

# WIRRAL COUNCIL

## WIRRAL SCHOOLS FORUM 6<sup>th</sup> JULY 2011

### REPORT OF THE INTERIM DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

#### School Balances as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011

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#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is for information only and advises the Forum of the school balances as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011. The balances have increased from £8.4m to £11.6m. This represents a year on year increase of £3.2m (38%).

#### 1. Summarised Balances

Total balances are shown below and include Standards Fund carry forwards, which can be spent until August 2011. Balances have increased over all school phases. This appears to be in line with other North West authorities which reflect increased caution and uncertainty in schools regarding future funding.

	<b>2009/10 Balances</b>	<b>2010/11 Balances</b>	<b>Increase</b>
Nursery	£192,770	£309,967	£117,197
Primary	£3,638,837	£5,096,390	£1,457,553
Secondary	£3,439,997	£4,779,476	£1,339,479
Special	£1,155,959	£1,449,940	£293,981
<b>Total</b>	<b>£8,427,563</b>	<b>£11,635,773</b>	<b>£3,208,210</b>

The Standards Fund element of the carry forward above has increased from £3.0m to £4.5m as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011.

#### 2. Deficit Budgets

There are a number of schools who were in deficit as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011; the table below details the number of schools in deficit and the total amount. The numbers in brackets detail the schools in deficit as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010.

	<b>No. of Schools in Deficit</b>		<b>Total Amount</b>	<b>Average Deficit</b>
Nursery	0	(0)	£0	£0
Primary	7	(13)	£129,773	£18,539
Secondary	5	(4)	£634,752	£126,951
Special	0	(0)	£0	£0
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>(17)</b>	<b>£378,990</b>	

A number of the schools with deficit balances in March 2011 have set balanced budgets for 2011/12 financial year. There are 3 schools that have or are seeking a licensed deficit in this financial year, compared to 14 last year.

#### 4. Excess Balances

In the final year of the balance control mechanism 11 schools have an excess balance above the 5 or 8%. The table below details the amounts to be deducted, based on the agreed 8% levy.

	<b>No. of Schools with an excess</b>	<b>Total Amount</b>
Nursery	0	£0
Primary	4	£2,125
Secondary	3	£1,576
Special	4	£6,213
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>£9,914</b>

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Forum notes the report.

**David Armstrong**  
**Interim Director of Children's Services**