

SCHOOLS FUNDING UPDATE – JANUARY 2019

To: Cambridgeshire Schools Forum

Date: 17 January 2020

**From: Jonathan Lewis – Service Director: Education
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Purpose: To provide Schools Forum with an update on the latest local funding formula proposals for the 2020/21 Schools budget setting round.

Recommendations:

2020/21 School Funding Arrangements

1) Schools Forum are asked to comment on the local budget proposals.

De-Delegations

2) Subject to confirmation of the Department for Education's (DfE's) risk protection arrangements maintained Primary representatives on Schools Forum are asked to approve the continuation of the de-delegations in respect of insurance.

1.0 CONTEXT

1.1 The presentation (appendix A) accompanying this report provides information to support the 2021 Schools budget setting process and will cover the following areas:

- Update on the national position following December announcements.
- Update on the local budget proposals.
- Update on the DfE's risk protection arrangements for insurance.
- Summary and Next Steps

1.2 **Please note:** Due to the timings of announcements and decisions from the DfE a number of the key pieces of information are still outstanding at the time of writing. As such an addendum will be circulated as soon as this information becomes available.

1.3 During the presentation by Officers, Members of Schools Forum will have opportunity to comment on the content and where required will be asked to make decisions as set out in the recommendations.

1.4 Further to the main funding update there will also be additional presentations circulated to provide details of:

- a) The initial High Needs Sub-Group meeting held on the 9th January.
- b) The officer meeting with DfE officials held on the 13th January.

Source Documents: None

- 1.5 The table below shows the main decision making powers and responsibilities for items relevant at this meeting (other powers such as decisions in respect of deficits, contracts and changes to the Scheme of Financial Management do not apply to the items covered above.)

Function	Local education authority	Schools forum	DfE role
Formula change (including redistributions)	Proposes and decides	Must be consulted	Checks for compliance with regulations
Movement of up to 0.5% from the schools block to other blocks	Proposes	Decides	Adjudicates where schools forum does not agree local authority proposal
Minimum funding guarantee (MFG)	Proposes any exclusions from MFG for application to DfE	Gives a view	Approval to application for exclusions
De-delegation for mainstream maintained schools	Proposes	Maintained primary and secondary school member representatives	Will adjudicate where schools forum does not agree local authority proposal
General Duties for maintained schools - Contribution to responsibilities that local authorities hold for maintained schools	Proposes	Would be decided by the relevant maintained school members (primary, secondary, special and PRU).	Adjudicates where schools forum does not agree local authority proposal
Central spend on and the criteria for allocating funding from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Growth - pre-16 pupils, including new schools set up to meet basic need, whether maintained or academy Falling rolls - funding for good or outstanding schools with where growth in pupil numbers is expected within three years 	Proposes	Decides	Adjudicates where schools forum does not agree local authority proposal
Central spend on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> high needs block provision central licences negotiated by the Secretary of State 	Decides	None, but good practice to inform forum	None