

WIRRAL COUNCIL

WIRRAL SCHOOLS FORUM 22nd JANUARY 2014

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

De-Delegation of School Budgets

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report seeks a decision by Forum representatives of maintained schools on the possible de-delegation of a number of services to schools, where there is a preference to continue a central service.

2. BACKGROUND

In 2013-14 following DfE requirements a number of services were delegated to schools that were previously provided centrally by the LA. There are some areas where Schools Forum members, in their relevant phase, are able to decide, on behalf of their schools, that funding should be de-delegated and taken out of formula budgets before schools receive them. These amounts would then continue to be held centrally. Regulations provide for different decisions being made for each phase. The members eligible to vote are shown on the attached table.

3. BUDGETS FOR DE-DELEGATION

- **Contingency**

The budget for exceptional/unforeseen costs that it would be unreasonable for governing bodies to meet.

- **Special Staff Costs**

Teacher maternity, paternity and trade union facility costs for both teaching and non-teaching staff.

The budget for Maternity and paternity costs have increased by £150,000 to reflect overall increases in costs.

There is no change to the budget for Trade Union facility time of £141,400. The DfE have this month published guidance on Trade Union Facility Time for schools and academies. The document sets out a number of key points and confirms that Trade Union Representatives are entitled to reasonable paid time off during working hours to undertake Trade Union duties and to undertake relevant training. Wirral like many LA's has a local facility agreement in place

The budget will in 2014-15 include non teacher representation. This cost of £35,000 will be met from within the existing TU facility time budget.

Guidance refers to decisions that can be taken by Maintained Schools for delegation and de-delegation. Where funding is not de-delegated schools would manage their own facility time budget and organise their own facility time arrangements.

- **School Library Service**
The provision of learning resources to schools, such as books, artefacts, posters and DVDs.
- **Insurance**
The cost of governor's liability to Aided schools.
- **Minority Ethnic Achievement Service (MEAS)**
A service supporting children and young people for whom English is not their first language.
- **Free School Meal (FSM) Eligibility**
The cost of administering the applications for FSMs.
- **Behaviour Support**
The cost of a small team working with Primary Schools and a number of embedded police in Wirral's secondary and special schools.

4. DECISIONS TAKEN IN 2013-14

In the January 2013 meeting members of the forum made the following decisions:-

- The Primary Forum Representatives agreed, unanimously, to de-delegate all of the budget areas.
- The Secondary Forum Representatives agreed to de-delegate contingency, special staff costs and FSM eligibility.
- The Secondary Forum Representatives did not agree to de-delegate insurance and MEAS

In addition, the Secondary Forum Representatives agreed to de-delegate Behaviour Support for 2013-14 only.

5. SUMMARY OF BUDGETS FOR DE-DELEGATION

The tables below identify the budget for primary and secondary schools, how the budget is allocated through the formula and the amount per pupil deducted if it is de-delegated.

Primary Budget	Amount Delegated £	Method of Delegation	*Amount per Pupil £	Average per School £ (300 pupils)
Contingency	92,600	Pupil	3.77	1,131
Special Staff Costs	536,100	Pupil	21.84	6,552
School Library Service	198,400	Pupil	8.08	2,424
Insurance	55,200	Pupil	2.25	675
MEAS	253,800	EAL	516.5	3,099
FSM Eligibility	10,100	FSM	1.98	123
Behaviour Support	62,000	SEN PA	11.97	758
Total	1,208,200			14,762

Secondary Budget	Amount Delegated £	Method of Delegation	*Amount per Pupil £	Average per School £ (1,000 pupils)
Contingency	50,000	Pupil	2.99	2,990
Special Staff Costs	504,000	Pupil	30.18	30,180
Insurance	10,200	Pupil	0.61	610
MEAS	29,900	EAL	405.44	1,797
FSM Eligibility	8,800	FSM	2.94	527
Behaviour Support	75,500	SEN PA	22.26	4,522
Total	678,400			40,626

* Amount per pupil not yet confirmed.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Primary Forum Representatives agree to de-delegate each of the following budgets for the financial year 2014-15:-
 - a. Contingency
 - b. Special Staff Costs
 - c. School Library Service
 - d. Insurance
 - e. MEAS
 - f. FSM eligibility
 - g. Behaviour support

2. The Secondary Forum Representatives agree to de-delegate each of the following budgets for the financial year 2014-15:-
 - a. Contingency
 - b. Special Staff Costs
 - c. Insurance
 - d. MEAS
 - e. FSM eligibility
 - f. Behaviour support

Julia Hassall
Director of Children's Services

Forum Members eligible to Vote

Primary Representatives

Gill Pritchard	Primary Headteacher	Oxton St Saviours
Mary Walker	Primary Headteacher	Portland Primary
Deborah Marchant	Primary Headteacher	Eastway
Chris Penn	Primary Headteacher	St Peters CE Heswall Primary School
Gill Zsapka	Primary Headteacher	Heygarth Primary
Matthew Brown	Primary Governor	Great Meols Primary
Audrey Moore	Primary Governor	Somerville Primary
Ken Frost	Primary Governor	New Brighton Primary
Lyn Ireland	Primary Governor	St Werburgs Catholic Primary
Janet Devine	Primary Governor	Hillside Primary

Secondary Representatives

Brian Jordan	Secondary Headteacher	Bebington High School
Jane Gordon	Secondary governor	Ridgeway High School
Adrian Whiteley	Secondary Headteacher	Mosslands