

Schools Forum

19 June 2023

School Balances 2022/23 and Budget Plans 2023/24

This report is for information

1. Recommendations:

That Schools Forum members:

- 1.1 Note the balances held by schools at the end of 2022/23 and the RAG ratings of the projected balances for 2023/24.

2. Purpose

- 2.1 That Schools Forum note the balances held by schools at the end of 2022-23 and the projected balances for 2023/24.

3. Links to School Improvement Priorities

- 3.1 School governing bodies have a responsibility to set a balanced budget annually and to use available resources effectively to deliver high quality education to children. It is important that schools balance budget priorities well whilst planning for any foreseeable changes in coming years. Schools should take effective action to avoid deficit budgets or excessive balances above recommended limits.

4. Report Details

4.1 School Balances 2022-23

- 4.1.1 **Appendix 1** shows the total school balances by phase as at the end of 2022/23. This is summarised below and compared to the position at the end of 2021/22.

	2021-22 £m	In-Year Movement £m	2022-23 £m
Budget Share	30.404	(2.420)	27.984
Capital	0.484	0.607	1.091
Other Funds	0.437	(0.189)	0.248
Total	31.325	(2.002)	29.323

4.1.2 There are no schools closing with a deficit budget share.

4.1.3 There were three schools that converted to an academy during the financial year 2022/23: Rounds Green Primary school, Moat Farm Junior and Tipton Green Primary.

4.1.4 The conversion of these schools into academies and the transfer of balances to them is reflected in the reduction of balances held by the primary schools as detailed in Appendix 1.

4.2 **Budget Plans 2023-24**

4.2.1 **Appendix 2** shows the RAG rating of the projected balances for 2023-24 as indicated by the Budget Plans received from schools. Percentages are highlighted according to the following criteria: -

	Primary/Special	Secondary
Red	Less than 1% or greater than 10% balance	Less than 1% or greater than 8% balance
Amber	1%-2% OR 8%-10% balance	1%-2% OR 5%-8% balance
Green	2%-8% balance	2%-5% balance

4.2.2 Twenty-four primary schools are projecting to hold balances above 10% and five primary schools are projecting to hold balances below 1% at the end of 2023-24. This is a decrease of 8 schools projecting balances above 10% and an increase of two schools projecting balances below 1% based on their 2023-24 budget plans.

4.2.3 There are no secondary schools projecting to hold balances above 8% and there are two secondary schools projecting holding balances below 1% at the end of 2023-24. There is an increase of

two schools projecting balances below 1% based on their 2023-24 budget plans.

4.2.4 There is one special school projecting to hold a balance above 10% and no special school is projecting to hold a balance below 1%. There is no change in the number of schools projecting balances above 10% and there is no change in the number of schools projecting balances below 1% based on their 2023-24 budget plans.

4.2.5 There is one school projecting a deficit balance at the end 2023-24. The authority will be working with this school to review their budget plan and agree a licensed deficit plan where appropriate and it will put plans in place to regularly review the financial position of the school going forward.

4.2.6 There are two schools that have yet to submit their budget plans for 2023/24

5. Recommendations

That Schools Forum:

5.1 Note the balances held by schools at the end of 2022-23 and the RAG ratings of the projected balances for 2023-24.

Abioye (Abi) Asimolowo, Interim Head of Finance Business Partnering (People)

Date: 15/06/2023

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Appendix 1

SCHOOL BALANCES 2021 - 22 & 2022 23															
SCHOOL	2021-22					2022-23					MOVEMENT BETWEEN 20-21 & 21-22				
	D38	D39	D40	D41	TOTAL	D38	D39	D40	D41	TOTAL	BUDGET	STDS FUND	COMMUNITY	OTHER	TOTAL
	BUDGET	STDS FUND	COMMUNITY	OTHER	TOTAL	BUDGET	STDS FUND	COMMUNITY	OTHER	TOTAL	BUDGET	STDS FUND	COMMUNITY	OTHER	TOTAL
	SHARE	CAPITAL	FUNDS	FUNDS		SHARE	CAPITAL	FUNDS	FUNDS		SHARE	CAPITAL	FUNDS	FUNDS	
PRIMARY TOTAL	24,347,391.46	460,218.94	436,568.40	0.00	25,244,178.80	22,712,160.88	1,045,406.21	248,075.49	0.00	24,005,642.58	-1,635,230.59	585,187.27	-188,492.91	0.00	-1,238,536.23
SECONDARY TOTAL	3,500,792.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,500,792.26	2,233,913.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,233,913.80	-1,266,878.46	0.00	0.00	0.00	-1,266,878.46
SPECIAL TOTAL	2,238,524.53	18,165.16	0.00	0.00	2,256,689.69	2,666,605.32	45,294.04	0.00	0.00	2,711,899.36	428,080.79	27,128.88	0.00	0.00	455,209.67
OTHER SCHOOLS TOTAL	317,498.53	5,468.12	0.00	0.00	322,966.65	371,576.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	371,576.29	54,077.76	-5,468.12	0.00	0.00	48,609.64
SCHOOLS TOTAL	30,404,206.79	483,852.22	436,568.40	0.00	31,324,627.41	27,984,256.29	1,090,700.25	248,075.49	0.00	29,323,032.03	-2,419,950.50	606,848.03	-188,492.91	0.00	-2,001,595.38

Appendix 2

	Primary	Secondary	Special
Red	Less than 1% or greater than 10% balance	Less than 1% or greater than 8% balance	Less than 1% or greater than 10% balance
No. of Schools	35	1	1
Amber	1%-2% OR 8%-10% balance	1%-2% OR 5%-8% balance	1%-2% OR 8%-10% balance
No. of Schools	14	2	1
Green	2%-8% balance	2%-5% balance	2%-8% balance
No. of Schools	17	0	1