

WIRRAL COUNCIL

WIRRAL SCHOOLS FORUM 3 JULY 2012

REPORT OF THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

SCHOOLS BUDGET OUTTURN 2011-12

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report outlines the year end position for the 2011-12 Schools Budget. At this time the accounts are provisional and are subject to audit. The Forum are asked to note the report.

1. OUTTURN 2011-12

The Schools Budget Outturn is shown in the attached Appendix. There is an overall underspend of £14,026, arising from a small reduction in the cost of the £250 pay award paid to staff earning below £21,000.

There are a number of outturn variations which are briefly described. In addition a number of contributions have been made to reserves. These are summarised below together with an outline of their purpose.

i) **Early Years £1,100,000cr**

The underspend in Early Years arises partly from final Standards Fund balances which have been used to fund some Early Years Extension costs in the first term and partly from take up of hours and flexibility supplements being less than anticipated.

ii) **School Meals £235,000cr**

The meals trading position improved during the year, paid meals income has exceeded targets and operating costs have reduced following EVR and an extensive labour review. Maintaining this position in the future will reduce the need for a central subsidy.

iii) **SEN £570,000cr**

This is a £10m budget covering Statements, SEN Support, Independent Residential Schools and Home Tuition. There is an underspend in the Statements budget that more than offsets the costs of Residential provision. No new commitments were agreed for SEN initiatives or for Exceptional Needs.

iv) **Planned Programmed Maintenance £566,000**

The Forum agreed to fund school PPM costs of up to £649,000 from the Schools Budget at its meeting of 24th January 2012. The outturn expenditure transferred was £566,000.

v) **Schools Contingency**

The budget in this area of £1,107,400 has been fully committed. Expenditure includes the following:

- Closing Schools £331,000
- Special place trigger £138,000
- Excluded pupil Top-up / Support £43,000
- Salary protection £21,000
- Pupil funding ex Cole Street £222,000
- Gilbrook Base £39,000
- KSI Class Size £22,000
- Pension Costs £29,000
- Rents £18,000
- Rates adjustment £29,000
- Other £21,000
- Balance carried forward in reserves £194,000

vi) **Contribution to Combined Balances**

The expenditure of £1,193,100 is in the following areas:

- Observatory School Transport £58,000
- Discretionary Rate Relief £270,000
- School Improvement £360,000
- Pay Harmonisation £450,000
- LSCB contribution £30,000
- Schools Sports Coordinator £25,000

vii) **Dedicated Schools Grant £23,298,000**

Wirral received a small amount of additional DSG as a result of the final settlement for 2011-12 (£165,000) and this has been transferred to reserves. The adjustment above is in respect of academy budgets £23,075,000 and LACSEG £223,000 and reflects the payment of budget shares directly by the Education Funding Agency.

viii) **DSG Reserves £2,256,000**

There are a number of DSG related balances that are being held as Earmarked Reserves at 31st March. These are:

- The costs of Automatic Meter readers £415,000
The reserve (funded from the 2010-11 Schools budget) will cover the cost of AMR's in schools when they are installed later this year.
- JE and Harmonisation Reserve £1,241,000
The reserve will meet the backdated costs of the final phase of JE and any appeals / settlements. The loan of £2m from the Council has been repaid.

- Schools Contingency £194,000
This is the budget that was unallocated during the year. It is carried forward to meet significant unforeseen costs in excess of the budget provision.
- Advanced Skills Teachers £136,000
The uncommitted balance in 2011-12 has been carried forward to meet potential Summer Term costs.
- City Learning Centres £105,000
This is an uncommitted balance in 2011-12 which will be used to meet potential summer term costs or large equipment failure / replacement costs.
- Unallocated DSG from 2011-12 £165,000
This balance will be included in the Schools Budget for 2013-14.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Forum note the report.

David Armstrong
Acting Director of Children's Services

Schools Budget and Outturn 2011-12

Appendix 1

2010-11 Actual £		2011-12 Budget £	2011-12 Outturn £	2011-12 Variance £
	Schools			
78,521,287	Primary Schools	88,981,900	88,982,053	153
77,317,812	Secondary Schools	95,326,600	72,092,259	(23,234,341)
14,285,458	Special Schools	16,004,800	16,004,801	1
1,143,990	Early Years	10,263,900	9,163,045	(1,100,855)
171,268,547		210,577,200	186,242,159	(24,335,041)
	Centrally Managed Budgets			
118,761	School Meals Service	236,400	1,156	(235,244)
0	Carbon Reduction	189,400	239,776	50,376
164,058	Minority Ethnic Achievement Service	292,800	252,115	(40,685)
0	Advanced Skills Teachers	317,100	317,100	0
4,357,797	Statements	5,208,200	4,723,917	(484,283)
2,215,629	Support For SEN	2,423,300	2,043,957	(379,343)
937,588	Wirral Alternative Schools Programme	1,047,400	998,585	(48,815)
281,238	Education Out Of School	246,200	246,200	0
302,448	OLEA	204,900	138,276	(66,624)
4,812,767	Early Years	562,000	518,762	(43,238)
2,963,278	Independent Special School Fees	2,474,000	2,696,483	222,483
160,093	Library Service	204,900	196,773	(8,127)
66,769	Licences & Subscriptions	72,000	60,107	(11,893)
107,898	Insurances	65,400	36,711	(28,689)
459,300	Admissions	412,900	420,300	7,400
1,675,924	School Specific Contingencies	1,107,400	1,107,400	0
983,474	Special Staff Costs	938,500	955,913	17,413
206	Schools Forum	10,600	229	(10,371)
160,730	Miscellaneous	177,300	159,874	(17,426)
442,100	Contributions to Combined Budgets	1,193,100	1,193,100	0
0	School Intervention	674,500	542,598	(131,902)
0	City Learning Centres	814,700	814,700	(0)
0	PPM	0	566,145	566,145
33,133	Standards Fund	0	0	0
1,058,910	Additional Contribution to Harmonisation Reserve		1,665,638	1,665,638
21,302,101		18,873,000	19,895,815	1,022,815
(192,389,000)	Dedicated School Grant	(229,260,200)	(205,962,000)	23,298,200
181,648	Net Expenditure	190,000	175,974	(14,026)