

WIRRAL COUNCIL

SCHOOLS FORUM - 6th JULY 2011

REPORT OF INTERIM DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

SCHOOLS BUDGET OUTTURN 2010-11

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 This report outlines the year end position for the 2010-11 Schools Budget. At this time the accounts are provisional and subject to audit. The Forum are asked to note the report.

2.0 OUTTURN 2010-11

The Schools budget outturn is shown in the attached Appendix. There is a net underspend against the budget of £126,552. This represents a reduction in Area Based Grant expenditure of £308,200 and EVR / severance costs of centrally managed schools block staff of £181,648.

There are a number of significant variations at the year end that are briefly described below.

- i. School Meals - £228,000 CR
The overall trading position improved during the year. Paid meal income exceeded the budget target, indicating a recovery in numbers following resistance to the meal price increase in September 2009. In addition other ancillary (loss making) trading outlets have closed.
- ii. SEN costs £790,000 CR
The reduction in the number and value of statements has been previously reported as part of the budget for 2011-12. The underspends in support for SEN arise from reductions in Area Based Grant funded programmes, staff vacancies within SESS and expenditure controls.
- iii. Early Years £75,000
The number of children in Early Years settings exceeded the budget provision, costs have been offset by vacant Development Worker posts.

iv. Schools Specific Contingencies £137,000 CR
Details of contingency expenditure are as follows:

	£
Closing School Costs	1,351,000
Pay Harmonisation	302,000
Special Trigger Mechanism	134,000
Gilbrook Outreach	65,000
School Salary Protection	23,000
Foundation School Rates	<u>(199,000)</u>
	<u>1,676,000</u>

The cost of redundancies and closing school deficits are significantly higher than originally anticipated (Rock Ferry and Park were in excess of £1m).

v. Standards Funds

These budgets include the final Standards Funds allocations for Early Years, School Lunch Grant, One to One Tuition, Extended Schools and Primary and Secondary Strategies. (In future where these budgets are continuing they are funded directly from DSG). In accordance with Standards Fund grant conditions grant totaling £1,836,983 has been carried forward to be spent by 31st August, 2011.

vi. Standards Fund Grant 5th Quarter

There has been discussion with the DfE regarding payment of the 5th Quarter grant installment the final £1.2m (4%) of the 2010-11 Standards Fund allocation. This has not been paid to authorities. However, after lengthy correspondence guidance advises Local Authorities that they can anticipate this grant from within the 2011-12 DSG allocations. The DfE will resolve this position without impacting on schools by 2012-13.

vii. Contribution to Pay Harmonisation Reserve £1,058,910

Harmonisation is a separate item on this agenda. The contribution to this reserve arises from all underspends in:

	£
- Schools budgets (re UAB)	17,190
- Centrally managed budgets (as described above)	1,005,020
- Final DSG/Census adjustment	<u>36,700</u>
	<u>1,058,910</u>

viii. Dedicated Schools Grant

DSG has been fully committed in the budget for 2010-11. A comparison between the budget and grant received during the year is as follows :-

	£
Budgeted Grant	193,995,400
Final census 8.5 additional pupils	36,700
Less deduction re	
University Academy of Birkenhead	(1,643,100)
	<u>192,389,000</u>
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3.0 RECOMMENDATION

3.1 That the Forum note the report.

David Armstrong
Interim Director of Children's Services

Schools Budget and Outturn 2010-11

Appendix 1

2009-10 Actual £		2010-11 Budget £	2010-11 Outturn £	Variation £
	Schools			
75,382,452	EA457 - Primary Schools	78,521,300	78,521,287	-13
78,109,299	EA459 - Secondary Schools	79,070,600	77,317,812	-1,752,788
13,783,304	EA461 - Special Schools	14,285,500	14,285,458	-42
1,106,752	EA463 - Nursery Schools	1,144,000	1,143,990	-10
168,381,807		173,021,400	171,268,547	-1,752,853
	Centrally Managed Budgets			
347,122	School Meals Service	346,800	118,761	-228,039
3,841,582	Statements	4,694,400	4,357,797	-336,603
2,655,701	Support For SEN	2,631,700	2,215,629	-416,071
319,598	OLEA	401,500	302,448	-99,052
2,962,943	Independent Special School Fees	2,902,000	2,963,278	61,278
1,143,074	Wirral Alternative Schools Programme	964,000	937,588	-26,412
266,793	Education Out Of School	243,700	281,238	37,538
4,497,284	Early Years and Childrens Centres	4,738,000	4,812,767	74,767
145,407	Minority Ethnic Achievement Service	178,800	164,058	-14,742
239,363	Library Service	195,300	160,093	-35,207
66,552	Licences & Subscriptions	57,100	66,769	9,669
46,323	Insurances	65,400	107,898	42,498
433,126	Admissions	459,300	459,300	0
1,086,210	School Specific Contingencies	1,813,600	1,675,924	-137,676
1,160,377	Special Staff Costs	928,900	983,474	54,574
2,439	Schools Forum	10,600	206	-10,394
146,806	Miscellaneous	177,300	160,730	-16,570
418,100	Contributions to Combined Budgets	442,100	442,100	0
126,441	Standards Fund	31,700	33,133	1,433
	Additional contribution to Harmonisation Reserve		1,058,910	1,058,910
19,905,242		21,282,200	21,302,101	19,901
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187,749,897	Dedicated School Grant	-193,995,400	-192,389,000	1,606,400
537,152	Net Schools Expenditure	308,200	181,648	-126,552