

Schools Forum

4 July 2022

School Balances 2021/22 and Budget Plans 2022/23

This report is for information

1. Recommendations:

That Schools Forum members:

- 1.1 Note the balances held by schools at the end of 2021-22 and the RAG ratings of the projected balances for 2022-23.

2. Purpose

- 2.1 That Schools Forum note the balances held by schools at the end of 2021-22 and the projected balances for 2022-23.

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 2021-22

- 4.1.1 **Appendix 1** shows the total school balances by phase as at the end of 2021-22. This is summarised below and compared to the position at the end of 2020-21.

	2020-21 £m	In Year Movement £m	2021-22 £m
Budget Share	30.323	0.081	30.404
Capital	0.704	(0.220)	0.484
Other Funds	0.682	(0.245)	0.437
Total	31.709	(0.385)	31.325

4.1.2 There was one school closing with a deficit budget share.

4.1.3 There were four schools that converted to an academy during the financial year 2021/22: Hateley Heath Primary school, Lightwoods Primary, St John Bosco Primary and Perryfields High School.

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. Although one secondary school has converted in year the secondary school balances have increased overall.

4.2 **Budget Plans 2022-23**

4.2.1 **Appendix 2** shows the RAG rating of the projected balances for 2022-23 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 Thirty two primary schools are projecting to hold balances above 10% and three primary schools are projecting to hold balances

below 1% at the end of 2022-23. This is a decrease of 3 schools projecting balances above 10% and a decrease of one school projecting balances below 1% based on their 2021-22 budget plans.

4.2.3 There is one secondary school projecting to hold balances above 8% and no secondary school is projecting holding balances below 1% at the end of 2022-23. There is no change in the number of schools projecting balances above 8% and a decrease of one school projecting balances below 1% based on their 2021-22 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 2021-22 budget plans.

4.2.5 There is one school projecting a deficit balance at the end 2022-23. 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.

5. Recommendations

That Schools Forum:

5.1 Note the balances held by schools at the end of 2021-22 and the RAG ratings of the projected balances for 2022-23.

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Date: 27/06/2022

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Appendix 1

SCHOOL BALANCES 2020-21 & 2021-22															
	2020-21					2021-22					MOVEMENT BETWEEN 20-21 & 21-22				
Schools	BUDGET SHARE	STDS FUND CAPITAL	COMMUNITY FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL	BUDGET SHARE	STDS FUND CAPITAL	COMMUNITY FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL	BUDGET SHARE	STDS FUND CAPITAL	COMMUNITY FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL
PRIMARY TOTAL	25,893,071.73	617,930.05	681,973.08	0.00	27,192,974.86	24,347,391.46	460,218.94	436,568.40	0.00	25,244,178.80	(1,545,680.27)	(157,711.11)	(245,404.68)	0.00	(1,948,796.06)
SECONDARY TOTAL	2,278,822.97	4,974.58	0.00	0.00	2,283,797.55	3,500,792.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,500,792.26	1,221,969.29	(4,974.58)	0.00	0.00	1,216,994.71
SPECIAL TOTAL	2,151,239.49	81,187.93	0.00	0.00	2,232,427.42	2,238,524.53	18,165.16	0.00	0.00	2,256,689.69	87,285.04	(63,022.77)	0.00	0.00	24,262.27
OTHER SCHOOLS TOTAL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	317,498.53	5,468.12	0.00	0.00	322,966.65	317,498.53	5,468.12	0.00	0.00	322,966.65
SCHOOLS TOTAL	30,323,134.19	704,092.56	681,973.08	0.00	31,709,199.83	30,404,206.79	483,852.22	436,568.40	0.00	31,324,627.41	81,072.60	(220,240.34)	(245,404.68)	0.00	(384,572.42)

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