

WIRRAL COUNCIL

WIRRAL SCHOOLS FORUM

18TH JANUARY 2017

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|-------------------------|--|
| SUBJECT: | SCHOOLS BUDGET 2017-18 |
| WARD/S AFFECTED: | ALL |
| REPORT OF: | DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES |
| KEY DECISION? | YES |

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report outlines the Schools Budget for 2017-18 and describes the financial changes to be considered by the Forum and Cabinet. The Forum are asked for their views on the proposed budget of £252,127,600 for early years, maintained schools, academies, colleges and providers for the coming year.

2.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 2.1 The Schools Funding Allocations were issued by the Department for Education on 20th December 2016. The format of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) is changing following lengthy discussion and more recent consultation. In 2017-18 there will be a new national formula for Early Years, whilst changes for the Schools and High Needs have been deferred for 12 months, meaning that these allocations are broadly similar to previous years.

In summary the main changes to DSG in 2017-18 are:

- A new Early Years block which will increase the Early Years hourly rates paid to providers (in total by £1.4m)
- Additional grant to cover the 15 hour extension of Early Years for working parents from September 2017 (£2.4m)
- The transfer of funding in respect of Education Services Grant Retained Duties of £730,000
- The transfer of High Needs funding for post 16 FE places of £780,000.
- Additional High Needs funding (growth) of £550,000

2.2 2017-18 Pupil Premium £17.7m

In addition to DSG Pupil Premium provides funding targeted towards deprivation. Now in its seventh year rates have been protected.

- Early Years £302 pa for 3 and 4 year old children from low income families.
- Primary school £1,320 pa
- Secondary school £935 pa

For Pupils who are or have been eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) in the last six years

- Each Looked After Child or child that has been adopted since December 2005 £1,900
 - Each child of a parent in the Armed Forces £300
- Final allocations will be based on data collected in the January census for current numbers of FSM's (and those over the previous 5 years) and LAC Census data collected in March 2017.
- The work undertaken to maximise FSM take up, including the opt out initiative helps to maximise numbers and therefore the funding received in schools.

2.3 Grant Funding

The meal rate for Universal Infant Free School meals will stay at £2.30 per meal for the academic year 2017-18.

The SEND Implementation Grant will continue (with funding increased to £217,000 from £196,000) to support the implementation of SEND reforms. In addition a grant is provided to all LA's to support a strategic review of High Needs provision, Wirral will receive £132,000.

The funding for Primary PE and Sport and Extended Rights for Home to School Transport are still to be confirmed but are likely to continue.

There is an Education Services Transitional Grant of £943,000. This provides funding for the period April to August 2017 to provide Education Services to maintained schools associated with School Improvement, Education Social Workers, Premature Retirement Costs and other statutory duties. From September however funding is withdrawn. Guidance from the EFA says "We recognise the LA's will need to use other sources of funding for Education Services once the General Funding Rate has been removed", this can include funding from maintained schools with the agreement of Schools Forum. Proposals for ESG are considered later in this report.

Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) £251m

- 2.3.1 DSG is currently made up of 3 unringfenced blocks which indicate the level of expenditure anticipated in each budget area. At present local spending decisions can reallocate resources according to needs and priorities eg from Schools areas to High Needs or vice versa. However given there will be greater restrictions and ringfencing in future years this is not recommended. The budgets presented have not top sliced block allocations. There is however some small movement to take account of the distribution of budgets that were previously held centrally (School Improvement, CLC's etc). This has resulted in a transfer of £106,000. Taking account of the National Funding Formula some of this adjustment may only be possible for 1 year.
- 2.3.2 The allocations for the Schools funding block have been updated for changes in pupil numbers. Pupil numbers are those recorded in the October 2016 census.
- 2.3.3 Early Years funding is based on a combination of the census in January 2017 and January 2018. The dates for the Early Years Census mean that the exact DSG will not be finalised until June 2018. The grant used for the budget are based on the current indicative figures (using the January 2016 census) and any known or anticipated changes after this date eg for the 15 hour extension in September 2017.
- 2.3.4 The High Needs Block provides resources to fund high needs students aged 0 – 24, including the Hospital School. Funding has been transferred for baseline place numbers at Wirral Met College (72) and Birkenhead 6th Form College (60) and additional funding has been provided to meet growing needs across all authorities. For Wirral an additional £550,000 has been included for this. Growth can be used flexibly

to make adjustments locally to high needs places as well as to the top ups provided and a number of changes are described later in this report.

2.3.5 The Blocks in their current format can be summarised as follows:

| | Block | Pupil Numbers | Funding Per Pupil £ | Allocation £ |
|----|-----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. | Schools Block | 43,024 | 4,552.86 | 195,882,200 |
| 2. | Early Years Block | 3,116 | 4,094.50 | 12,757,600 |
| | Early Years Extension(7/12) | 1,014 | 4,094.50 | 2,423,600 |
| | 2 Year Old funding | 782 | 4,959.00 | 3,877,900 |
| | Nursery Protection | | | 517,900 |
| | Disability Access Fund | | | 100,000 |
| | Early Years Pupil Premium | | | 180,000 |
| 3. | High Needs Block | | | 35,056,000 |
| | | | Total | <u>250,795,200</u> |

Notes:

1. Schools Block pupil numbers include academies. Numbers have been adjusted for additional pupils arriving in reception between October and January (the Reception Uplift) and for places in SEN bases. The pupil funding rate of £4,552.86 has been increased by £19.58 compared to 2016-17, partly for ESG retained duties (£15) and also as a result of the EFA's budget base lining exercise over the summer.
2. Early Years pupils including 2 year olds. These are based on the January 2016 census, any anticipated changes and numbers for the Early Years Extension (and estimated 1,690 children).
3. High Needs Block includes all funding (both pre and post 16) for pupils in Schools and funding for students aged 16-24 in Further Education or placed with Independent Special Providers.

2.3.6 Schools Block £196m

This funding covers the delegated budgets to mainstream schools and academies totalling £195m. In addition the block funds a number of budgets that are managed centrally on behalf of schools:

- Admissions
- Schools Forum
- Capital Expenditure from Revenue (PPM and PFI costs)
- Contributions to combined budgets
- Schools budget retirement costs (school closure)
- School Licences

The treatment of these budgets is in accordance with national guidance. The changes to a number of areas are considered later in this report.

2.3.7 Early Years Block £20m

This Block funds the costs of Early Years Education for 2, 3 and 4 year old children in schools, nurseries and private voluntary and independent providers for both the universal and targeted entitlement. Most of this funding is directed through the Early Years Single Funding Formula (EYSFF).

There are small elements covering SEN costs and some central Early Years support costs. Amounts held centrally are within the new nationally defined limits.

2.3.8 High Needs Block £35m

The make up of this block is complex. It is based on the “place plus” funding system introduced by the DfE in April 2013 and includes:

- Special schools (pre and post 16), school bases and non-maintained special schools. All receive a base level funding of £10,000 per place.
- Alternative Provision Bases and Emslie Morgan Academy funding of £10,000 per place.
- Place funding in Wirral’s FE provision at Wirral Met College and Birkenhead 6th Form College of £6,000 per place.
- Additional funding over and above that provided for places in the form of “top ups” provided on a per pupil basis. The top up, or “plus” element of funding, takes account of the agreed assessed needs of pupils and is paid by the “commissioner” responsible; this may be Wirral Children’s Services, a school or another Local Authority. Wirral’s top up system uses 5 bands to allocate funding across special schools, resourced bases and alternative provision. Non-maintained Special Schools also receive a top up.
- The costs of Top Ups for all education and training for post 16 specialist provision for Learners with Learning Difficulties or Disabilities (LLDD) in colleges and private providers.
- The Hospital Schools budget.
- The cost of placements in Independent Special Schools.
- The costs of Education, Health and Care Plans / Statements.
- The provision centrally of SEN support.

2.4 Academies

Currently there are 16 secondary academies, 2 primary academies and 1 Alternative Provision Academy – Emslie Morgan. Academies are independent from the local authority and are funded directly from the EFA, however Regulations require Wirral to continue to calculate their budgets in order to determine the total grant reduction; for Wirral this is estimated to be £76m in 2017-18.

2.5 Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG)

The MFG will continue in 2017-18, protecting schools from large formula changes and changes in pupil data. The MFG rate remains at minus 1.5%.

It is likely that the MFG will continue for some time and is a feature of future funding reforms.

2.6 2016-17 Budget Changes

Proposed 2017-18 Schools Budget savings

There are no specific budget savings proposed as part of this Schools Budget report. However the Council continues to face significant pressures and will need to identify cost reductions totalling £132m over the next 4 years of which £45m are in 2017-18. Some of these reductions will have a bearing on the level of support and services provided to schools; none however are directly funded by the Schools Budget. Planned reductions are summarised in 3 themes – Delivering Differently, Income and Resources and Service Changes.

Some specific proposals schools may need to be aware of include:

- Changes to home to school transport, leisure centre provision and charges, changes to business rates relief and changes in the use of Children's centres

Final decisions will be taken at Budget Cabinet on 20th February 2017.

2.6.1 Primary, Secondary and Academy Budgets £195m

The significant changes within this area are:

- The net increase in school rolls, resulting in an overall budget increase of £2m. There are 508 more pupils on roll in October 2016 compared to October 2015. The estimated secondary numbers for pupils aged 11-15 have risen from 17,031 to 17,183 an increase of 132 (1%). Primary numbers have also increased from 25,486 to 25,842 (a 1.4% increase).
- An increase in rates payable of £44,800. There is an overall increase reflecting inflation, rates revaluation and transitional relief.
- A number of budgets that were previously held at the centre totalling £4m have now been delegated to schools. These changes take account of the proposals for services supported by ESG and the EFA's updated guidance on Historic Commitments and Combined Budgets. Delegation includes:
 - Remaining CLC budgets (excluding PFI), Wellbeing and Staff Surveys of £206,000
 - School Improvement £27,000 and School Intervention £485,000
 - Planned Programmed Maintenance £224,000
 - The PFI Affordability Gap of £3,036,500, which has been increased by the estimated cost of inflation - £150,000.
- There is a small amount of Headroom within the budget. This arises from a difference between the pupil funding received in DSG for rising primary rolls and the primary funding allocated within the ISB. Allowing for a small increase in Business Rates, there is a balance remaining of £272,400. This headroom, together with part of the remaining City Learning Centre budget provides the additional funding for PFI schools of £400,000, which was agreed at the last meeting.
- School budgets continue to be supported by reserves; £380,000 will be used in 2016-17. These are one-off balances and are not likely to continue beyond 2017-18 or be included with the new National Funding Formula.

2.6.2 6th Form Funding

The Schools Budget includes funding for High Needs students in 6th Forms. All other post 16 funding is through the National Formula.

The national funding formula for 6th Forms is based on lagged learner numbers to which a national rate is applied for each student of £4,000. This rate is weighted for study programme costs and student retention. There are additional amounts for disadvantage and student financial support.

The 2015 Spending Review confirmed the cash protection of the national base rate per student for 16 to 19 year olds in 6th forms, colleges and FE for the rest of the parliament. In 2017 the changes to allocations received will be for formula protection, which continues to be phased out, the Bursary Fund following the introduction of free meals and the funding provided requiring students to have or be studying for Maths and English GCSE's.

It is anticipated that schools will be informed of their allocations for the academic year 2017-18 in February.

2.6.3 High Needs Places £16.0m

From 2017-18 the place funding for students in Further Education (Wirral Met College and Birkenhead 6th Form) has been transferred into this budget and all future changes to provision will be made from the within this budget and the overall resources available.

Places in specialist provision within Local Authority areas continue to be determined by each LA in consultation with schools and providers. There is flexibility to make adjustments so that places broadly reflected take up by pupils and a number of place changes have been proposed by Wirral that were considered at the last Schools Forum meeting. These have been reported to the EFA where necessary and have been reflected in the Schools Budget as follows:

FYE of changes made in 2016-17

- Elleray Park increase by 11 places to 110
- Stanley increase by 21 places to 120
- Lyndale closure and reduction of 40 places
- Claremount increase by 10 to 204
- Bebington ERP reduce by 5 to 20
- Birkenhead Park ERP reduce by 10 to 10
- Kingsway Academy ERP reduce by 10 to 20
- Birkenhead 6th Form reduce by 5 to 60
- Wirral Met College increase by 12 to 72

Changes from September 2017

- Claremount increase by 12 to 216
- Townfield ERP increase by 1 from 11 to 12
- Hilbre ERP increase by 15 to 30
- Kingsway Academy ERP closure and reduce by 20
- Birkenhead Park closure and reduce by 10
- Emslie Morgan AP increase by 20 to 100
- Birkenhead 6th Form increase by 5 to 65
- Wirral Met College increase by 45 to 117

There are no changes proposed to the Hospital School

The place value changes have an additional cost of £165,600 in 2017-18 and a further £199,000 (FYE) in 2018-19.

2.6.4 Early Years £18.9m

The provision for 3 and 4 year olds is based on 5,193 children (3,116 FTE) and will roll over at its current level. The EFA have estimated that 1,690 (1/3rd) will take up the extended offer in September 2017 and provision for this has been included within the budget.

The budget reflects the changes to the Early Years Funding Formula which is reported elsewhere on the agenda. The average hourly rate (including supplements) has increased from £3.68 to £4.00, a 9% increase.

Take up of the 2 year old offer has increased during the year and is currently at 80% of those children where eligibility is indicated (1,303 children = 782 FTE). The overall

funding has also increased and in 2017-18 it is recommended that the hourly rate should increase from £4.85 to £5.12, a 6% increase.

The estimated value of the Early Years Pupil Premium is £180,000, reflecting a take up of about 11%.

2.6.5 SEN Top Ups £17.8m

The proposed budget for SEN Top Ups is £17.8m. There is an increase / growth within the High Needs DSG Block of £550,000. Some further information is needed from the EFA to confirm the final adjustments that will be made.

Growth has been allocated to increased places in maintained and Independent Special Schools and to increased top ups as follows.

SEN Top Ups 2017/18

| | 2016-17 | 2017-18 |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Statements (£4,174,800) | | |
| Early Years | 292,200 | 450,000 |
| Primary | 1,460,000 | 1,585,000 |
| Secondary (including 6th Forms) | 1,827,000 | 1,920,000 |
| Personal Budgets | 108,500 | 108,500 |
| Other | 111,300 | 111,300 |
| Top Ups (£13,608,500) | | |
| Special Schools (and 6th Forms) | 6,406,300 | 6,527,400 |
| SEN units - resourced and alternative provision | 602,000 | 704,000 |
| EMAP | 243,800 | 367,000 |
| Further Education, 6th Form College and providers | 728,000 | 946,000 |
| Exceptional Need | 645,000 | 504,100 |
| Nursing support | 127,100 | 127,100 |
| Contingency | 434,000 | 314,000 |
| Independent Non Maintained Special Schools | 3,689,000 | 3,770,000 |
| Home Teaching | 308,900 | 348,900 |
| Total | 16,983,100 | 17,783,300 |

Changes which have been identified as part of the budget review are:

- **Special Schools.** The top up budgets have been increased by £121,100, reflecting additional numbers and also the delegation of central budgets for School Improvement etc.
- **Statements.** A net increase of £375,800, increasing provision within Early Years by 50% and a greater number / cost of IPFA's / EHCP's
- **Independent Special Schools.** An increase of £81,000. There are currently 89 places, over half of which are at West Kirby Residential School. The proposed budget takes account of these numbers and makes provision for 19 leavers at the end of the summer term and 7 new placements.
- **Further Education and 6th Form College.** An increase of £218,000, mainly in respect of the additional numbers identified in FE college provision. **Exceptional Need** a reduction of £141,000. This budget was increased temporarily in 2016-17 to fund the increasing numbers and cost of support of complex and challenging children with high needs. Some pressures have been contained during the year, further work is needed and will be the subject of ongoing reports / reviews.
- **Contingency.** The contingency of £314,000 covers the potential costs of:
 - The 90% guarantee to maintained schools to limit the demands on low cost high incidence SEN budgets used to support statements.

- Any unforeseen consequences arising from top ups, exceptional cases or the review of High Needs.
- Any mismatch between provider places and places taken up.
- Inflationary pressures within Non Maintained Special Schools.

The remaining budget is thought to be sufficient at this time taking account of the known commitments in the current year. However there is now little flexibility, meaning budgets will need to be closely monitored.

This is a brief description of the changes that have been put in place with an increased cost overall of £1.2m. Locally and nationally there are significant budget pressures for High Needs. These have been eased by growth within the High Needs Block Grant allocation and funding from Early Years. However this growth alone does not address all needs. The use of reserves and contingencies give only temporary funding; a more permanent budget framework will need to be established alongside the new national High Needs Formula from 2018-19.

2.6.6 Use of Reserves

DSG reserves held total £2.5m and were agreed as part of the year end accounts for 2015-16. The Schools Budget for 2016-17 is likely to use £0.9m of these.

In the 2017-18 budget £0.6m of reserves will also be used (£380,000 within Schools and £189,000 in High Needs).

This leaves reserves of £1m which are assigned mainly to costs of pay harmonisation.

3.0 INFLATION

- 3.1 No direct provision is included within the budget for pay awards. At this stage a 1% award for teaching and support staff is anticipated alongside an Apprenticeship Levy of 0.5%. The additional costs arising from these changes in schools together with the full year effect of changes in 2016-17 will need to be met from existing school budgets.

There is no general provision for price inflation, although costs for school rates and PFI continues to reflect RPI increases.

4.0 CENTRALLY HELD SCHOOL BUDGETS

- 4.1 As in previous years the budgets held for Contingency, Special Staff (maternity and trade union duties), the School Library Service, Insurance (Governors Aided), Behaviour Support, the Minority Ethnic Achievement Service and FSM Eligibility have been delegated to schools. A decision is required for any de-delegation of these on behalf of maintained schools.

In addition and new for this year are decisions required for the de-delegation of any costs associated with School Improvement or General Duties as they relate to the former Education Services Grant.

The centrally held budgets for 2017-18 cover:

- the continuing premature retirement costs of teachers and staff that have arisen from closing schools (£60,000 a reduction of £26,000)
- the cost of licences for copyright and music in all schools and academies resulting from a national agreement (£226,100 an increase of £2,300)

- School Admissions (£341,800)
- Contributions to combined budgets (£875,600).
- Schools Forum £10,600
- Early Years £518,700
- The budget for the PFI Affordability Gap which was previously held centrally (£3,036,500) has been delegated to PFI schools (including an increase of £150,000 funded by the LA.)
- Retained duties re the former Education Services Grant of £730,000

4.2 **School Admissions (£341,800)**

This budget is required to meet the costs of supporting and administering the authority's school admissions scheme (including the 11 plus)

4.7 **School Copyright licences (£226,100)**

The DfE purchases a single national licence for all state funded schools. Licences cover areas such as the Copyright Licence Agency, the Education Recording Agency, a School Printed Music Licence and the Performing Rights Society.

4.8 **Contributions to Combined Budgets**

School Funding Regulations continue to allow contributions to support services that would otherwise fall outside the Schools Budget. These budgets combine with other council resources for the educational benefit of children.

There must be no new commitments or increases in expenditure from that agreed in 2012-13 (as confirmed by the EFA in their publication "2017 to 2018 schools funding : historic commitments supplementary guidance for LA's").

The budgets are shown below:-

- **Discretionary Rate Relief £106,600**
This budget funds continuing costs for Discretionary Rate Relief in Voluntary Aided schools.
- **School Improvement £330,000 (previously £359,900)**
This budget supports the continuing funding for existing staff with permanent contracts (3 + admin support).
- **Local Safeguarding Children's Board £30,000**
The LSCB provides governance of child protection arrangements, undertakes serious case reviews, training and employs a Designated Officer for Allegations. The Board is funded from partner organisations including Social Care, Schools, Police, Health and Probation. The £30,000 contribution from the Central Schools Budget matches the amount received from Health. There is also a £10,000 contribution from the High Needs Budget.
- **School Intervention £136,000 (previously £674,500)**
This budget supports the continuing funding for 2 existing staff. The remaining intervention budgets have been delegated to schools.
- **PFI - City Learning Centres £68,500 (previously £304,700)**
The 3 City Learning Centres closed in summer 2016 after which budgets were delegated to schools. There is an ongoing requirement to fund PFI costs for 2 of the 3 buildings. Provision has been made within the council for some costs

- (£115,700) and also the Home Tuition Service (£40,000). This residual budget is required until a more lasting solution is found.
- **PFI Support £61,800**
A small team within Asset Management manages the PFI contract on behalf of the Council and provides support / advice to PFI schools. This budget provides part of the funding needed to support the ongoing contract management.
 - **LACES £140,500**
The service reviews the educational progress of Looked After Children, provides training to staff and some direct support to pupils.

| Combined Budget Summary | £ |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Discretionary Rate Relief top ups | 106,600 |
| School Improvement | 330,000 |
| LSCB Contribution | 30,000 |
| School Intervention | 136,000 |
| PFI – CLC's | 68,500 |
| LACES | 140,500 |
| PFI Support Team | 61,800 |
| Governors Forum | 2,200 |
| Total | 875,600 |

The Combined Budgets in 2016-17 were £1,698,800.

Education Services Grant £730,000

In the 2015 Spending review the DfE announced a saving of £600m by removing the ESG General Funding rate for schools from 2017-18. The ESG General rate represents spend on statutory support to maintained schools (not academies), which in future will cover functions such as Internal Audit, aspects of LMS / Finance, Children's Services support, school redundancies and some costs of asset management.

At the same time the EFA have transferred an amount in respect of ESG Retained Duties for all schools and academies into DSG. These duties also cover some of the above and in addition the work of the Education Social Work service. The transferred amount of £730,000 is based on an amount of £15 per pupil.

It is recommended the amount of £730,000 is agreed as a contribution to ESG retained services.

In addition that £291,600 is agreed (and de-delegated) on behalf of Maintained Primary, Secondary and Special schools towards the part year costs of ESG General Duties from September 2017 (full year cost £500,000). This amount is in respect of Internal Audit, LMS / Finance support, school redundancies and asset management. The additional cost of this can be offset by amounts delegated this year for School Improvement, Intervention and PPM. This matter is also considered as part of the report on De-delegation elsewhere on the agenda.

The position is summarised in the table below

ESG Services

(Estimated costs per 2016-17 Section 251 Budget return)

| | Retained Duty | General Duty | School Improvement | Total |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Estimated cost | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Education Social Workers | 387,600 | - | - | 387,600 |
| School Improvement Asset Management | - | - | 302,900 | 302,900 |
| Strategy / Regulation | 80,000 | 80,000 | - | 160,000 |
| Premature retirement costs | 532,500 | 532,500 | - | 1,065,000 |
| Health Therapies | - | 128,300 | - | 128,300 |
| | - | 18,500 | - | 18,500 |
| | 1,000,100 | 759,300 | 302,900 | 2,062,300 |
| Funding | | | | |
| Schools Budget / de- delegation | 730,000 | 291,600 | | |
| Transition Funding | 270,100 | 467,700 | | |
| | 1,000,100 | 759,300 | | |

Further work is needed to finalise budgets for 2017-18 and to provide a sustainable level of services over the medium term. In 2017-18 however whilst there is a shortfall between the cost of services and the funding available, this can initially be covered by the transitional grant.

School Improvement Budget and Funding 2017-18

Separate funding will be put in place for School Improvement; this takes account of a number of changes made by the EFA. These changes are described in a separate report and include provision for de-delegation. The initial proposals for 2017-18 are summarised below.

School Improvement

| | 2017-18 | Full Year |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| Estimated Cost | | |
| April to September - Staff and support | 211,000 | |
| Intervention | 167,000 | |
| Sept. to March - 3 staff, admin and support | 280,000 | 480,000 |
| Intervention + Consultant HT | 204,000 | 350,000 |
| | 862,000 | 830,000 |
| Funding | | |
| ESG Transition | 205,200 | |
| Combined Budget | 466,000 | |
| De-delegation / buyback | 190,800 | |
| | 862,000 | |

5.0 BUDGET TIMETABLE

5.1 The Schools Budget and advice from the Forum will be considered by Cabinet on 20th February 2017.

6.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The budget for 2016-17 is compiled from the base budget for 2016-17 approved by Council on 3rd March 2016 and updated for any issues identified in this report. The projected budget (DSG, reserves and council contribution) is £252,127,600 and is shown in Appendix 1.

7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- i) That the views of the Schools Forum are sought on the Schools Budget for 2017-18 including the use of Headroom, the increases within SEN and the changes in central costs.
- ii) That the delegation of PFI costs to schools are approved, subject to finalising amended schools agreements and confirmation from the EFA.
- iii) That in accordance with EFA guidelines the Forum approves the continuing Contributions to Combined Budgets of £875,600 in 2017-18 for:
 - Discretionary Rate Relief top ups
 - School Improvement
 - LSCB Contribution
 - School Intervention
 - PFI – CLC's
 - LACES
 - Governors Forum
 - PFI Support Team
- iv) That the reserves totalling £568,900 used to set the Schools Budget are agreed.
- v) That the contribution to the cost of ESG retained duties of £730,000 is agreed.
- vi) The Forum agree the transfer of £106,000 from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block following the transfer of central budgets to schools
- vii) That the High Needs Working Group review budgets and demands in this area alongside National Funding Formula proposals.
- viii) The Schools Budget and views of the Schools Forum be referred to the budget meeting of Cabinet on 20th February 2017.

Julia Hassall

Director of Children's Services

Appendix 1

Schools Budget Summary 2017-18

| | £000 |
|--|----------------|
| Dedicated Schools Grant | 250,795 |
| Use of DSG and other reserves | 569 |
| Total Grant Funding | 251,364 |
| | |
| Schools Adj Budget Base | 173,215 |
| Add back 2016-17 Academy and High Needs | 69,744 |
| | 242,959 |
| | |
| Change in ISB costs | |
| Net rising rolls | 2,343 |
| Rates and rents | 46 |
| Transfer from central budgets | 842 |
| Transfer PFI Affordability Gap | 3,037 |
| Additional funding in for PFI - FM (Headroom and CLC's) | 400 |
| Transfer FE places (from EFA) | 784 |
| High Needs Places | 65 |
| Early Years increase in hourly rates | 1,389 |
| Early Years increase 15hr Extension | 2,424 |
| Early Years Disabled Access Fund | 100 |
| Early Years Pupil Premium | 115 |
| | 11,545 |
| | |
| Changes in SEN / High Needs Costs | |
| Increase in Top Ups | 665 |
| Transfer from Central budgets | 58 |
| Reduce contingency budgets | (180) |
| Transfer re Home Tuition PFI | 40 |
| Early Years – additional needs | 158 |
| | 741 |
| | |
| Other Changes in Central Costs | |
| Increase (inflation) re PFI contracts | 150 |
| Reduce Combined budgets | (823) |
| Reduce Central Budgets | (3,314) |
| Contribution re ex ESG | 730 |
| Early Years Central costs | 140 |
| | (3,117) |
| | |
| Total Schools Expenditure | 252,128 |
| | |
| Net Schools Budget | 764 |

EDUCATION - SCHOOLS

| | Adj Estimate 2016-17 | Base Estimate 2017-18 |
|---|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Individual Schools Budget | | |
| Primary Schools | 93,463,700 | 100,308,700 |
| Secondary Schools | 27,081,100 | 94,366,800 |
| Special Schools | 8,861,700 | 10,040,000 |
| SEN Bases | 1,701,500 | 2,398,300 |
| EMAP | - | 926,700 |
| Wirral Hospital Schools | 1,356,300 | 1,359,100 |
| 6 th Form / FE | | 1,264,000 |
| Early Years | 14,673,000 | 18,888,200 |
| Individual Schools Budget Total | 147,137,300 | 229,551,800 |
| Central School Costs | | |
| Early Years | 378,700 | 518,700 |
| Admissions | 341,800 | 341,800 |
| School closure / retirement costs | 86,000 | 60,000 |
| Licences and subscriptions | 223,800 | 226,100 |
| Schools Forum | 10,600 | 10,600 |
| Contribution to Combined Budgets | 1,698,800 | 875,600 |
| PPM | 249,000 | - |
| PFI Affordability Gap | 2,886,500 | - |
| Retained Duties – ex ESG | | 730,000 |
| Costs delegated to / de-delegated from schools | | |
| Library Service | 191,700 | - |
| Insurances | 32,300 | - |
| Minority Ethnic Achievement Service | 104,100 | - |
| School Specific Contingencies | 104,300 | - |
| Special Staff Costs | 699,700 | - |
| School Meals | 21,200 | - |
| Behaviour Support | 92,300 | - |
| School Improvement | - | - |
| High Needs Pupils | | |
| Statements | 3,799,000 | 4,174,800 |
| SEN Top Ups | 8,752,200 | 9,175,600 |
| High Needs Contingency | 434,000 | 314,000 |
| Independent Special Schools | 3,689,000 | 3,770,000 |
| Home Tuition | 308,900 | 348,900 |
| Support for SEN | 2,031,500 | 1,971,500 |
| Special School Transport | 58,200 | 58,200 |
| Non delegated School Costs Total | 26,193,600 | 22,575,800 |
| Total School and Central Costs | 173,330,900 | 252,127,600 |
| Dedicated Schools Grant Total | (172,175,500) | (250,795,200) |
| Use of Reserves | (568,900) | (568,900) |
| Grand Total | 586,500 | 763,500 |