add further comments to the consultation they need to submit to the secretary by 11th December 2016.

The meeting was called to a close at 1.35pm

Contact Officer:
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Schools Forum

23rd January 2017

Sandwell Admission and Appeals Service – Additional Information

This report is for Information

1. Recommendation

That Schools Forum:

1.1 Note of the contents of the report

2. Report Details

2.1 Sandwell's School Admissions and Appeals Service provides a full statutory service in accordance with the requirements of the School Admissions and Admissions Appeals Codes.

2.2 The service provides a coordinated annual admissions service and a mid-year admission service which includes:

- Comprehensive information and advice to parents about the admission process
- Advice to schools about admission arrangements in accordance with the Admissions Code
- An online application service
- Consideration of all applications against published admission criteria
- Home to school distance checks measurements
- Investigation of potentially fraudulent claims
- Coordinated exchange process with other admission authorities
- Offer of school place and consequent liaison with schools
- Pupil tracking service to ensure pupil movement is monitored and to support safeguarding
- Preparatory work for all appeals including receipt and logging of appeal
- Liaison with the Council's Democratic Services to organise times, dates, venues, clerking services and panels
- Deal with all correspondence with parents / carers and ongoing liaison

- Formulation of statements to Independent Appeals panels in conjunction with relevant schools to ensure robust presentation
- Provision of general legal advice relating to the appeals process.
- Scheduling of appeal hearings
- Attendance at appeals by trained and experienced presenting officers.
- Recruitment of independent appeals panel members and organisation of mandatory training
- Provision of experienced legally trained Clerks to ensure that appeals are carried out in accordance with legislative requirements.
- All post- appeal work with parents and schools with feedback where appropriate.
- Respond to all appeals related correspondence from MP's, Councillors, Ombudsman and Freedom of Information requests.

How will the budget be deployed	2014/15 (£)	2015/16 (£)	2016/17 (£)
Salaries	303,861	294,324	310,000
Services	127,105	141,619	142,000
Total (£)	430,966	435,943	452,000

Contact Officer: Sue Moore,
 Planning, Programmes & Property Manager
 Tel No: 0121 569 8282
 Date: 18/01/2017

Schools Forum

23rd January 2017

Funding Formula Review 2017-18 – Results of Consultation

This report is for decision

1. Recommendation

That Schools Forum makes a decision on the following consultation questions:

- 1.1 Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) Band 2 factor rate.
- 1.2 Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) – Capping Gains
- 1.3 Amendment to Split Site Allowance Criteria
- 1.4 Pupil Number Growth Fund
- 1.5 Education Services Grant (ESG) – Retained Duties
- 1.6 Secondary Prior Attainment Rate
- 1.7 Historic Commitments
- 1.8 De-delegated Budget Proposals
- 1.9 Education Services Grant – General Duties
- 1.10 Early Years Funding Formula

2. Purpose

- 2.1 To gain approval from Schools Forum members for the basis for the school funding formula for 2017/18 following consultation with schools.
- 2.2 To make a decision on which de-delegated proposals are approved for 2017-18.

3. Links to School Improvement Priorities

- 3.1 The decisions of the Forum define the budget setting processes for all schools and academies within the borough for the next financial year. Given national government announcements on future funding for schools, this process will assist schools in preparing strategic plans for the next three years, ensuring schools are able to create viable budget, staffing and curriculum plans. All decisions will affect the amount available to be delegated directly with schools and focus on what funding is centrally retained to protect services and schools with falling rolls.

4. Report Details

- 4.1 The Schools Budget Consultation was issued in two phases due to the late publication by the Department for Education (DfE) of local authority's statutory responsibilities for education services from 2017/18 onwards. Consultation document 1 proposals were approved at the Schools Forum meeting on 17th October 2016 and Consultation document 2 was approved on 5th December 2016.
- 4.2 The documents were issued to all schools on 19th October 2016 and 6th December 2016 respectively, with a deadline of noon on 13th January 2017 to respond.
- 4.3 A summary of responses to this consultation can be found in **Appendix (1) (2) and (3)**.

Consultation with the following stakeholders were held:

- Primary and Secondary Partnership – 5th January 2017
 - ASGB – 11th January 2017
 - Joint Union Panel – 17th January 2017
- 4.4 A total of 50 responses were received (compared with 69 last year), with 43 from maintained schools and 7 from academies.

Consultation Responses

IDACI Band 2 Factor Rate

- 4.5 The Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) dataset is updated every five years by Government. The most recent update to the dataset, issued in December 2015 and used as a basis for calculating schools funding in 2016/17, showed a markedly

different distribution to the previous 2010 dataset. The government have acknowledged that the 2015 update created unexpected and unhelpful turbulence in budgets towards the latter stages of the local formula-setting process. Sandwell dealt with this by introducing rates for IDACI band 2 in an effort to stabilise individual schools funding.

- 4.6 The government have considered the concerns raised by local authorities and have decided to update the IDACI banding methodology to return the IDACI bands to a roughly similar size as in 2015/16. (i.e. the proportion of pupils in each band). The revised bands are named “A” to “G” with the most deprived neighbourhoods being captured by band “A” previously bands 6 and 5. The government intends to set out plans for managing the change in data by adjusting the band boundaries more promptly for future data updates
- 4.7 As a result of these new changes a review of the Band 2 and/or the Basic Entitlement rates will be required.
- 4.8 The authority sought the views of schools preference on whether to amend:
- a) The Basic Entitlement rate, or
 - b) The IDACI Band 2 rate
- 4.9 The majority of respondents **agreed with proposal B**. (33 agreed, 14 against)

Minimum Funding Guarantee

- 4.10 The DfE have stated the Minimum Funding Guarantee will continue for 2017-18 to ensure that no school loses more than 1.5% per pupil.
- 4.11 Local authorities are allowed to set a cap on the gains made by schools in order to assist with covering the cost of the MFG.
- 4.12 Schools were asked whether they agreed with the continuation of a cap being set on the amount schools could gain in order to ensure that the MFG is cost neutral.

4.13 The majority of respondents **agreed with this proposal**. (34 agreed, 13 against)

Amendment of Split Site Allowance Criteria

4.14 The split site criteria currently states “There should be at least 0.5 miles distance between the two sites of a school.

4.15 The Authority has a duty to secure sufficient schools places, including assessing the capacity of schools and forecasting future pupil numbers. As a result of work undertaken to discharge this responsibility the Authority is looking to revise the split site criteria to the following.

4.16 “There should be at least 0.35 miles distance between two distinct sites of a school where it has been specifically designed to be split site through planned Local Authority re-organisation”

4.17 The majority of respondents **agreed with the proposal**. (30 agreed, 17 against)

Pupil Number Growth Fund

4.18 Local authorities may topslice the DSG in order to create a growth fund. The growth fund is ring-fenced so that it is only used for the purposes of supporting growth in pre-16 pupil numbers to meet basic need, to support additional classes needed to meet the infant class size regulation and to meet the costs of necessary new schools. These will include the lead-in costs, post start-up costs and any diseconomy of scale costs.

4.19 The Authority has estimated the costs for authority led expansions of schools to cater for the increase in birth rates, and it has also estimated mid- year admissions.

4.20 The total estimated growth fund required would be:

a) £2,640,000 for 2017/18 based on the current Pupil number growth criteria or

b) £2,269,000 if based on the proposed revised criteria presented to Schools Forum on 17th October 2016.

4.21 The majority of respondents **agreed with proposal B**. (30 agreed, 21 proposal A)

Education Services Grant – Retained Duties

- 4.22 The retained element of the ESG is currently paid to local authorities on the basis of pupils in schools and academies at the rate of £15 per pupils and is used to support authorities to deliver their statutory responsibilities.
- 4.23 The ESG retained duties element of the grant will end in March 2017 and will be added to the schools block for 2017 to 2018.
- 4.24 The government have issued guidance on the retained duties that are to be provided; these are outlined in brief in the table below:

Responsibilities LA's hold for all schools	Overview
Statutory and Regulatory Duties	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Director of children's services and personal staff for director.• Finance including Internal Audit• Human Resources• Legal
Education Welfare	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Functions relating to the exclusion of pupils.• School Attendance
Asset Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Management of LA's capital programme.• General landlord duties for all buildings owned by the local authority.

- 4.25 The authority is proposing to provide "Retained Duties Services" which would be funded by monies that will transfer into the Schools Block for this purpose.
- 4.26 The majority of respondents **agreed with the proposal**. (42 agreed, 4 against)

Prior Attainment Rate

- 4.27 The 2016 KS2 assessments are the first which assess the new national curriculum. At a national level, a higher number of the year 7 cohort in financial year 2017/18 will be identified as having low prior attainment. The Government intend using a national weighting to ensure that this cohort does not have disproportionate influence with the overall total.
- 4.28 The weighting has been confirmed and included in the schools funding model issued by the DfE, having taken account of the latest data about year 7 pupils in the October census. The DfE have stated that Local authorities will not be able to change the weighting, but will be able to adjust their secondary low prior attainment unit values. The government believe this would enable local authorities to maintain their low prior attainment factor at previous levels without significant turbulence.
- 4.29 The authority asked schools whether they agreed with the principle of adjusting the secondary schools low prior attainment rate to ensure funding remain at previous levels to avoid causing significant turbulence.
- 4.30 The majority of respondents **agreed with the proposal**. (24 agreed, 11 against)

Historic Commitments

- 4.31 The services funded under the Historic Commitments banner are services provided to maintained schools and academies on an equal basis. Services covered by this funding have previously been subject to a limitation of no new commitments or increases in funding since 2013/14. For 2017/18 this limit no longer applies to admissions or the servicing of schools forums.
- 4.32 School Forum approval is required each year to confirm the amounts for each service.
- 4.33 The services requiring funding are as previous years (with the exception of school Building) as follows:
- School Forum £3,600
 - Admissions Service £452,600
 - Pensions Administration £285,000

4.34 The majority of respondents **agreed with the proposals** as detailed in the table below:

Proposal	Yes	No
Schools Forum	42	4
Admissions Service	41	3
Pensions Administration	44	2

4.35 The school building funds of £179,000 which has been held back in previous years will be delegated to schools.

De-delegated Budgets Proposals

4.36 There were 6 De-delegated budget proposals that were consulted on and **Appendix (2)** shows a summary of the responses received.

4.37 De-delegated budgets are only allowed to be deducted from maintained mainstream school budgets and not academies.

4.38 Different decisions can be made for each sector therefore members will be required to vote in blocks. The Membership Voting Blocks paper shows the split of these blocks.

4.39 Schools Forum members are asked to make a decision on these budgets taking into consideration the responses from schools. (Refer to appendix (2)).

Former Educations Services – General Proposals

4.40 In the 2015 Spending Review, the Government announced the removal of ESG general funding by 2019 to 2020. Local authorities will receive transitional ESG funding from April 2017 to August 2017. The general funding rate will then be removed from September 2017.

4.41 The Government are expecting local authorities to request holdbacks from school to cover the loss of the ESG and are therefore intending to amend the Early Years and Finance Regulations to retain some of the schools block funding to cover the statutory duties carried out for maintained schools.

4.42 The authority's strategy is to only put forward those services which are felt to be absolutely necessary for maintained schools.

4.43 The total cost of all the proposals detailed in Appendix 3 is £550,500 and amounts to £16.84 per pupil in maintained schools.

4.44 **Appendix 3** summarises the ESG budget proposals together with a summary of the school responses.

Early Years Funding Formula

4.45 The Government issued guidance to local authorities on 1st December 2016 setting out the overall framework and expectations in implementing the new early years national funding formula.

4.46 Local authorities will continue to receive funding for early years provision through the early years block of the dedicated schools grant (DSG).

4.47 The new formula will provide funding for the existing 15 hour entitlement for all three and four year olds and the additional 15 hours for children of eligible working parents. The funding for the additional hours is for part of the financial year; from September 2017 when the policy begins.

4.48 There are new requirements on how local authorities are able to allocate funding to providers from 2017/18. The main changes are:

- A minimum amount of funding has to be passed through to providers
- A local universal base rate for all types of providers has to be set by 2019/20 at the latest.
- Reforms to mandatory and discretionary supplements local authorities are able to use.
- The introduction of a disability access fund.
- A requirement to establish a special educational needs inclusion fund.

Local Authority Proposals

4.49 The authority is therefore planning to hold back only 5% of funding in 2017/18 to cover funding for central services rather than 7% which they are entitled to.

4.50 The authority has estimated that a universal rate of £3.84 per hour could be paid to all providers in 2017/18. The exact rate will be confirmed once 2017/18 data has been received.

- 4.51 The authority are proposing to continue with the flexibility supplement in the current formula
- 4.52 All local authorities are required to set up an SEN inclusion fund for all 3 and 4 year olds taking their free entitlement. This is to support LA's to work with providers to address the needs of individual children with SEN.
- 4.53 The fund will be targeted at children with lower level or emerging SEN. Children with more complex needs or have an Education Health and Care plan will continue to be funded from the High needs block.
- 4.54 Local authorities are required to consult with providers to set the value of the local SEN inclusion fund. The authority has estimated an amount of £0.480m; this takes into account the number of children with SEN in Sandwell and their level of need.
- 4.55 The authority will be consulting with early year's providers, parents and SEN specialist in due course on how the SEN inclusion fund will be allocated as part of the preparation and review of their "Local Offer".
- 4.56 The majority of respondents **agreed with the proposals** as detailed in the table below:

Proposals	Yes	No
Adopt a universal rate for all types of provider	25	12
Continue with the flexibility supplement	27	5
SEN Inclusion Fund set at £0.480m	34	1

Schools Response

- 4.57 The comments from schools regarding the consultation questions are included in Appendix 4.

Trade Union Response

- 4.58 A meeting with the Joint Union Panel is scheduled for 17th January 2017 which is after the deadline for consultation responses, but is the earliest opportunity after the issuing of consultation document 2 for them to meet and to consider the contents of both

documents. Feedback from the unions will be tabled at the school Forum meeting.

Proposed Formula

- 4.59 The majority of the rates for the factors listed in the following table were agreed during consultation during the reform of funding 2013-14 and will be the same for 2017-18. These factors will be input into the funding model and the Basic Entitlement; IDACI Band 2/E, Secondary Prior attainment rate and MFG ceiling will be calculated.

Item	Primary	Secondary
Primary : Secondary Ratio	1	1.23
Basic Entitlement (AWPU)	TBD	TBD
IDACI 0.2 – 0.3 (Band E)	TBD	TBD
IDACI 0.3 – 0.4 (Band D)	£460	£667
IDACI 0.4 – 0.5 (Band C)	£506	£734
IDACI 0.5 – 0.6 (Band B)	£557	£807
IDACI 0.6 – 1.0 (Band A)	£612	£888
Looked After Children	£849	£849
Prior Attainment (Low Cost, High Incidence SEN)	£1,225	TBD
EAL (2 years)	£846	£1,227
Lump Sum	£129,057	£129,057
Split Site	£129,057	£129,057
Rates	Actual	Actual
PFI	Actual	Actual
MFG	-1.5%	-1.5%
MFG Ceiling	TBD	TBD

(TBD – To be determined)

Contact Officer: Rosemarie Kerr, Principal Schools Accountant
Tel No: 0121 569 8318

Date: 18/01/2017

Consultation Response Summary

Question	Primary		Secondary		Total	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Stage 1 Consultation Questions						
1. In order for the formula to be affordable following the changes to the IDACI bandings, would you prefer to amend:						
a) The Basic Entitlement funding rate or	14	0	0	0	14	0
b) The IDACI Band 2 funding rate.	26	0	7	0	33	0
2. Do you agree that we should continue to cap the amount that schools can gain in order to cover the cost of providing MFG protection?	28	10	6	3	34	13
3. Which of the De-delegated budget proposals do you agree with (see Appendix 2)	See Appendix (2)					
Stage 2 Consultation Questions						
4. Do you agree that we should revise the split site criteria to the following? “There should be at least 0.35 miles distance between two sites of a school where it has been specifically designed to be split through re-organisation.”	27	13	3	4	30	17
5. Do you agree that we should set the pupil Number Growth Fund for 2017/18 at: (a) £2,640,000 based on the current criteria	15	1	6	1	21	2

Or						
b) £2,269,000 based on the proposed revised criteria presented to Schools Forum meeting on 17 th October 2016.	27	1	3	0	30	1
6. Do you agree for the authority to provide “Retained Duties Services” which would be funded by ESG monies transferred into the schools Block for this purpose?	37	2	5	2	42	4
7. Please indicate the ESG de-delegated budget proposals you agree with (See Appendix 3)						
8. Please indicate whether you agree with the principle of adjusting the secondary schools low prior attainment rate to ensure funding remains at previous levels to avoid causing significant turbulence.	19	8	5	3	24	11
9. Please indicate the Historic Commitments budget proposals you agree with:						
(a) Schools Forum £3,600	37	2	5	2	42	4
(b) Admissions Service £452,600	35	2	6	1	41	3
(c.) Pensions Administration £285,000	38	1	6	1	44	2
10 (a) Do you agree to move to a universal rate for all types of provider from 2017/18	23	12	2	0	25	12
10 (b) In addition to the mandatory supplement of deprivation; do you agree with the LA proposal for the continuation of the flexibility supplement?	25	5	2	0	27	5
10 (c) Do you agree to the SEN Inclusion fund being set at £0.480m for 2017/18.	32	1	2	0	34	1

De-delegated Budgets Consultation Responses

Ref	Name	Lead Officer	Primary		Secondary	
			Yes	No	Yes	No
1	Behaviour Support Team	Kevin Rowland	34	2	5	0
2	Preventing Primary Exclusions Team	Kevin Rowland	34	2	N/A	N/A
3	Item replaced with No. 9 in Appendix 3					
4	School Libraries	Andrew Timmins	20	17	N/A	N/A
5	Health & Safety Licences & Subscriptions	Andrew Timmins	34	2	5	0
6	Evolve Annual Licence	Bob Brooks	35	1	5	0
7	Union Facilities Time	Bob Brooks	27	10	2	4

ESG Budgets Consultation Responses

Ref	Name	Lead Officer	Primary		Secondary		Total	
			Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
A	School Improvement Service	Andy Timmins	31	8	7	0	38	9
B	Education Benefits Service	Sue Moore/Joy Djukic	36	3	7	0	43	3
C	Schools Clothing Allowance	Sue Moore/Joy Djukic	33	5	7	0	40	5
D	Safeguarding and Attendance	Ramsey Richards	36	3	7	0	43	3

COMMENTS ON SCHOOL FUNDING 2017/18 CONSULTATION

Question 2 - Do you agree that we should continue to cap the amount that schools can gain in order to cover the cost of providing MFG protection?

The Government makes the implementation of the Minimum Funding Guarantee by Local Authorities mandatory. The question is about how to fund the cost of the guarantee. As you will see from the examples in the attached summary, there are serious flaws in the Government mechanism for calculating the cap to fund the MFG. As MFG is mandatory, I would favour top slice of cost implementing the MFG to remove all the anomalies of big winners and significant losers and making this fairer. However, to really inform this I would like to see a model of what this looks like across Sandwell and of course the impact for XXXX.

Question 4 - Do you agree that we should revise the split site criteria to the following? "There should be at least 0.35 miles distance between two sites of a school where it has been specifically designed to be split site through re-organisation".

If a school has a genuine split site, the distance between them is irrelevant. If it is being changed at all, there should be no minimum distance

Question 5 - Do you agree that we should set the Pupil Number Growth fund for 2017/18 at:-

Base it on current criteria

Question 6 - Do you agree for the Authority to provide "Retained Duties Services" which would be funded by ESG monies transferred into the schools block for this purpose?

But not all of the services are relevant to the school, only Education Welfare would be

Question 7 - Please indicate the ESG de-delegated budget proposals you agree with:-

Proposal A: School Improvement Service

Should be a "buy in" option

Question 9 - Please indicate the Historic Commitments budget proposals you agree with:-

Proposal B: Admissions Service £452,600

More information required

Proposal C: Pensions Administration £285,000

This seems excessive just for schools pensions

Question 10 - Early Years National Funding Formula

Proposal B: In addition to the mandatory supplement of deprivation; do you agree with the LA proposal for the continuation of the flexibility supplement?

More information required

General Comments

"School feel that all schools that have split sites should have access to the Fund"

"Q9 - There needs to be greater accountability and clarity over how and why such a large amount is being spent and why it has gone up to almost £500K"

"Union facilities time - This has reduced over recent years. Surely we can still fulfil our statutory duties by allocating less to this. How does our spending compare with other LA's. General comments - Governors would like to ask the roles of all in the School Improvement Service and their impact. While we realise that the figure to which schools will contribute is a small proportion of the overall cost, could saving be made

[ILO: UNCLASSIFIED]

to the team overall without losing the challenge and support to schools that have a direct impact on their work.”

“What are the alternative mechanisms for covering the cost of MFG protection? We feel that Admissions need to provide a clearer breakdown of funding and account for the £50K increase. Similarly Pensions need to do the same with the breakdown of costs. With regard to split site as this relates to a specific school could an individual case not be made to establish a reasonable reimbursement? With regard to EYNFF - more questions than answers - whilst the UBR increases the hourly rate for all providers does it account for schools requirement for a qualified teacher and the additional pension costs for support staff - is this offset by private provider need for different ratios (and other costs)?”

“Q2 - Fairer to top slice the cost of implementing the MFG off all schools. Q9 - Some admission services are statutory; the proposal is a large budget and would benefit from a breakdown of what is/isn't statutory. The section on how the budget will be deployed has not been completed at all leaving schools unable to tell how the near half a million pound budget is being spent. The pensions admin pro forma does provide more detail but still doesn't provide a breakdown of costs. Q10 - EYFS Funding - applying the same rate of funding across the board doesn't reflect the significant additional costs imposed on schools for qualified teachers and in significantly higher pension costs. The Local Authority states that it has assessed the requirement of the SEN Inclusion Fund to be £0.48 million but doesn't give details of how the figure has been arrived at.”

“Please could the Forum give consideration to to a discounted contribution rate to the School Improvement Service for Non Academy Schools”

“Ratio split between primary and secondary. Funding guidance from DfE last year stated that LA's need to address this or they would in the new funding package 2017 onwards Sandwell did consult on this and decided to wait for the DfE to make the change in 2017. As you are aware DfE haven't made the change but have advised LA's to do so. Why hasn't Sandwell done this based on their guarantee to secondary's last year. Pupil number growth fund - could we have a breakdown of 2015/16 allocations and balances, 2016/17 allocations to date with balance left, the basis of the calculation for 2017/18 (which every scenario used/both until agreed.”

“Please note items in sections 7 and 9 where we have replied with a no, does not mean we would not understand or see the need for these services, but feel it should be under a central service level agreement. If academies pay for the service under an SLA then all schools should have the ability to chose also.”

External Placements Regional Summary																		
	2015/16	2016/17	2015/16	2016/17	2015/16	2016/17	2015/16	2016/17	2015/16	2016/17	2015/16	2016/17	2015/16	2016/17	2015/16	2016/17	2015/16	2016/17
	Actual Outturn	Forecast Outturn	Actual Outturn	Forecast Outturn	Actual Outturn	Forecast Outturn	Actual Outturn	Forecast Outturn	Actual Outturn	Forecast Outturn	Actual Outturn	Forecast Outturn	Actual Outturn	Forecast Outturn	Actual Outturn	Forecast Outturn	Actual Outturn	Forecast Outturn
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Total External Residential Costs	5,895,576	6,070,508	8,244,000	6,263,000	10,509,861	10,011,489	3,704,194	5,960,372	4,392,055	4,697,869	4,591,189	5,728,278	7,253,846	6,113,282	5,055,984	3,904,825	5,240,333	5,475,000
Total External Foster Care Costs	5,914,020	6,512,996	6,184,000	6,539,000	10,113,937	9,277,253	6,403,011	6,738,697	2,405,900	2,763,362	3,156,644	3,736,000	11,967,771	10,044,386	9,645,760	7,921,012	2,154,000	1,991,000
Total Expenses	66,092	110,900			203,109	439,381	0	0	0(1)	0(1)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Secure Remand Costs	182,031	211,900	376,000	475,000	240,961	83,367	129,095	0	0	0	21,505	36,800	104,995	148,300	120,093	155,100	0	0
Total Secure Welfare Costs	101,080	81,300			168,234	123,170	0	0	0	182,028	185,026	344,722	0	0	239,145	126,900	0	0
Total Remand Income	-117,476	-108,442	-47,000	-30,000	-161,537	-139,493	-76,182	-58,648	0	0	0	-9,000	-49,725	-25,041	-35,848	-17,876	0	0
Total CCG Contribution	-310,931	-144,111	-1,122,000	-997,000	-1,187,966	-1,096,022	-115,549	-404,657	-117,361	-140,739	-313,720	-211,000	-1,640,539	-1,613,999	-137,000	-137,000	-499,000	-499,000
Total Education Contribution	-500,000	-500,000	-1,415,000	-1,127,000	-103,761	-222,518	-321,679	-769,491	-454,145	-382,705	-880,635	-885,600	-1,059,082	-1,041,949	-638,000	-448,700	-1,498,000	-1,498,000
Net Total	11,230,392	12,235,052	12,220,000	11,123,000	19,782,837	18,476,627	9,722,891	11,466,273	6,226,449	7,119,815	6,760,009	8,740,200	16,577,266	13,624,979	14,250,134	11,504,261	5,397,333	5,469,000
Total No. LAC	524 *	591 **	765	721	601	574	632 *	643 **	361(2)	358(3)	299	363	651*	626**	726 *	712 **	294	278
Total School Population	50,413 ***	46,439 ****	78,309	79,314	47,282	48,114	***	Out next week	38,342(4)	38,930(5)	26,241	23,624	42,210***	43,281****	47,685 ***	46,962 ****	23,013	23,096
Avg CCG cont. per LAC population		244		1,383		1,909		629		393		581		2,578		192		1,795
Avg Education cont. per LAC population		846		1,563		388		1,197		1,069		2,440		1,664		630		5,388