



Shropshire Council
Legal and Democratic Services
Shirehall
Abbey Foregate
Shrewsbury
SY2 6ND

Date: 24 January 2022

**Committee:
Schools Forum**

Date: Thursday, 27 January 2022
Time: 8.30 am
Venue: MS (Microsoft) Teams

You are requested to attend the above meeting.
The Agenda is attached

Tim Collard
Interim Assistant Director
Legal and Democratic Services

Members of Schools Forum

Bill Dowell (Chair)	Kerry Lynch
John Hitchings (Vice-Chair)	Stephen Matthews
Phil Adams	David O'Toole
Michael Barrett	Alan Parkhurst
Mark Cooper	John Parr
Alan Doust	Greg Portman
Sabrina Hobbs	Revell
Sandra Holloway	Darren Reynolds
Colin Hopkins	Mark Rogers
Marilyn Hunt	Andrew Smith
Shelley Hurdley	Charles Thomas
Samantha John	Guy Verling
Sian Lines	

Your Committee Officer is:

Philip Wilson Service Manager Business Support People
Tel: 01743 254344
Email: phil.wilson@shropshire.gov.uk

AGENDA

1 Apologies

2 Minutes and Matters Arising - 2 December 2021 (Pages 1 - 4)

Paper A attached.

3 School Revenue Funding Settlement and School Arrangements 2022-23 (Pages 5 - 8)

Paper B attached.

4 Shropshire Schools Forum Constitution (Pages 9 - 24)

Paper C attached.

5 Central School Services Block 2022-23 (Pages 25 - 28)

Paper D attached.

6 Dedicated School Grant Monitoring 2021-22 (Pages 29 - 34)

Paper E attached.

7 Schools Forum Work Programme 2022-23 (Pages 35 - 36)

Paper F attached.


8 Communications

9 Future Meeting Dates

Please note the new venue and diary

Thursday 17 March 2022	8.30 am	Microsoft (MS) Tea
Thursday 16 June 2022	8.30 am	Microsoft (MS) Tea

Agenda Item 2

	Schools Forum Date: 27 January 2022 Time: 8.30 am Venue: Via MS Teams	<u>Item/Paper</u> A Public
---	--	---

MINUTES OF SCHOOLS FORUM HELD ON 2 DECEMBER – HELD VIA MS TEAMS

Present

School Forum Members

Bill Dowell (Chair)
Caroline Clode – association secretaries
Mark Cooper – Secondary academy headteacher
John Hitchings – Academy governor
Sandra Holloway – Primary governor
Marilyn Hunt – Primary headteacher
Sian Lines – Diocese of Hereford
Stephen Matthews – Primary governor
David O’Toole – Secondary academy headteacher
Alan Parkhurst Primary headteacher (left at 9.15)
Michael Revell – Primary governor
Mark Rogers – Primary headteacher
Andrew Smith – Post 16
James Staniforth – Post 16
Reuben Thorley – Secondary headteacher
Carla Whelan – Primary academy headteacher

Members

Gwilym Butler

Officers

Jo Jones
Neville Ward
Stephen Waters
Phil Wilson
Helen Woodbridge

Observers

Roger Evans
David Vasmer
Nick Bardsley

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting.

1. Apologies

Apologies had been received from Shelly Hurdley, Nathan Jones, Kerry Lynch, John Parr and Alan Parkhurst (partial).

2. Minutes and Matters Arising

The minutes of the meeting held on 4 November 2021 were agreed as a true record.

Phil Wilson provided a confidential update regarding the Shire Services Finance Review. He added that after the Cabinet meeting, a communication will be sent out to all schools that are affected.

3. School Funding Arrangements

Jo Jones presented her paper.

Schools Forum considered and agreed specific arrangements for 2022-23 as detailed within the report. Shropshire Council’s Cabinet will make a final decision

ACTION

on the school funding arrangements for 2022-23 in January 2022.

Split site funding of £15,000 for Ludlow Primary School only.

Headteacher/governor members unanimously agreed.

Transition of funding between the blocks

The transfer of the remaining balance, up to 0.5% of the Schools Block, into the High Needs Block.

Headteacher/governor members unanimously agreed.

Affordability of the funding formula

In the event that the Schools Block allocation for 2021-22 is not sufficient to fully fund the local formula in line with the NFF, to reduce the MFG as necessary, and within allowable limits, to ensure affordability. Following this, if also required, to reduce the AWPU factor on a consistent basis across all Shropshire schools.

Headteacher/governor members unanimously agreed.

4. Consultation on the Central Retention of Dedicated Schools Grant from April 2022

Phil Wilson presented his paper.

Schools Forum considered the consultation responses received from Shropshire maintained mainstream schools and made decisions on de-delegation and top-slicing for centrally retained services for 2022-23.

Primary pupil growth contingency

Maintained primary school representatives unanimously agreed to de-delegate funding from maintained primary school budgets for a pupil growth contingency for maintained primary schools in 2022-23.

Maternity

Maintained primary and secondary school representatives unanimously agreed to de-delegate funding from maintained primary and secondary school budgets for a centrally managed maternity budget in 2022-23.

Trade Union Duties

Alan Parkhurst had spotted an error on the PowerPoint presentation (for which Phil Wilson apologised) - it was pointed out that the information was correct on the spreadsheet - two schools had voted for the TU model.

Maintained primary and secondary representatives voted for the fixed budget (6 votes) as opposed to the TU Option (1 vote).

School improvement

Maintained primary school representatives unanimously agreed to de-delegate funding from primary maintained schools, holding the unit values at 2021-22 levels.

Redundancy Fund

Maintained primary and secondary school representatives unanimously agreed to top-slice a centrally held redundancy budget from maintained primary and

secondary school budgets in 2022-23.

Statutory School Finance

Maintained primary and secondary school representatives unanimously agreed to top-slice a centrally held statutory school finance budget from maintained primary and secondary school budgets in 2022-23.

Statutory Human Resources and Health & Safety

Maintained primary and secondary school representatives unanimously agreed to top-slice a centrally held statutory HR and health and safety budget from maintained primary and secondary school budgets in 2022-23.

Education Access Service

Maintained primary and secondary school representatives unanimously agreed to top-slice a centrally held budget for EAS from maintained primary and secondary school budgets or to fully delegate and offer buy-back arrangements in 2022-23.

Phil Wilson advised that he will arrange for a communication to be sent out after the meeting to all mainstream maintained schools regarding the decisions taken by Schools Forum.

PW

5. Central School Services Block 2022-23

Stephen Waters presented his paper.

He reminded Schools Forum of the continuation of the reduction of the historic funding figure by 20% per year.

The historic commitments were considered.

Contribution to combined budgets

Maintained and academy school representatives unanimously agreed to continue to contribute £45,220 to combined budgets as per the detail outlined in Appendix C.

Termination of employment costs (currently 231 ex-staff)

Maintained and academy school representatives unanimously agreed to contribute £756,329 to fund a portion of these ongoing pension commitments.

Prudential borrowing costs

Mark Rogers asked what would happen if Schools Forum did not agree to the payment. He was advised that this is largely a formality – however, it enables transparency by ensuring that Schools Forum are sighted. Stephen Waters reported that due to the ESFA's ongoing reductions, the Council is trying to find funding from the base budget to cover the future commitments.

Phil Wilson added that the DfE were looking at funding and there may be a requirement for things to change.

James Staniforth enquired where the capital cost was coming from and was advised that this charge covers both.

Maintained and academy school representatives unanimously agreed to

continue to contribute £295,350 to fund the ongoing revenue costs of funding prudential borrowing for the Monkmoor Campus Project.

Ongoing responsibilities were considered.

School Admissions

Maintained and academy school representatives unanimously agreed to the increased charge of £253,270 for the provision of a School Admissions Team.

Servicing of Schools Forum

Maintained and academy school representatives unanimously agreed to the budget of £10,000 for the servicing of Schools Forum.

Copyright licences

Maintained and academy school representatives unanimously agreed to the increased charge of £233,440 for the annual copyright licensing fees.

Ongoing Responsibilities that LAs hold for all schools

Maintained and academy school representatives unanimously agreed to continue to contribute £786,466 to ongoing responsibilities that the local authority provides for maintained schools and academies as per the detail of these costs outlined in Appendix D.

John Hitchings suggested that Stephen Waters could provide details around the Monkmoor Campus funding for the next meeting - this was agreed.

SAW

6. Communications

The chair advised that f40 continues to be active, especially around SEN.

7. Future meeting dates:

Thursday 13 January 2022

Thursday 27 January 2022 (provisional)

Thursday 17 March 2022

Thursday 16 June 2022

The meeting closed at 9.22 am



Schools Forum

Date: 27 January 2022

Time: 8:30am – 10:30am

Venue: Microsoft TEAMS meeting

Paper

B

Public

SCHOOLS REVENUE FUNDING SETTLEMENT AND SCHOOL FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS 2022-23

Responsible Officer Jo Jones

e-mail: jo.jones@shropshire.gov.uk

Tel: 01743 254343

Summary

This report provides information on the schools revenue funding settlement for 2022-23 and the dataset information provided by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) based on the schools' October 2021 census.

This report is for information only.

Recommendation

That Schools Forum notes Shropshire's schools revenue settlement for 2022-23 and school funding arrangements.

REPORT

Schools Revenue Funding Settlement 2022-23

1. Detailed information on Shropshire's school revenue funding settlement for 2022-23 was announced by the Department for Education (DfE) on 16 December 2021.
2. The total 2022-23 Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) is allocated under four main blocks: a Schools Block, an Early Years Block, a High Needs Block and a Central School Services Block (CSSB).
3. A summary of the 2022-23 DSG allocation, as announced on 16 December 2021, is shown in the table below alongside the 2021-22 DSG allocation (before recoupment for academies and deductions for direct funding of high needs places by the ESFA).

	2021-22 £m	2022-23 £m	Variation £m
Schools Block	183.383	189.815	6.432
Provisional Early Years Block	17.028	16.809	-0.219
Provisional High Needs Block	31.527	34.412	2.885
Central School Services Block	2.599	2.388	-0.211
Total	234.537	243.424	8.887

2022-23 Schools Block key financial headlines

4. Shropshire's school pupil numbers at October 2021 are 36,459. This compares to 36,230 at October 2020 – an increase of 229 funded pupils (0.63%).
5. Shropshire's 2022-23 Schools Block allocation is based on the national funding formula (NFF) which provides for Shropshire a primary unit of funding of £4,747.30 (2021-22 was £4,596.95), and a secondary unit of funding of £5,687.14 (2021-22 was £5,537.28), along with funding for premises costs based on actual 2021-22 spend levels of £1.475m. The 2022-23 Schools Block funds the budget shares delegated to Shropshire schools and academies through the local funding formula.
6. In addition, the 2022-23 Schools Block includes growth funding which Schools Forum agreed to top-slice and hold centrally to allocate specifically to individual schools and academies meeting the agreed growth funding criteria. Shropshire's 2021-22 growth funding was £0.959m. The full allocation in 2022-23 is £0.910m.

2022-23 Early Years Block key financial headlines

7. The 2022-23 Early Years Block allocation is provisional at this stage as it is based on January 2021 Early Years census data. This provisional allocation will be updated in July 2022 and July 2023 with the final allocation based on 5/12ths of January 2022 pupil numbers and 7/12ths of January 2023 pupil numbers.
8. The provisional Early Years Block allocation includes funding for the universal 15 hours free entitlement funding for 3 and 4 year olds, the additional 15 hours free entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds of working parents and the 2 year old free entitlement funding. In addition, the Early Years Block includes funding for the Early Years Pupil Premium and the Disability Access Fund.
9. For 3 and 4 year olds, the amount per part time equivalent (PTE) pupil for the universal 15 hours free entitlement and the additional 15 hours free entitlement for pupils of working parents increases from £4.44 in 2021-22 to £4.61 in 2022-23. The amount per PTE 2 year olds from the most disadvantaged backgrounds increases from £5.36 in 2021-22 to £5.57 in 2022-23.

2022-23 High Needs Block key financial headlines

10. The High Needs Block includes funding for local authority high needs pupils/students aged 0-25.
11. For 2022-23 Shropshire's High Needs Block is based on the high needs NFF and includes an imports/exports adjustment to reflect place funding of pupils educated in other local authority areas. Shropshire is a net exporter of high needs pupils and the imports/exports adjustment to Shropshire's High Needs Block is a provisional loss of £0.936m in 2022-23.
12. The funding floor factor in the high needs NFF for 2022 to 2023 will continue at 8% per head of 2 to 18 population. This is based on what local authorities received in high needs funding in 2021 to 2022.

2022-23 Central School Services Block (CSSB) key financial headlines

13. The CSSB within the DSG includes funding for local authorities to carry out central functions on behalf of pupils in maintained schools and academies. The CSSB is split into funding for historic commitments and funding for ongoing responsibilities and includes funding previously allocated to the local authority through the retained duties element of the Education Services Grant (ESG).
14. In 2022-23 the Government continues to reduce local authorities' funding for historic commitments by 20% compared to the 2021-22 baseline, with a protection so that no local authority loses more than the equivalent of 0.5% of its 2021-22 schools block allocation. Shropshire's historic commitments funding has reduced by 20% (£0.274m) compared to 2021-22, resulting in an overall CSSB allocation in 2022-23 of £2.388m.

School Funding Arrangements 2022-23

15. The Schools Block element of the DSG for 2022-23 is based on a primary unit of funding and secondary unit of funding calculated by the Department for Education (DfE) from the individual school notional NFF allocations using October 2020 total pupil numbers.
16. Allocating funding to schools in 2022-23 through the NFF using October 2021 pupil data will therefore not be an exact match to the Schools Block funding received by using the pre-calculated primary and secondary units of funding.
17. In 2021-22, after calculating individual school budgets in line with the NFF and retaining sufficient Growth Fund (£0.438m) for expected need in 2021-22, it was possible to transfer £0.876m (the full 0.5% allowable) from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block to continue to support the on-going cost pressures in this area.
18. For 2022-23, after calculating individual school budgets in line with the NFF and retaining sufficient Growth Fund (£0.366m) for expected need in 2022-23, it has been possible to transfer £0.949m (the full 0.5% allowable) from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block to continue to support the ongoing cost pressures in this area.

This page is intentionally left blank

 Shropshire Council	Schools Forum	<u>Item</u>	<u>Paper</u>
	Date: 27 January 2022 Time: 8:30 a.m. Venue: Virtual Microsoft (MS) Teams	Public	C

SHROPSHIRE SCHOOLS FORUM CONSTITUTION

Responsible Officer Phil Wilson

e-mail: phil.wilson@shropshire.gov.uk

Tel: 01743 254344

Summary

At their meeting on 7 November 2013, Schools Forum approved the constitutional arrangements for the annual re-apportionment of membership to take account of the changing mix between maintained and academy schools. This report details the required re-apportionment from April 2022 based on the academy conversions up to October 2021.

It is also appends an updated version of the Constitution to operate from Aril 2022.

Recommendations

To approve the re-apportionment of Schools Forum membership from April 2022.

REPORT

Membership

1. All local authority School Forums are constituted in accordance with the Schools Forum (England) Regulations 2012. Shropshire Schools Forum approved the current Constitution at their meeting on 13 September 2012, with the new Constitution becoming operational from 1 October 2012.
2. At their meeting on 7 November 2013, Schools Forum received a report on a document from the then Education Funding Agency (EFA) - now Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) - which referenced a requirement for regular reviews of Forum membership to take account of the pace of academy conversions and to ensure that membership remains proportionate (based on pupil numbers).

3. The following membership structure has operated from 1 April 2021: 6 primary (3 headteachers, 3 governors), 1 secondary (1 headteacher), 12 academy, 1 special school place and 1 pupil referral unit place (PRU). The special school and PRU places are not included in the apportionment calculation.
4. In the November 2013 report Schools Forum agreed that a re-apportionment of membership should take place annually, from 1 April, using the pupil numbers from the previous October's school census.
5. In order to model the position from April 2022, the school census information from October 2021, and based on the number of academies as at 1 October 2021, has been used to assess the impact on representation. The table below summarises the revised representation (noting that 19 school places are apportioned by excluding special and PRU members).

	Oct. 2021 NOR*	Apportionment	
Maintained Primary Schools	11,612	31.1%	6
Maintained Secondary Schools	512	1.4%	1
Academies (as at 1 October 2021)	25,244	67.5%	12
	37,368	100.0%	19

* excluding pupils in special schools and PRUs

6. The analysis indicates that from April 2022, given that there have not been any mainstream academy conversions between October 2020 and October 2021 (Woodlands School, a special school, converted in April 2021), the existing membership does not require amending. The numbers of pupils in remaining maintained secondary school remains at a very low level (when taken as a percentage of the overall pupil population), however it is proposed that they continue to retain a place in the structure. The membership as at 1 April 2022 is attached as part of the updated Constitution, which will operate from this date.
7. The academy pupil numbers are split, 38% primary and 62% secondary, which breaks down as 5 primary academy representatives and 7 secondary academy representatives. However, it is noted that the majority of academies are in mixed phase multi-academy trusts (MATs) and so the phase representation is not particularly relevant, though consideration might be given to drawing increased membership from MATs operating mainly in the primary phase.
8. The ESFA guidelines stipulate that the academy representation can be drawn from free schools in the local authority area. Equally consideration will need to be given to the balance of headteacher and governor representation in each of the constituent groups. The current membership indicates there are 2 vacancies for academy representatives from April 2022.

SHROPSHIRE SCHOOLS FORUM CONSTITUTION AS AT 1 APRIL 2022

Introduction

ESTABLISHMENT, CONSTITUTION, MEETINGS AND PROCEEDINGS

1. Establishment of Schools Forum
2. Membership: general
3. Election and appointment of school members
4. Appointment of non-school members
5. Arrangements for allowing substitutes for Schools Forum members and non-school members
6. Meetings and proceedings of Schools Forum
7. Clerk to Schools Forum

FUNCTIONS

8. Consultation with the Schools Forum
9. Consultation on service contracts
10. Consultation on financial issues
11. Other functions

EXPENSES

12. Charging of expenses
13. Members' expenses

INTRODUCTION

The 2002 Education Act amended Fair Funding legislation in the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, so as to require each local authority in England – except the City of London and the Isles of Scilly, which are exempt by virtue of their small size – to establish a Schools Forum.

The function of a Schools Forum has been changed by Regulations over the years. The current constitution is consistent with The Schools Forum (England) Regulations 2012, which came into force in October 2012 and the subsequent amendments up to March 2021.

ESTABLISHMENT, CONSTITUTION, MEETINGS AND PROCEEDINGS

1. Establishment of Schools Forum

1.1 Shropshire Council has established and will sustain a Schools Forum in accordance with the requirements of the 2002 Education Act and The Schools Forum (England) Regulations 2012 and subsequent amendments (hereafter referred to as ‘the Regulations’).

2. Membership: general

2.1 The Shropshire Schools Forum shall have 28 members. The membership is consistent with the Regulations, comprising elected school members and appointed non-school members. The current composition of the Schools Forum is set out in the attached Appendix. School members must together comprise at least two thirds of the membership of the Schools Forum. There are 21 school members (75%) and 7 non-school members (25%).

2.2 No person who is an elected councillor of Shropshire Council, or officer of the authority, may be appointed as a non-school member of Schools Forum. However, the following councillors/officers may attend and speak at the Schools Forum meetings:

- elected councillor with primary responsibility for education
- elected councillor with primary responsibility for the resources
- Executive Director of People or their representative
- Service Manager – Business Support or their representative.

2.3 Any person presenting a paper or other item to Schools Forum on the meeting’s agenda may attend but will be restricted to matters related to the item they are presenting.

- 2.4 In addition to the formal members of Schools Forum, other non-voting observers are entitled to attend and, with the approval of the chair, may speak to specific agenda items. Observers include elected members from minority groups at Shropshire Council and a representative from the Education and Skills Funding Agency. Observers attending the meetings will receive the meeting papers and, at the discretion of the chair, may remain at the meeting when confidential items are considered and have access to the related papers.

3. Election and appointment of school members

- 3.1 Schools Forum members shall be appointed for a term of up to four years or until they cease to hold the office to which they were elected or appointed, or they resign from Schools Forum by giving notice in writing. An election will take place where, after a nomination period, there are more candidates than vacancies available for a particular representative group. It is the responsibility of each electoral group to decide how the election shall take place. Electoral groups will need to give consideration to succession planning and should consider varying terms of office.
- 3.2 In the case of elections, eligible voters shall be members of the following groups and shall be entitled to one vote only:
- (i) governing bodies of maintained primary schools who may vote only for primary governors
 - (ii) governing bodies of maintained secondary schools who may vote only for secondary governors
 - (iii) headteachers of maintained primary schools who may vote only for primary headteachers
 - (iv) headteachers of maintained secondary schools who may vote only for secondary headteachers
 - (v) academy Chief Executive Officers, headteachers, trustees, governors and other nominees who may vote only for academy representatives.
- 3.3 In paragraph 3.2:
- (a) a primary headteacher must be serving at the time of election as the headteacher of a Shropshire maintained primary school
 - (b) a secondary headteacher must be serving at the time of election as the headteacher of a Shropshire maintained secondary school
 - (c) a primary governor must be serving at the time of election as a governor of a Shropshire maintained primary school
 - (d) a secondary governor must be serving at the time of election as a governor of a Shropshire maintained secondary school
 - (e) an academy representative must be serving at the time of election in a Shropshire academy.

- 3.4 Places shall be allocated for the year starting in April as follows:
- (a) shall be divided between primary headteachers and governors, secondary headteachers and governors, and academy representatives in proportion to the number of full-time equivalent pupils registered in primary schools, secondary schools and academies as per the school census in the previous October
 - (b) subject to paragraph 3.3, where the number of primary places under paragraph 3.4 (a) above is not a whole even number, the relevant authority shall round it up to the nearest whole even number
 - (c) subject to paragraph 3.3, where the number of secondary places under paragraph 3.4 (a) above is not a whole even number, the relevant authority shall round it up to the nearest whole even number
 - (d) there shall be an equal number of primary headteachers and primary governors
 - (e) as there is only one maintained secondary school, there will be one place for either headteacher or governor.
- 3.5 A representative from the authority's pupil referral units is entitled to a place on the Schools Forum. As this provision is managed in Shropshire through the Tuition Medical & Behaviour Support Service the head of this service will have a school place on Schools Forum.
- 3.6 If a member of the Schools Forum resigns or otherwise ceases to serve as a school member, Shropshire Council will arrange for that member to be replaced in accordance with procedures outlined above. The successful candidate will be eligible to serve for a term of up to four years.

4. Appointment of non-school members

- 4.1 Shropshire Council shall seek nominations for non-school members from relevant bodies, as identified in the attached Appendix 1.
- 4.2 Shropshire Council shall, on receipt of a nomination under paragraph 4.1:
- (a) make an appointment pursuant to that nomination, or
 - (b) provide the relevant body with the grounds on which they determine not to make such an appointment.
- 4.3 Where Shropshire Council has proceeded under paragraph 4.2 (b), they shall seek a further nomination from the relevant body concerned.
- 4.4 Shropshire Council shall inform all its maintained schools of the name and relevant body of all non-school appointees to the Schools Forum.
- 4.5 If a non-school member of the Schools Forum resigns or otherwise ceases to serve as a member, Shropshire Council will commence procedures to secure a replacement.

4.6 All members shall be appointed for a period of up to four years, which may subsequently be renewed through re-nomination in a subsequent nomination process.

5. Arrangements for allowing substitutes for Schools Forum schools and non-school members

5.1 Substitutes are able attend Schools Forum in the place of school and non-school members and are able to vote at meetings of the Schools Forum on behalf of schools and non-schools members (except in relation to funding formula items).

5.2 It is the responsibility of members of the Schools Forum unable to attend a meeting to inform the clerk in advance of the meeting who will arrange for the named substitute to attend in their place and to receive any necessary papers.

6. Meetings and proceedings of Schools Forum

6.1 The Schools Forum must meet in public at least four times in every twelve months and is quorate if at least two fifths of the membership (ie 12 members) is present at a meeting. The Schools Forum must agree how often to meet, where meetings should take place and at what time of the day. A meeting must also be held if one-third of the members of schools Forum ask for one (ie 10 members).

6.2 It is the duty of the clerk to convene meetings in accordance with directions given by the Schools Forum. The chair can also direct the clerk to arrange a meeting, but this must not conflict with any directions given by the full Schools Forum.

6.3 The Schools Forum shall elect a chair from its own membership at the first meeting of the school year, and annually thereafter. The members of Schools Forum may not elect as chair any member of the Forum who is an elected councillor or officer of the authority. The chair will normally continue in office until the first Schools Forum meeting of the following school year. At that meeting, the Forum must either elect a new chair or re-elect the existing chair. The clerk to the Schools Forum must act as chair during the part of the meeting at which the chair is elected. The clerk does not have either a vote or a casting vote. If the election is contested it must be held by secret ballot. The clerk must ensure that all Schools Forum members are invited to nominate themselves for the posts. It is not necessary for a Schools Forum to vote if there is only one nomination for chair. However, there is a requirement for the candidate to leave the room so the other Schools Forum members can discuss in confidence whether to accept or reject that person. If the Schools Forum cannot elect a chair for the year, the meeting can continue with the meeting being chaired by the previous chair or Schools Forum member

appointed as chair for the purposes of the meeting, as appropriate. The clerk would then add election of chair to the next meeting agenda.

- 6.4 The procedure detailed in paragraph 6.3 above will apply to the appointment of a vice-chair.
- 6.5 If the chair cannot attend a meeting, the vice-chair will chair the meeting. If both the chair and vice-chair are not in attendance, Schools Forum members at the meeting must elect one of those present to chair that particular meeting.
- 6.6 To make sure the Schools Forum continues to run smoothly the chair should keep in close contact with the clerk between meetings.
- 6.7 Chairs and vice-chairs normally hold office until their successors are elected at the start of the next school year but may be removed mid-term. They may resign at any time by giving written notice to the clerk to the Schools Forum. The chair/vice-chair can be removed from office at any time between the annual elections but only if:
- the Schools Forum passes resolutions to remove them at two separate meetings
 - seven clear days' notice of each meeting is given
 - removing the chair/vice-chair is a specific item on the agenda for both meetings
 - there are at least 14 days between the two meetings
 - there are at least two-thirds of the members (ie 19 members) at both meetings; and before the vote at the second meeting, the member proposing the removal of the chair/vice-chair states reasons for the proposal, and the chair/vice-chair is given an opportunity to make a statement in reply.
- 6.8 Every member of the Schools Forum must normally be given at least seven clear days' written notice of the date of a meeting with a copy of the agenda for that meeting. The notice and agenda will be sent out by the clerk to the Forum. A copy of the paperwork will be sent to the Executive Director for People at the same time as to members of Schools Forum. Shorter notice can only be given if the chair (or the vice-chair if the chair is absent) agrees that there is an urgent need for a meeting. Meetings to consider the removal of the chair/vice-chair must be convened with at least seven clear days' notice. Meetings will still be valid even if some of the usual recipients fail to receive their copy of the papers.
- 6.9 The agenda shall be set by the chair of the Schools Forum following consultation with Schools Forum members, the Executive Director for People and the clerk to the Forum. It should be possible for the School Forum to regularly consider and revise an annual work programme for meetings.
- 6.10 Minutes of each Schools Forum meeting must be taken by the person

acting as clerk. The minutes will be formally approved at the following Schools Forum meeting. The draft minutes following approval by the chair (or the vice-chair if the chair is absent) will be circulated to Schools Forum members within two weeks of the meeting.

- 6.11 The clerk must make sure that copies of the agenda, draft and approved minutes and papers (not including confidential items) are made available promptly on the Shropshire Council website for anyone to read.
- 6.12 Decisions of the School Forum are usually arrived at by building consensus around a proposed course of action. However, sometimes it may be necessary to take a vote on a proposal. If there is a vote only the following Schools Forum members may have a vote:
- 3 members of the primary headteacher group
 - 3 members of the primary governing body group
 - 1 member of the secondary headteacher group
 - 12 members of the academies group
 - 1 member of the special headteacher group
 - 1 member of the tuition service
 - 7 members of the non-school representation
- 6.13 Non-school members, other than those representing early years providers, must not vote on matters relating to the funding formula to be used by the local authority to determine the amounts to be allocated to schools and early years providers.
- 6.14 If there are an equal number of votes for and against a proposal, the chair has a second or casting vote (except in relation to the election of the chair, when the clerk acts as chair). Once a decision has been taken, all members should keep to it, but any member can ask for their opinion to be recorded in the minutes.
- 6.15 How individual members vote, and opinions by members involving a named person which are in any way sensitive or critical, should always be regarded as confidential. The Schools Forum will determine if an item of discussion is confidential. The minutes of any parts of a meeting that are confidential should be kept separate and not made available for inspection with the rest. Members and attendees at the meeting should respect the confidentiality of items of business which the Schools Forum determine are confidential.

6.16 In common with other aspects of working in public life, Schools Forum members should, for reasons of probity, be aware of circumstances in which they should withdraw from meetings. The general principle is that no-one should be involved in a decision where his or her personal interests may conflict with those of the Schools Forum. Forum members should declare any personal interest as soon as a matter in which they have an interest is raised. However, Schools Forum members need not withdraw because of an interest that is no greater than that of other members of the Schools Forum, e.g. primary school nominees should not withdraw from discussions on primary school funding.

7. Clerk to Schools Forum

7.1 The clerk to the forum is appointed by the Executive Director – People. The clerk has an important part to play in making sure that the Forum's work is well organised. The clerk should be able to offer information and advice to the Forum on matters of school resourcing as well as procedures to be followed at meetings.

FUNCTIONS

8. Approval from the Schools Forum on the school funding formula

8.1 Shropshire Council shall present proposals to Schools Forum for approval on:

- (a) any proposed changes in relation to the factors and criteria that were taken into account, or the methods, principles and rules that have been adopted, in their formula made in accordance with regulations made under section 47 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, and
- (b) the financial effect of any such change.

8.2 Seeking approval for such proposals shall take place in sufficient time to allow the views expressed to be taken into account in the determination of the relevant authority's formula and in the initial determination of schools' budget shares before the beginning of the financial year.

9. Consultation on service contracts

9.1 Shropshire Council will, at least one month prior to the issue of invitations to tender, consult the Schools Forum on the terms of any proposed contract that is paid out of the schools budget for services to schools, where such a contract is to be let by Shropshire Council to a value equal to or exceeding the local government threshold stipulated in the EU Procurement Directive.

9.2 Shropshire Council may also consult the Schools Forum on school support service quality assurance and the future development of service level agreements.

9.3 Schools Forum must inform the governing bodies of schools maintained by the authority of any consultation on contracts carried out by the authority.

10. Consultation on financial issues

10.1 Shropshire Council must consult Schools Forum annually in respect of the authority's functions relating to the schools budget, in connection with the following:

- (a) arrangements for the education of pupils with special educational needs
- (b) arrangements for the use of pupil referral units and the education of children otherwise than at school
- (c) arrangements for early years provision
- (d) administrative arrangements for the allocation of central government grants paid to schools via Shropshire Council.

10.2 Shropshire Council may consult the School Forum on such other matters concerning the funding of schools as it sees fit.

10.3 Schools Forum must inform the governing bodies of schools maintained by the authority of any consultation on financial issues carried out by the authority.

10.4 The roles of the local authority, Schools Forum and Department for Education are summarised in Appendix 2.

11. Other functions

11.1 Schools Forum may commission and publish reports and research into school funding issues. The Forum may also commission or liaise with working groups on issues related to the function of the Schools Forum.

EXPENSES

12. Charging of expenses

12.1 All expenses of the Schools Forum shall be met by Shropshire Council and charged to the schools budget.

12.2 Shropshire Council shall publish by 30 June each year a statement setting out the costs of servicing the Schools Forum which have been charged to the schools budget for the preceding financial year.

12.3 Shropshire Council shall publish by 30 June of each year, a statement setting out the costs of additional work commissioned by the Forum which has been charged to the schools budget for the preceding financial year.

13. Members' expenses

13.1 Shropshire Council shall reimburse the costs of attendance at the Schools Forum, following claim, at the current mileage rate. These expenses shall be charged to the schools budget.

DRAFT

Shropshire Schools Forum Membership

1. As at October 2021, Shropshire Council had 11,612 pupils in its maintained primary schools and secondary schools, while there were 25,756 pupils in Shropshire academies. These figures exclude pupils in special schools and pupil referral units.
2. The Forum will have 21 schools places for school members. Two special schools operate in the county and so one of the school places is reserved for the special schools headteacher/governing body group. The Regulations require that there must be a representative of the authority's pupil referral units and so a schools place is reserved for the Tuition Medical & Behaviour Support Service.
3. The Forum is therefore constituted as follows:
 - 3 places for the primary headteacher group
 - 3 places for the primary governing body group
 - 1 place for the secondary headteacher group
 - 0 place for the secondary governing body group
 - 1 place for the special school headteacher/governing body group
 - 1 place for the pupil referral units group
 - 12 places for the academy headteacher/governing body group
 - 7 places for non-schools members
 - Total **28** places
4. Only Forum members will have votes in any decision making by the Forum. Non-schools members, other than those representing early years providers, must not vote on matters relating to the funding formula to be used by the local authority to determine the amounts to be allocated to schools and early years providers.
5. The 7 non-schools member places shall be reserved for:
 - 1 nominee from early years providers
 - 3 nominees from the Diocesan Directors of Education
 - 1 nominee from the trade unions and professional associations
 - 2 nominees from the FE sector
6. Nominees of Shropshire Council, the Director of Children's Services, Director of Finance (or their representatives), plus the clerk to the Forum, shall also be able to attend and speak at meetings.
7. The elected Shropshire councillor with primary responsibility for education in the authority and the elected councillor with primary responsibility for the resources of the authority, may attend and speak at the Forum meetings
8. An observer appointed by the Secretary of State may attend and speak at

meetings of the Schools Forum.

Current Membership

Member Category	Name	School/Trust/Organisation	Term to
Schools representation (21 members – 75%)			
Primary Headteachers (3 members)	Mark Rogers Alan Parkhurst Marilyn Hunt	Oxon Crowmoor Kinnerley	31/03/23 31/08/23 31/03/25
Secondary Headteachers (1 member)	Reuben Thorley	Community College	31/12/23
Primary Governors (3 members)	Sandra Holloway Michael Revell Stephen Matthews	Meole Brace Primary Buntingsdale St Laurence	31/08/24 31/12/23 31/03/22
Special Schools (1 member)	Brian Thomas	Severndale	31/03/24
Academies (12 members)	Georgia Moss Kerry Lynch David O'Toole John Parr Mark Cooper Bill Dowell Carla Whelan Sue Lovecy John Hitchings Vacancy Vacancy Vacancy	Diocese of Hereford MAT Empower Trust Marches Academy Trust TrustEd Schools Partnership 3-18 Education Trust Central Shropshire AT Marches Academy Trust 3-18 Education Trust Severndale	31/12/23 31/03/22 31/08/22 31/08/22 31/08/22 27/01/25 17/03/25 17/03/25 31/03/25
Pupil Referral Unit (1 member)	James Pearson	TMBSS	31/12/26
Non-schools representation (7 members – 25%)			
Early Years & Childcare	Shelly Hurdley	Little Explorers	
Diocese	Vacancy Sian Lines Vacancy	Lichfield Hereford Shrewsbury	
Further Education	James Staniforth	Shrewsbury Colleges Group	16/06/25
16-19 Education Sector	Andrew Smith	Derwen College	
Association of Secretaries	Caroline Clode	National Education Union	

Appendix 2

Function	Local Authority	Schools Forum	Department for Education role
Formula change (including redistributions)	Proposes and decides	Must be consulted and informs the governing bodies of all consultations	Checks for compliance with regulation
Movement of up to 0.5% from the Schools Block to other blocks	Proposes	Decides	Adjudicates where Schools Forum does not agree local authority proposal
Contracts (where the local authority is entering a contract to be funded from the schools budget)	Proposes at least one month prior to invitation to tender, the terms of any proposed contract	Gives a view and informs the governing bodies of all consultations	None
Financial issues relating to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • arrangements for pupils with special educational needs, in particular the places to be commissioned by the local authority and schools and the arrangements for paying top-up funding • arrangements for use of pupil referral units and the education of children otherwise than at school, in particular the places to be commissioned by the local authority and schools and the arrangements for paying top-up funding • arrangements for early years provision • administration arrangements for the allocation of central government grants 	Consults annually	Gives a view and informs the governing bodies of all consultations	None
Minimum funding guarantee (MFG)	Proposes any exclusions from MFG for application to Department for Education	Gives a view	Approval to application for exclusions

This page is intentionally left blank



Schools Forum

Date: 27 January 2022
Time: 8.30 am to 10.30 am

Venue: Virtual via Microsoft
(MS) Teams

Item

Public

Paper

D

ALLOCATION OF EARLY YEARS BLOCK 2022-23

Responsible Officer Neville Ward

e-mail: Neville.ward@shropshire.gov.uk

Tel: (01743) 254552

Decision Required

None – Information only.

Summary

- 1.1 This paper is to inform School Forum of proposals for the allocation of the Early Years Block funding 2022-23.

Background

- 2.1 The Early Years Block funding covers the delivery of the following entitlements:
- the 15 hours entitlement for disadvantaged two-year olds
 - the universal 15 hours entitlement for all three- and four-year olds
 - the additional 15 hours entitlement for eligible working parents of three- and four-year olds
 - the Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP)
 - the Disability Access Fund (DAF).

- 2.2 The funding for local authorities to provide the above entitlements from the Early Years Block of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). The key requirements on local authorities in terms of how they use funding within the Early Years Block are as follows:

Local authorities must:

- plan to spend at least 95% of their funding for the three- and four-year old entitlements on the delivery of the entitlements for three- and four-year olds
- must use a deprivation supplement in their local three- and four-year old formulae
- must not channel; more than 10% of their funding for the three- and four-year old entitlements through funding supplements
- provide a SEN fund for two-, three- and four-year olds
- pass on EYPP and DAF funding in full to providers.

Compliance with the above requirements is monitored through the annual section 251 return.

- 2.3 The 2022-23 Early Years Block allocation is provisional at this stage as it is based on January 2021 early years census data. This provisional allocation will be updated in July 2021 and July 2022 with the final allocation based on 5/12ths of January 2022 pupil numbers and 7/12ths of January 2023 pupil numbers.
- 2.4 The provisional Early Years Block allocation includes funding for the universal 15 hours free entitlement funding for three- and four-year olds, the additional 15 hours free entitlement for three- and four-year olds of working parents and the two-year old free entitlement funding. In addition, the Early Years Block includes funding for the Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) and the Disability Access Fund (DAF).
- 2.5 For three- and four-year olds the funding allocation for the universal 15 hours free entitlement and the extended 15 hours free entitlement for pupils of working parents increases by 17p per hour to £4.61 per hour. The allocation for two-year olds from the most disadvantaged backgrounds increases by 21p per hour to £5.57 per hour. Given the current economic difficulties across the sector the aim is to pass as much of this additional allocation on to settings through increases in the hourly rate of funding.
- 2.6 The allocation for EYPP and DAF also increase. EYPP increases to 60p per hour per child and DAF increases to a one-off payment of £800.

Report

- 3.1 The initial 2021-22 Early Years block allocation for Shropshire is as follows:

Funding for the two-year old entitlement	£1,524,365
Funding for the two-, three- and four-year-old entitlements	£15,073,986
Funding for the Early Years Pupil Premium	£140,713
Funding for the Disability Access Fund	£69,600
Total	£ 16,808,664

Our current budgeted spend of this initial allocation is as follows:

Funding for the two-, three- and four-year old entitlements	£15,367,321
EYPP	£140,713
DAF	£69,600
Sustainability funding	£250,000
Deprivation funding:	£250,000
SEN fund	£350,000
Central retained funds	£381,030
Total	£ 16,808,664

Further detail in relation to each of the above:

3.2 **Universal and extended three- and four-year-old entitlement**

The hourly rate at which we are funded by the Department for Education (DfE) for the provision of these hours is £4.61 per hour per child. The hourly base rate which we pass on funding to providers for the provision of the entitlements will be £4.19 per hour per child (91%) thereby meeting the requirement set out above not to channel more than 10% of the funding allocation through supplements

3.3 **Two-year old entitlement**

The hourly rate at which we are funded by the DfE for the provision of these hours is £5.57 per hour per child. The hourly base rate which we pass on funding to providers for the provision of the entitlements will be £5.25 per hour per child (95%).

3.4 **EYPP and DAF**

The funding streams are passed on in full to providers based on claims made by them for those children meeting the relevant eligibility criteria.

3.5 **Supplements to the base rates of funding**

The funding formulae for Shropshire allows for two additional supplements to the universal base rate of funding for two-, three- and four-year olds.

These are as follows:

a) Sustainability

We retain a statutory duty to ensure that we have sufficient, high quality, affordable and accessible early years places across the whole of the county so that parents and children are able to access their entitlement regardless of where they live. We are therefore continuing to retain funding for sustainability. This funding will be passed on to early years providers in line with our current policies and procedures and, at the end of the financial year, any unspent funding will be carried forward to the next year. We will constantly review this funding stream to ensure it remains appropriate and provides the best possible value for money. We have a small number of providers for whom we provide regular support each year dependant on their overall income – the equivalent of a minimum funding guarantee. We also retain some funding to provide support where providers fall into short term financial crises.

b) Deprivation

Under the requirements of the early years national funding formula we are required to provide additional financial support for our most deprived children. We do so by providing a one-off deprivation payment to providers based on the IDACI measure of those children attending the setting on census date in January. Whilst the amount that providers will receive will vary depending on their situation and circumstances this funding will be passed on in full to settings.

We are also use an element of the funding to provide specific, targeted support to children and families who are suffering disadvantage due to their family circumstances, i.e. not just those children who meet the economic eligibility criteria.

We plan to spend the remainder of the block as follows:

3.6 **Central retained funds**

The local authority intends to retain around £350,000 of the overall allocation of funding for the universal and extended free entitlement for three- and four-year olds. This is well within the required 5% maximum amount which local authorities can retain centrally under the new regulations.

This funding is primarily used for the following purposes:

- i. Salary costs for staff employed within the early years' service which includes staff to support SEN, safeguarding and collection of data and distribution of funding to early years providers
- ii. Provision and maintenance of early years funding portal
- iii. Repairs, maintenance and running costs for a small number of buildings still owned by the local authority from which childcare is delivered
- iv. Provision of information, support and guidance to settings failing their Ofsted inspection
- v. Provision of statutory CPD and training including safeguarding and SEN.

3.7 **SEN fund**

We provide additional targeted support to two, three- and four-year olds accessing their free entitlement who are identified as having special or additional needs. Providers can apply for funding on a case-by-case basis and applications are considered by the early years panel who allocate funding termly. As you may expect, and mirroring the situation we find in our schools, funding commitments in this area are increasing term by term and year by year as we identify more children in need of additional support.

Conclusion

- 4.1 In terms of how we intend to allocate and spend the Early Years Block of the DSG the local authority operates within the requirements set out by the Education, Skills and Funding Agency (ESFA). Whilst there are often pressures on different parts of the overall funding allocation at different times our overall aim is to pass on as much of the funding allocation to providers as we can whilst ensuring that we continue to meet all our statutory duties.
- 4.2 We are aware that many of our childcare providers are concerned at the overall level of funding they receive and whether they can continue to remain sustainable and offer the free entitlements given the rate at which they are reimbursed. We feel that we are doing everything we can at a local level to pass on the highest possible hourly rate to our providers but will continue to lobby nationally for more funding for Shropshire.



Schools Forum

Date: 27 January 2022

Time: 8:30 am

Item

Public

Paper

E

DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT MONITORING

Responsible Officer Stephen Waters

e-mail: Stephen.a.waters@shropshire.gov.uk

Tel: (01743) 258952

Summary

This report outlines to Schools Forum members the centrally retained Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) forecast outturn position at the end of December 2021.

Recommendation

This report is for information only.

REPORT

1. In November, the final Early Years Block DSG allocation for 2020-21 was published as £16.585m, a sum of £0.211m lower than the provisional Early Years Block DSG allocation for 2020-21. Consequently, the revised cumulative DSG deficit carried forward at the end of 2020-21 is £0.870m rather than the £0.659m previously reported.
2. The overall 2021-22 outturn against centrally retained DSG is forecast to be £0.906m in surplus as at the end of December 2021. It should be noted that this figure is the in-year surplus and needs to be added to the overspend carried forward from 2020-21 of £0.870m, in order to give an overall cumulative DSG surplus position of £0.036m.
3. In December 2020, Schools Forum approved a transfer of 0.5% from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block to support growth pressures on the High Needs Block. Agreement was given to transfer the remaining schools block budget, up to 0.5% after fully funding schools with the National Funding Formula factors and values. In 2021-22, the Council has been able to fully fund schools in this way, while transferring across the full 0.5% of the Schools Block budget to the High Needs Block budget which has increased the High Needs Block budget in year by £0.876m from the published allocation of £31.797m to a budget of £32.674m.

Centrally Controlled Early Years Budget

4. The outturn position for the Early Years Block is forecast to be £17.046m as at the end of December 2021 resulting in a small forecast overspend of £0.018m. The overspend is on the Early Years SEND Support budget. The demand placed on this budget continues to grow as Shropshire is seeing a growing number of children presenting with a range of development and emotional difficulties which require support.

Centrally Controlled High Needs Budget

5. The centrally controlled High Needs Block for 2021-22 is £24.141m. This budget excludes the place funding element of the High Needs Block totalling £8.533m but does include the transfer of £0.876m funding from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block as approved by Schools Forum.
6. It is important to note that Shropshire's High Needs Block DSG allocation has increased by £3.781m from £28.016m in 2020-21 to £31.797m in 2021-22. This is partly due to the funding floor factor in the high needs national funding formula for 2021-22 providing for every local authority to receive an underlying increase of at least 8% per head of 2 to 18 population. The other explanation for the increase is that the High Needs Block DSG now incorporates the Teachers Pay and Pension grant for both Special Schools and Alternative Provision settings.
7. Overall, the forecast outturn position for the High Needs Block is an in-year surplus of £0.982m.

Lines 1.2.1 & Line 1.2.2 - Top Up funding – Mainstream Schools and Post 16 Further Education

8. On budget lines 1.2.1 and 1.2.2, shown in the Appendix, there is a forecast underspend of £0.784m. This accounts for the majority of the £0.982m projected in-year surplus on the High Needs Block DSG.

Post 16 Further Education Colleges

9. Within the "1.2.2 - Top Up funding - Academies, Free Schools and Colleges" budget heading there is a budget of £2.770m allocated for Post 16 funding at further education colleges and sixth form colleges. Of the overall increase in allocation against the High Needs Block DSG, £0.581m was allocated against this budget heading.
10. The reason for significant growth in the expenditure budget on post 16 further education college placements is that this reflects the national picture and Shropshire has seen particularly significant growth in recent years in terms of the

number of post 16 FE college placements. In 2021-22, forecasted expenditure on Post 16 FE college placements is £2.329m so there is a forecast underspend of £0.442m against this budget heading but as with top-up funding to mainstream settings it is important to note that while there is a large forecast underspend against the budget set internally which anticipated significant growth, the recent trend of increasing expenditure does continue as evidenced by this year's forecast expenditure of £2.329m being £0.111m higher than last year's outturn.

11. The Council has and will continue to experience significant expenditure growth in this area as a direct result of changes in legislation which has seen local authorities having significant new statutory duties for students with special educational needs up to the age of 25 years under the Children and Families Act (September 2014). The local authority's SEN team work closely with local colleges to increase accessibility to education within mainstream colleges rather than more expensive independent specialist providers. Council officers have been successful in achieving this to date with a much lower proportion of Post 16 students in independent specialist provider settings when compared with several years ago.

Top Up funding - Mainstream Schools

12. Significant growth has been allocated to this budget for 2021-22 and while the expenditure continues to increase year on year, the forecasted spend is £0.308m less than the budget allocated.
13. There has been an increase in the value of Graduated Support Pathway (GSP) payments made since their introduction in 2017-18. This indicates that as well as an increase in demand for top-up funding in mainstream schools reflecting the national picture, there is also an increase in demand for GSP payments.

Top Up funding – Special Schools

14. There is also an underspend of £0.034m on top-up funding paid to special schools. The 2021-22 forecasted expenditure is £5.029m so an increase of £0.235m compared to the 2020-21 outturn figure of £4.794m.

De-Delegated Items

15. It should be noted that there is a £0.098m forecasted overspend on de-delegated maternity pay for schools where forecast expenditure is £0.330m but the de-delegated value from schools based on £19.27 per pupil is £0.232m.

Accounting for the DSG Deficit

16. The DSG guidance states conditions relating to DSG deficits for those local authorities that have an overall deficit on their DSG as follows:
 - Provide information as and when requested by the department about its plans for managing its DSG account in the 2020 to 2021 financial year and subsequently.

- Provide information as and when requested by the department about pressures and potential savings on its high needs budget.
 - Meet with officials of the department as and when they request to discuss the local authority's plans and financial situation.
 - Keep the schools forum regularly updated about the local authority's DSG account and plans for handling it, including high needs pressures and potential savings
17. Given that the overall DSG position is forecast to move from a revised deficit carried forward of £0.870m to a cumulative DSG surplus of £0.036m, this is positive in terms of the Council meeting the Department for Education's requirement to reduce or manage down the deficit. It is important to note that this projected removal of the deficit is as a result of forecast less growth in expenditure in 2021-22 compared to growth in High Needs Block DSG allocation rather than any reductions to High Needs Block DSG expenditure itself.

APPENDIX

CENTRALLY RETAINED DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT FUNDING PERIOD (2021-22)

	2021-22 Budget £	2021-22 Spend £	2021-22 Variance £		
DEDELEGATED ITEMS					
1.1.1	Contingencies	50,000	30,000	-	20,000
1.1.2	Behaviour Support Services	-	-	-	-
1.1.3	Support to UPEG and bilingual learners	-	-	-	-
1.1.4	Free school meals eligibility	-	-	-	-
1.1.5	Insurance	-	-	-	-
1.1.6	Museum and Library Services	-	-	-	-
1.1.7	Licences/subscriptions	-	-	-	-
1.1.8	Staff costs Maternity supply cover	232,000	330,072	-	98,072
1.1.9	Staff costs Trade Union Duties	25,000	17,754	-	7,246
1.1.10	School Improvement	95,570	95,570	-	-
	DEDELEGATED ITEMS SUB TOTAL	402,570	473,396		70,826
CENTRALLY CONTROLLED EARLY YEARS BUDGET					
1.3.1	Central Expenditure on Children under 5	344,700	344,851	-	151
1.0.1	Individual Schools Budget - Early Years PVI's and Maintained Nursery Provision	16,683,450	16,701,400	-	17,950
	CENTRALLY CONTROLLED EARLY YEARS SUB TOTAL	17,028,150	17,046,251		18,101
CENTRALLY CONTROLLED HIGH NEEDS BUDGET					
1.2.1	Top Up funding - Maintained Providers	4,181,940	4,107,272	-	74,668
1.2.2	Top Up funding - Academies, Free Schools and Colleges	9,972,530	9,263,483	-	709,047
1.2.3	Top Up funding - Non-Maintained and Independent Providers	6,550,210	6,462,088	-	88,122
1.2.4	Additional High Needs Targeted Funding for Maintained Schools and Academies	409,450	325,000	-	84,450
1.2.5	SEN Support Services	1,617,550	1,655,606	-	38,056
1.2.6	Hospital Education Services	170,190	150,000	-	20,190
1.2.7	Other Alternative Provision Services	138,040	167,627	-	29,587
1.2.8	Support for Inclusion	1,100,910	1,027,357	-	73,553
1.2.9	Special Schools and PRUs in Financial Difficulty	-	-	-	-
1.2.10	PFI / BSF Costs at Special Schools and AP / PRUs	-	-	-	-
1.2.11	Direct Payments (SEN and Disability)	-	-	-	-
1.2.12	Carbon Reduction Commitment Allowances (PRUs)	-	-	-	-
	CENTRALLY CONTROLLED HIGH NEEDS BUDGET SUB TOTAL	24,140,820	23,158,433		982,387
CENTRAL SCHOOL SERVICES BLOCK					
1.4.1	Contribution to combined budgets	112,110	108,498	-	3,613
1.4.2	Schools Admissions	250,120	245,715	-	4,405
1.4.3	Servicing of Schools Forums	10,000	10,000	-	-
1.4.4	Termination of employment costs	963,660	963,660	-	-
1.4.5	Falling Rolls Fund	-	-	-	-
1.4.6	Capital Expenditure from Revenue (CERA)	-	-	-	-
1.4.7	Prudential Borrowing Costs	295,350	295,350	-	-
1.4.8	Fees to independent schools without SEN	-	-	-	-
1.4.9	Equal Pay - Back Pay	-	-	-	-
1.4.10	Pupil growth / Infant Class sizes	-	-	-	-
1.4.11	SEN Transport	-	-	-	-
1.4.12	Exceptions agreed by Secretary of State (Deficit)	-	-	-	-
1.4.13	Other Items (Copyright Licensing Agency fee)	227,090	227,090	-	-
1.5.	Ongoing duties	741,250	736,750	-	4,500
	CENTRAL SCHOOL SERVICES BLOCK BUDGET SUB TOTAL	2,599,580	2,587,062		12,518
	TOTAL CENTRAL DSG	44,171,120	43,265,142		905,978
	SCHOOLS BLOCK GROWTH FUNDING (PART OF ISB)	438,190	438,190		-
	TOTAL CENTRAL DSG + SCHOOLS BLOCK GROWTH FUNDING	44,609,310	43,703,332		905,978

	£
DSG DEFICIT CARRIED FORWARD FROM PREVIOUS YEARS	- 659,423
2020-21 EARLY YEARS DSG ADJUSTMENT	- 210,758
REVISED DSG DEFICIT CARRIED FORWARD FROM PREVIOUS YEARS	- 870,181
PROJECTED 2021-22 IN YEAR SURPLUS	905,978
CUMULATIVE CENTRAL DSG SURPLUS	35,797

Breakdown of total DSG:

TOTAL CENTRAL DSG	44,609,310
--------------------------	-------------------

High Needs Budget - Place Funding	
Post 16 FE Colleges	920,000
Pre and Post 16 SEN Places - Special Academies	4,949,170
Pre and Post 16 SEN Places - Resourced Provisions	227,170
Total deduction to 2021-22 High Needs Block for direct funding of places by ESFA	6,096,340
TMBS	1,560,000
Maintained School SEND Hubs	339,830
Additional Commissioned Place Funding at Special Academies	210,000
Teachers Pay/Pension for Special Academies	326,650
Total deduction to 2021-22 High Needs Block for central funding of places	2,436,480
HIGH NEEDS BUDGET - Place Funding	8,532,820

INDIVIDUAL SCHOOLS BUDGET SHARES (Excluding De-delegated Items)	181,665,742
--	--------------------

TOTAL DSG Allocation (Updated December 2021)	234,807,872
---	--------------------

This page is intentionally left blank



Schools Forum

Date: 27 January 2022
 Time: 8.30 am to 10.30 am
 Venue: Virtual via Microsoft (MS) Teams

Item

E

Public

Schools Forum Work Programme 2022-23

Indicative programme. Other reports will be added on topical issues and/or commissioned by Schools Forum.

Meeting	Report
17 March 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dedicated Schools Grant Monitoring 2021-22
16 June 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated Dedicated Schools Grant 2022-23 School Balances as at March 2022 Growth Fund Allocations 2021-22 and 2022-23 Early Years Block Allocation 2022-23 Dedicated Schools Grant Monitoring 2022-23
15 September 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final Dedicated Schools Grant 2021-22 Updated Dedicated Schools Grant 2022-23 School Revenue Funding Update 2023-24 Dedicated Schools Grant Monitoring 2022-23
3 November 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Central Retention of Dedicated Schools Grant from April 2023 Dedicated Schools Grant Monitoring 2022-23
1 December 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Funding Arrangements 2023-24 Consultation on the Central Retention of Dedicated Schools Grant from April 2023 Central School Services Block 2023-24
26 January 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Revenue Funding Settlement and School Arrangements 2023-24 Shropshire Schools Forum Constitution
16 March 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dedicated Schools Grant Monitoring 2022-23

This page is intentionally left blank