



Schools Forum Date: 23 January 2014 Time: 8:30 am Venue: Shrewsbury Training and Development Centre	<u>Item</u> Public	<u>Paper</u> F
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DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT MONITORING

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Summary

This report outlines to Schools Forum members the centrally retained Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) forecast outturn position at the end of December 2013.

Recommendation

This report is for information only.

REPORT

Outturn 2013-14

The overall outturn against centrally retained DSG is forecast to be £562k in surplus at the end of December 2013. The forecast has now been updated to include Spring term charges which is the reason for the increase in the forecast underspend of £190k reported on 6 December 2013.

Main reasons for a variation from budget of greater than £100k:

Line 1.0.1 – Early Years PVIs

Payments to private, voluntary and independent early year’s providers, providing placements for 2 year olds, is currently forecast to underspend by £547k. This is due to number of 2 year olds being at about 60% of the target of 500 children.

There were initially issues around identifying eligible children and then ensuring that those families took up their entitlement. Most of these issues have now been resolved and take up is increasing and expectation is that it will continue to grow.

The Council has the opportunity, via the DfE, to apply to capitalise any unspent 2013-14 revenue and the preferred route forward would be to do so. No indication has been given as to whether any capital funding will be received for the development of 2 year old places in 2014-15 and there are development that need to take place to ensure there are enough places to meet the increasing demand when the threshold for access is changed.

Line 1.1.1 – Contingencies

Contingencies are currently forecast to overspend by £187k due to a significant increase in number of requests for additional funding where numbers have increased by greater than 10% since the October 2012 census date. Three schools have received exceptionally high allocations.

Line 1.2.5 – SEN Support Services

The SEN staffing team has experienced had a high turnover of staff due to restructuring within the local authority. The saving of £100k represents the period between people leaving and the appointment of new staff into the team.