

Appendix A

Schools forum approvals for centrally held funding

1. A number of the services that are covered by funding that is held centrally are subject to a limitation of no new commitments or increases in expenditure from 2017 to 2018.

- 1.1. This limit does not now apply to admissions or the servicing of schools forums.
- 1.2. Schools forum approval is required each year to confirm the amounts on each line.
- 1.3. The following table sets out the level of approval required for each service and for funding of brought forward deficits.

2. When using centrally held funding, local authorities must treat maintained schools and academies on an equivalent basis.

Centrally retained service (Where Applicable in Shropshire and decision required today in bold)	Approval required
- high needs block provision - central licences negotiated by the Secretary of State	Schools forum approval is not required (although they should be consulted)
- funding to enable all schools to meet the infant class size requirement - back pay for equal pay claims - remission of boarding fees at maintained schools and academies - places in independent schools for non-SEN pupils admissions	Schools forum approval is required on a line-by-line basis

Centrally retained service (Where Applicable in Shropshire and decision required today in bold)	Approval required
• servicing of schools forum • contribution to responsibilities that local authorities hold for all schools • contribution to responsibilities that local authorities hold for maintained schools (voted on by relevant maintained school members of the forum only) • de-delegated services from the schools block (voted on by the relevant maintained school members of the forum only)	
• central early years block provision • any movement of funding out of the schools block • any deficit from the previous funding period that reduces the amount of the schools budget • any brought forward deficit on de-delegated services which is to be met by the overall schools budget	Schools forum approval is required
• capital expenditure funded from revenue • projects must have been planned and decided on prior to	Schools forum approval is required on a line-by-line basis. The budget cannot exceed the value agreed in the previous funding period, and no new commitments can be entered into.

Centrally retained service (Where Applicable in Shropshire and decision required today in bold)	Approval required
April 2013; no new projects can be charged • details of the remaining costs should be presented • contribution to combined budgets • where the schools forum agreed prior to April 2013 a contribution from the schools budget to services which would otherwise be funded from other sources • existing termination of employment costs • costs for specific individuals must have been approved prior to April 2013; no new redundancy costs can be charged • prudential borrowing costs • the commitment must have been approved prior to April 2013 • details of the remaining costs should be presented	Read establishing local authority DSG baselines for more information.

Centrally retained service (Where Applicable in Shropshire and decision required today in bold)	Approval required
• funding for significant pre-16 pupil growth, including new schools set up to meet basic need, whether maintained or academy • funding for good or outstanding schools with falling rolls where growth in pupil numbers is expected within three years	Schools forum approval is required on a line-by-line basis, including approval of the criteria for allocating funds to schools