



Schools Forum

Date: 18 June 2015

Time: 8:30 a.m.

Venue: Shrewsbury
Training and Development
Centre

Paper

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Public

Updated Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) 2015-16 and Final Early Years Block 2014-15 Allocation

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Summary

The Department for Education (DfE) announced provisional 2015-16 local authority Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) allocations in December 2014, as reported to Schools Forum on 22 January 2015. On 26 March 2015 updated DSG allocations for the 2015-16 financial year were announced.

The DfE also announced in May 2015 the final Early Years Block funding for the 2014-15 financial year based on January 2014 and January 2015 pupil numbers.

This report provides:

- a summary of Shropshire's updated 2015-16 DSG allocation and how it has changed from the provisional DSG allocation reported to Schools Forum in January 2015
- an update on the final 2014-15 Early Years Block funding and how it has changed from the provisional allocation announced in July 2014.

Recommendation

This report is for information only.

REPORT

Background

1. In January 2015 Schools Forum members received a report summarising the 2015-16 funding blocks that made up Shropshire's provisional DSG allocation and listing the key financial headlines for each of the blocks.
2. The 2014-15 DSG included a provisional Early Years Block allocation based on the January 2014 Early Years' Census. As expected, the DfE announced in

May 2015 the final Early Years Block allocation for 2014-15 based on 5/12ths of January 2014 pupil numbers and 7/12ths of January 2015 pupil numbers.

Updated 2015-16 DSG Allocation

3. Schools Forum members were presented with details of the 2015-16 DSG allocation as announced by the DfE on 17 December 2014. A summary of the this initial 2015-16 DSG and the latest updated 2015-16 DSG allocation announced on the 26 March 2015 is shown in the table below. Figures are before recoupment for academies.

| | Initial DSG £m | Latest DSG £m | Variation £m |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Schools Block | 153.332 | 153.332 | 0 |
| Early Years Block (Provisional) | 7.417 | 7.417 | 0 |
| High Needs Block | 25.565 | 25.478 | -0.087 |
| Additions | 0.052 | 0.052 | 0 |
| Total DSG | 186.366 | 186.279 | -0.087 |

4. Overall Shropshire's DSG allocation has reduced by £87,000 in High Needs Block funding. This reflects a change in Government policy from funding post 16 high needs pupils on a residency basis to a location basis.
5. Both the Schools Block and the High Needs Block initial allocations will be subject to recoupment in relation to academies, post 16 high needs places and pre 16 high needs places in non-maintained special schools. DSG funding relating to these areas will be recouped from the local authority by the Education Funding Agency (EFA) and passed on to providers by the EFA.
6. The latest Schools Block and High Needs Block allocations following recoupment are shown below.

| | Updated DSG 2015-16 £m | Recoupment 2015-16 £m | Updated DSG after Recoupment 2015-16 £m |
|------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Schools Block | 153.332 | 46.105 | 107.227 |
| High Needs Block | 25.478 | 4.294 | 21.184 |

Final 2014-15 Early Years Block Allocation

7. The 2014-15 Early Years Block allocation of £7.279m was provisional based on January 2014 census data. As expected, the DfE has now announced the final Early Years Block allocation for 2014-15 based on 5/12ths of January 2014 census data and 7/12ths of January 2015 census data.

8. The final Early Years Block allocation for 2014-15 is £7.569m, an increase of £290,000 from the provisional allocation.
9. This change in allocation reflects an increase of 89 fte early years pupils from January 2014 (2,240 pupils) to January 2015 (2,329 pupils).