

## Financial Report - Schools Forum 17<sup>th</sup> June 2021

### Introduction

The following report contains a detailed breakdown of the projected position of the Local Area for 2021/2022. The report enables members to note the outturn position and the significant factors contributing toward the spend. The report covers the following items

- Forecast Outturn Position 2021/2022
- Contextual information regarding Early Years Block
- Contextual information regarding Higher Needs Block
- Position and Recommendations

### Final Outturn Position 2021/2022

Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) funded activities are currently forecast to **overspend by £2.745m**.

The following table details the main areas of both over and under spend. Many of these budgets are demand led and will be monitored during 21/22 and revisions reported accordingly.

Budget Heading	Budget	Actuals to date	Projected Outturn	Over / (Under) Spend
Early Years 2, 3 & 4 yr old payments – PVI's & Academies	£5.784m	£1.165m	£5.784m	£0
Early Years – ALFEY	£270k	£110k	£285k	£15k
Early Years – Pupil Premium & Disability Access Fund	£133k	£2k	£100k	(£33k)
Early Years – 5% retained element	£345k	£49k	£345k	£0
Joint Funded Placements	£550k	£168k	£600k	£50k
Recovery of funding from schools for Excluded Pupils, Medical Tuition Service and Elective Home Education	(£250k)	£0	(£250k)	£0
Independent Special School Fees	£3.100m	£722k	£3.050m	(£50k)
Other packages for EHCP pupils and SEND personal budgets	£1.347m	£267k	£1.347m	£0
Payments to / recoupment from other authorities for Special School places	(£200k)	£0	(£200k)	£0
Medical Tuition Service / Virtual School / Hospital Tuition / Vulnerable Students Team	£1.500m	£171k	£1.470m	(£30k)
School contingencies (Rates, planned pupil growth, NQT induction etc)	£308k	£182k	£278k	(£30k)
EHCP in-year adjustments (see separate paper for details)	£340k	£215k	£508k	£168k
Special Schools / High Needs in-year adjustments (see separate paper for details)	£600k	£385k	£675k	£75k
School Intervention / Commissioning (includes School Improvement Grant)	£145k	£29k	£145k	£0
Business Support	£195k	£34k	£195k	£0

Other – including Admissions, EAL / Travellers, Advisory Teachers				(£20k)
Deficit DSG budget set for 21/22	(£2.6m)			£2.6m
<b>Total – Forecast Outturn Position 21/22</b>				<b>£2.745m</b>

The two areas of significant volatility are within the Early Years Block and Higher Needs Block. The demand led pressures in these areas are detailed below.

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### Early Years Block

The impact of the pandemic continues to affect the take up of placements within the early years sector. Torbay has historically noted a significantly high take up of early years entitlements, however research indicates that families have not wished to use these entitlements during Covid 19 in the same way.

	Torbay	South West	National
2 year old	65%	77%	69%
Universal 15 hours	97%	95%	93%
Extended 30 hours	99.9%	No data available on LAIT	No data available on LAIT

We are currently updating the Early Years Sufficiency Strategy to review the impact on provision locally and also to capture learning on what will be the requirements of parents post the pandemic. This work will be concluded by September 2021.

At this stage in the year we have made no assumptions on the outturn position.

### Higher Needs Block

Torbay continues to have a greater number of children requiring additional support up to and including a special school place than the funds available in the higher needs block can meet.

The impact of Covid 19 continues to be noted within the Higher Needs Budget. In the first 5 months of 2021 we have received 149 requests for Statutory Assessment to date. Those assessments which have been initiated ( 82%) will start to be issued with an EHCP from this month. This will then create a pressure on the High Needs Block as the Element 3 allocations are confirmed. We envisage that the significant pressure will occur in September 2021, as the majority of these assessments are issued for the beginning of the 2021-22 academic year. The number of requests for statutory assessment continues to be high, and we are not anticipating a reduction in the near future. This is a national trend.

Bespoke packages continue to be sought by schools where students are struggling to cope upon their return to school following the lockdowns. These are being used to avoid exclusions, however our expectation is that these should be regarded as a short term option, with a view to re-integration. All of these are reviewed every 6 weeks, and reduced where possible. The Yr 11 students on bespoke packages will be reduced for the remainder of this term, therefore this should result in a slight decrease on this aspect of the budget.

We are also finding that there is an increase in the number of students wishing to remain in education Post 16, this is as a direct result of the pandemic. Therefore the budget pressure Post 16 will increase for September 2021. There are also a number of students where an additional term (autumn term) will be required to complete their courses and achieve the

outcomes expected. The SEN Teams are working with providers, young people and families to ensure the destination is clearly identified for these students with clear anticipated outcomes.

The following table demonstrates the final position on the EHCP allocation of funding above £6k.

<b>Education, Health &amp; Care Plan Funding for 20/21 &amp; 21/22</b>			
	<b>20/21</b>	<b>21/22</b>	<b>Increase / (Decrease)</b>
Number of pupils with EHCP	470	463	(7.00)
Number of FTE's with EHCP	429	407	(22.00)
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Funding below £6k allocated through school formula elements	2,554,879	2,426,210	(128,669)
Funding above £6k allocated as a top-up per eligible pupil	2,122,040	2,206,696	84,656
EHCP Contingency	350,000	340,000	(10,000)
<b>In-Year adjustments</b>			
April	16,946	214,516	197,570
May	(104)	(104)	0
June	(11,737)	(11,737)	0
July	4,062	4,062	0
August	42,398	42,398	0
September	115,109	115,109	0
October	72,833	72,833	0
November	50,539	50,539	0
December	16,915	16,915	0
January	(11,583)	(11,583)	0
February	15,276	15,276	0
March	0	0	0
<b>Total - In-Year adjustments</b>	<b>310,654</b>	<b>508,224</b>	
<b>Projected (underspend) / overspend</b>	<b>(39,346)</b>	<b>168,224</b>	
<b>Notes</b>			
Based on April 21 in-year adjustments, and the same allocation for the remainder of the financial year as 20/21, it is anticipated the EHCP contingency will overspend by			<b>168,224</b>

The following table demonstrates the numbers of Special School Commissioned Placements and Adjustments.

**Special School and other High Needs funding adjustments for 21/22**

	Combe Pafford	Combe Pafford	Mayfield School	Mayfield Chestnut	Mayfield Total	Brunel SEMH	Burton AP	B & B Total	Totals	Totals £
Number of places - January 21	262		231	32	263	56	55	111.00	636.00	
Number of pupils - January 21	255		225	32	257	50	50	100.00	612.00	
Number of places - September 21	262		231	32	263	56	55	111.00	636.00	
Initial Place led funding		2,620,000			2,630,000	560,000	550,000	1,110,000		6,360,000
Initial Pupil led funding		1,256,417			2,621,345	790,050	577,250	1,367,300		5,245,062
Initial pupil specific additional funding		40,134			71,198	60,270		60,270		171,602
Previously Teachers Pay & Pension Grants		172,920			173,580	36,960	36,300	73,260		419,760
Other funding - Outreach / 6th day provision / rent					289,174			0		289,174
Pupil Premium		140,515			168,830	32,470	35,335	67,805		377,150
<b>Total initial funding</b>		<b>4,229,986</b>			<b>5,954,127</b>	<b>1,479,750</b>	<b>1,198,885</b>	<b>2,678,635</b>		<b>12,862,748</b>
<b>In-Year adjustments</b>	<b>Pupils</b>	<b>Funding £</b>	<b>Mayfield Pupils</b>	<b>Chestnut Pupils</b>	<b>Funding £</b>	<b>SEMH Pupils</b>	<b>AP Pupils</b>	<b>Funding £</b>	<b>Pupils</b>	<b>Funding £</b>
April	257	91,257	228	32	24,375	51	51	27,346	619	142,978
May	257	(3,618)	229	34	50,238	54	53	64,619	627	111,239
June									0	0
July									0	0
August									0	0
September									0	0
October									0	0
November									0	0
December									0	0
January									0	0
February									0	0
March									0	0
<b>Total In -year pupil / place led adjustments</b>		<b>87,639</b>			<b>74,613</b>			<b>91,965</b>		<b>254,217</b>
Enhanced Provision (in-year changes in pupil numbers)										45,992
Excluded Pupils / 6th Day Provision (Sept - Mar)										66,500
Ocombe House - additional rent - Mayfield										12,336
In-year pupil specific additional funding					22,089			(15,960)		6,129
<b>Total - In-Year adjustments</b>		<b>87,639</b>			<b>96,702</b>			<b>76,005</b>		<b>385,174</b>
Special School / High Needs contingency budget										600,000
<b>Current balance (under) / over</b>										<b>(214,826)</b>

## **Position**

The final outturn position of the Local Area continues to be of significant concern. The budget for 2021/2022 remains volatile and we need to continue to take all actions to mitigate spend.

**The cumulative overspend of the DSG sits at £5.826m**

## **Recommendation and Decisions**

It is requested that Schools Forum:

1. Note the final outturn position and continue to work with the Local Authority through the mechanism of the Higher Needs Recovery Group to enact mitigations to reduce budget spend in the year 2021/2022..

**Rachael Williams**

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