



ISLINGTON SCHOOLS FORUM

Chair: Abi Misselbrook-Lovejoy
c/o Governor Services
222 Upper Street
London N1 1XR

MEETING	SCHOOLS FORUM
DATE	Thursday 25 November 2021
TIME	14 00 – 16 00
VENUE	<u>Remote meeting - MS Teams</u>

AGENDA

[School forum documents and reports | Islington Council](#)

	TOPIC	REPORT	AUTHOR
1.	Apologies	Clerk	JW
2.	Minutes of previous meeting	Enclosed	JW
3.	Forum Composition	Verbal	JW
4.	Spending Review 21 (SR21) and updates to schools funding for 2022-23	Enclosed	SW
5.	DSG projected allocations (future year)	Enclosed	DS
6.	Growth / Falling Rolls proposals (future year)	Enclosed	DS
7.	Central School Services Block - Central Retention	Enclosed	TP/SW
8.	De-delegated Services benchmarking	Enclosed	TP/SW
9.	High Needs: SALT & CAHMS	Verbal	CH
10.	School Improvement Monitoring & Brokering Grant	Enclosed	SW
11.	Capital Sub Group feedback	Verbal	ME

	TOPIC	REPORT	AUTHOR
12.	Forum Forward Planning	Enclosed	DS
13.	School Organisation – Strategic Overview	Verbal	AC
14.	AOB 1. Holiday Pay & TTO 2. Collaboration Project		

Contact for queries

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Islington Schools Forum

Minutes of the meeting on Thursday 21 October 2021 at 2pm – held virtually (MS Teams)

Meeting documents and minutes published on [Islington Schools Forum webpage](#).

PRESENT

Forum Members

Abi Misselbrook-Lovejoy (AM-L)	Head teacher, Newington Green Primary School (Chair)
Paul Lasok (PL)	Governor, St Aloysius Secondary School (and St Joseph's)
Maggie Elliott (ME)	Governor, Montem Primary School (Adventure Collaborative Federation with Drayton Park) (Vice-chair)
Andrew Bosi (AB)	Governor, Rotherfield Primary School
Joe Simpson (JS)	Governor, St Peter and St Paul Primary
Claire Hersey (CHe)	Principal Finance Officer, City of London Academy Trust
Sally Franklin (SF)	Head teacher, North Islington Nursery and Children's Centre
Ana Sevilla (ASe)	Executive Head, New River Green and Packington Children's Centres
Ann Curran	Head of New River Green Children's Centre (supporting ASe)
Alan Streeter (AS)	Head teacher, Beacon Height Secondary School (Islington Futures Federation)
Jenny Lewis (JL)	Head teacher, Thornhill Primary School
Cassie Moss (CM)	Head teacher, Yerbury Primary School (Vice-chair)
Tanya Watson (TW)	Head teacher, William Tyndale (Primary Academy)
Fiona Maccorquodale (FM)	Head teacher, Prior Weston Primary School
Penny Barratt (PB)	Head teacher, The Bridge Special School (Academy)
Susan Service (SS)	Head teacher, Islington Arts & Media Secondary School
Patrick Mildren (PM)	Head teacher, Canonbury Primary School
Anita Grant (AG)	CEO, Islington Play Association
Francis Gonzalez (FrG)	Head teacher, Richard Cloudesley Special School

Other Attendees

Sarah Callaghan (SC)	Director of Learning and Culture
Tim Partington (TP)	Head of Children's Services, Finance
Jane Wright (JW)	Manager Schools and EY Governance (Clerk)
Debbie Stevenson (DS)	Head of Early Years and Schools Funding
Alison Cramer (AC)	Assistant Director, School Support and Information Services
Candy Holder (CH)	Head of Pupil Services
Susan Woodland (SW)	Interim Finance Manager (LBI)

Apologies

Coleen Marshall (CMa)	14 to 19s partnership - City & Islington Sixth Form College
Nigel Smith (NS)	Head teacher, New River College (Pupil Referral Unit)
Vicky Linsley (VL)	Head teacher, St Mary Magdalene Academy
Cate Duffy (CD)	Interim Corporate Director People

Not in attendance

Cllr Rakhia Ismael	Non-executive LA member
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	Agenda item	Action
1.	<p>Welcome/Apologies for absence/not in attendance</p> <p>AM-L welcomed all to the meeting, including the new members, Sally Franklin (SF), Headteacher of North Islington Nursery and Children’s Centre, Ana Sevilla (ASe), Executive Head of Packington and New River Green CCs and Ann Curran (AC), Head of New River Green, who is supporting (when necessary substituting for) ASe. Apologies as above.</p>	
2.	<p>Minutes of the previous meeting held on 15 July 2021</p> <p>a. Accuracy – the minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting,</p> <p>b. Matters Arising – there were no matters arising.</p> <p>AGREED</p>	
3.	<p>Schools forum composition</p> <p>The clerk (JW) spoke to a short report that had been circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p>3.1. Non Schools Member Early Years Practitioner representative</p> <p>Ana Sevilla, Executive Head of Packington and New River Green Children’s Centres, has taken up the role from 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2025. She is being supported as necessary by Ann Curran, Head of Nursery, New River Green CC (her substitute).</p> <p>3.2. Non Schools Voluntary & Community representative</p> <p>JW had attended the EY Providers Forum in the summer term 2021 to talk about Schools Forum and to invite nominations for this role, but no nominations were received. As Anita Grant (AG) from Islington Play Association had already indicated that she was prepared to do a final third term in the event of there being no nominations, AG is continuing from 27 September 2021 until 26 September 2025.</p> <p>3.3. Nursery head teacher representative</p> <p>Sally Franklin, Head of North Islington Nursery, has been appointed as the representative of this group from 22 September 2021 until 21 September 2025.</p> <p>It was agreed to deal with an Any Other Business item relating to membership at this point rather than at the end of the meeting.</p> <p>3.4 Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) representative.</p> <p>NS’s term of office was due to end on 25 October 2021. Forum was informed he was being reappointed for another term of office, although a member of his senior leadership team may take up this position.</p>	

	NOTED AND AGREED	
4.	<p>Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Budget Monitoring (in-year)</p> <p>TP spoke to a report that had been circulated in advance.</p> <p>As of the end of September 2021, the overall forecast across all spending blocks was an underspend of £5.803m (3.7%). Much of this is being held against risks in current and future years.</p> <p>Schools Block – goes to schools after top-slicing for growth (£300k) and falling rolls (£400k). These are projected to net off:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • + £7k (+2%) overspend against the budget for growth • - £7k (-2%) underspend against the budget for falling rolls <p>De-delegated Budget – all this funding goes to schools. We are currently expecting to allocate the schools in financial difficulties (£220k) and priority support (£188k) budgets in full this year.</p> <p>The school redundancy budget (£205k), made up of in-year de-delegated funding of £83k, a £22k carry forward from previous years and £100k of core Council funding, is currently expected to be fully allocated this year.</p> <p>Central Schools Services Block (CSSB) – funding for central services. £120K reduction per year – more detail about this under Item 8 – a proposal to go to schools for use of some underspend under this block.</p> <p>High Needs (HN) - to cover 0 to 26 year olds. A large underspend is projected, but schools are under increasing pressures and our costs are going up.</p> <p>The following variances are forecast against the high needs block:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • - £1,210k remaining balance from the £1,524k underspend carried forward from 2020/21. £314k has been allocated to schools with higher than average numbers of children with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs). <p>It is proposed to use £51k towards the collaborative action research project (Item 8).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • - £1,324k (4%) unallocated high needs funding in 2021/22. This is the remainder of the growth in funding we received in 2021/22 to meet increasing cost pressures. We need to be cautious as the outlook for further growth in funding for high needs is uncertain after 2022/23. The DfE are also reviewing the funding formula for high needs which could result in Islington losing funding. • - £0.340k (2%) forecast underspend against the budget for centrally commissioned places in academies, the independent sector, further education and out of borough provision. While an underspend is currently forecast, there are likely to be further increases in cost, particularly in relation to FE provision where further growth in the cohort is likely. • - £0.234m (39%) unallocated funding against the budget for additional needs – is likely to be allocated to schools in spring 2022. 	

	<p>EARLY YEARS (EY) – it is difficult to predict the outturn given the impact of COVID on numbers taking up the free offers - in particular in relation to the autumn and spring terms. Also we are currently permitted, through disapplication, to retain some funding to allow us to increase the level of funding for the two-year-olds offer but there are no guarantees we will continue to be able to do this.</p> <p>The current variances are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • - £463k funding for free offer for 2 year olds - balance from previous years that is being held to smooth in new funding arrangements for providers in future years. The cost of 2-year-old provision is greater than 3- and 4-year olds provision but the hourly rate received from the DfE is less. • - £2,033k contingency balance from 2019/20. <p>It is likely that we will receive significant in-year and retrospective funding reductions in relation to 2020/21 in November that will be met from this balance – based on internal calculations we could lose £762k in funding. This represents a medium- to long-term funding risk, and will impact on the sustainability of provision of early education and childcare in the borough if the headcount does not recover to pre-pandemic levels.</p> <p>JL asked if it was possible to have a breakdown of the school redundancies budget £205K. TP said that he could provide the number of redundancies and schools not names.</p> <p>JL also asked if unallocated HN funding could be used for school places planning – to provide for children with SEND. AM-L reminded Forum that they have no decision-making powers in relation to High Needs funding, This will be looked at under Item 8.</p> <p>FM asked how the HN and EY underspends compare with previous years. TP replied that the EY underspend was reducing, and with the November funding update, it was expected to reduce further. TP mentioned the turbulence that came from the extension of the 15 years and expected further reductions in future years. In relation to HN, TP said that it was higher than previous years because of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delay in rolling out the additional needs funding (to clusters) due to Covid • DfE given LBI more funding than we needed over the past two years – although with the review of SEND funding, LBI may have reduced funding in future. <p>TP had added in percentage figures in response to a previous request by CM, and he agreed to do this for all figures in this report.</p> <p>NOTED</p>	
5.	<p>School Funding Arrangements, Consultation results (future year years)</p> <p>AM-L reminded colleagues of the importance of responding to such consultations in future – there had been only six responses to the recent local funding consultation. Forum members should be role models.</p>	All

	<p>DS spoke to a report that had been circulated prior to the meeting. She reiterated what AM-L had said about response levels, as while we are effectively following the hard National Funding Formula (NFF), the LA still needs direction from schools in relation to centrally retained services and de-delegation. This direction will help the LA to set 2022/23 budgets.</p> <p>Growth/Falling Rolls (top-sliced from Schools Block) – respondents were in favour of continuing this, with the same local criteria including the 3-year cap in funding for falling rolls. At November Forum, there will be updated FR projections based on the October 2021 Census, and the DSG estimated allocation.</p> <p>De-delegated Budget – respondents agreed for this to continue. There were some queries, with some wanting to know in future reports who had benefited from the funding. Unlike last year, respondents were in favour of de-delegation of additional funds for three services not previously included: Behaviour Support, Library Service, and Insurance - Forum to make a decision. This will be reviewed in 2022-23.</p> <p>The respondents were overall in favour of all school membership of the government Risk Protection Arrangement (RPA) scheme once the current insurance contract ceased. AM-L asked if there could be a third option. It was clarified that the LBI tendering process is under way so it may be a different provider in future. DS said she would ask the RPA and the council scheme to meet with Head teachers and School Business Managers to explain in more detail their offers.</p> <p>Recommendations to Schools Forum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vary MFG within allowable range of +0.5% to +2% and cap budget gains as necessary to ensure school budget allocation remain within funding envelope • Continue to retain Growth Funding • Continue to retain Falling Rolls Funding • To continue to retain funding for services through the Central School Services Block as previously agreed with Schools Forum; final allocations will be presented at the January 2022 Forum • To continue de-delegated services at the current rate • To explore the provision of the additional de-delegated services • Ensure schools have sufficient information from the Insurance and Risk Protection team to make decisions regarding RPA <p>AGREED</p>	DS
6.	<p>National Funding Formula (NFF) School Funding Consultation Response</p> <p>DS reported to a report previously circulated, which included the LA’s response to the questions. As agreed at July Forum, there had been a special meeting of the DSG Sub Group in September where a draft response was presented. It was agreed that Schools Forum would submit a response broadly in line with the LA’s, with the exception of the questions relating to the financial year for schools; academic or financial year.</p> <p>This is the biggest DfE consultation in the last 3 to 4 years. The government is moving towards implementation of the NFF at a slow and gradual pace by 2026/27 at the earliest. In Islington, we are already following all values and factors of the NFF.</p>	

	<p>The response had voiced strong disagreement with a number of proposals, including some factors being 'nationalised' eg for premises. A key point made in the response was that the long-awaited SEN Review, which could have a significant impact on the Schools Block, was yet to be completed.</p> <p>ME commented that she and the head teachers disagreed with the LA in relation to questions 13 and 14 – they preferred to be funded on the basis of the academic year in line with academies and this position was reflected in the Schools Forum response. The LA's response had commented on the difficulty of effectively having two year ends.</p> <p>NOTED</p>	
<p>7.</p>	<p>Additional support to schools: High Needs</p> <p>DS spoke, in place of Candy Holder (CH) who had sent her apologies, to a report that had previously been circulated</p> <p>The report summarised the 40 responses to a local review of SEND funding. The responses reflected the increasing pressures on schools, including have high numbers of children with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs). This included the call for more fairness between schools and quicker, less bureaucratic access to additional resources.</p> <p>It also set out proposals for future funding, while we wait for the Government's SEND review. This included additional funding for schools – Additionally Resourced Provision (ARPs) - and a new funding model for 2022-23 based on that used in Camden whereby the maximum amount that could be allocated to a child with SEND under Element 2 (ie additional needs funding over and above basic AWPU funding) would be up to £11K not £6K.</p> <p>It also stated that £313,861 from the High Needs surplus was to be distributed as a one-off across those schools with higher than average numbers of children with EHCPs according to a schedule set out as Appendix 1 which reflected the January 2021 Census.</p> <p>A few head teachers queried the accuracy of the figures in Appendix 1 and asked if the calculations could be carried out based on current figures. DS explained that they had used an average in the calculations, and calculations could be carried out again in spring 2022 if additional funding were to be allocated. She agreed she would take this back to CH to check the figures.</p> <p>It was pointed out that children without EHCPs also have needs.</p> <p>Sarah Callaghan explained that the Camden model allocated a higher level of notional funding to schools - up to 11k funding for SEND rather than the 6k that they were currently able to access. By allocating more funding in this way, this represented a shift with funding not only triggered by numbers of EHCPs but also to SEN support, in line with CM's point.</p> <p>FG commented that High Needs funding was meant for children with High Needs so we need to be careful that the proposed use of some the HN funding reaches them.</p>	<p>DS/CH</p>

	<p>CM flagged up that funding for SEN should not be linked to FSM/disadvantage – SEN can affect all strata of society. Instead the number SEN + children needing extra adult support.</p> <p>DS agreed to check with CH whether the formula for additional funds was based not just on number of EHCPs but also other factors.</p> <p>AM-L commented that she was very against this way of funding, given how hard it can be to get EHCPs.</p> <p>FM had been on one of the groups discussing how to allocate this funding, and she acknowledged how hard it is to allocate fairly. The SEN Register is not moderated.</p> <p>JL was concerned that linking the funding to EHCPs would create an extra incentive to apply for EHCPs.</p> <p>SC suggested there was a misunderstanding here of two separate objectives. One was a one-off redistribution of underspend, while the other was a longer-term adjustment to the current process for funding, with a shift in balance towards more support for SEN+ support rather than EHCPs.</p> <p>ASe mentioned that in Camden some funding is held back for non EHCP children and schools bid for funding for them.</p> <p>NOTED</p>	DS
8.	<p>Collaboration Project</p> <p>Sarah Callaghan (SC), new Director of Learning and Culture, was welcomed to the meeting. SC spoke to a paper that previously been circulated. A decision was needed from Forum for this item. Cate Duffy had reported verbally at the last Forum on this.</p> <p>The proposal included having a pot of funding to support action research projects across schools, with solutions to common challenges being tested out. The pot would come from £51K of High Needs Block and £199K of Central School Services Block (DSG) underspends, match-funded by the LA to create a total of £500K. Schools and academies would be able to bid for this funding. This equated to about £10K per school and schools would be encouraged to work in new groupings.</p> <p>A School Improvement Board was to include representatives from different age phases and types of school. It would develop a shared vision, shared decision making and shared accountability. This would also hopefully reduce duplication of meetings that has been occurring.</p> <p>There would be a 12-month delivery plan with four to five key objectives that may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing fixed-term exclusions • Addressing NEETS • Outcomes for children with SEND • Persistent absence. <p>The board would allocate funding to groups of schools for action research-type projects leading to sharing of good practice. The board would also develop a</p>	

strategic vision for education in the borough and the use of resources and funding. Schools could therefore influence the commissioning of services by LBI such as CAMHS for example. The board would provide influence for schools to access other resources within the system such as Early Years and Early Intervention (Fairer Together) by highlighting thematic issues in a strategic way.

SC was seeking an agreement in principle for a shadow board to be set up in November 2021 to work up the Terms of Reference and mutual expectations.

There was lengthy discussion and in response to questions, SC clarified:

- While the use of £51K HN underspend was not for Forum to decide, they could decide the £199K CSSB underspend
- The criteria for projects under 2.8 were not set in stone – we are aiming for a genuine collaborative endeavour. But the issues suggested within the report are informed by data and are therefore evidenced. How they can be addressed, however, is flexible as schools will be impacted in different ways.
- Given some of the funding was from HN, support for children with SEND would be a priority in the projects
- That the projects should maximise the resources available and their impact was to be evidenced – and it would be necessary to develop them in a joined up way with other projects such as School Places Planning as an example of a way collaborative working could help support a more strategic approach.

ME welcomed the proposal to bring this together under one board. But she queried why the proposal of the board had not been presented at the Governors' Briefing the day before when SC spoke about the new relationship with schools, while there had been detailed proposals at the Heads' Meeting the previous week. ME also felt uncomfortable about committing money at this stage.

SC replied that she was asking for Forum to agree to the underpinning principle in the spirit of doing with not to – she was walking a tight rope between explaining something without creating it ahead of collaborative discussions.

TM was keen on school-to-school collaborative projects, but queried the time line given the slides at the Heads' Meeting last week said the board would be set up in November.

SC clarified that a shadow board had not been established – this would happen in November, with the actual board being constituted in January 2022. TM felt this timeline was very tight.

AM-L felt Forum needed to know what it was voting for and this vote was premature. The suggested priorities equated to massively complex issues, with funding too low and potential increased pressure on leaders.

SC clarified that Forum was not being asked to agree spend today, rather it was to agree to support in principle the model. The terms of reference to be developed by the shadow board would develop the proposed criteria for allocating funds.

CM agreed to a strategic and collaborative forum. But there had been no mention of the 'Shadow Board' at the Heads' Meeting and she was concerned about the time line. She also queried some of the language of the report that implied decisions had been made, eg 'projects must be...' A possible outcome could be that schools with less serious funding difficulties would be the ones that had the capacity to get involved. CM also queried why it was £10K per school and why projects could not be

	<p>developed across existing partnerships. It felt like schools were being channelled into restricted small-scale projects that may have little impact.</p> <p>SC acknowledged CM's points and said we could amend the recommendations in the report. For now she was looking for in-principle support to the development of a School Improvement strategy dependent on schools collaborating, with agreed Terms of Reference and criteria.</p> <p>JL – scope will need to be agreed. She was involved in groups looking at Exclusions and SEND. She felt Forum should agree to commit in principle on the basis that the board will bring such projects together.</p> <p>PL was in favour and felt the board should be set up first, along with ToR – then to have discussion about allocation of money.</p> <p>SC concluded by asking Forum to commit in principle to allocating funding to support the activity of a School Improvement Board. This board would define the Terms of Reference, scope, remit, timelines in relation to the allocation of funding. Decisions about funding would be deferred.</p> <p>AGREED that the idea should be explored in greater depth and a board set up, but did not agree that the money should be released until more detailed proposals are received.</p>	
<p>9.</p>	<p>Schools Forum Best Practice</p> <p>A paper had been circulated before the meeting which included a link to the DfE Operational and Good Practice Guide for Schools Forum.</p> <p>At a meeting of AM-L, CM, ME, AC, TP, DS and JW on 4 October, the following actions were provisionally agreed to improve the efficiency of Schools Forum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add link to webpage to agendas and minutes. This is the link to the page with the documents (including the draft minutes). • Draft minutes to go to the Chair once DS and TP have done initial check. • Chair and two vice-chairs to summarise decisions in the minutes and the clerk then to publish this on Schools Bulletin. • Aiming for draft minutes to be published 10 days after the meeting – on the Islington Schools Forum web page and Governor Hub account for Schools Forum. • Suggested structure of agenda – spending more time on items requiring a decision: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Items for decision in current financial year • Items for noting in current financial year • Items for decision in future financial year/s • Items for noting in future financial year/s. • Aiming for papers to go out six working days before meeting and in one pdf document • Committees needing to be minuted • Chairs' group – AM-L, ME and CM meeting with DS before full Forum meetings to go through agenda / papers. • Completion of setting up of GovernorHub account for Schools Forum. 	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk Chair/VCs</p> <p>Clerk/Admin n</p> <p>DS/AM-L</p> <p>DS/Admin</p> <p>AC DS/Chair/ VCs Clerk/Admin n</p>

	<p>The subgroups in ToR were currently High Needs, Chairs, DSG, Capital and Early Years. PB, the chair of HN Subgroup, said that the group used to meet regularly and it had worked well. To aim to revive this.</p> <p>ME felt that minutes of the Capital Subgroup would help Forum. She suggested the DSG Subgroup was redundant with the development of NFF. TW felt that DSG Subgroup was important for engaging with national consultations. After discussion it was agreed that aspect could be picked up by full Schools Forum.</p> <p>EY Subgroup - had been chaired by Fiona Godfrey. DS commented that attendance had been low – important for this group to meet, especially in December/January when allocations for next year known. ASe was prepared to join the group but not chair it. FM agreed to move from Capital to EY. AG agreed to chair the group.</p> <p>DS reminded Forum that not just Forum members could be on subgroups, and chairs can be non-Forum members.</p> <p>AG commented that the timing of EY meetings were not good for her – Fridays. She will review with her group. Also suggestion to avoid subgroups all happening on the same day of the week.</p> <p>Forum agreed to the measures above to improve the efficiency of Schools Forum and to the arrangements for sub groups as discussed above. Also to review the subgroups at the end of the year.</p> <p>AGREED</p>	PB/CH
10.	<p>Forum Forward Planning (this item was taken after Item 11)</p> <p>DS spoke to a report that had previously been circulated.</p> <p>In relation to the next Forum in November, the agenda will include spending on HN including CAMHS and SLT (CH).</p>	
11.	<p>School Organisation – Strategic Overview</p> <p>AC gave a verbal update.</p> <p>The School Organisation Programme Board is continuing to work on this. Later in the autumn term, a data pack will be shared with schools to inform discussions with governors to support improving sustainability in the context of falling rolls.</p> <p>The board will next meet in November and the school organisation plan will be produced in late spring / summer 2022 in consultation with stakeholders. There is additional capacity now in place to support this work.</p> <p>JL asked for a paper report in future on Places Planning to help her understand progress.</p> <p>NOTED</p>	AC

<p>12.</p>	<p>AOB</p> <p>JL flagged up that a headteacher out of borough had told her that there had been a miscalculation in holiday pay for TAs and she wanted to know if DS had heard of this/what the plan was for addressing this in Islington. DS confirmed that there have been changes in legislation but are currently awaiting legal guidance to determine any potential changes to Islington pay conditions. Should updated information become available DS will bring to next Forum.</p>	<p>DS</p>
	<p>DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS (virtual meetings on MS Teams unless otherwise indicated)</p> <p>SCHOOLS FORUM</p> <p>Thursday 25 November 2021, 2-4 pm Thursday 20 January 2022, 2-4 pm (Face to Face – venue TBC) Thursday 19 May 2022, 2-4 pm Thursday 14 July 2022, 2–4 pm (Face to Face – venue TBC)</p> <p>CHAIRS SUBGROUP</p> <p>Thursday 13 January, 2 – 3.30 pm Thursday 12 May, 2 – 3.30 pm Thursday 7 July, 2 – 3.30 pm</p> <p>EARLY YEARS SUBGROUP – meeting dates to be changed</p> <p>Friday 3 December, 1 – 3 pm Friday 14 January, 1 - 3 pm Friday 6 May, 1 – 3 pm</p> <p>CAPITAL SUB GROUP</p> <p>Thursday 11 November, 12.30 – 2 pm Thursday 24 February – 12.30 – 2 pm Thursday 12 May – 12.30 – 2pm</p> <p>HIGH NEEDS SUB GROUP</p> <p>Monday 15 November – 11 am – 1 pm Monday 7 March – 11 am – 1 pm Monday 16 May – 11am – 1pm</p>	



ISLINGTON SCHOOLS FORUM

Chair: Abi Misselbrook-Lovejoy
c/o Governor Services
222 Upper Street
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SCHOOLS FORUM

MEETING DATE	25 November 2021
AGENDA ITEM 4	Spending Review 21 (SR21) and updates to schools funding for 2022-23
RECOMMENDATIONS	That Schools Forum: a) Notes the latest updates on schools future funding

1 Background

- 1.1 The chancellor announced the latest budget statement on October 27th 2021 which sets out the governments departmental budgets up to 2024-25. There were several key points made relating to schools funding. The Spending Review 21 (SR21) confirms an additional £4.7 billion by 2024-25 for the core schools budget

2 Schools Funding Increases

- 2.1 The £4.7bn increase in funding is for both schools and high needs, ministers are yet to make a decision on how this funding will be proportioned. The national insurance increase, arising from the health and social care levy, will also come out of this funding. A decision is yet to be made on how this funding will be delivered although it was mentioned that the DfE are considering two approaches similar to models that had been used previously.
- 2.2 It was announced that the funding increases will provide a cash increase of £1500 per pupil when compared to 2019-20 baseline funding. This is at a high level and will again include high needs funding increases, once we have more details it will be easier to provide more clarity of what this means for schools.

3 Early Years Funding

- 3.1 There will be an additional investment in early years for local authorities to increase hourly rates paid to childcare providers for the governments free childcare entitlement offers and reflects the cost of inflation and national living wage.
- 3.2 £160m additional funding for the early years entitlements in 2022-23
- o £180m in 2023-24
 - o £170m in 2024-25
- 3.3 The final early year's adjustment for 2020-21 will be issued in November. For 2021-22 the funding adjustment will revert to being based on the January census with the adjustment in July.
- 3.4 Confirmation was given on the continuance of the Maintained Nursery supplementary finding (MNS) throughout the SR period, provide some long term certainty. The 2022-23 hourly funded rates for local authorities will be announced prior to the December settlement.

4 Other funding announcements

4.1 The other sources of funding agreed

- There was a confirmed commitment to schools rebuilding programme (500 schools over the next decade)
- Support for the delivery of government's commitment to increase teacher starting salaries to £30k
- £1.8 billion over the SR21 period to target education recovery
 - which £1 billion is for Recovery Premium for the next two academic years
 - Primary schools will continue to benefit from an additional £145 per eligible child whilst the amount per eligible child in secondary schools will almost double
- This brings the total investment in education recovery to £4.9 billion since the academic year 2020-21
- £2.6 billion of capital funding for new school places for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) in England, more than tripling current capital funding levels to over £900 million by 2024-25.
- £200m a year for holiday activities and food programme – No indication of how long this funding will continue for.
- SEND review outcomes expected 1st Quarter of next year. Then a further consultation more financially geared will follow on. No timescales were announced for implementation of the reforms from the review. Representation was made to the DfE at a recent meeting that the financial implications of the review are announced quickly once the review is finalised as previously it has taken an inordinate amount of time for the financial elements to be announced/delivered.

Contact:

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ISLINGTON SCHOOLS FORUM

Chair: Abi Misselbrook-Lovejoy
c/o Governor Services
222 Upper Street
London N1 1XR

SCHOOL FORUM

MEETING DATE	25 November 2021
AGENDA ITEM 6	2022-23 Growth / Falling Rolls Funding proposals
RECOMMENDATIONS	That the Schools' Forum: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Notes the estimated allocations for 2022-23 Growth Funding b) Falling Rolls - Schools' Forum are asked to agree criteria in which to allocate funding

1 Growth Funding 2022-23

Background

- 1.1 Growth funding forms a part of the Local Authority's Schools Block DSG allocations but is outside of the funding formula allocations to schools.
- 1.2 The growth fund can only be used to:
 - support growth in pre-16 pupil numbers to meet basic need
 - support additional classes needed to meet the infant class size regulation
 - meet the costs of new schools

and will fall under one of the below categories:

 - implicit growth – funding to support growing schools (COLPAI) where the increased numbers are included in the funding formula
 - explicit growth - allocations will be made in accordance with funding guidelines issued by the DfE and will fund either bulge, permanent expansions or additional adhoc classes.
- 1.3 The growth fund must not be used to support:
 - schools in financial difficulty: any such support for maintained schools should be provided from a de-delegated contingency
 - general growth due to popularity; this is managed through lagged funding
- 1.4 Growth funding will be allocated to local authorities using a formulaic method based on lagged growth data. Local authorities that received growth funding protection in 2021-22 will continue to receive protection in 2022-23, meaning the maximum reduction in growth funding for these local authorities will be set at -0.5% of their total DSG schools block allocation in 2021-22.
- 1.5 The schools forum must be consulted on the total size of the growth fund where both explicit growth and falling rolls funding are top-sliced from the Schools Block prior to the completion of the funding formula to schools; current funding arrangements are £300k and £400k respectively.
- 1.6 Where growth funding is payable to academies, the local authority should fund the increase for the period from the additional September intake through until the following August in line with their financial year. The LA will enter the cost of growth funding for the April to August

period on the recoupment tab of the APT so that the recoupment calculation can be adjusted accordingly.

2022-23 Explicit Growth Funding

- 1.7 At the October meeting, Schools Forum agreed in principle to continue to retain £300k for the explicit growth fund.
- 1.8 To remain with existing top-sliced budgets, the methodology for allocating funds to schools can be viewed in appendix B. This includes start-up year and protection arrangements as well as applying a minimum and maximum funding cap to pupils admitted.
- 1.9 Whilst growth funding applies to both maintained and academy schools, it is important to note that funding can only be allocated where the school or academy has agreed with the Local Authority to provide an extra class in order to meet basic need. Funding cannot be allocated to schools who choose to operate outside of this regulation.
- 1.10 There are currently four schools where a permanent expansion applies. Tables below show the maximum and estimated funding required against growth funding for these schools based on current October 2021 pupil numbers.

Maximum Funding Required:													2022-23 TOTAL BUDGET		£			
															£300,000			
													85%	93%				
SPEND TO DATE:	Fin Yr Start	Fin Yr Finish	PAN From	PAN To	Add'l Pupils	Min Pupils	Max Pupils	Actual Oct 21	Changes in Pupil Nos	Pupils to Fund	AWPU	Permanent Expansion	Total					
Moreland (30)	2016/17	2022/23	30	60	30	26	28	60	30	28	£ 3,816.00	£62,328	£62,328					
Central Foundation (30)	2018/19	2022/23	150	180	30	26	28	180	30	28	£ 5,381.00	£87,890	£87,890					
COLA HG (30)	2019/20	2023/24	210	240	30	26	28	240	30	28	£ 5,381.00	£87,890	£87,890					
Tufnell Park (45)	2019/20	2025/26	45	90	45	38	42	90	45	42	£ 3,816.00	£93,492	£93,492					
TOTAL SPEND												£331,599	£331,599					
													2021-22 (Under)/ Overspend		£31,599			
N.B. Funds will be allocated following the October 2022 census data																		

Estimated funding requirement:													2022-23 TOTAL BUDGET		£300,000			
													85%	93%				
SPEND TO DATE:	Fin Yr Start	Fin Yr Finish	PAN From	PAN To	Add'l Pupils	Min Pupils	Max Pupils	Actual Oct 21	Changes in Pupil Nos	Pupils to Fund	AWPU	Permanent Expansion	Total					
Moreland (30)	2016/17	2022/23	30	60	30	26	28	48	18	26	£ 3,816.00	£57,876	£57,876					
Central Foundation (30)	2018/19	2022/23	150	180	30	26	28	181	31	28	£ 5,381.00	£87,890	£87,890					
COLA HG (30)	2019/20	2023/24	210	240	30	26	28	208	-	-	£ 5,381.00	£0	£0					
Tufnell Park (45)	2019/20	2025/26	45	90	45	38	42	85	40	42	£ 3,816.00	£93,492	£93,492					
TOTAL SPEND												£239,258	£239,258					
													2021-22 (Under)/ Overspend		-£60,742			
N.B. Funds will be allocated following the October 2022 census data																		

- 1.11 Whilst the maximum funding allocation would suggest it exceeds the existing budget, current numbers at COLA HG are reporting a roll less than the increased PAN and, therefore, are not required to open an additional class. In this case, funding for growth would not be applied and would remain within budget.
- 1.12 Should the maximum funding be required, the overspend would be met by existing underspends within the DSG, if required.
- 1.13 It is recommended that Forum agree, in principle, to continue explicit growth fund and note the potential allocations as shown in 1.10.
- 1.14 To note, final funding allocations will be based on the October 2022 census.

2 2022-23 Falling Rolls Funding

- 2.1 Local authorities may set aside schools block funding to create a small fund to support good schools with falling rolls, where local planning data shows that the surplus places will be needed within the next three financial years. Falling rolls funding should only be used to support schools where the places are forecast to be needed over the short-medium term.
- 2.2 Where falling rolls funding is payable to academies, the local authority should fund the increase for the period from the additional September intake through until the following August.
- 2.3 In an agreement with Schools Forum, an amount may be top-sliced from the DSG to support those schools who are experiencing short-term roll reductions and who have an Ofsted rating of good or better. The current Falling Rolls budget is £400k.
- 2.4 The DSG settlement will be announced in December and final budget recommendations will be presented at January Forum.
- 2.5 The Islington criteria for allocating funds is:
- The school must have been judged good or outstanding at their last OFSTED inspection. *DfE mandatory requirement*
 - The total number of pupils on roll (NOR) has reduced by at least 5% between preceding and current October census data. *Islington requirement*
 - Vacancy Capacity of school is a minimum of 15% of PAN (Published Admission Number). *Islington requirement*
 - Local planning data shows the places will be required within the next 3-5 years.
 - Schools receiving growth funding are excluded.
 - Funding is capped to three consecutive years
- 2.6 At present, where a school meets all the above criteria, funding will be provided using the following calculation:
- the NOR as at current October census (2021) will be deducted from the NOR of the preceding year October's census (2020). The result will be multiplied by the current Base Rate, appropriate to phase, pro rata April-August i.e. 5 months.
- 2.7 The table in Appendix C shows how the current criteria has been applied for the 2022-23 financial year. There are 7 primary schools who would benefit from the falling rolls funding and no secondary schools. However, it should be noted that the costs against these criteria would exceed the budget by £109k.
- 2.8 In order to meet the additional costs, Schools Forum would be required to agree a further top-slice from the Schools Block, thereby reducing the funds allocated through Local Funding Formula and affecting all schools.
- 2.9 To remain with the current budget, the proposal in Appendix D applies a further layer of criteria whereby schools will receive protection for the fall in numbers above the 5% threshold. As with the current arrangements, this will be paid at the current AWPU rate. For example, a school that experienced a drop of 6.5% will receive AWPU for 1.5% of its previous intake.
- 2.10 Should Schools Forum agree to the proposed change, the existing £400k budget would be sufficient to meet costs, leaving £60.5k underspend.

3 Conclusion and Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 Growth Funding – Schools' Forum are asked to note potential explicit growth funding allocations.
- 3.2 Falling Rolls - Schools' Forum are asked to agree criteria in which to allocate funding.
- 3.3 Final decisions on allocations will be presented to the January 2022 Forum following the DSG settlement in December.

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Appendix B:

DFE requirements for allocating Pupil Growth Funding

The DfE Operational Guidance stipulates the following when agreeing the formula for allocating pupil growth funds:

- where a school or academy has agreed with the authority to provide an extra class in order to meet basic need in the area (either as a bulge class or as an ongoing commitment)
- additional support where a school has extended its age range
- support where a school has temporarily increased its PAN by x or more pupils in agreement with the authority
- support for KS1 classes where overall pupil numbers exceed a multiple of 30 by x or fewer pupils
- pre-opening costs / initial equipping allowance / diseconomy of scale allowance for new maintained schools and academies, including new academies where the school is opening in response to basic need

Islington methodology for allocating funds for Bulge Classes & Additional Classes

Growth funding will be provided to a school where they fall into one of the following criteria:

- a school is permanently expanding
- they admit a bulge class
- a one and a half form entry school increases to two form on a temporary basis
- a one and a half form entry school agrees to take over numbers
- funding will only be allocated where the need for additional places has been agreed by the LA and is necessary to meet population growth

Funding will be allocated to schools on the following basis:

- In the financial year the new class opens, and assuming the additional class starts in September, the school will receive an in-financial year budget adjustment to reflect the anticipated increase in pupil numbers:
1. Funding will be allocated as a lump sum following the October census
 2. Funding will not apply where no additional pupils have been admitted. The following will apply thereafter:
 3. **Primary (Additional 30)**: $\text{AWPU} \times \text{minimum } 26 \text{ pupils, maximum } 28 \text{ pupils to each school} \times 7/12\text{ths}$ (representing the proportion of the year which is not funded within the school's budget share)
 4. **Primary (Additional 45)**: $\text{AWPU} \times \text{minimum } 38 \text{ pupils, maximum } 42 \text{ pupils to each school} \times 7/12\text{ths}$ (representing the proportion of the year which is not funded within the school's budget share)
 5. **Secondary**: $\text{AWPU} \times \text{minimum } 26 \text{ pupils, maximum } 28 \text{ pupils to each school} \times 7/12\text{ths}$ (representing the proportion of the year which is not funded within the school's budget share)

Protection Arrangements

For a bulge class of 30:

The school will receive funding for the additional pupils as part of the main budget, in the year following the additional class starting. However, the protection will apply to the numbers over the standard PAN. If the pupil numbers in fall below 50 the following protections will apply:

- Primary - Protection to 20 pupils for the full year Base Rate (£3,382.00), plus the average other formula factors (£1,515)
- Secondary - Protection to 20 pupils for the full year Base Rate (£5,078.00), plus the average other formula factors (£2,004)

Appendix C – 2022-23 Falling Rolls, OPTION A - Existing funding arrangements

DFE No	School Name	PAN 2015-16 to 2021-22	Oct 20 Census	Oct 21 Census	Yr-on-yr Roll Increase/ Decrease	FALLING ROLLS FUNDS - 2022-23				Funding rec'd in previous 3 consecutive years	£ 22-23 F.R. Funding Allocation
						Good or Outstanding School	% yr-on-yr movement	% Surplus Capacity	Initial Qualificatio n		
											£3,816
2062015	Ambler	420	409	412	3	Y		-2%			
2062809	Ashmount	420	398	390	-8	Y		-2%			
2063643	Blessed Sacrament	210	139	111	-28	Y		-20%	Y	Y	
2062854	Canonbury	420	399	391	-8	Y		-2%			
2063633	Christ The King	420	261	252	-9	Y		-3%			
2062001	City of London Academy Primary	240	146	223	77	Y		-7%			
2062002	Clerkenwell Parochial	210	92	0	-92	N		-100%			
2062128	Copenhagen	420	144	140	-4	Y		-3%			
2062166	Drayton Park	315	267	263	-4	Y		-1%			
2062170	Duncombe	420	333	353	20	Y					
2062251	Gillespie	210	203	206	3	Y		-2%			
2062261	Grafton	420	402	401	-1	Y		0%			
2062279	Hanover	315	296	289	-7	Y		-2%			
2062282	Hargrave Park	315	284	279	-5	Y		-2%			
2062805	Highbury Quadrant	420	276	236	-40	Y		-14%	Y	N	63,600.00
2062855	Hugh Myddelton	420	412	409	-3	Y		-1%			
2062003	Hungerford	420	165	177	12	N					
2062379	Laycock	350	371	343	-28	Y		-8%			
2062852	Montem	420	285	271	-14	Y		-5%			
2062429	Moreland	375	291	318	27	Y		-15%			
2062853	Newington Green	420	381	371	-10	Y		-3%			
2063644	New North Academy	420	260	217	-43	Y		-17%	Y	N	164,088.00
2062455	Pakeman	315	273	282	9	Y					
2062856	Pooles Park	420	237	199	-38	Y		-16%	Y	Y	
2062850	Prior Weston	420	300	285	-15	N		-5%			
2062515	Robert Blair	204	178	180	2	Y					
2062857	Rotherfield	420	324	326	2	Y					
2063384	Sacred Heart	420	417	413	-4	Y		-1%			
2063606	St Andrew's	210	198	201	3	Y					
2063631	St Joan Of Arc	420	413	399	-14	Y		-3%			
2063456	St John Evangelist	280	276	254	-22	Y		-8%			
2063471	St John's Highbury Vale	210	197	202	5	Y					
2063465	St John's Upper Holloway	210	194	189	-5	Y		-3%			
2063483	St Joseph's	420	407	385	-22	Y		-5%			
2063488	St Jude's And St Paul's	210	164	146	-18	Y		-11%	Y	N	28,620.00
2063495	St Luke's	210	202	204	2	Y					
2063501	St Mark's	210	200	191	-9	Y		-5%			
2066905 (P)	St Mary Magdalene Academy (Pri)	210	212	210	-2	Y		-1%			
2063527	St Mary's Ce Islington	210	187	172	-15	Y		-8%	Y	N	23,850.00
2063575	St Peter's And St Paul's	210	193	190	-3	Y		-2%			
2062596	Thornhill	420	408	417	9	Y					
2062803	Tufnell Park	450	338	372	34	Y					
2062624	Vittoria	210	162	164	2	Y					
2062000	Whitehall Park	420	369	309	-60	Y		-16%	Y	N	228,960.00
2062643	William Tyndale	420	420	416	-4	Y		-1%			
2062646	Winton	240	206	218	12	Y					
2062666	Yerbury	420	416	414	-2	Y		0%			
	Primary Totals	15,789	13,105	12,790	- 315	Primary schools to fund falling rolls			7	5	£509,118.00
	Vacant Places / Capacity %			2,999	19%						
		2017-18 to 2021-22							Initial Qualificatio n	Funding rec'd in previous 3 consecutive years	£5,723
2064325	Arts & Media School Islington	840	661	653	-8	Y		-1%			
2064112	Beacon High	780	418	427	9	N					
2064614	Central Foundation Boys	870	831	857	26	Y					
2064003	COLA, Highbury Grove	1170	973	1001	28	N					
2064001	COLA, Highgate Hill	700	563	638	75	Y					
2066906	COLAI	825	758	802	44	Y					
2064324	Elizabeth Garrett Anderson	900	883	891	8	Y					
2064307	Highbury Fields	700	683	676	-7	Y		-1%			
2064651	St Aloysius College	900	658	536	-122	N		-19%			
2066905 (S)	St Mary Magdalene Academy (Sec)	1002	965	992	27	Y					
	Secondary Totals	8,687	7,393	7,473	80	Secondary schools to fund falling rolls			0	0	£0.00
	Vacant Places / Capacity %			1,214	14%						
										TOTAL	£509,118
										BUDGET	£400,000
										22-23 (Under) / Overspend	£109,118

Appendix D – 2022-23 Falling Rolls, OPTION B - Proposed funding arrangements

School Name	PAN 2015-16 to 2021-22	Oct 20 Census	Oct 21 Census	Yr-on-yr Roll Increase/ Decrease	FALLING ROLLS FUNDS - 2022-23			Initial Qualificatio n	Funding rec'd in previous 3 consecutive years	Pupil Nos to fund above 5% movement	£ 22-23 F.R. Funding Allocation	
					Good or Outstanding School	% yr-on-yr movement	% Surplus Capacity					
					Y	5%	15%					
Ambler	420	409	412	3	Y		-2%					
Ashmount	420	398	390	-8	Y		-2%					
Blessed Sacrament	210	139	111	-28	Y		-20%	-47%	Y			
Canonbury	420	399	391	-8	Y		-2%	-7%				
Christ The King	420	261	252	-9	Y		-3%	-40%				
City of London Academy Primary	240	146	223	77	Y			-7%				
Clerkenwell Parochial	210	92	0	-92	N		-100%	-100%				
Copenhagen	420	144	140	-4	Y		-3%	-67%				
Drayton Park	315	267	263	-4	Y		-1%	-17%				
Duncombe	420	333	353	20	Y			-16%				
Gillespie	210	203	206	3	Y			-2%				
Grafton	420	402	401	-1	Y		0%	-5%				
Hanover	315	296	289	-7	Y		-2%	-8%				
Hargrave Park	315	284	279	-5	Y		-2%	-11%				
Highbury Quadrant	420	276	236	-40	Y		-14%	-44%	Y	N	26.2	41,658.00
Hugh Myddelton	420	412	409	-3	Y		-1%	-3%				
Hungerford	420	165	177	12	N			-58%				
Laycock	350	371	343	-28	Y		-8%	-2%				
Montem	420	285	271	-14	Y		-5%	-35%				
Moreland	375	291	318	27	Y			-15%				
Newington Green	420	381	371	-10	Y		-3%	-12%				
New North Academy	420	260	217	-43	Y		-17%	-48%	Y	N	30	114,480.00
Pakeman	315	273	282	9	Y			-10%				
Pooles Park	420	237	199	-38	Y		-16%	-53%	Y	Y		
Prior Weston	420	300	285	-15	N		-5%	-32%				
Robert Blair	204	178	180	2	Y			-12%				
Rotherfield	420	324	326	2	Y			-22%				
Sacred Heart	420	417	413	-4	Y		-1%	-2%				
St Andrew's	210	198	201	3	Y			-4%				
St Joan Of Arc	420	413	399	-14	Y		-3%	-5%				
St John Evangelist	280	276	254	-22	Y		-8%	-9%				
St John's Highbury Vale	210	197	202	5	Y			-4%				
St John's Upper Holloway	210	194	189	-5	Y		-3%	-10%				
St Joseph's	420	407	385	-22	Y		-5%	-8%				
St Jude's And St Paul's	210	164	146	-18	Y		-11%	-30%	Y	N	9.8	15,582.00
St Luke's	210	202	204	2	Y			-3%				
St Mark's	210	200	191	-9	Y		-5%	-9%				
St Mary Magdalene Academy (Pri)	210	212	210	-2	Y		-1%					
St Mary's Ce Islington	210	187	172	-15	Y		-8%	-18%	Y	N	5.65	8,983.50
St Peter's And St Paul's	210	193	190	-3	Y		-2%	-10%				
Thornhill	420	408	417	9	Y			-1%				
Tufnell Park	450	338	372	34	Y			-17%				
Vittoria	210	162	164	2	Y			-21.9%				
Whitehall Park	420	369	309	-60	Y		-16%	-26%	Y	N	41.55	158,554.80
William Tyndale	420	420	416	-4	Y		-1%	-1%				
Winton	240	206	218	12	Y			-9%				
Yerbury	420	416	414	-2	Y		0%	-1%				
Primary Totals	15,789	13,105	12,790	-315	Primary schools to fund falling rolls			7	5			£339,258.30
Vacant Places / Capacity %			2,999	19%								
	2017-18 to 2021-22								Initial Qualificatio n	Funding rec'd in previous 3 consecutive years	Pupil Nos to fund above 5% movement	£5,723
Arts & Media School Islington	840	661	653	-8	Y		-1%	-22%				
Beacon High	780	418	427	9	N			-45%				
Central Foundation Boys	870	831	857	26	Y			-1%				
COLA, Highbury Grove	1170	973	1001	28	N			-14%				
COLA, Highgate Hill	700	563	638	75	Y			-9%				
COLAI	825	758	802	44	Y			-3%				
Elizabeth Garrett Anderson	900	883	891	8	Y			-1%				
Highbury Fields	700	683	676	-7	Y		-1%	-3%				
St Aloysius College	900	658	536	-122	N		-19%	-40%				
St Mary Magdalene Academy (Sec)	1002	965	992	27	Y			-1%				
Secondary Totals	8,687	7,393	7,473	80	Secondary schools to fund falling rolls			0	0			£0.00
Vacant Places / Capacity %			1,214	14%								
TOTAL											£339,258	
BUDGET											£400,000	
22-23 (Under) / Overspend											-£60,742	



ISLINGTON SCHOOLS FORUM

Chair: Abi Misselbrook-Lovejoy
c/o Governor Services
222 Upper Street
London N1 1XR

SCHOOLS FORUM

MEETING DATE	25 November 2021
AGENDA ITEM 7	Central School Services Block
RECOMMENDATIONS	That Schools Forum notes that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the reduction CSSB funding in future years and the steps that will need to be taken to manage this with Schools Forum b) the proposed allocations of CSSB funding for 2022/23 will be brought to Schools Forum for agreement in January 2022

1 Background

- 1.1 The Central School Services Block (CSSB) provides funding for the provision of central services to schools and academies by local authorities (there must be equality of access for schools regardless of status). Allocations are agreed by Schools Forum on a line by line basis annually in accordance with the DSG operational guidance. Funding for this block is split into 2 elements:
- An element for ongoing duties that local authorities have a statutory duty to deliver for all pupils in maintained schools and academies, such as school admissions and servicing of Schools Forum. The Council will provisionally receive a £17k (1.6%) reduction in funding for this element in 2022/23.
 - An element for historical commitments that pre-date 2013/14, funding for which is provisionally being reduced by £106k (20%) in 2022/23. This follows a 20% reduction in 2020/21 (£167k) and a further 20% reduction in 2021/22 (£131k), in line with the DfE's plans to phase this funding out for local authorities.
- 1.2 The reduction in CSSB funding in 2020/21 and 2021/22 was managed without impacting on the services provided:
- Following a comprehensive review of the DSG in 2017/18 by the Council and Schools Forum to meet increasing cost and demand pressures in relation to high needs, funding within the CSSB was freed-up for investment in high needs. Given the increase in HNB funding for 2020/21 this contribution was reversed by Schools Forum, to meet the shortfall in CSSB funding in 2020/21.
 - In 2021/22 we reviewed the level of Council overheads attributable to the DSG through the DSG Sub Group. This had last been reviewed in 2018/19 through Schools Forum. This resulted in a reduction of overheads charged to the CSSB of £194k as funding is centrally retained for fewer services than in 2017/18. Council overheads will continue to be reviewed as the level of central retention reduced in future years.

2 Future levels of CSSB funding

- 2.1 The DfE began to phase out funding for historical commitments in 2020/21 and are planning to fully remove remaining funding by the time a hard NFF is introduced (ca. 2026/27). The method that they have used so far is to reduce allocations by 20% each year on a reducing balance basis.
- 2.2 The forecast level of CSSB funding to 2026/27, including 2021/22, is shown below. This indicates that that the Council is likely to see a further reduction in CSSB funding of £636k by 2026/27, which is equivalent to 40% of the CSSB allocation of £1.601m in 2021/22. This takes into account a likely reduction in the per pupil unit of funding for the ongoing duties element (estimated at 1%

per annum), and movements in the pupil number projections for each year form the school place planning report.

Central School Services Block estimated allocations							
	2021/22 allocation	2022/23 provisional	2023/24 estimate	2024/25 estimate	2025/26 estimate	2026/27 estimate	Total
	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k	
Ongoing duties:							
- CSSB unit of funding per pupil ¹	0.05244	0.05214	0.05214	0.05162	0.05110	0.05059	
- CSSB pupil numbers ²	20,485	20,263	20,051	19,853	19,393	19,081	
Ongoing duties allocation	1,074	1,057	1,045	1,025	991	965	
Historic commitments ³	527	422	337	270	216	0	
Total CSSB allocation	1,601	1,478	1,383	1,295	1,207	965	
Movement		-123	-95	-88	-88	-242	-636
Percentage reduction on 2020/21		-8%	-6%	-6%	-5%	-15%	-40%
Notes:							
¹ assumed CSSB unit of funding per pupil will reduce by 1% from 22/23 onwards. Increase in 21/22 reflects the roll-in of TPG and TPEG.							
² Pupil numbers forecast in line with percentage movements in the 2020/21 to 2026/27 School Place Planning Report.							
³ Assumed historic commitments funding continues to reduce by 20% per annum, with the balance being removed in full in 26/27.							

- 2.3 Funding for school support services was agreed by Schools Forum for 2021/22 on 21 January 2021. The agreed allocations of CSSB funding for school support services is shown below. The reduction in Council overheads meant that the cost of centrally retained services was £1,447k against an allocation of £1,602k, leaving an unallocated balance of £179k in 2021/22. The same levels of central retention can be agreed for 2022/23, as this unallocated balance is sufficient to meet the expected reduction in CSSB funding in 2022/23. The remaining provisional unallocated balance for 2022/23 will be £55k.

CSSB 2021/22 Allocations and Proposed Allocations for 2022/23

Service	2021/22 Allocation	2022/23 Proposed	
	£k	£k	
Admissions	630	630	School admissions service
School admission appeals	45	45	Cost of hearing admission appeals
Access and engagement service	257	257	Start advice and guidance on improving attendance and targeted support to specific schools where needed. Work with schools on legal proceedings. Elective Home Education process.
Servicing Schools Forum	50	50	Support to Schools Forum
Capital and asset management	110	110	Management of the capital programme including preparation and review of asset management plan, and negotiation and management of BSF. General landlord duties
Directors and assistant directors	71	71	Statutory and regulatory duties

Service	2021/22 Allocation £k	2022/23 Proposed £k	
Equalities	30	30	Ongoing work with all schools (including academies and free schools) to raise progress and achievement for the two lowest achieving groups in schools (black Caribbean and white British) and Equaliteach
Legal services SLA	30	30	Provision of legal advice to schools, ensuring they access appropriate legal advice when necessary, minimising potential liabilities.
Sports co-ordinators	25	25	Contribution towards cost of school sports advisor / coordination of school sports competitions
Copyright licences	121	121	Automatic top-slice by the DfE. Licences negotiated centrally by the Secretary of State for all publicly funded schools. The DfE have not yet announced the cost for 2022/23.
NQTs	54	54	Provision of a training programme for each NQT as required by statutory guidance / statutory induction monitoring and guidance service provided by the Council.
Total	1,423	1,423	
CSSB allocation	1,602	1,478	The allocation for 2022/23 is provisional and subject to confirmation in the forthcoming DSG funding settlement.
Unallocated balance	179	55	Unallocated balance which can be held to smooth in any further funding reductions against the CSSB in future years / as a contingency for demand led items, such as the cost of school admission appeals heard by the Council.

- 2.4 The balance can be held to smooth in any further funding reductions against the CSSB in 2023/24 and as a contingency for demand led items, such as the cost of school admission appeals heard by the Council. When allocations are agreed The CSSB makes up 50% of the budget for these services, therefore a reduction of 40% of CSSB funding by 2024/25 is the equivalent of an overall reduction in funding of 20% for these services. Other sources of funding include de-delegated budgets, traded income and other grants.
- 2.5 The cost of copyright licence charges is determined by the DfE each year, and is automatically top-sliced from our CSSB allocation. This has seen significant increases in recent years. We do not receive funding adjustments to meet any increases in cost.
- 2.6 The proposed allocations of CSSB funding for 2022/23 will be brought to Schools Forum for agreement in January 2022.

3 Managing the reduction in CSSB funding in 2023/24 to 2026/27

- 3.1 In order to manage the expected reduction in CSSB funding for these services the Council and schools need to consider during 2022/23:

- What services schools would like us to continue to provide, and are therefore happy to pay for. This could, where appropriate be through alternative mechanisms such as trading or pooled budgets. However this may not be practical in all cases as it will introduce more volatility, risk and uncertainty into Council budgets, therefore will need to be carefully assessed and considered. In particular, it would not be appropriate for statutory services.
- What costs are essentially fixed? For example, the cost of copyright licence charges is determined by the DfE each year, and is automatically top-sliced from our CSSB allocation. This has seen significant above inflation increases in recent years.
- What can we do for less?
- Are there any discretionary services we can reduce / cut and what are the implications?

3.2 In addition the outcome of the DfE's recent fair funding consultation will need to take into account when it is published. The consultation included a commitment to review central school services in the CSSB. The consultation document stated:

“It is possible that, after reviewing central school services, there may be a decrease in services remaining with the LA that are centrally funded with more services de delegated or traded. Under such a scenario we would consider whether the local authorities' funding for those should become part of MHCLG's Local Government Finance Settlement rather than a reduced CSSB block. This could provide helpful flexibility to LAs, if particularly if the simple distribution methodology used for the CSSB formula does not accurately match their need to spend.”

4 Recommendations

- 4.1 To note the reduction CSSB funding in future years and the steps that will need to be taken to manage this with Schools Forum.
- 4.2 To note that the proposed allocations of CSSB funding for 2022/23 will be brought to Schools Forum for agreement in January 2022.

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ISLINGTON SCHOOLS FORUM

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SCHOOLS FORUM

MEETING DATE	25 November 2021
AGENDA ITEM 8	De-delegation Benchmarking
RECOMMENDATIONS	That Schools Forum notes the outcomes of the S251 benchmarking on de-delegated items within the Schools Block of the DSG

1 Background

1.1 Every local authority completes a section 251 budget and outturn statement annually. The results of which are published on a lagged year basis. The statement details all of the budgets/spend. It is from these statements that the following information has been collated on the de-delegated spend for all London authorities

2 De-delegated Budgets

2.1 The Schools revenue funding 2021 to 2022 operational guide sets out what elements of the schools budgets can be de delegated for. De-Delegation only applies to maintained schools. Currently the regulations allow de-delegation under the following headings:

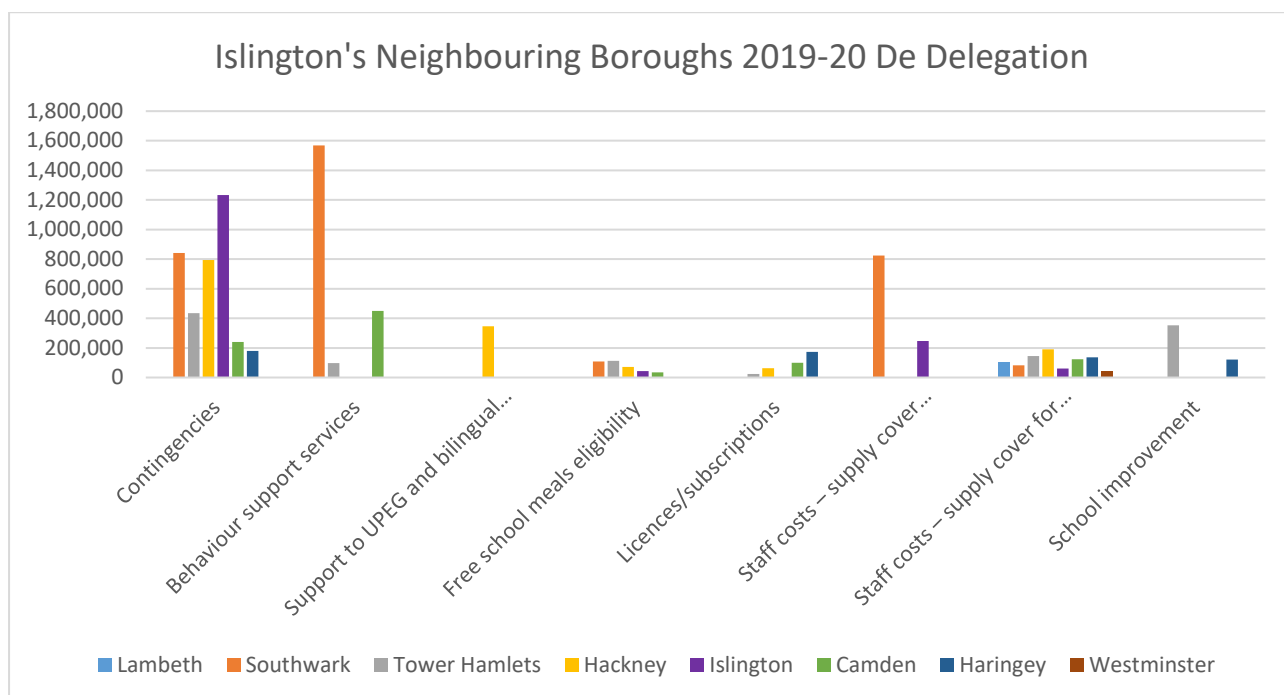
- **Additional school improvement services** (any additional school improvement activities provided for maintained schools that are not included within the scope of the separate local authority grant for school intervention and Improvement)
- **Contingencies** (including schools in financial difficulties and deficits of closing schools)
- **Behaviour support services** (cost of providing or purchasing specialist behaviour support services, both advisory and teaching.)
- **Support to underperforming ethnic groups and bilingual learners** (expenditure for the purposes of improving the performance of under-performing pupils from ethnic minority groups and meeting the specific needs of bilingual pupils)
- **Free school meals eligibility** (expenditure on determining the eligibility of a pupil for free school meals)
- **Insurance/RPA** (expenditure on insurance in respect of liability arising in connection with schools and school premises, and on membership of the risk protection arrangements where schools have joined it collectively through de-delegation)
- **Museum and library services** (expenditure on services to schools provided by museums and libraries.)
- **Staff costs supply cover** (for example long-term sickness, maternity, trade union and public duties)
- **Licences and subscriptions;** except for the licences below, which are paid for by the DfE.

2.2 Whilst the categories for de delegation are specified, each authority may put different elements into those categories, for example contingencies can fund various areas (non - domestic rates, schools in financial difficulty) and not all authorities will use the same ones. Some authorities do not utilise de delegation at all. This means that when comparing categories at a high level we may not be comparing like with like within the categories. An exercise with other boroughs would need to be taken in order to drill down within the

categories to obtain more meaningful data analysis. Contingencies is generally the element where most variation could occur.

2.3 The table and chart below show the gross budgets for Islington and its closet neighbours under the allowable de delegation headings. No neighbouring borough de-delegates to museum and library services or insurance so these have removed from the comparisons data. Tower Hamlets show an income line for school improvements which matches the allocation returning a net of budget of zero, hence using the gross total and not net for this exercise. The boroughs that have been chosen are; Lambeth, Southwark, Tower Hamlets, Hackney, Camden, Haringey and Westminster. Data for all of the London boroughs is shown in Appendix 1 and a breakdown of how Islington utilises their de delegation funding is shown in Appendix 2.

	2019-20 Section 251 Line								TOTAL
	1.1.1	1.1.2	1.1.3	1.1.4	1.1.7	1.1.8	1.1.9	1.1.10	
	Contingencies	Behaviour support services	Support to UPEG and bilingual learners	Free school meals eligibility	Licences, subscriptions	Staff costs – supply cover excluding cover for facility time	Staff costs – supply cover for facility time	School improvement	
Lambeth	0	0	0	0	0	0	104,891	0	104,891
Southwark	841,000	1,569,268	0	108,000	0	824,000	82,000	0	3,424,268
Tower Hamlets	435,000	98,000	0	113,000	24,000	0	146,000	353,708	1,169,708
Hackney	794,504	0	346,926	70,523	62,937	0	190,417	0	1,465,307
Islington	1,233,736	0	0	42,767	0	245,740	60,039	0	1,582,283
Camden	240,000	450,000	0	35,000	100,000	0	124,000	0	949,000
Haringey	179,000	0	0	0	173,000	0	137,000	122,000	611,000
Westminster	0	0	0	0	0	0	45,034	0	45,034



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Appendix 1 - 2019/20 De-delegation across all London Boroughs

Section 251 Line											
	1.1.1	1.1.2	1.1.3	1.1.4	1.1.5	1.1.6	1.1.7	1.1.8	1.1.9	1.1.10	
	Contingen cies	Behaviour support services	Support to UPEG and bilingual learners	Free school meals eligibility	Insurance	Museum and Library services	Licences / subscripti ons	Staff costs – supply cover excluding cover for facility time	Staff costs – supply cover for facility time	School improvem ent	TOTAL
Kensington & Chelsea	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17,489	0	17,489
Hammersmith & Fulham	200,400	29,000	125,000	32,000	0	0	40,000	140,000	140,000	0	706,400
Wandsworth	38,163	0	21,235	0	0	0	0	389,180	38,640	278,657	765,875
Lambeth	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	104,891	0	104,891
Southwark	841,000	1,569,268	0	108,000	0	0	0	824,000	82,000	0	3,424,268
Tower Hamlets	435,000	98,000	0	113,000	0	0	24,000	0	146,000	353,708	1,169,708
Hackney	794,504	0	346,926	70,523	0	0	62,937	0	190,417	0	1,465,307
Islington	1,233,736	0	0	42,767	0	0	0	245,740	60,039	0	1,582,283
Camden	240,000	450,000	0	35,000	0	0	100,000	0	124,000	0	949,000
Brent	188,564	0	0	26,158	0	0	5,687	181,741	62,552	0	464,702
Ealing	138,466	182,462	0	59,993	0	0	210,000	0	120,616	4,000	715,537
Hounslow	54,400	0	0	20,135	0	0	0	0	79,833	0	154,368
Richmond upon Thames	53,000	53,000	120,800	0	0	0	0	20,100	0	0	246,900
Kingston upon Thames	71,800	268,100	130,600	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	470,500
Merton	565,000	203,000	101,000	20,000	0	0	117,000	816,000	66,000	146,310	2,034,310
Sutton	66,500	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	66,500
Croydon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bromley	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lewisham	557,604	0	60,000	58,664	0	0	0	997,000	103,000	300,000	2,076,268
Greenwich	635,299	430,641	0	84,943	0	0	9,671	0	97,470	0	1,258,024
Bexley	0	0	0	3,000	0	0	0	190,000	0	0	193,000
Havering	186,956	177,361	116,096	20,066	493,770	0	0	441,896	51,483	0	1,487,628
Barking & Dagenham	150,077	0	0	25,013	0	0	0	0	249,180	0	424,270
Redbridge	220,782	163,747	0	35,693	0	0	0	143,876	0	0	564,098
Newham	0	288,081	0	0	0	0	15,628	0	121,451	0	425,160
Waltham Forest	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Haringey	179,000	0	0	0	0	0	173,000	0	137,000	122,000	611,000
Enfield	220,048	0	0	25,548	0	0	4,657	20,555	84,411	247,671	602,890
Barnet	61,421	77,100	77,656	0	0	0	0	0	47,718	318,644	582,539
Harrow	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	38,034	0	38,034
Hillingdon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Westminster	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	45,034	0	45,034

Appendix 2 - De-delegation Breakdown 2019-20

Service area	Funding Type		Functions	£m
--	Schools in Financial Difficulty	Contingencies	Support schools which are required to restructure	0.187
Provide support to schools with falling rolls				
Fund items of contingency which schools would not be expected to pay from their own budgets				
--	Priority Support	Contingencies	Support specific projects in schools where schools are in, or at risk at being, in a category There are 10-15 schools requiring support each year	0.219
SIS	Priority Support / Under performing groups	Contingencies	WiSS – Work in Support of Schools	0.237
Headteacher briefings				
Strategic planning meetings				
Early Years	Priority Support / Under performing	Contingencies	WiSS – Work in Support of Schools and PVI settings	0.089
Governor Services	Priority Support	Contingencies	Supports Project Groups and strategic support for the resolution of Governor issues	0.026
Finance	Priority Support	Contingencies	Supports Projects Groups	0.013
Restructuring support for schools in financial difficulty				
Data implications on budget allocations				
Support for monitoring of P16 data for funding				
Agreement on redundancy packages				
Headteacher briefings				
SBM briefings				
ICT & Performance	Under performing groups	Contingencies	SMIFs	0.042
Data Analysis				
Place Planning				
ICT & Performance	License Fees – ONE	Contingencies	Supports Safeguarding / CME Links to SEN / Admissions / Attendance	0.075
HR	Priority Support	Contingencies	Support for SLT in relation to strategic restructures	0.046
Sickness management				
Agreement on redundancy packages				
Headteacher briefings				
SBM briefings				
HR	NQTs	Staff costs / supply cover	Release time for NQTs	0.150
HR	Trade Union Facility / EAP	Staff costs / supply cover	Charging of Trade Union Facility time	0.060
Employee Assistance Programme				
Redundancies	Redundancies	Staff costs / supply cover	If schools follow HR advice, this covers a % cost of redundancies to schools.	0.083
Finance	FSMs	Free school meals	Assessing of Free School Meals eligibility	0.043
Implementing on-line assessments				
Eligibility checks for EYPP and 2-year-old entitlement				
30 hours entitlement and regular audits				
Total de-delegation				1.270



ISLINGTON SCHOOLS FORUM

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SCHOOLS FORUM

MEETING DATE	25 November 2021
AGENDA ITEM 10	School Improvement Brokering and Monitoring Grant
RECOMMENDATIONS	That Schools Forum notes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The DfE's consultation on the future of the SIMBG b) That we may need to undertake a consultation with maintained schools of de-delegation for some school improvement functions at short notice once the DfE's consultation outcome is known.

1 Background

- 1.1 The School Improvement Brokering and Monitoring Grant (SIMBG) was introduced in 2017 to enable local authorities to continue to monitor performance of maintained schools, broker school improvement provision, and intervene as appropriate. The government issued a consultation on the above grant on 29 October 2021, with a closing date of 26 November 2021. The consultation seeks views on the proposals to how local authorities' school improvement activities are funded.

2 How School Improvement functions are funded

- 2.1 There are two elements to how school improvement functions are currently funded, core improvement activities and additional improvement activities. The additional element is funded on a service agreement buy back. Current funding assumes a clear distinction between core improvement activities (funded through the grant) and additional activities through de-delegation (this is a traded service in Islington). The DfE believes the distinction no longer reflects the reality of how effective councils operate. Councils generally want to act prior to a formal intervention being put in place. Evidence shows that the grant is predominantly used on early challenge and support rather than formal intervention, less than 1 in 51 councils issued a warning notice in each of the last 3 years.

- 2.2 The DfE are consulting on two proposals for school improvement moving forward:

Proposal 1 – Removing the Grant

- 2.3 Removing the grant. It is expected that by doing this, the funding of the service will have a greater parity with how academies provide this function (although there will still be material differences).
- 2.4 The proposal is that the grant will be ended in 2023-24 on a phased approach, with a 50% reduction for the financial year 2022-23 and total cessation for the financial year 2023-24. Councils will still need to fulfil their statutory responsibilities around school improvement through de-delegation of funding by maintained schools. Alongside utilising de-delegation, the DfE makes available, at no or low extra cost, their network of curriculum and behaviour hubs, teaching school hubs, national and professional qualifications providers, early career framework reforms and funded support from a national leader of education for any school that Ofsted judge as 'requires improvement'.
- 2.5 Should the schools through consultation and the Schools Forum vote not to de-delegate the funding for school improvement then the authority has the right to apply to the Secretary of State (SoS) to overrule the decision, if the council can demonstrate that de-delegation was necessary to ensure the council is adequately funded to exercise core improvement

activities. Whilst we have the authority to apply to the SoS, we would much prefer to work collaboratively to find a solution which enables schools to receive the support required. However, in order for the school improvement service to be funded via de-delegation the School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations would need to be amended. This leads on to proposal 2.

Proposal 2 – Amendment of Regulations

2.6 Including provisions in the School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations to enable councils to fund all core improvement activities via de-delegation.

2.7 The DfE view the benefits in the removal of the grant as:

- It will remove the distinction set out above between core and additional activities, which does not reflect the reality of how effective councils operate
- In line with the DfE's drive towards a school-led improvement system, it will put more decisions about improvement provision to schools into the hands of school leaders (via schools forums). With an average uplift in next year's provisional core school funding allocations of 3.2%, as the beneficiaries of improvement support from councils, the DfE believe it is right that schools contribute to the cost of such support but, in turn, they should have greater influence over the activity undertaken.
- It will bring funding arrangements for councils' improvement activity closer into line with the relationship between individual academies and their MATs, which normally top-slice funding to secure improvement support (although MATs do not have to consult with their schools or seek their agreement to do this); and support our overarching policy of ensuring maintained schools and academies are funded on an equivalent basis. In turn, this will help to deliver a core aim of the National Funding Formula (NFF), which is to support a more school-based system that allows schools maximum control over their funding.
- It will also enable councils to adjust over time to the government's longer-term ambition for all schools to become academies within a strong MAT – an end point, according to data held by Ofsted which a number of councils are already closing in on, where councils would no longer maintain schools. The DfE believe that moving at this time to funding these responsibilities via de-delegation, in the same way that councils fund additional improvement services they provide to maintained schools, will provide a smoother transition for councils in this position.

2.8 The DfE have confirmed that there will be no additional funding put into the DSG once the grant has ceased, therefore the move to funding all school improvement activities through de-delegation will create an additional pressure on school budgets.

3 Use of School Improvement Monitoring and Brokering grant in Islington

3.1 The current use of the grant in Islington is detailed below;

- **£100k per annum** contribution to the costs of the **school improvement service**
- **£8k per annum** for **Register Monitor** (SIMMS management reporting tool) to support targeted schools to improve attendance and provide administrative support.
- **£10k per annum** for the **Trauma Informed Project** across Islington Schools to improve mental health and wellbeing by improving attendance and reducing exclusion (Tiny TIPS, Community TIPS and ITIPS). Funding to supplement ongoing costs to implement the programme.
- **£10k per annum** to replace a reduction in Dame Alice Owen funding for the **Upward Bound** programme.

- **£50k per annum** to tackle **attendance and persistent absence** this is an ongoing programme with primary schools but will commence this year to include secondary schools. £20k is allocated to providing schools with register monitor (a tool developed through SIMMS reports), and the remainder is being allocated to specific programmes to support schools
- **£45k per annum** to support the response to Children's Scrutiny on **education outcomes and equalities** by targeting funding at CIN through the virtual school
- **£30k Exclusion** - this money will support a variety for programmes to support schools. Funding has been allocated to the Father2Father mentoring programme to support schools with this particular programme

4 Impact of the Consultation Proposals on Islington

- 4.1 In our response to the consultation we have expressed our concern regarding the tight timescales of the implementation of this change and have requested the phasing out of SIMBG to be delayed by 12 months and for the grant to be put into school budgets, particularly if we need to ask schools to de-delegate funding from 2022-23.
- 4.2 We have split the school improvement functions in two – the ones we will require de-delegation for and those we will seek to fund in a different way, potentially from core council funding, subject to funds being identified as the Council has significant ongoing budget pressures. There is a risk that we will have stop some activity if alternative funding cannot be identified.
- 4.3 The items we would seek de-delegation for from schools are the programmes in relation to attendance and persistent absence (£50k), education outcomes and equalities (£45k) and exclusion (£30k). For a full financial year, this would be the equivalent to £8.18 per pupil (£125k total), based on the latest October 2021 census figures. Should the DfE implement the changes from 2022-23 these amounts would reduce by 50%; £4.09 per pupil (£62.5k total).
- 4.4 Depending on the outcome of the DfE SIMBG consultation, we may need to issue a further consultation to maintained schools around de-delegation for some areas previously funded from the grant. If this is required we will need a very quick turnaround as the results of the consultation will need to be included in the funding formula, which is submitted to the DfE in January.

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ISLINGTON SCHOOLS FORUM

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SCHOOL FORUM

MEETING DATE	25 November 2021
AGENDA ITEM 12	Forward Planning
RECOMMENDATIONS	That Schools Forum: a) Notes the updates and provide comments

1 Forward planning

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the foundation of a future work plan for Schools Forum meetings for the 2021-22 financial year and be updated on a rolling 12-month period.
- 1.2 The report presented to Schools' Forum in July has been updated to reflect changes that have since emerged.
- 1.3 The table in appendix A provides the updated work plan and includes an additional notes column to enable recognised changes.
- 1.4 Listed within the work plan are suggested standing items, these will be presented either via a written or oral report, dependant on the need for the meeting.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that Schools Forum note the updated work plan and provide comments.

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APPENDIX A – School Forum: Work plan

Standing Items: Declaration of Interest
 Forum Composition
 Forum Forward Planning
 Sub Group Updates
 School Organisation – Strategic Overview

Financial Year	Agenda Item	Information & To Note / Comments & views / Decision	Notes
November 21	DSG Funding Settlement	Information & To note	
	DSG projected allocations (future year)	Information & To note	
	Growth / Falling Rolls proposals (future year)	Decision & views	
	Central School Services Block - Central Retention	Decision	
	De-delegated Services benchmarking	Discussion	
	School Improvement Monitoring & Brokering Grant	Information	NEW
	High Needs: SALT & CAHMS	Discussion	
	Holiday Pay and TTO	Information	NEW
January 22	DSG Budget Monitor (in year)	Information & To note	
	DSG Settlement (future year)	Information & To note	
	Growth / Falling Rolls proposals (future year)	Decision	
	School Funding Formula (future year)	Decision	
	School Central Retention (future year)	Decision	
	Early Years Funding Formula (future year)	Decision	
May 22	School Balances (DRAFT - prior year)	Information & To note	
	DSG Outturn (DRAFT: prior year)	Information & To note	
	High Needs Places	Decision	
	Scheme for Financing Schools	Comments & Views	Dependent on DfE release of scheme
July 21	School Balances (FINAL - prior year)	Information & To note	
	DSG Outturn (FINAL: prior year)	Information & To note	
	DSG Allocations (in year)	Information & To note	
	Scheme for Financing Schools	Decision	Following consultation with schools
	Schools Internal Audit Programme Outcomes (prior year)	Information & To note	
	DSG Schools Block estimated funding (new year)	Information & To note	
	Falling Rolls estimated allocations (new year)	Information & To note	
October 21	DSG Budget Monitor (in year)	Information & To note	
	School Funding Arrangements, Consultation results (future year)	Decision	
	School Funding Consultation: DfE	Information & To note	