

School Forum 28th November 2019 Modelling of Allocations for 2020/2021

Context

The Local Area is now in receipt of the guidance and funding allocation for 2020/2021. The Local Area will benefit from the following uplift in funding:

Schools Block	Additional	£3.9 m	5% increase
High Needs Block	Additional	£1.5m	8% increase
Central Schools Block	Reduction	-£105k	20% reduction in the historic commitments element
Early Years Block	Additional	£129K	Made up of £17k for 2 year olds and £112K for 3 and 4 year olds

In the School Forum meeting on the 30th October 2019 the Forum took the decision to agree to a virement of funds from the Schools Block to the Higher Needs Block up to the permitted 0.5% cap.

The School Forum did not support an application to dis-apply the regulation to move additional funds and following the meeting, the Local Authority confirmed that they would not be making an application.

In line with these decisions officers have now modelled the allocation of these funds. In conducting this work officers have used the principles agreed by School Forum with the ambition of getting to the minimum pupil guarantees. For this reason we continue to use the statutory guidance on minimal pupil amounts for both primary and secondary phases.

Mainstream modelling – Explanation of models

No virement of funds (provided as a baseline comparator)	Assumes a minimum Funding Guarantee of 1.84% per pupil and a minimum per pupil amount of £3,750 for primary and £5,000 for secondary. All other unit values as per National Funding Formula.
Virement of funds Option 1	Assumes a Minimum Funding Guarantee of 1.84% per pupil and a Minimum per pupil amount of £3,750 for Primary and £5,000 for Secondary. AWPU remains at NFF values, all other unit values have a 2.70% reduction from NFF levels
Virement of funds Option 2	Assumes a Minimum Funding Guarantee of 1.84% per pupil and a Minimum per pupil amount of £3,750 for Primary and £5,000 for Secondary. All unit values have a 0.75% reduction from NFF values, apart from the lump sum which has a 0.20% reduction.
Virement of funds Option 3	Assumes a Minimum Funding Guarantee of 0.8% per pupil and a Minimum per pupil amount of £3,750 for Primary and £5,000 for Secondary. AWPU remains at NFF values, as does lump sum, all other unit values have had a 3.10% reduction from NFF levels.

Special School modelling – Explanation of models

Option A	2% increase from 2019/20, 13.31% of £1.5 m growth
Option B	4% increase from 2019/20, 26.63% of £1.5m growth
Option C	5% increase from 2019/20, 33.28% of £1.5m growth
Option D	8.78% increase from 2019/20, 58.42 of £1.5m growth
Option E	7.51% increase from 2019/20, 50.00% of £1.5m growth
Option F	9.39% increase from 2019/20, 62.50% of £1.5m growth

Early Years Budget Allocation

The Early Years budget allocation is subject to a full consultation with all providers in the sector. The budget consultation document will include varying models of hourly rates.

The School Forum have historically supplemented the SEND funding for Early Years (ALFEY) from the Higher Needs budget. In 2019/2020 this equated to £100k.

School Forum may select to remove this supplement from the Higher Needs budget and place the duties within the Early Years budget. This decision needs to be considered and taken by School Forum prior to any modelling and consultation.

Decision required

- School Forum decide on the model for mainstream school allocation
- School Forum to decide on the model for special school allocation
- School Forum to make a decision on the supplementary money provided to the Early Years Bock for ALFEY.
- School Forum to request officers to formally consult with the Early Years sector on the budget allocation for 2020/2021

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