

Element 3 Funding – Schools Forum 12th October 2023

Introduction

Following the SEND funding pilot being implemented during the academic year 2022-2023 School Forum are now in a position to review the findings and consider the implementation plan. The finding of the pilot and detailed next steps are attached in Appendix A.

To ensure that we are delegating our resources in a fair and transparent manner we propose to adopt the mechanism used within the pilot subject to consultation with parent/carers.

The following report details an options appraisal on how the new mechanism could be implemented across the local area.

Considerations for School Forum

Options for rolling out the scheme for awarding Element 3;

1. From September 2023 we use the new formula for each Annual Review that is received in 23-24 and recalculated Element 3 (impacting on 1560 EHCP's)
2. From September 2023 we use the new formula for every phase transfer plan being amended for 2024 entry and new EHCP's (impacting very few plans for 23-24 but approx. 400 plans for 2024) then full roll out from 2024 onwards.
3. From September 2023 we use the new formula for specific and targeted year groups where Element 3 is exceptionally high or RSA rate is higher than the average alongside the new formula for Phase transfer and the issuing of new EHCP's (impacting on approximately 300 EHCP's for 2023 and a further 400 plans for 2024 entry) then full roll out from 2024 onwards.

Recommendation and Decision

To ensure that we are making fair and transparent changes that provide time for education providers to make adjustments to commitments, we recommend that we implement Option 3. This will have a slight impact in year and prepare the local area for further impact in 2024.

School Forum to review the option and vote on the implementation plan.

Rachael Williams and Hannah Spencer

Divisional Director Education and SEND/ Head of Service for SEND and Inclusion