



## **Schools Forum**

Date: 21 January 2016

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Venue: Shrewsbury  
Training and Development  
Centre

Paper

# **B**

Public

## **SCHOOLS' BUDGET 2016-17 AND OCTOBER 2015 DATASET - UPDATE**

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### **Summary**

This report gives an update on the latest information available on schools' funding for 2016-17 and the dataset information provided by the Education Funding Agency (EFA) based on the schools' October 2015 census.

### **Recommendation**

This report is an information item only.

## **REPORT**

### **Schools' Budget 2016-17**

1. Detailed information on school revenue funding for 2016-17 was announced by the Department for Education (DfE) on 17 December 2015.
2. As in previous years, the total 2016-17 Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) is allocated under three main non-ringfenced blocks: a schools block, an early years block and a high needs block. In addition there is a small additions/deductions block.
3. A summary of the 2016-17 DSG allocation as announced on 17 December 2015 is shown in the table below alongside the 2015-16 DSG allocation (before recoupment).

	<b>2016-17 £m</b>	<b>2015-16 £m</b>	<b>Variation £m</b>
Schools Block	153.047	153.332	-0.285
Provisional Early Years block	9.812	9.812	0
High Needs Block	25.941	25.453	+0.488
Additions/Deductions	0.050	0.052	-0.002
<b>Total</b>	<b>188.850</b>	<b>188.649</b>	<b>+0.201</b>

- **The 2016-17 DSG – Schools Block key financial headlines are:**

4. Shropshire's schools block pupil numbers at October 2015 were 34,769 (including non-recoupment academy). This compares to 34,833 (34,752 + 81 non-recoupment academy) at October 2014 – a reduction of 65 pupils and a reduction in funding of £0.285m.
5. As in previous years the October 2014 pupil numbers include a reception uplift to take account of deferred entry to Reception based on an increase in the count of Reception pupils between October 2014 and January 2015.
6. Shropshire's 2016-17 Schools Block Allocation guaranteed unit of funding (GUF) totals £4401.81 per pupil, a slight decrease from the £4402.56 GUF received in 2015-16, reflecting the inclusion of the non-recoupment academy in the overall pupil numbers and GUF in 2016-17. This is a presentational change and not a reduction to funding received.

- **The 2016-17 DSG – Early Years Block key financial headlines are:**

7. The 2016-17 Early Years Block allocation is provisional at this stage as it is based on January 2015 Early Years Census data. This provisional allocation will be updated in July 2016 and July 2017 and the final allocation will be based on 5/12ths of January 2016 pupil numbers and 7/12ths of January 2017 pupil numbers.
8. The amount per pupil for the early years' free entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds in 2016-17 is the same as for 2015-16, £3,249.84 per fte. Based on January 2015 census of 2,393 ftes this delivers a provisional allocation of £7.777m.
9. The amount per pupil for 2 year olds from the most disadvantaged backgrounds in 2016-17 is also the same as for 2015-16, £4,607.50. Based on January 2015 census of 412 ftes this delivers a provisional allocation of £1.898m.
10. The 2016-17 Early Years Block allocation also includes the early years' pupil premium (EYPP). Shropshire has received a provisional EYPP allocation of

£0.137m. It is expected that any adjustments to the provisional allocation, based on actual take-up of the EYPP during the year, will be made in January 2017.

- **The 2016-17 DSG – High Needs Block key financial headlines are:**

11. The High Needs Block includes funding for local authority high needs pupils/students aged 0-24.
12. For 2016-17 Shropshire's High Needs Block is made up of:
  - Shropshire's total High Needs Block from 2015-16 of £25.453m; plus
  - An increase to place funding for the 2015/16 academic year resulting from the high needs exceptions process covering the final term of that increase (summer 2016). This relates to an additional 16 places at the Kettlemere centre at Lakelands school and equates to £0.067m; plus
  - An adjustment to reflect residency to location basis change for Post 16 and non-maintained special schools of -£0.057m
  - Shropshire's share of an additional £92.5m top-up funding made available nationally. Based on Shropshire's proportion of the 2-19 aged population projections for 2016 this equates to an additional £0.478m.
13. Increases to place funding for the academic year 2016/17 are not included within the 2016-17 DSG allocation at this stage. Notification of any increase to place funding is expected in March.

- **The 2016-17 DSG – Additions/Deductions Key Financial Headlines are:**

14. In addition to the three main blocks within the DSG for 2016-17, Shropshire will receive funding for induction for newly qualified teachers of £0.050m.

### **The October 2015 Dataset - for use within the Schools' Funding Formula for 2016-17**

15. The Education Funding Agency (EFA) has provided the local authority with the October 2015 dataset for Shropshire schools for use within the schools' funding formula for 2016-17.
16. Overall pupil numbers in Shropshire have reduced by 65 pupils from October 2014 to October 2015. However the variation at an individual school basis is significant for many of our schools with reductions in number on roll for some schools as high as 28%.
17. There are also, for some schools, significant variations in the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index IDACI data and free school meal (FSM) pupil data from October 2014 to October 2015.

18. Shropshire's October 2015 IDACI data has resulted in a 10% reduction to the funding allocated to schools on this formula factor. As Shropshire's 2015-16 local funding formula only allocated £220k on the IDACI factor in total across all Shropshire primary schools, the variations in data do not cause particularly significant variations in funding on an individual school by school basis.
19. However the FSM pupil data has also reduced by around 10% overall but because the total allocated on this factor in 2015-16 was £9.3m the impact on many individual schools is significant. Secondary schools FSM funding variations range from losses of £98k through to gains of £22k. Primary schools FSM funding variations range from losses of £42k to gains of £28k. The resulting £985k reduction to the funding allocated to individual schools through the FSM factor will be recycled through the Age Weighted Pupil Unit (AWPU) factor across all Shropshire schools giving each school an additional £28 per pupil.
20. Variations in IDACI and FSM funding will be covered by the minimum funding guarantee, set at minus 1.5% for 2016-17. As a reminder, the MFG does not protect against a falling roll.