Schools Forum

20th March 2023

School Budget Information 2023/24

This report is for information

1. Recommendations:

That Schools Forum members:

1.1 Note the contents of the report

2. Purpose

2.1 To inform Schools Forum members of the final school budget information for the financial year 2023/24.

3. <u>Links to School Improvement Priorities</u>

3.1 The report allows school governing bodies and academy boards to start their financial planning for 2023/24 and to make appropriate structural and educational adjustments to meet the needs of young people within the constraints of their resource allocations.

4. Report Details

4.1 The Schools Block funding which has been distributed through the main funding formula is set out below:

Description	£
Schools Block DSG	325,898,910
Less 2023/24 NNDR (Rates)	(2,716,494)
DSG Schools Block after NFF NNDR deduction	323,182,415
Less Contribution from Schools Block to Central School Services Block	(455,000)

Schools Block DSG Available to Distribute	321,056,416
Less Pupil Number Growth Contingency	(1,671,000)

- 4.2 The APT model submitted to Schools Forum for approval in January was cleansed/revised by the DFE as follows:
 - The column reflecting "growing schools" was updated. This resulted in a shortfall within the APT funding model of £712,000 as schools that opened in the last 7 years were exempt from the capping and scaling exercise.
 - The PFI calculations within the APT funding model had to meet the DFE minimum 7% uplift requirement (originally 4%).
 This was not known at the time and resulted in a further shortfall of £60,000.
 - The rates for two schools recently converting to academy were adjusted resulting in an additional shortfall of £20,000.
- 4.3 The above updates resulted in a revision to the capping and scaling percentages as follows:

	Capping	Scaling
APT January Schools Forum	1.41%	49.7%
APT Final DFE Approved	0.31%	40.07%

As a reminder, this means gains up to 0.31% were kept by schools, and any gains above 0.31% were scaled back by 40.07%

If it helps by way of an explanation/example:

- a 10% cap and 100% scaling means all gains above 10% are removed and
- a 0% cap and 70% scaling means all gains are scaled back by 70%
- 4.4 The capping and scaling was reflected in the 2023-24 schools funding tables as a negative MFG.

- A final late revision made by the DFE to remove Shireland Biomedical UTC as a growing school resulted in £7,000 additional funding within the APT funding model. The DFE advised that due to the tiny amount and the late time frame to add this £7,000 to the growth fund (see table above). Total Growth Fund has therefore increased from £1,664,000 to £1,671,000.
- 4.6 The school funding model was finally approved by the DfE late on Friday 24th February 2023 and the tables to support the Schools Block element of funding was issued to schools late on Tuesday 28th February 2023.
- 4.7 These tables were revised 3 working days later on Monday 6th March 2023 as there was an error on the presentation on Table A. This revision concerned the Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) and adversely affected 64% of schools. A correction was sent out with an apology and a full explanation.
- 4.8 A full worked example for MFG for each school was included with the revised budget tables to demonstrate exactly how the capping and scaling was calculated.

Approved Formula

4.9 The table below lists the factor rates for the local authority formula applied to school's budgets for 2023/24.

Factor	2023-24
Primary basic entitlement	3,661.82
KS3 basic entitlement	5,184.44
KS4 basic entitlement	5,274.34
Primary FSM	216.20
Secondary FSM	216.20
Primary FSM6	319.49
Secondary FSM6	587.35
Primary IDACI F	32.11
Primary IDACI E	106.43
Primary IDACI D	498.71
Primary IDACI C	562.12
Primary IDACI B	611.03
Primary IDACI A	661.32
Secondary IDACI F	47.16
Secondary IDACI E	377.71

Secondary IDACI D	693.19
Secondary IDACI C	789.22
Secondary IDACI B	869.84
Secondary IDACI A	939.44
Primary EAL3	579.34
Secondary EAL3	924.84
Primary LPA	1,240.97
Secondary LPA	1,810.11
Primary mobility	112.88
Secondary mobility	163.55
Primary lump sum	135,044.95
Secondary lump sum	135,044.95

5. Recommendations

That Schools Forum members

5.1 Note the content of the final school budgets for the financial year 2023/24.

Elaine Taylor – Finance Business Partner – Children's Services

Date: 13/03/2023