

Financial Report School Forum 25th November 2021
Introduction

The following report contains a detailed breakdown of the projected position of the Local Area for 2020/2021. 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

Forecast Outturn Position 2021/22

Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) funded activities are currently forecast to **overspend by £3.202m**. This is an additional pressure of £210k since the previous meeting.

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	£3.377m	£5.784m	£0
Early Years – ALFEY	£270k	£193k	£285k	£15k
Early Years – Pupil Premium & Disability Access Fund	£133k	£36k	£100k	(£33k)
Early Years – 5% retained element	£345k	£188k	£340k	(£5k)
Joint Funded Placements	£550k	£341k	£520k	(£30k)
Recovery of funding from schools for Excluded Pupils, Medical Tuition Service and Elective Home Education	(£250k)	(£68k)	(£175k)	£75k
Independent Special School Fees	£3.100m	£1.463m	£3.300m	£200k
Other packages for EHCP pupils and SEND personal budgets	£1.407m	£726k	£1.532m	£125k
Payments to / recoupment from other authorities for Special School places	(£260k)	(£145k)	(£230k)	£30k
Medical Tuition Service / Virtual School / Hospital Tuition / Vulnerable Students Team	£1.500m	£750k	£1.400m	(£100k)
School contingencies (Rates, planned pupil growth, NQT induction etc)	£308k	£256k	£276k	(£32k)
EHCP in-year adjustments (see separate paper for details)	£340k	£751k	£895k	£555k
Special Schools / High Needs in-year adjustments (see separate paper for details)	£600k	£436k	£550k	(£50k)
School Intervention / Commissioning (includes School Improvement Grant)	£145k	£57k	£105k	(£40k)
Business Support	£195k	£112k	£182k	(£13k)
Other – including Admissions, EAL / Travellers, Advisory Teachers, SEN contracts				(£95k)
Deficit DSG budget set for 21/22	(£2.6m)			£2.6m
Total – Forecast Outturn Position 21/22				£3.202m

The two areas of significant volatility are within the Early Years Block and Higher Needs Block.

Early Years Block

The Early Years autumn headcount is being processed. However the service have provided a detailed report on the anticipated numbers and impact, attached as an appendix.

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. Although the normal pressures on additional requests for support remains, the two areas with significant increase from October 2021 are listed below:-

Independent Special School Fees (rise of £128K from previous report)

The increase equates to three students where a new school placement has needed to be commissioned in the last month. One young person requiring post 16 provision has been placed at Preston Bridge (agreed by the post 16 panel), One year 7 student had no year 6 transfer offer, as no local school could be identified. This young person is now accessing Preston Bridge School. The third young person is being educated at Phoenix Bay.

Other packages including SEND (rise of £34k since previous report)

The additionality in this budget line is in relation to staff vacancies and absence within schools. Whilst schools are struggling to recruit and children have had alternative packages of support, these have been extended until a staff member is available to support the child and young person.

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

Education, Health & Care Plan Funding for 20/21 & 21/22			
	20/21	21/22	Increase / (Decrease)
Number of pupils with EHCP	470	463	(7.00)
Number of FTE's with EHCP	429	407	(22.00)
	£	£	£
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)
In-Year adjustments			
April	16,946	214,516	197,570
May	(104)	92,973	93,077
June	(11,737)	76,491	88,228
July	4,062	52,297	48,235
August	42,398	32,649	(9,749)
September	115,109	281,701	166,592
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
Total - In-Year adjustments	310,654	894,607	
Projected (underspend) / overspend	(39,346)	554,607	
Notes			
Based on April 21 - Sept 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			554,607

Reporting table on EHCP Allocation above £6k

The other area of growth can be noted in the comparator report below:

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
Total initial funding		4,229,986			5,954,127	1,479,750	1,198,885	2,678,635		12,862,748
In-Year adjustments	Pupils	Funding £	Mayfield Pupils	Chestnut Pupils	Funding £	SEMH Pupils	AP Pupils	Funding £	Pupils	Funding £
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	253	(14,830)	228	32	(29,004)	54	56	37,196	623	(6,638)
July	252	(5,303)	228	31	(10,005)	54	35	(181,834)	600	(197,142)
August	252	0	228	31	0	54	35	0	600	0
September	269	65,829	233	32	34,927	51	32	(47,856)	617	52,900
October	268	(12,586)	232	31	(10,733)	50	34	3,645	615	(19,674)
November	267	(1,422)	231	33	7,731	48	36	(3,547)	615	2,762
December									0	0
January									0	0
February									0	0
March									0	0
Total In -year pupil / place led adjustments		119,327			67,529			(100,431)		86,425
Enhanced Provision (in-year changes in pupil top-ups)										27,164
Enhanced Provision (in-year increases in place numbers)										39,167
Excluded Pupils / 6th Day Provision (Sept - Dec) - Mayfield										38,000
Excluded Pupils / 6th Day Provision (Jan - Mar)										28,500
Ocombe House - additional rent - Mayfield										12,336
In-year pupil specific additional funding		36,914			141,390			26,549		204,853
Total - In-Year adjustments		156,241			208,919			(73,882)		436,445
Special School / High Needs contingency budget										600,000
Current balance (under) / over										(163,555)

Position

The final outturn position of the Local Area continues to be of significant concern. The position remains volatile and continued actions need to be taken to try and mitigate spend.

The cumulative overspend of the DSG is now £5.826m

The projected cumulative outturn position at the end of 2021/2022 would be £9.028

Recommendation and Decisions

It is requested that Schools Forum:

1. Note the financial position and continue to work with the Local Authority through the mechanism of the Higher Needs Recovery Group to enact the financial recovery plan.
2. Request Officers and the Cabinet Member for Children to make representation on the additional demands within the Higher Needs Block on behalf of the School Forum.

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