Dedicated Schools Grant 'Safety Valve' Agreement - Published by the DFE on Friday 19th March 2021

Local Authority	DSG Deficit Profile		Authority actions	DFE/EFSA investment	
Bury	Positive in year balance to be achieved by the end of 2022 – 2023 and in each subsequent year. Take control and reduce cumulative deficit as follows:-		3.1 Strengthen their Special Educational Needs assessment and placements process, including clarifying assessment thresholds for Education Health and Care Plans (EHCP) by March 2022. This should include reviewing transition arrangements for children and young people throughout 2021-22. 3.2. Ensure robust planning for future provision, including	The Department agrees to pay to the authority an additional £6 million of DSG before the end of the financial year 2020-21. In subsequent financial years, subject to compliance with the conditions set out in paragraphs 2 and 3, the Department will pay DSG sums as follows in addition to the authority's formulaic allocation: £4 million in 2021-22, £4 million in 2022-23, £3	
	2020 - 2021 2021 - 2022 2022 - 2023 2023 - 2024 2024 - 2025	Maximum Forecast DSG Deficit Profile at year end £m 25.5 25.6 25.0 21.9 16.0	3.2. Ensure robust planning for future provision, including reducing the use of independent school placements by increasing the availability and suitability of local provision within Bury. This should include developing a model for forecasting future needs by March 2022. 3.3. Improve quality and timeliness of management information to enable evaluation of impact of central services. 3.4. Support and drive schools in Bury to meet a higher level of need in a more cost effective way within mainstream settings, while maintaining the quality of provision. Develop a culture in which demand is more effectively managed throughout the authority. £4 million in 2021-22, £4 million in 2022-23, £3 million in 2023-24 and £3 million in 2024-25. This funding will be provided in instalments and subject to continued satisfactory progress. Subject to full compliance, Bury should therefore eliminate their cumulative deficit no later than 2024-25.		
			contributions from appropriate funding sources, by December 2021.		

20/21 DSG allocation – School block £129.940m, Central school services block £774k, High Needs Block £33.059m, Early Years Block £13.868m, Total DSG £177.641m.

20/21 cumulative DSG deficit £25.5m

14.35% of total 20/21 DSG allocation

Hammersmith and Fulham

Positive in year balance to be achieved by the end of 2022 – 2023 and in each subsequent year. Take control and reduce cumulative deficit as follows:-

Year	Maximum Forecast DSG Deficit Profile at year end £m
2020 –	22.9
2021	
2021 –	23.3
2022	
2022 –	23.0
2023	
2023 –	22.9
2024	
2024 -	21.9
2025	
2025 –	20.0
2026	

- 3.1. Increase early intervention activity, including but not limited to the creation by September 2021 of a speech, language and communication needs offer for children and young people on SEND support, to reduce escalation of need to Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) level.
- 3.2. Development of a more robust local offer.
- 3.3. Review and reform of the Alternative Provision (AP) model and funding to create efficiencies from 2021-22.
- 3.4. Support and drive schools in Hammersmith and Fulham to meet a higher level of need in a more cost effective way within mainstream settings, while maintaining the quality of provision.
- 3.5. Review and reform of outreach services to create savings from 2021-22.
- 3.6. Implementation of a case management system to facilitate predictive modelling.

The Department agrees to pay to the authority an additional £6 million of DSG before the end of the financial year 2020-21. In subsequent financial years, subject to compliance and satisfactory progress with the conditions set out in paragraphs 2 and 3, the Department will pay DSG sums as follows in addition to the authority's formulaic allocation: £4 million in 2021-22, £4 million in 2022-23, £3 million in 2023-24 and £3 million in 2024-25. This funding will be provided in instalments and subject to continued satisfactory progress. Subject to full compliance, Hammersmith and Fulham should therefore eliminate their cumulative deficit no later than 2025-26. The Department will send a commission relating to capital plans to Hammersmith and Fulham in 2021-22. This commission will seek to understand the authority's future plans for capital investment in new school places for pupils with SEND and for those requiring AP, focusing on projects which support wider deficit reduction aims.

20/21 DSG allocation — School block £105.118m, Central school services block £3.877m, High Needs Block £25.721m, Early Years Block £16.882m, Total DSG £151.598m.

20/21 cumulative DSG deficit £22.9m

15.11% of total 20/21 DSG allocation

Kingston upon Thames

Positive in year balance to be achieved by the end of 2024 - 2025 and in each subsequent year. Take control and reduce cumulative deficit as follows:-

Year	Maximum Forecast DSG Deficit Profile at year end £m
2020 –	25.1
2021	
2021 -	28.6
2022	
2022 –	31.4
2023	
2023 –	32.2
2024	
2024 -	31.6
2025	
2025 –	30
2026	

- 3.1. Improve support available in schools to manage demand more effectively and reduce escalation of need. 3.2. Expand specialist provision to avoid placements in more expensive Non-Maintained Special Schools and independent special schools.
- 3.3. Manage demand for Education Health and Care Plans (EHCP) by scrutinising provision at each annual review and continuing to work with consultants Mastodon C to forecast and manage growth during 2021-22.
- 3.4. Improve efficiency of commissioning services to drive down cost.
- 3.5. Increase contributions from health and social care.
- 3.6. Commission an Local Government Association (LGA) peer review and implement any recommendations arising from it which drive sustainability in their high needs system.
- 3.7. Reform of the authority's post-16 offer, including but not limited to development of new provision.
- 3.8. Contribute to the reduction of the cumulative deficit via alternative council funding sources in each financial year covered by this agreement.

The Department agrees to pay to the authority an additional £9 million of DSG before the end of the financial year 2020-21. In subsequent financial years, subject to compliance and satisfactory progress with the conditions set out in paragraphs 2 and 3, the Department will pay DSG sums as follows in addition to the authority's formulaic allocation: £5 million in 2021-22, £5 million in 2022-23, £5 million in 2023-24 and £3 million in 2024-25. This funding will be provided in instalments and be subject to continued satisfactory progress. In addition, the Department is no longer seeking repayment of the £3m advance of DSG that was made for 2018-19. Subject to full compliance, Kingston should eliminate their cumulative deficit by 2025-26.

The Department will send a commission relating to capital plans to Kingston in 2021-22. This commission will seek to understand the authority's future plans for capital investment in new school places for pupils with special educational needs (SEND) and for those requiring alternative provision (AP), focusing on projects which support wider deficit reduction aims.

20/21 DSG allocation — School block £110.048m, Central school services block £1.062m, High Needs Block £23.269m, Early Years Block £13.664m, Total DSG £148.043m.

20/21 cumulative DSG deficit £25.1m

16.95% of total 20/21 DSG allocation

Richmond Upon Thames

Positive in year balance to be achieved by the end of 2025 - 2026 and in each subsequent year. Take control and reduce cumulative deficit as follows:-

Year	Maximum Forecast DSG Deficit Profile at year end £m
2020 –	17.6
2021	
2021 –	18.6
2022	
2022 –	19.4
2023	
2023 –	19.9
2024	
2024 -	20
2025	

- 3.1 Improve support available in schools to manage demand more effectively and reduce escalation of need.
- 3.2. Expand specialist provision to avoid placements in more expensive Non-Maintained Special Schools and independent special schools.
- 3.3. Manage demand for Education Health and Care Plans (EHCP) by scrutinising provision at each annual review and continuing to work with consultants Mastodon C to forecast and manage EHCP growth during 2021-22.
- 3.4. Improve efficiency of commissioning services to drive down cost.
- 3.5. Increase contributions from health and social care.
- 3.6. If recommendations arise from the Local Government Association (LGA) peer review in Kingston which are also relevant to Achieving for Children's activities in Richmond, Richmond will also implement them.
- 3.7. Reforming of the authority's post-16 offer, including but not limited to development of new provision.
- 3.8. Contribute to the reduction of the cumulative deficit via alternative council funding sources in each financial year covered by this agreement.

The Department agrees to pay to the authority an additional £6 million of DSG before the end of the financial year 2020-21. In subsequent financial years, subject to compliance and satisfactory progress with the conditions set out in paragraphs 2 and 3, the Department will pay DSG sums as follows in addition to the authority's formulaic allocation: £4 million in 2021-22, £4 million in 2022-23, £3 million in 2023-24 and £3 million in 2024-25. This funding will be provided in instalments and subject to continued satisfactory progress. Subject to full compliance, Richmond should therefore eliminate their cumulative deficit no later than 2024-25.

The Department will send a commission relating to capital plans to Richmond in 2021-22. This commission will seek to understand the authority's future plans for capital investment in new school places for pupils with special educational needs (SEND) and for those requiring alternative provision (AP), focusing on projects which support wider deficit reduction aims.

20/21 DSG allocation – School block £121.937m, Central school services block £924km, High Needs Block £27.869m, Early Years Block £15.176m, Total DSG £165.906m.

20/21 cumulative DSG deficit £17.6m

10.61% of total 20/21 DSG allocation

Stoke on Trent

Positive in year balance to be achieved by the end of 2021 - 2022 and in each subsequent year. Take control and reduce cumulative deficit as follows:-

Year	Maximum Forecast DSG Deficit Profile at year end £m
2020 –	25.5
2021	
2021 –	24.3
2022	
2022 –	18.3
2023	
2023 –	9.13
2024	

- 3.1. Reduce the authority's use of independent school places by increasing the availability and suitability of local provision, beginning in 2021-22 and continuing throughout the period of the agreement.
- 3.2. Review and reform of the 'Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) offer' with all planned action completed no later than the end of 2022-23.
- 3.3. Development of a Transition Action Plan by September 2021.
- 3.4. Review and reform early years pathways, including implementing a new early years offer from September 2021.
- 3.5. Support and drive schools in Stoke-on-Trent to meet a higher level of need in a more cost effective way within mainstream settings, while maintaining the quality of provision. This includes recruiting a dedicated Strategic Manager in 2021.
- 3.6. Reform commissioning practices to address sufficiency problems.
- 3.7. Reform post-16 offer from 2021 onwards including but not limited to development of new provision and establishment of a review cycle. New provision should largely be in place during the 2021/22 academic year.
- 3.8. Improve financial planning and collaboration with other funding streams.

The Department agrees to pay to the authority an additional £3 million of DSG before the end of the financial year 2020-21. In subsequent financial years, subject to compliance and satisfactory progress with the conditions set out in paragraphs 2 and 3, the Department will pay DSG sums as follows in addition to the authority's formulaic allocation: £3 million in 2021-22, £2 million in 2022-23 and £2 million in 2023-24. This funding will be provided in instalments and subject to continued satisfactory progress. Subject to full compliance, Stoke-on-Trent should therefore eliminate their cumulative deficit no later than 2023-24.

The Department will send a commission relating to capital plans to Stoke-on-Trent in 2021-22. This commission will seek to understand the authority's future plans for capital investment in new school places for pupils with special educational needs (SEND) and for those requiring alternative provision (AP), focusing on projects which support wider deficit reduction aims

20/21 DSG allocation – School block £178.994m, Central school services block £4.562m, High Needs Block £37.059m, Early Years Block £18.288m, Total DSG £238.903m.

20/21 cumulative DSG deficit £25.5m

10.67% of total 20/21 DSG allocation

Torbay's position is:

20/21 DSG allocation

School block £83.029m Central school services block £1.214m High Needs Block £19.123m Early Years Block £6.944m, Total DSG £110.310m.

20/21 forecast cumulative DSG deficit £5.819m

5.28% of total 20/21 DSG allocation