



Education
Funding
Agency

Department for Education
Sanctuary Buildings
Great Smith Street
London SW1P 3BT

Tel: 020 7340 8266

www.education.gov.uk

Richard Longster
Chair, Wirral Schools Forum
Hamilton Building
Conway Street
Birkenhead
Wirral CH41 4FD

21 November 2012

WIRRAL EARLY YEARS CENSUS ERROR

Thank you for your letter dated 19 October which I received under cover of an email from Colleen Halpin dated 29 October. I am sorry not to have replied earlier.

The issue of the error and its impact on the Dedicated Schools Grant of Wirral has been the subject of extensive correspondence between the Authority and both Ministers and officials here. As you may know the Minister of State, David Laws MP, met Alison McGovern MP and David Armstrong from Wirral last week. The Minister confirmed the earlier decision and explained his basis for doing so.

Separately Peter Lauener, the Chief Executive of the Education Funding Agency wrote to the chief executive, Graham Burgess, on 2 November and set out the reasons for the decision. I am sending a copy of his letter with this one.

Like Peter, I regret the impact that this error is having on Wirral, but sustain the need to maintain the Department's procedure for errors of this sort.

Yours sincerely

Dugald Sandeman
Maintained Schools Division