

Schools Forum working group

9th January 2018

Attendees:

Michael Forber	Lynn Ireland
Nicola Lightwing	Adrian Whitely
Bernie Cassidy	Lisa Ayling
Amanda Donelan	Jon Bush
Kate Brown	Tony Taylor
Jill Billinge	Kathryn Podmore
Steve Baker	Mark Bellamy
Andy Davies	Andrew Roberts
Margaret Morris	Shaun Allen
Richard Edwards	

Funding Formula

A question was asked about what would happen if the Schools Forum cannot reach a decision regarding the Schools funding formula. If this was the case it is likely that the Schools funding formula would remain as it is now, as the Forum were unable express a view or advise Cabinet. The final decision however would be taken by Cabinet

With regard to the 0.5% top-slice from the Schools Block, without Forum agreement it would need approval from the Secretary of State.

A Survey Monkey had been issued prior to Christmas to seek the views of schools on changes to the funding formula. Results from the survey were as follows:

Q1. For the 2018-19 budget do you support moving 0.5% of money from the Schools block into the High Needs block to implement the High Need review?

Yes – 31 (54%)

No – 26 (46%)

Q2. Would an alternative amount of 0.25% be more acceptable, given the review would be implemented part year?

Yes – 33 (60%)

No – 22 (40%)

Q3. If neither option is supported how should High Needs and the outcome of the review be implemented?

22 responses were received with various comments (see attached).

Q4. If this is the case which of the remaining options would you support?

Option 1 – Introduce NFF in 2018-19	30 (68%)
Option 2 – continue with the existing Wirral formula	1 (2%)
Option 3 – transition and introduce some elements of NFF	13 (30%)

A comment was made that the consultation should have had 2 separate questions – one regarding the funding formula, and one regarding the top-slice.

It was agreed that members would need to know what questions would be taken to Forum on 17th January in advance of head teacher meetings next week and this was discussed later in the meeting.

High Needs Review

Margaret Morris summarised the report of the High Needs review, which outlined the changes recommended, costs of implementation, and the long-term cost reductions.

Primary heads made the point that the processes described in the review, regardless of finances had been extremely well thought through and don't reflect "just another review". It was agreed that this was the first full review of high needs for a long time, and that we need to be creative.

It was agreed that with this level of detail it there may have been agreement in the original funding consultation.

Clarification was made that the top-slice was for one year only, and would have to be agreed again for 2019-20.

A suggestion was made that a further review was needed into levels of top-up and the bandings used. However, bands couldn't be increased until numbers reduced. It was also agreed that we need to minimise pupils in the independent sector.

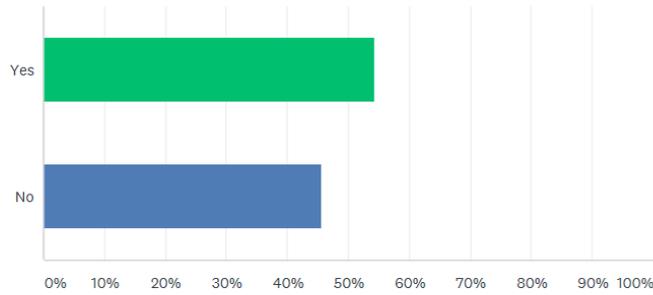
It was agreed that a 0.25% would not be enough to deliver the requirement identified in the review, and this was agreed by all members, and so this would not be proposed at Forum – the question would just be whether to top-slice 0.5% or not.

Q1

Customize Export

For the 2018 2019 budget do you support moving 0.5% of money from the Schools' Block into the High Needs block to implement the High Needs Review?

Answered: 57 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	54.39% 31
No	45.61% 26
TOTAL	57

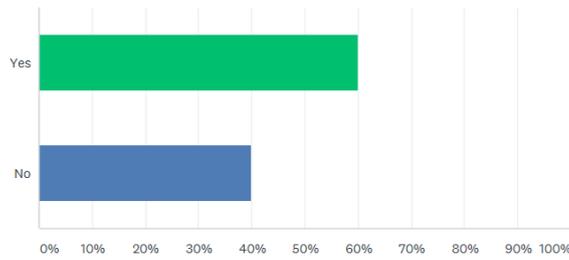
Help!

Q2

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Would an alternative amount of 0.25% be more acceptable, given the review would be implemented part year?

Answered: 55 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	60.00% 33
No	40.00% 22
TOTAL	55

Q3

Export ▼

If neither option is supported how should High Needs and the outcome of the review be implemented?

Answered: 22 Skipped: 36

RESPONSES (22)

TEXT ANALYSIS

MY CATEGORIES

PAID FEATURE

Use text analysis to search and categorize responses; see frequently-used words and phrases. To use Text Analysis, upgrade to a paid plan .

UPGRADE

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Categorize as...

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Search responses

Showing 22 responses

N/A

1/3/2018 3:16 PM

[View respondent's answers](#)

I support the first option,

12/22/2017 5:35 AM

[View respondent's answers](#)

12/20/2017 2:18 PM

[View respondent's answers](#)

Not sure

12/20/2017 12:58 PM

[View respondent's answers](#)

currently, the service is badly managed with limited impact.

I don't think it could be implemented.

12/19/2017 9:17 PM

[View respondent's answers](#)

n/a

12/19/2017 8:53 PM

[View respondent's answers](#)

Schools should have been given further options than those proposed e.g. NNF plus 0.5% or NNF plus 0.25% - with the second being more of a preference personally

12/19/2017 5:33 PM

[View respondent's answers](#)

opt 2

12/19/2017 4:21 PM

[View respondent's answers](#)

As discussed in my previous consultation document, a full review of high needs spend is needed, included a review of all provisions that come from the high needs block, in conjunction with a review and forecast of current and future needs.

12/19/2017 3:47 PM

[View respondent's answers](#)

That is not a question for Headteacher's. Responsibilities are with the Local Authority.

12/19/2017 3:29 PM

[View respondent's answers](#)

n/a

12/19/2017 3:07 PM

[View respondent's answers](#)

Council needs to implement the 0.5% top slice regardless of the consultation outcome

12/19/2017 3:04 PM

[View respondent's answers](#)

We would welcome extra support for such children in our school.

12/19/2017 3:02 PM

[View respondent's answers](#)

Introduce the NFF in 2018-2019 and top slice a % for High Needs

12/19/2017 2:43 PM

[View respondent's answers](#)

Introduce the NFF in 2018-2019 and top slice a % for High Needs

12/19/2017 2:43 PM

[View respondent's answers](#)

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12/19/2017 2:31 PM

[View respondent's answers](#)

All money into school and then school send money to support High Needs rather than top slicing before it reaches school

12/19/2017 2:19 PM

[View respondent's answers](#)

ADDITIONAL FUNDING VIA LA BUDGET FROM SEND PANEL AS PREVIOUS

12/19/2017 2:14 PM

[View respondent's answers](#)

N/A

12/19/2017 1:54 PM

[View respondent's answers](#)

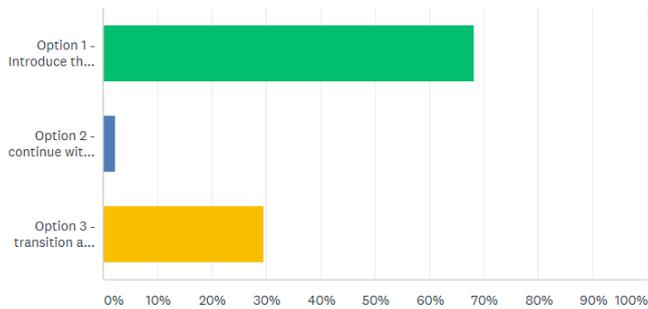
Q4

[Customize](#)

[Export](#)

If this is the case which of the remaining options would you support?

Answered: 44 Skipped: 14



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Option 1 - Introduce the NFF in 2018 2019	68.18% 30
Option 2 - continue with the existing Wirral formula	2.27% 1
Option 3 - transition and introduce some elements of the NFF	29.55% 13
TOTAL	44

[Help!](#)