

# WIRRAL COUNCIL

WIRRAL SCHOOLS FORUM 18<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2022

## REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND EDUCATION

### De-Delegation of School Budgets

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#### 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 regulations a number of services were delegated to schools that were previously provided centrally by the LA. There are some of these service 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 to fund specific services for schools. 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. There is no change to the per pupil rate of £2.15 for Secondary schools nor a change in the rate of £1.13 for Primary schools respectively.

- **Special Staff Costs**

Teacher maternity, paternity and trade union facility costs for both teaching and non-teaching staff. The special staff costs budget is forecast to overspend as detailed in the Budget Monitoring Report Q3 2021-22. Due to the increased costs this year there is an increase of £3.60 per pupil for both primary and secondary budgets for 2022-23 financial year.

With regard to Trade Union Facility Time, guidance confirms that representatives are entitled to reasonable paid time off during working hours to undertake Trade Union duties and relevant training. Wirral, like many LAs has a local agreement in place. The budget for facility time includes non-teacher representation. Where funding is not de-delegated schools manage their own budget and make their own facility time arrangements. The rate for 2022-23 has increased by 7p to £3.60 per pupil, assumes an estimated 2% pay award for 2022-23 financial year.

- **School Library Service**  
The provision of learning resources to schools, such as books, artefacts, posters, and DVDs. The School Library Service per pupil rate remains unchanged this year at £8.78 per Primary school pupil.
- **Insurance**  
The cost of governor's liability insurance for Aided schools.
- **Behaviour Support**  
The cost of a small team working with Wirral's Primary, Secondary and special schools. There is no change to the per SEN PA rate of £29.04 for Secondary schools nor for the £17.35 rate for Primary schools respectively.
- **School Improvement**  
School Improvement was included as a de-delegated service from September 2017 following the withdrawal of ESG. The budget supports the improvement / intervention programme with schools. The Pupil Rate remains unchanged for 2022-23.
- **Former ESG General Duties**  
These are the cost of education services previously funded from Education Services Grant (ESG) to support maintained schools, including asset management (landlord) responsibilities, some premature retirement costs, and statutory / regulatory costs around, finance, LMS and internal audit.

#### 4. DECISIONS TAKEN IN 2021-22

In the January 2021 meeting members of the forum made the following decisions: -

- The Primary Forum Representatives agreed de-delegate all the budget areas. However, School Improvement and Behaviour Support were only agreed for 5/12<sup>th</sup> until further information was provided in May 2021 Forum, when it was agreed to charge the further 7/12<sup>th</sup> costs to schools.
- The Primary Forum Representatives agreed a contribution to former ESG costs for General Duties of £369,416.
- The Secondary Forum Representatives agreed de-delegate all the budget areas. However, School Improvement and Behaviour Support were only agreed for 5/12<sup>th</sup> until further information was provided in May 2021 Forum, when it was agreed to charge the further 7/12<sup>th</sup> costs to schools.
- The Secondary Forum Representatives agreed a contribution to former ESG costs for General Duties of £58,470.
- The Special School Forum Representatives agreed a contribution to former ESG costs for General Duties of £72,114.

## 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 to be deducted if it is de-delegated.

<b>Primary Budget</b>	<b>Amount Delegated £</b>	<b>Method of Delegation</b>	<b>Amount per Pupil £</b>	<b>Average per School (300 Pupils) £</b>
Contingency	23,534	Pupil	1.13	339
Special Staff Costs (Maternity/Paternity)	574,931	Pupil	27.51	8,253
Special Staff Costs (Trade Union)	75,305	Pupil	3.60	1,080
School Library Service	185,100	Pupil	8.78	2,634
Insurance	25,100	Pupil	1.19	357
Behaviour Support	63,610	SEN PA **	17.35	*1,301
School Improvement	121,673	Pupil	5.83	1,749
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,069,253</b>	(*25% LPA pupils/**4,528)		<b>15,713</b>

<b>Secondary Budget</b>	<b>Amount Delegated £</b>	<b>Method of Delegation</b>	<b>Amount per Pupil £</b>	<b>Average per School (1,000 Pupils) £</b>
Contingency	7,566	Pupil	2.15	2,150
Special Staff Costs (Maternity/Paternity)	121,572	Pupil	34.43	34,430
Special Staff Costs (Trade Union)	12,722	Pupil	3.60	3,600
Behaviour Support	75,690	SEN PA **	29.04	*9,002
School Improvement	27,927	Pupil	7.92	7,920
<b>Total</b>	<b>245,477</b>	(*31% LPA pupils / **3,219)		<b>57,102</b>

## Ex Education Service Grant (ESG) – General Duties

Primary and Secondary Budget	Amount	Method	Amount per Pupil £	Primary Average per School (300 Pupils) £	Secondary Average per School (1,000 Pupils) £
ESG General Duties	423,860	Pupil-Maintained Schools only	17.35	5,205	17,350
ESG General Duties– Special School Contribution	76,140				
<b>Total</b>	<b>500,000</b>				

### 6. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Primary Forum Representatives agree to de-delegate each of the following budgets for the financial year 2022-23: -
  - a. Contingency
  - b. Special Staff Costs, including TU Facilities Time
  - c. School Library Service
  - d. Insurance
  - e. School Improvement
  - f. Behaviour support
  
2. The Primary Forum Representatives agree a contribution to former Education Services Grant costs of £365,940.
  
3. The Secondary Forum Representatives agree to de-delegate each of the following budgets for the financial year 2022-23: -
  - a. Contingency
  - b. Special Staff Costs, including TU Facilities Time
  - c. School Improvement
  - d. Behaviour support
  
4. The Secondary Forum Representatives agree a contribution to former Education Services Grant costs of £57,920
  
5. The Special School Forum Representatives agree a contribution to former Education Services Grant costs of £76,140.

**Simone White**

Forum Members eligible to Vote

<b>Group</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Category of Membership</b>	<b>School/establishment</b>
Primary School Representatives	Andy Ramsden	Primary Headteacher (Birkenhead S)	Oxton St Saviours
	Sue Ralph	Primary Headteacher (Birkenhead N)	St Michael & All Angels
	John McDonald	Primary Headteacher (Wallasey)	St Alban's Primary
	Emma Johnson	Primary Headteacher (Deeside)	Greasby Junior
	To be confirmed	Primary Headteacher (Beb/Brom)	
	Charlotte Scott	Primary Governor	St George's Primary
	Roy Wood	Primary Governor	Hillside Primary
	Julie Merry	Primary Governor	Overchurch Infants/Cathcart
	Tony Norbury	Primary Governor	Prenton Primary
Secondary School Representatives	Simon Goodwin	Secondary Headteacher	South Wirral High
Special School Representatives	Margaret Morris	Special Headteacher	Elleray Park
	John Weise	Special Governor	Hayfield Primary