

LANCASHIRE SCHOOLS FORUM

Date of meeting 14 January 20

Item No 6a

Title: Schools Budget 2020/21

Appendices (if applicable) Appendices A and B refer

Executive Summary

This report has been prepared following receipt of pupil data and Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) allocation information from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA). The report sets out the budget proposals for 2020/21 across the four funding blocks.

A meeting of the Forum Chair's Group, will take place on 9 January 2020. Recommendations arising from this meeting around finalising the Schools Budget 2020/21 will be presented to the Forum on 14 January 2020.

Following consideration of the final Schools Budget proposals by the Forum and the Lancashire County Council, the Authority is required to submit a final Schools Block budget proforma for 2020/21 to the ESFA by 21 January 2020.

This report also provides information on the High Needs, Early Years and Central School Services Blocks for 2020/21, and seeks the formal approval for the budget lines requiring Forum agreement.

Recommendations

The Forum is asked to:

- a) Note the report, including the 2020/21 Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) allocations and the budget proposals for each of the 4 funding block;**
- b) Note the recommendations from the Forum Chair's Group meeting on 9 January 2020 (to be presented at the Forum meeting on 14 January);**
- c) Support the Schools Budget proposals for 2020/21 for the Schools Block, High Needs Block, Early Years and Central School Services Blocks;**
- d) Support the Dedicated Schools Grant Reserve underwriting the uncertainties around the Schools Budget 2020/21;**
- e) Formally approve the budget lines requiring Forum agreement (as set out at Appendix B).**
- f) Express any views to be brought to the attention of the Cabinet when setting the 2020/21 Schools Budget.**

Background

Recent reports to the Forum and Working Groups have set out the Government's announcements about school funding for 2020/21.

The Dedicated Schools Grant is a ring-fenced specific grant and it must be used in support of the schools budget as defined in the DSG Conditions of Grant and the School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations. The Dedicated Schools Grant is allocated to every Local Authority in four funding blocks, each calculated using national funding formulae. The four blocks are:

- Schools Block;
- High Needs Block;
- Early Years Block;
- Central School Services Block.

Provisional announcements about Dedicated Schools Grant allocations for 2020/21 were made by the Government in October 2019. Following the re-election of the Conservative Government at the General Election on 12 December 2019, final 2020/21 Dedicated Schools Grant allocations were received on 19 December 2019. This is a few days later than would have normally been expected.

Further information on each of the funding blocks is provided below and details of the actual 2020/21 Dedicated Schools Grant allocations and proposed expenditure are contained in Appendix A.

Schools Block

The Schools Block funds mainstream primary and secondary schools and academies.

The Schools Block funding framework for 2020/21 will continue to operate under the 'soft' National Funding Formula arrangements first introduced in 2018/19. This is where the allocations for each local authority are calculated on the aggregated individual school National Funding Formula amounts calculated by the Government, but the local authority's local formula still applies in making actual allocations to schools.

Following a previous consultation with schools and academies in the County, and discussions with the Schools Forum, the Cabinet ratified the use of the National Funding Formula as the Lancashire formula methodology from April 2018. This will continue to apply in 2020/21.

Announcements from the Prime Minister set out an additional £14b of funding for schools between 2020/21 and 2022/23 for '5-16 schools'. £2.6b of the additional funding will be available in 2020/21. Funding will then increase by £4.8b for 2021/22 and £7.1b for 2022/23 compared to 2019/20.

The announcement confirmed Minimum Pupil Funding levels for primary and secondary schools:

- For secondary schools, the Minimum Pupil Funding level will be £5,000 per pupil from 2020/21 (compared to £4,800 per pupil in 2019/20);

- The primary school Minimum Pupil Funding level will rise to £3,750 per pupil in 2020/21 and to £4,000 per pupil in 2021/22 (compared to £3,500 per pupil in 2019/20).

The Minimum Pupil Funding is calculated by adding the Age Weighted Pupil Unit or the basic pupil element that schools receive for all pupils, to other formula factors based on the characteristics of the pupils and the school, including the lump sum allocation. The Minimum Pupil Funding ensures that schools receive a minimum level of funding calculated by dividing all the pupil led factors plus the lump sum allocation by the number of pupils on roll. This calculation excludes other factors, for example, rates.

The Government announcements have indicated that they still intend to move to a 'hard' National Funding Formula in the future and as a first step to hardening the formula, the government have made the use of the Minimum Pupil Funding levels, at the values in the national school National Funding Formula, compulsory for local authorities to use in their own 2020/21 funding formulae.

As Lancashire has already adopted the National Funding Formula methodology, including the use of the previous Minimum Pupil Funding levels, this compulsory change to the 2020/21 formula will not have any significant implications.

In addition to the Minimum Pupil Funding levels, other Schools Block funding factors will increase by 4% over 2019/20 levels, with the exception of:

- The free school meals factor, which will be increased at inflation, as it is intended to broadly reflect actual costs;
- Premises funding will continue to be allocated at local authority level on the basis of actual spend in the 2019/20, with a Retail Prices Index Excluding Mortgage Interest Payments (RPIX) increase for the Private Finance Initiative factor only.

Some Lancashire schools will also benefit from a technical change to the mobility factor that is being introduced from April 2020, which calculates allocations on a formulaic approach, rather than on the basis of historic spend.

High Needs Block

The High Needs Block funds:

- Special Schools budgets
- Alternative Provision budgets (mainly Pupil Referral Units)
- Special Education Resource Provision Units in mainstream schools
- Individually Assigned Resources for High Needs pupils across all educational establishments
- Certain Special Education Needs Central Schools Services

The allocation to Lancashire is calculated using a national High Needs Block formula, but the Local Authority's local funding formulae still apply to distribute High Needs funding to Lancashire providers. The national formula is largely unchanged for 2020/21.

However, the Government announcements about additional funding for schools, earmarked an extra £700m nationally for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) in 2020/21.

The announcements indicated that every local authority will receive an increase of at least 8% per head of two to 18 population. Considerable cost and demand led pressures remain on the High Needs Block budget both nationally and locally. It was previously forecast that increased High Needs expenditure in 2020/21 could be approximately £13.2m. Initial analysis of the funding announcements suggested that Lancashire's share of the extra £700m High Needs Block nationally may be able to cover the growth in expenditure from April 2020.

Forecasts still indicate that increases in High Needs Block expenditure in 2020/21 will be covered by the additional High Needs funding of circa £17m Lancashire will receive from April 2020. This is in contrast to recent years when the High Needs Block has been overspent and Dedicated Schools Grant reserves have been used to balance the budget. However, increased expenditure on the High Needs Block is forecast to continue in coming years and there is no guarantee that there will be equivalent additional funding for this Block to meet the demand and cost pressures. The latest estimate of future demand for High Needs Block expenditure still forecasts a funding gap of circa £25m by 2023/24, if there are no further increases in High Needs Block allocations.

Early Years Block

Early Years Block funding is utilised for:

- Funding for the universal 15 hours entitlement for three and four year olds;
- Funding for the additional 15 hours entitlement for three and four year old children of eligible working parents;
- Funding for the 15 hours entitlement for disadvantaged two year olds;
- Funding for the Early Years Pupil Premium;
- Funding for the Disability Access Fund;
- Supplementary funding for Maintained Nursery Schools.

The Government introduced an Early Years National Funding Formula from April 2017. This arrangement introduced a formulaic mechanism for distributing early years funding from national Government to each local authority and set a framework that must be used to distribute funding to all types of early education provider, including nursery schools; nursery classes in maintained primary schools; Private, Voluntary and Independent providers and Childminders. The Early Years National Funding Formula introduced a requirement to have a Universal Base Rate for all providers and set out the type and level of supplements that are available.

Government announcements indicate that an additional £66m has been made available nationally for 2020/21. This is to be distributed via an uplift of 8p per hour on the funding we receive from the Department for Education for two year olds and for three and four year olds.

The allocation levels to Lancashire for 2020/21 will be as follows:

- Two year olds - £5.28 per hour;

- Three and four year olds - £4.38 per hour.

These funding levels remain the lowest in the country, along with about a third of local authorities. The highest two year old rate in the country is £6.58 per hour, with £8.51 per hour being the highest rate for three and four year olds.

Government announcements also confirmed the continuation of supplementary funding for Maintained Nursery Schools for 2020/21, at the 2019/20 funding rates.

Pressures on early years funding have placed considerable financial strain on all types of early years providers in recent years, and these are expected to continue in 2020/21.

Central School Services Block

This Block is to fund central functions that local authorities carry out on behalf of pupils in state-funded maintained schools and academies in England. The Central School Services Block was first introduced in 2018/19 and effectively replaced the previous Education Services Grant allocations, but the levels of funding have reduced considerably over recent years.

The Central School Services Block allocation for local authorities is split into funding for historic commitments and funding for ongoing responsibilities.

The ongoing responsibilities element of funding is calculated by the Department for Education on a formulaic methodology based on pupil numbers and deprivation, plus an area cost adjustment. The historic commitments element of the Block funds certain ongoing obligations funded from the Dedicated Schools Grant.

The Department for Education funding announcements indicate that there will be a cash flat allocation in the formulaic 'Ongoing responsibilities' element of the budget, but the funding level for 'historic commitments' will reduce by 20%.

Department for Education indicate that they will continue to unwind this historic commitments funding in future years.

Final Dedicated Schools Grant Allocation 2020/21

Final Dedicated Schools Grant allocations for 2020/21 were published by the Department for Education on 19 December 2019.

Lancashire's Gross 2020/21 Dedicated Schools Grant allocation is £1,003.852m. Appendix A sets out a detailed analysis of the Lancashire allocation.

The equivalent Gross Dedicated Schools Grant income figure for 2019/20 was £947.933m. The 2020/21 figure is over £55m higher than the previous year, for the reasons set out in Appendix A.

The decisions and recommendations arising from the Schools Forum's consideration of the 2020/21 Schools Budget proposals will be circulated as Appendix B after the Forum meeting on 14 January 2020.

Financial Implications

The report forecasts a balanced Dedicated Schools Grant funding position in 2020/21, which will be underwritten by the Dedicated Schools Grant reserves.

To date, Lancashire has always contained any school funding pressures within the Dedicated Schools Grant. The Dedicated Schools Grant reserve at 31 March 2019 was £12.744m. The reserve had reduced by over £1.5m in 2018/19 and further pressures on the reserve are forecast at the end of 2019/20, perhaps in the order of £3.6m. These overspends are attributable to cost and demand pressures on the High Needs Block. However, forecasts for 2020/21 suggest some relief on High Needs Block pressures due to the increased allocations.

Pressure remains on the Early Years Block, where the level of additional funding for 2020/21 is not as great as in the Schools Block and High Needs Block. This pressure is likely to be increased for many early years settings by proposed increases in the National Living Wage.

It should be noted that, the Department for Education are consulting on arrangements to tighten the ring-fencing around the Dedicated Schools Grant. Proposals look to ensure that local authorities do not make provisions in their general reserves to cover possible Dedicated Schools Grant deficits and any deficits would be carried forward into future years and then repaid overtime. A number of other local authorities are already working with the Department for Education to agree recovery plans to repay deficits.

Appendix A

This Appendix to the Schools Budget 2020/21 report has been prepared following receipt of pupil data and Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) allocation information from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) and presents the estimated Schools Budget for 2020/21.

Following the re-election of the Conservative Government after the 12 December 2019 General Election, Lancashire received Dedicated Schools Grant funding allocations on 19 December 2019. This is a few days later than would have normally been expected.

DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT (DSG) ALLOCATIONS 2020/21

The ESFA sub-divide the DSG into 4 funding blocks: the Schools Block, High Needs Block, Early Years Block and the Central Schools Services Block (CSSB). These Blocks are all calculated on a formulaic basis.

Information on the 2020/21 DSG allocations for Lancashire is provided below:

Schools Block allocation (£781.518m)

The Schools Block allocations for 2020/21 are derived on the basis of illustrative individual Schools National Funding Formula (SNFF) allocations calculated by the Government. These calculations translate into primary and secondary units of funding for 2020/21. These units of funding are multiplied by the number of primary and secondary pupils from the October 2019 census, providing funding of £761,291,386. A Local Authority level allocation for premises factors (£15,335,113) and growth (£4,891,463) are added to provide a final Schools Block allocation.

This provides a total Lancashire Schools Block allocation for 2020/21 of £781,517,963

The 2020/21 allocation is over £35m higher than the equivalent figure in 2019/20. The increased allocation is in part due to Lancashire's share of additional funding made available nationally by the Government enabling Minimum Pupil Funding (MPF) levels to rise to £5,000 per pupil for secondary pupils and to £3,750 per pupil for primary pupils, plus a 4% increase on most national funding formula (NFF) factors. In addition, there are almost 1,300 more pupils across Lancashire primary and secondary schools, which generate additional DSG income, but will also produce extra costs in the budget.

High Needs Block allocation (£135.479m)

The 2020/21 High Needs Block allocation is calculated under the Government's national High Needs funding formula. Key features of the formula include:

- A historic spending allocation to assist with transition to the national high needs formula;
- A flat rate of £4,000 per annum for each pupil in special schools or student in special post-16 institutions, ensuring local authorities receive a broadly

equivalent basic level of funding for pupils with high needs in both mainstream schools and outside the mainstream sector;

- A number of proxy measures including the following factors:
 - 2-18 population;
 - deprivation;
 - low attainment;
 - health and disability.
- An import/export adjustment for high needs pupils.

The formula provides a 2020/21 High Needs Block allocation for Lancashire of £135,479,270.

This figure is over £17m higher than the equivalent 2019/20 allocation, and is largely due to increased funding for the High Needs Block made available by the Government. Of the additional £2.6b extra funding available national for schools from April 2020, £700m was earmarked for High Needs Block.

It should be noted that the High Needs Block allocation is a provisional allocation and the gross total includes allocations attributable to funded places that will be deducted and made directly by the ESFA. These are estimated by ESFA to total circa £7.88m.

Early Years Block allocation (£80.468m)

Allocations for the Early Years Block include:

- funding for the universal 15 hours entitlement for three and four year olds;
- funding for the additional 15 hours entitlement for three and four year old children of eligible working parents;
- funding for the 15 hours entitlement for disadvantaged two year olds;
- funding for the Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP);
- funding for the Disability Access Fund (DAF);
- supplementary funding for Maintained Nursery Schools (MNS).

The allocations are calculated on a formulaic basis and include an additional 8p per hour for three and four year olds and for two year olds announced by the Government.

This provides an Early Years Block allocation for Lancashire for 2020/21 of £80,468,473.

Lancashire's Early Years funding is over £2.5m higher than the equivalent 2019/20 allocation, due to the increased hourly funding rates for two, three and four year olds, and an overall increase of over 500 children in the calculation.

It should be noted that the 2020/21 early years block allocations are initial, and based on Schools, Early Years and Alternative Provision censuses data from January 2019. These allocations will be updated based on January 2020 and January 2021 census data.

Central Schools Services Block (CSSB) (£6.387)

The Central Schools Services Block (CSSB) is to fund central functions that Local Authority's carry out on behalf of pupils in state-funded maintained schools and academies in England.

The Central Schools Services Block (CSSB) is split into funding for historic commitments and funding for ongoing responsibilities. The ongoing responsibilities element is based on a formula, with unit values being cash flat for 2020/21. The Historic Commitments element of the allocation has been reduced by 20% compared to 2019/20, as the DfE indicate that they will continue to 'unwind' historic commitments over time. The reduced allocation attributable to the Historic Commitments funding has been partly offset by an increased ongoing responsibilities allocation due to higher pupil numbers in 2020/21.

The total Lancashire's CSSB allocation for 2020/21 is £6,386,525. This is over £0.2m less than was allocated for this block in 2019/20.

In Year Adjustments

The DSG allocation notified is prior to in year adjustments for:

- Academies recoupment from the schools block;
- Deductions for high needs places in academies and non-maintained special schools;
- Post 16 places;
- Deduction for national copyright licences;
- Updates to the funding for three and four year olds;
- Updates to the funding two year olds;
- Updates to the early years supplementary funding for maintained nursery school
- Updates to the early years pupil premium;
- Updates to early years Disability Access Fund.

Forecast total DSG income for 2020/21

The Lancashire DSG allocations for 2020/21 across the 4 funding blocks are shown below:

Forecast DSG Income	£m's
Schools Block	781.518
High Needs Block	135.479
Early Years Block	80.468
Central Schools Services Block	6.387
Gross Total forecast DSG Income	1,003.852
Total deductions for direct high needs payments made by the ESFA	-7.880
Net Total forecast DSG Income	995.972

The equivalent Gross DSG income figure for 2019/20 was £947.933m. The 2020/21 figure is over £55m higher than the previous year, for the reasons set out under each funding block above.

Other Funding Streams

DfE announcements in December 2019 indicate that information on other funding streams, for example, Pupil Premium Grant (PPG), will be made in the New Year. As these other funding streams are passported to schools, they do not impact on the 2020/21 Schools Budget setting process.

SCHOOLS BUDGET 2020/21

The latest Individual School Budgets (ISB) across all phases has been constructed using the final datasets made available from the ESFA and our latest local Early Years and High Needs data.

This Schools Budget estimate has been calculated following the outcome of consultations with schools and early years providers and discussions with the Schools Forum.

Budget Summary

The table below summarises the budgets to be allocated from each of the DSG funding blocks

<u>Forecast DSG Expenditure</u>	£m's
Schools Block	779.518
High Needs Block	127.137
Early Years Block	82.468
Central Schools Services Block	6.387
Additional High Needs places to be paid direct by ESFA	0.462
Total forecast DSG Expenditure	995.972

Further details about each block are provided below.

Schools Block

Following a consultation with schools and the Schools Forum as part of the 2018/19 Schools Budget setting cycle, it was agreed to use the Government's National Funding Formula (NFF) methodology as the local Lancashire funding model.

The NFF methodology will continue to apply in 2020/21 for calculating allocations to Lancashire schools, and will incorporate the changes to the formula introduced nationally, including:

- New Minimum Pupil Funding Levels:
 - Secondary schools £5,000 per pupil;
 - Primary Schools £3,750 per pupil;
- A 4% increase for most NFF factors;
- Implementation of the formulaic Mobility factor.

As supported by responses from schools in a consultation held in the autumn term 2019, the Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) has been included in the formula at +1.84% and there is no cap on funding gains.

A 2020/21 growth fund requirement, which is used to support Local Authority initiated school expansions, of circa £2m has been included for 2020/21.

The calculation reveals a 2020/21 Schools Block expenditure requirement of £779.518m.

The recent school consultation also provided support for the transfer of any Schools Block headroom that may be available to be transferred to help support pressures in other funding blocks.

The 2020/21 Schools Block requirement provides headroom of circa £2m, which represents approximately 0.26% of the Schools Block. This is below 0.5% of the Schools Block, and can therefore be agreed by the Schools Forum on 14 January 2020, without the need for approval from the Secretary of State.

The headroom figure is generated from Lancashire's 2020/21 Growth Fund Allocation from Government, less our local estimate of the requirement from April 2020.

High Needs Block

The High Needs Block expenditure for 2020/21 is estimated in the table below:

	Place funding £m	Top-up funding £m
Delegated to Schools	34.765	57.646
FE Colleges		7.000
HNB costs on a commissioned basis		27.726
Total	34.765	92.372

The total forecast HNB expenditure in 2019/20 is some £127.137m.

This estimate takes account of demand led pressures in the block and offers some level of increase for school specific rates and Weighted Pupil Number (WPN) values, and still provides a balanced budget.

Early Years Block

Following discussions with the Schools Forum's Early Years Group, it is intended to passport the additional 8p per hour for 2, 3 and 4 years olds that has been made available by the Government, directly to the 2 year old and the 3&4 year old base rates.

Other elements of the Early Years National Funding Formula calculations continue at 2019/20 rates, including

- Ring-fenced supplementary funding for Maintained Nursery Schools (MNS)
- Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP)
- Early Years Disability Access Fund (DAF)
- SEN Inclusion Fund

Based on Government allocations, the Early Years Block faces the most significant challenges in 2020/21. As such, it is proposed to use £2m of the Schools Block headroom to support early years.

This headroom would be utilised to provide:

- a further local increase to the 3&4 year old base rates of 8p per hour, in addition to that provided by the increased Government funding;
- support to enable the increased Government funding for 2 year olds to be passed on in full, as the current 2 year old base rate is being subsidised from the 3&4 year old allocation in 2019/20;
- an increased of £200k to the SEN Inclusion Fund from April 2020, to provide a higher budget to support early years pupils with high needs.

This would provide the following base rates for 2020/21:

- Early Years Block 2 year olds - £5.08 per hour (compared to £5.00 in 2019/20);
- Early Years Block 3/4 year olds - £4.29 per hour (compared to £4.13 in 2019/20).

It must be emphasised that the transfer of funding from Schools Block Headroom cannot be guaranteed for future years, including the additional 8p per hour generated for the 3&4 year old base rates.

The LA has forecast the Early Years provision as set out below:

	2 year olds £m	3&4 year olds £m
Early Years Block 3/4 year olds		70.411
Early Years Block 2 year olds	10.498	
Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP)		0.745
Early Years Disability Access Fund (DAF)		0.314
SEN Inclusion Fund		0.500
Total	10.498	71.970

The overall Early Years Block is estimated to be on budget of £82.468m, including the £2m transfer from the Schools Block.

The allocation for 3&4 year olds incorporated the Ring-fenced supplementary funding for Maintained Nursery Schools (MNS) of circa £3.5m

Central Schools Services Block (CSSB)

The estimated CSSB expenditure in 2020/21 is £6.387m

This CSSB is the only Block to face a reduction in 2020/21 compared to 2019/20. This is due to the DfE's decision to reduce the Historic Commitments element of the budget by 20% from April 2020, as part of their intention to cease all 'historic' funding over time.

In consultation with the Schools Forum, Lancashire has already been reducing our historic commitments, which have mainly been DSG contributions to combined budgets, in order to comply with the DFE requirements.

Due to the preparatory decisions that have been taken, only minor adjustments are needed to the expenditure for 2020/21 to enable the budget to remain in balance with the reduced CSSB allocation. However, careful consideration will be needed around the CSSB in future years, as DfE implement further reductions in the Historic Commitments budget.

Additional High Needs places to be paid direct by ESFA (£0.462m)

Lancashire's Gross DSG allocation is reduced by the ESFA based on an estimated value of allocations that the ESFA make directly for High Needs places and for academies recoupment. For 2020/21 this figure was estimated at circa £7.8m by the ESFA.

However, the LA has commissioned further High Needs places at establishments that are directly funded by the ESFA (e.g. academies and post 16 providers) and it has been estimated that a further £462k will be deducted from our 2020/21 DSG allocation to take account of these places. This reduction in income has been built into our forecast budget calculation.

Calculation of the final 2020/21 funding position

	£m's
Net Total forecast DSG Income 2020/21	995.972
Total Forecast DSG Allocations 2020/21	995.972

Recommendations from the Schools Forum meeting to be held on 14 January 2020 will be provided for the Cabinet as Appendix B.

**SCHOOLS BUDGET 2020/21
SPECIFIC APPROVALS NEEDED FROM THE SCHOOLS FORUM**

The School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations require certain proposals by the Local Authority relating to the Schools Budget to be approved by the Schools Forum. .

An indication of the specific proposals that have previously been considered and approved by the Forum is included together with proposals now put forward that require approval.

Function	LA proposals 2020/21	Proposed Expenditure: 2020/21 £m
Consultation on Formula Changes		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposals around possible changes to the discretionary payment elements in the EYNFF were the subject of consultation with the all providers in the autumn term. 	In accordance with the majority of consultation responses, the Forum meeting of 17 October 2019 agreed that that no changes to the 2020/21 EYNFF should be made. Final EYNFF proposals are contained in Schools Budget 2020/21 report	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adjustments to the notional SEN calculation were subject to consultation in the autumn term 	Consultation responses are provided in the Forum papers, and in accordance with responses and recommendations from the Schools Block, the notional SEN is changed to remove the Basic Pupil elements from the calculation in the Schools Budget 2020/21	
De-delegation for mainstream schools	LA proposals for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools in financial difficulty; Museum service (primary only); 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff Costs Public duties/Suspensions; • Primary Inclusion Hubs <p>Approved by the Schools Forum on 17 October 2019</p>	
Movement of up to headroom from the schools block to other blocks	<p>Consultation responses are provided in the Forum papers, and in accordance with responses and recommendations from the Schools Block, proposals to transfer headroom from Schools Block are built into the Schools Budget 2020/21.</p> <p>Arrangements to transfer the headroom to the Early Years Block are subject to confirmation as part of the final proposals for the Schools Budget 2020/21</p>	2.000
Contracts (where the LA is entering a contract to be funded from the schools budget)	No Proposals at this time	
Financial issues relating to:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • arrangements for pupils with special educational needs, in particular the places to be commissioned by the LA and schools and the arrangements for paying top-up funding 	Proposals contained in the High Needs Block Working Group recommendations for Forum report for 14 January 2020	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • arrangements for use of pupil referral units and the education of children otherwise than at school, in particular the places to be commissioned by the LA and schools and the arrangements for paying top-up funding 	Proposals contained in the High Needs Block Working Group recommendations for Forum report for 14 January 2020	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • arrangements for early years provision 	Proposals contained in the Early Years Block Working Group recommendations for Forum report for 14	0.500

	January 2020. Central funding level presented as part of the Schools Budget 2020/21 report	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> administration arrangements for the allocation of central government grants 	No Proposals at this time beyond passporting DfE allocations to schools	
Minimum funding guarantee (MFG)	Consultation responses on MFG and capping are provided in the Forum papers, and in accordance with responses and recommendations from the Schools Block, the MFG and capping levels mirror those in the NFF and are set at an MFG of +1.84% with no cap on gains in the Schools 2020/21	
General Duties for maintained schools Contribution to responsibilities that local authorities hold for maintained schools	No Proposals at this time	
Central spend on and the criteria for allocating funding from:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> funding for significant pre-16 pupil growth, including new schools set up to meet basic need, whether maintained or academy 	<p>Policy previously agreed by the Schools Forum. Proposal to increase the growth fund unit values in line with increased NFF Minimum Pupil Funding levels for 2020/21</p> <p>Final budget proposals are contained in the Schools Budget 2020/21 report</p>	2.000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> funding for good or outstanding schools with falling rolls where growth in pupil numbers is expected within three years 	No Proposals at this time	-
Central spend on:		

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> early years block provision funding to enable all schools to meet the infant class size requirement 	No Proposals at this time	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> back-pay for equal pay claims 	No Proposals at this time	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> remission of boarding fees at maintained schools and academies 	No Proposals at this time	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> places in independent schools for non-SEN pupils 	No Proposals at this time	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> admissions 	Final budget proposals are contained in the Schools Budget 2020/21 report	0.937
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> servicing of schools forum 	Final budget proposals are contained in the Schools Budget 2020/21 report	0.188
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribution to responsibilities that local authorities hold for all schools 	No Proposals at this time	
Central spend on:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> capital expenditure funded from revenue: projects must have been planned and decided on prior to April 2013 so no new projects can be charged 	No Proposals at this time	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> contribution to combined budgets: this is where the schools forum agreed prior to April 2013 a contribution from the schools budget to services which would otherwise be funded from other sources 	Final combined budget proposals are contained in the Schools Budget 2020/21 report	0.350
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> existing termination of employment costs (costs for specific individuals must have been approved prior to April 2013 so no new redundancy costs can be charged) 	No Proposals at this time	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> prudential borrowing costs – the commitment must have been approved prior to April 2013 	Final prudential borrowing proposals are contained in the Schools Budget 2020/21 report	0.240
Central spend on:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> high needs block provision 	2020/21 funding level presented as part of the Schools Budget setting proposals	27.727
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> central licences negotiated by the Secretary of State 	2020/21 funding level presented as part of the Schools Budget setting proposals	0.960
Carry forward a deficit on central expenditure to the next year to be funded from the schools budget	No Proposals at this time	
Any brought forward deficit on de-delegated services which is to be met by the overall schools budget.	No Proposals at this time	