

LANCASHIRE SCHOOLS FORUM

Virtual meeting to be held at 10.00 am on Tuesday 12 January 2021

Supplementary Papers

Since the agenda and papers for the Forum meeting on 12 January 2021 were issued a number of additional documents have been received or finalised, and these are provided in this pack of supplementary papers as follows:

- Item 7: Chairs working group report including further Schools Budget 2021/22 information and recommendations from the group. (Officers will present this information as a powerpoint at the Forum meeting);
- Item 10: Updated final analysis the early years covid 19 consultation and any comments received after the forum papers were originally issued;
- Item 12a: Correspondence received by the Cabinet Member for Children Young People and Schools in response to correspondence about covid costs facing schools and early years settings in Lancashire;
- Item 13: AOB paper on Edenred FSM system in term time;
- Item 13: AOB paper setting out draft proposal for School Teaching and Support Staff Supply Reimbursement Scheme for January 2021;
- Item 13 : AOB paper setting out the Schools Forum response to Covid-19 for consideration.

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Lancashire Schools Forum

12 January 2021

Forecast DSG for 2021/22

All allocations based on national funding formulae

Forecast DSG Income	£m's
Schools Block	849.944
High Needs Block	151.033
Early Years Block	82.472
Central Schools Services Block	6.766
Gross Total forecast DSG Income	1,090.214
Total deductions for direct high needs payments made by the ESFA	-8.402
Net Total forecast DSG Income	1,081.812

Estimated Schools Budget 2021/22

Forecast DSG Expenditure	£m's
Schools Block	847.944
High Needs Block	151.033
Early Years Block	84.472
Central Schools Services Block	6.766
Total deductions for direct high needs payments made by the ESFA	-8.402
Total forecast DSG Expenditure	1,081.812

Comparison to 2020/21

- In aggregate terms the 2021/22 Gross DSG allocation is some £86m higher than that received in 2020/21
- This increase is due to:
 - Lancashire's share of the increased £2.2b funding nationally made available by Government, including £730m for the High Needs Block;
 - Lancashire's share of the increased £44m nationally for the Early Years Block;
 - Incorporation of funding for the teachers pay and pensions grants in the Schools, High Needs and Central Schools Services Blocks that were previously paid as separate grants;
 - An increase in the overall numbers of pupils in Lancashire compared to 2020/21.
- Whilst there is additional funding in the education system, some schools and providers are only receiving inflationary level increases in funding compared to 2020/21, especially when unpredictable covid-19 related costs are factored in, and many may continue to face financial challenges

Schools Block 2021/22

- Forum previously agreed that the Government's NFF methodology should be used as the Lancashire formula from 2018/19, and this continues in 2021/22
- 2021/22 NFF changes include:
 - Every mainstream school will be allocated at least 2% more pupil-led funding per pupil compared to its 2020/21 NFF baseline;
 - Incorporation of funding for teachers pay & pensions grants that were previously paid separately;
 - Additional funding for small and remote schools will increase in 2021/22;
 - Mandatory Minimum Pupil Funding levels now include pay and pensions:
 - £4,180 per pupil for primary schools (£3,750 per pupil for primary schools in 2020/21)
 - £5,415 per pupil for secondary schools (£5,000 per pupil for secondary schools in 2020/21)
 - The 2019 update to the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) has been incorporated in deprivation funding

Schools Block Budget Funding Rates

	Final 2020/21 Rates (£)		Final 2021/22 Rates (£)	
	Primary	Secondary	Primary	Secondary
Basic Entitlement	2,857.00	KS3 – 4,018.00 KS4 – 4,561.00	3123.00	KS3 – 4044.00 KS4 – 4,963.00
Lump Sum	114,400.00	114,400.00	117,800.00	117,800.00
Sparsity	26,000.00	67,600.00	45,000.00	70,000.00
Prior Attainment	1,065.00	1,610.00	1,095.00	1,660.00
EAL	535.00	1,440.00	550.00	1,485.00
Mobility	875.00	1,250.00	900.00	1,290.00
FSM	450.00	450.00	460.00	460.00
FSM Ever6	560.00	815.00	575.00	840.00
IDACI Band A	600.00	840.00	620.00	865.00
IDACI Band B	435.00	625.00	445.00	680.00
IDACI Band C	405.00	580.00	445.00	630.00
IDACI Band D	375.00	535.00	140.00	580.00
IDACI Band E	250.00	405.00	260.00	415.00
IDACI Band F	210.00	300.00	215.00	310.00

Schools Block 2021/22

- Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG)
 - Local discretion to set MFG at +0.5% to +2.0%
 - Consultation held with schools in autumn term and results shared with Forum on 20 October 2020
 - Forum agreed to mirror the DfE's NFF and set MFG at +2.0% in 2021/22

Schools Block 2021/22

- Modelling indicated that the NFF can be implemented/mirrored in full as the local formula, including +2.0% MFG and leaves circa £2m of headroom
- Consultation therefore held with schools about the possible transfer of headroom to support pressures in the Early Years Block
- £2m represents 0.26% of the Schools Block, prior to the inclusion of the teachers pay and pensions grant uplifts, so is below 0.5% level requiring transfers to be approved by the Secretary of State and a decision can therefore be approved by the Forum
- Detailed analysis and comments set out in Forum papers, but 91% of 79 school submissions supported the transfer
- Schools Block WG also supportive of the proposal

Schools Block 2021/22

- Note that once approved by Schools Forum and Cabinet, Schools Block proposals are subject to compliance checking by the DfE
- The Authority Proforma Tool (APT) must be submitted by 21 January 2021
- Anticipated that once approval received, individual school budgets will be issued in w/c 22 February 2021

Growth Funding

- Policy Agreed by Schools Forum from January 2019 provides that schools are funded at the relevant Minimum Pupil Funding (MPF) rate contained in the National Funding Formula (NFF)
- Growth Fund rates are normally updated each April for future agreements, using the new DfE MPF rates,
 - due to incorporation of the pay and pension grants there are 2 rates for 2021/22
 - one rate with and one rate without the additional grants
- Schools Block recommends that higher rate, incorporating teachers pay and pensions grants, is used for 2021/22
 - Primary £4,180 per pupil
 - Secondary £5,415 per pupil

High Needs Block 2021/22

- DfE announcements provide extra £730m nationally for HNB in 2021/22
- Plus teachers pay and pensions grants have been included in the DSG allocation
- Lancashire's share equates to circa £15.5m additional funding
- Modelling of the additional HNB funding suggests that:
 - the forecast growth in expenditure from April 2021 can be covered
 - a similar level of increase to funding rates as those applying to the Schools Block rates can be afforded

High Needs Block 2021/22

Weighted Pupil Numbers (WPN)

- WPN rates across all school and FE settings to be increased by 2%
- Similar level of increase to Schools Block NFF, which guarantees 2% more pupil-led funding per pupil than 2020/21
- WPN rate from April 2021 will be £4,391

High Needs Block 2021/22

Special Schools

- WPN increase implemented
- Existing School Specific factor also increased by 2% in line with mainstream school MFG
- Teachers pay and pensions grants incorporated within school specific funding,
 - At £660 per pupil,
 - But transparent and identifiable on a separate line on budget statements

High Needs Block 2021/22

PRUs

- Rate for Excluded Pupils, Medical and Other pupils reviewed in response to representations from PRUs
- Proposal to align Excluded Pupils, Medical and Other pupils to WPN value at Band E2 (1 WPN) from April 2021
 - in the secondary PRU formula, 1 WPN paid rather than the average of the secondary AWPU value
 - in the primary PRU formula, 2/3 of 1 WPN paid rather than the primary AWPU value
- Both phases receive a circa £30 per pupil increase using the revised formula

PRU School Specific

- Existing School Specific factor also increased by 2% in line with mainstream school MFG
- Teachers pay and pensions grants incorporated into school specific, at £660 per pupil, as a separate line on budget statements

High Needs Block 2021/22

PRUs

- Protection has applied to special school and PRU redeterminations during the COVID-19 pandemic
- Redeterminations were calculated as normal but then compared to the same term a year earlier and additional funding has been provided where appropriate
- Greatest support provided to PRUs
- Budget proposed includes circa £1.5m in AP budget to mitigate for missing demand in 20/21
 - Taking into account additional funding made in 20/21
- Longer term proposals to be developed by the AP Strategy Group

High Needs Block 2021/22

Hospital Education

- Hospital Education budget increased to £927k from £858k in 2020/21
- Increase includes uplift for teachers pay and pensions grants

Commissioned Places 2021/22

- HNB proposals incorporate place numbers as per the report to HNB WG

HNB Future years

- No confirmation from DfE of the additional HNB allocations for 2022/23
- Officers continuing to work on initiatives that ensure that the best use is being made of the High Needs resources available and to minimise as far as possible the current future years forecasted overspends

Pupil Premium Grant (PPG) 2021/22

- Funding rates for PPG will remain unchanged in 2021/22
 - Primary pupils: £1,345
 - Secondary pupils: £955
 - Looked-after children: £2,345
 - Children who have ceased to be looked-after: £2,345
 - Service children: £310
- DfE indicate they will be using data from the autumn term school census to calculate pupil premium allocations from October 2020 onwards
- Exceptions include alternative provision and pupil referral units where eligibility will continue to be based on the January census
- More information about this change is expected this year

Other Grants 2021/22

Free School Meal Supplementary Grant

- DFE confirmed that the Free School Meal (FSM) Supplementary Grant will be extended for one additional year for increases in FSM pupil numbers between October 2019 and October 2020, at a per pupil rate of £450.
- Allocations will be made in February 2021.

Other grants

- Information about other grants for 2021 to 2022 will be issued during 2021.

Early Years Block 2021/22

- Government increased early years funding by £44m nationally
- 2021/22 allocations for 3 and 4 years olds increased by 6p per hour by DfE
- 2021/22 allocations for 2 year olds increased by 8p per hour by DfE
- The proposed budget assumes the above increases are added to the relevant base rates
 - Note: this dilutes the proportion of deprivation funding for $\frac{3}{4}$ year olds

Early Years Block 2021/22

- For the deprivation supplement, the formula has been updated to reflect the 2019 Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) dataset, to mirror Schools and High Needs Block
- Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) and Disability Access Fund DAF remain unchanged for 2021/22
 - EYPP - 53 pence per eligible child per hour
 - DAF - £615 per eligible child per year

Early Years Block 2021/22

Maintained Nursery School Supplementary Funding

- Maintained nursery school supplementary funding allocations for September 2021 to March 2022 are conditional
- DfE say these allocations may be subject to change and LAs should therefore treat them as unconfirmed
- DfE will provide more information in early 2021
- Government confirmed that their commitment to the long-term funding of maintained nursery schools is unchanged

Early Years Block 2021/22

- Proposed to transfer all £2m headroom from Schools Block to EYB
- This would provide for one year only
 - support to enable the increase in Government funding to be passed on in full and to continue the additional local increases facilitated by the similar transfer last year

Early Years Block

- Proposals would provide the following rates for 2021/22:
 - 2 Year Old Base rate- £5.16 per hour (compared to £5.08 in 2020/21)
 - 3&4 Year Old Base rate- £4.35 per hour (compared to £4.29 in 2020/21)
 - SEN Inclusion Fund of £500k
 - Other elements of the Early Years formula remain unchanged from 2020/21

Early Years Block 2021/22

- Lancashire still receives the lowest allocation of EYNFF nationally (along with about 1/3 of LAs)
- Considerable strain on the sector as cost pressures increase, particularly wage costs as national living wage increase by 2.2%
- The way the EYB is funded provides a provisional allocation which will be finalised in July 2022 with the DSG reserve underwriting any uncertainties

CSSB Combined Budgets

- Forum made considerable reduction in this area over recent years, in accordance with DfE requirements
 - 2017/18 - £1,243k
 - 2018/19 - £450k
 - 2020/21- £350k
- For 2021/22, recommended a continuation of 2020/21 allocations:
 - MASH (£150k)
 - Emotional Health and Wellbeing Service (200k)
 - Update reports from services have been provided to HNB WG
 - Affordable due to subsidy from 'ongoing costs' allocation, but this is not sustainable, as future reductions in 'historic costs' funding will occur

CSSB Combined Budgets

Chair's Group recommended that:

- 2021/22 allocations are supported
- Enquiries be made of DfE to ascertain if these contributions can be made from elsewhere in DSG as 'Historic Commitments' funding is reduced/ceased
- Formal notification is issued to the services about future years DSG commitments, if DfE advise that historic commitments must cease and cannot be reallocated within DSG

Central Schools Services Block

	Central School Services Block 2020/21	Central School Services Block 2020/21	Variance
	£m	£m	£m
ESG Retained Duties (transferred to DSG)	2.591	2.591	-
Overheads	0.262	0.397	0.135
Copyright Licence	0.960	1.000	0.040
Pupil Access (Admissions)	0.937	1.400	0.463
School Forum	0.188	0.188	-
Early Intervention	0.350	0.350	-
PFI - Sixth Form	0.859	0.915	0.056
Prudential Borrowing	0.240	-	(0.240)
Rate Rebates	-	(0.075)	(0.075)
Total CSSB	6.387 ³⁰	6.766	0.379

Commissioned Services

<u>Commissioned Services</u>	Approved Budget 2020/21	High Needs Budget	Early Years Budget	Central School Services Block	Total	Variance
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
					-	-
PFI - Special	1.176	1.194	-	-	1.194	0.018
Commissioned Alternative Provision services	1.000	1.000	-	-	1.000	-
Hospital Provision	0.858	0.927	-	-	0.927	0.069
Out County - Specialist provision places	16.000	19.500	-	-	19.500	3.500
Out County - Mainstream / academies places	1.410	2.000	-	-	2.000	0.590
SEND Specialised Equipment	0.447	0.447	-	-	0.447	-
SEND Inclusion Projects	1.247	0.747	0.500	-	1.247	-
SEND Teachers & Support	3.464	3.464	-	-	3.464	-
Multi Agency Development	0.075	0.075	-	-	0.075	-
Support for Vulnerable Pupils - SI	0.899	0.899	-	-	0.899	-
Overheads	1.651	1.052	-	-	1.052	(0.599)
Total Commissioned Services	28.227	31.805	0.500	-	31.805	3.578

DSG Balances

Year end	DSG Reserve	In year movement
31.03.15	£27.94m	
31.03.16	£20.15m	-£7.79m
31.03.17	£20.69m	+£0.54m
31.03.18	£14.40m	-£6.29m
31.03.19	£12.74m	-£1.66m
31.03.20	£11.15m	-£1.59m

Chair's Group Recommendations

Schools Block

- Confirm that the DfE's NFF methodology should continue to be used as the Lancashire formula in 2021/22
- Confirm 2021/22 MFG set at +2.0%
- Recommend the transfer of Schools Block headroom of circa £2m (0.26% of the Schools Block) once the National Funding Formula (NFF) methodology has been implemented in full as the local formula, to support the Early Years block
- Confirm the use of the higher 2021/22 Minimum Pupil Funding (MPF) rates contained in the NFF for any new Growth Fund allocations from April 2021
 - Primary £4,180 per pupil
 - Secondary £5,415 per pupil

Chair's Group Recommendations

High Needs Block

- Support the increased HNB allocation being utilised to cover the forecast growth in High Needs expenditure from April 2021
- Support the increase in HNB expenditure to broadly match uplifts in the mainstream sector, including:
 - Increasing Weighted Pupil Numbers (WPN) rate by 2% to £4,391
 - Special School and PRU School Specific factors uplifted by 2%
 - Increase the Hospital Education budget to £927k

Chair's Group Recommendations

High Needs Block

- Support the proposal to align PRU Excluded Pupils, Medical and Other pupils to the WPN value at Band E2 (1 WPN) from April 2021
 - in the secondary PRU formula, 1 WPN would be paid rather than the average of the secondary AWPU value
 - in the primary PRU formula, 2/3 of 1 WPN would be paid rather than the primary AWPU value
- Support the proposal for the teachers pay and pensions grants to be incorporated into the special school and PRU school specific factor, at £660 per pupil, as a separate line on budget statements

Chair's Group Recommendations

Early Years Block

- Support the passporting of increased Government allocations for 2021/22 by increasing base rates for 2 year olds by 8p per hour and 3&4 year olds by 6p per hour
- Support the transfer of the £2m Schools Block Headroom to the Early Years Block, to allow the increase in Government funding to be passed on in full and to continue the additional local increases facilitated by the similar transfer first supported by a Schools Block transfer in 2020/21, to continue into 2021/22.

Chair's Group Recommendations

Central School Services Block

- Support the proposals for the Central School Services Block in 2021/22
- Agree the allocation of DSG Combined Budgets as follows
 - MASH - £150k
 - Emotional Health and Wellbeing Service - £200k
 - Support enquiries to the DfE about possible alternative DSG contributions for these services

Chair's Group recommendations

- Support formal approval of the budget lines requiring Forum agreement (as set out at item 7d of the Forum report)
- Support the Dedicated Schools Grant Reserve underwriting the uncertainties around the 2021/22 DSG Schools Budget, across Schools Block, High Needs Block, Early Years Block and CSSB.

Any Questions?

Lancashire Schools Forum

The Forum is asked to:

- Support the Schools Budget proposals for 2021/22 for the Schools Block, High Needs Block, Early Years Block and Centrally School Services Block;
- Support the Dedicated Schools Grant Reserve underwriting the uncertainties around the Schools Budget 2021/22;

Eligible to vote:



Lancashire Schools Forum

The Forum is asked to:

- Formally approve the Central Items budget lines requiring Forum agreement (as set out at Item 7d of the Schools Budget report for 2021/22).

Eligible to vote:



Item 10 Early Years Block Recommendations

Consultation on a proposal to make a one-off Covid allocation to Lancashire early years providers in Spring 2021

Supplementary paper containing final analysis of responses prepared after the consultation closing date on 8 January 2021

459 responses were received by the closing date of 8 January 2021 (compared to 455 when Forum papers were originally circulated). An analysis of these responses is shown below:

Analysis

Question: Do you agree with the proposal to make a one-off Covid allocation to Lancashire early years providers in Spring 2021?				
Type of Setting	Yes	No	Not Sure	Total
Private, Voluntary and Independent Setting	105	0	3	108
Primary School or Academy with Nursery Class	62	5	3	70
Other Maintained School or Academy	28	0	3	31
Maintained Nursery School	29	0	1	30
Eligible Child Minder	197	1	8	206
Other	12	2	0	14
Totals	433	8	18	459
	94%	2%	4%	

Comments

All comments received in time to be included when the Forum papers were distributed were included in Appendix C of Item 10 Early Years Block Recommendations. Comments received since that date are provided below:

We have had to employ extra staff to maintain the bubbles remain as safe as possible.

Tremendous pressures are caused by different patterns of attendance for pupils. This complicates bubbles. eg. morning/afternoon children. If a bubble has to close it impacts on the other group. This could be prevented with funding for cover. There are so many very vulnerable children who need to be in nursery. Also, pressures are on staff as they have no space where they can have lunch in a socially distanced manner.

This would make a significant difference to the ongoing provision of care in the early years setting

Nurseries are expected to be open to ALL children during the recent lockdown (and previously) and receive no additional funding for extra staff (to cover illness/Section 44 invoked rights), supply staff to be able to manage smaller bubbles to ensure the safety of the children and staff, additional PPE, extra cleaning products needed (over and above what we normally buy), signage



2020-0061268POGibb

Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP
Minister of State for School Standards

Sanctuary Buildings, 20 Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, SW1P 3BT
tel: 0370 000 2288 www.education.gov.uk/help/contactus

Councillor Phillippa Williamson
By email: phillippa.williamson@lancashire.gov.uk

Your ref: PW/VF

6 January 2021

Dear Councillor Williamson,

Thank you for your letter of 29 October, addressed to the Secretary of State, regarding exceptional costs incurred due to COVID-19 expenses. I am replying as the Minister of State for School Standards.

I am sorry for the delay in responding to your letter. This has been caused by a significant increase in the number of letters we have received alongside the increased workload for civil servants as we continue to tackle the consequences of the COVID-19 outbreak for the education sector.

We are grateful for the extraordinary efforts that teachers, head teachers, and other school staff are making to support their pupils during this uniquely challenging period. We provided additional funding to schools, on top of existing budgets, to cover unavoidable costs incurred between March and July due to the COVID-19 outbreak that could not be met from existing resources.

Updated guidance regarding the exceptional costs fund and the claims process for the second window was published on 4 December and is available at: tinyurl.com/Y759ukru. The second claims window closed on 22 December. The Education and Skills Funding Agency will aim to pay against claims within funding limits and for identified cost categories received by that date to local authorities at the end of February 2021 and to academies at the beginning of March 2021.

We have also announced a new COVID-19 workforce fund to support schools with the cost of staff absences. This is for schools with high staff absences that are also facing significant financial pressures. Further information is available at: tinyurl.com/Y8n2wY7f.

We have confirmed that schools will continue to receive their core funding allocations for the coming year, as usual, regardless of any periods of partial or complete closure. Local authorities will also continue to receive their high needs budgets and should continue to pay top up and other high needs funding to schools. This will ensure that the employment and payment of staff supporting pupils with special educational needs and disabilities can continue.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nick Gold". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "N".

Item 13 AOB – Supplementary Paper

Extract for schools COVID-19 Bulletin 7 January 2021

Free School Meal Vouchers - Edenred

As covered in Tuesday's bulletin, we have been exploring how we can utilise Edenred to enable schools to order term-time vouchers to support benefits-eligible FSM pupils. For the Christmas Holidays (and the upcoming February half-term holiday), funding was provided by central government as part of the Covid Winter Grant which enabled you to place voucher orders free of charge to yourselves.

During term time, schools are financially responsible for free school meals provision and, as outlined in Tuesday's bulletin, this may be in the form of food parcels or vouchers for those children not attending school. To support you in this, we will be crediting the Edenred account to enable you to place orders for vouchers to be sent direct to a benefits-eligible pupil's parent or carer as per the Christmas voucher process. Should you choose to order vouchers to support your term-time FSM provision this must be done on the understanding that any orders will be recharged to your school. Any orders already submitted via the system for term-time vouchers will also be recharged back to the school.

Vouchers should be ordered on a fortnightly basis for benefits-eligible pupils not currently attending school. If you are re-using your bulk order spreadsheets from the Christmas holidays, ensure that any pupils attending school have been removed from the list. Schools will be recharged for all vouchers ordered, so please check that you are not duplicating provision for children receiving in-school meals. We recommend that you reconcile your order forms with school attendance fortnightly. If your school is contracted to Lancashire Catering, be assured that you will not be billed for meals that would normally be consumed on site so your existing budget should be used to cover the cost of vouchers.

If you wish to opt-out of using Edenred in order to make local arrangements to meet your FSM obligations, please complete the following [e-form](#).

We are currently awaiting further information regarding additional free school meals funding as outlined by the Secretary of State for Education yesterday. We will provide an update on what this means for schools once this is received.

Item 13 AOB – Supplementary Paper

Supply Cover Insurance and Maternity Scheme for Lancashire Schools Covid-19 Update for the period from January 2021

National Lockdown 3

From 5 January 2021, the country has entered a third national lockdown due to Covid-19.

The government's instruction is for all schools to close for an extended period of time, subject to making provision for vulnerable children and the pupils of key workers.

With reduced numbers of pupils in school, and the majority of pupils home learning, there will be greater opportunity for staff who are extremely clinically vulnerable, within their third trimester of pregnancy or self isolating to work from home, and for schools to flexibly cover any staff sickness absences without the need for supply.

If schools do need to claim for supply cover in this period, they are asked to complete the supplementary Covid-19 section of the supply claim forms to set out relevant information about the claim and evidence that they have incurred additional costs. Any additional costs being incurred by schools, upto the standard costs of the supply cover, will be reimbursed to scheme members.

Claims can continue to be submitted for supply staff with long term contracts to cover existing extended periods of absence.

Nursery Schools

The closure of schools in lockdown 3 is not extended to early years provision and nursery schools may remain open during this period.

Under such circumstances cover for standard sickness and covid-19 absences can still be claimed, including:

- Staff absences due to self isolating as a result of Covid-19 symptoms or test, track and trace advice, where the school is incurring additional costs by covering the absence as if staff were off ill. This is subject to the normal scheme rules, for example, the waiting periods chosen by the school and subject to the school remaining open and scheme reimbursement rates. Details of additional costs would need to be justified in the supplementary Covid-19 section of the supply claim forms.
- Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV) staff that have received notification from their GP or the NHS and are advised to work from home. If this is not possible and the school is incurring additional costs to cover their absence, the supply insurance scheme will reimburse the school, subject to the normal scheme rules, eg waiting periods etc
- Staff in their third trimester of pregnancy, where they are not able to adhere to active national guidance on social distancing, who are also unable to work from home if no alternative role can be identified.

Guidance Review

The guidance will be reviewed again at the end of lockdown 3 and will take account of any relevant government and LCC advice at that time.

item 13 AOB

Lancashire Schools Forum

12 January 2021

Schools Forum response to Covid-19

- Supported arrangements for redeterminations in the spring and summer terms 2020 to protect early years providers at historic levels where headcount was reduced by the impact of covid-19
- Other assistance for early years providers including double funding in summer term where child's usual setting was closed, larger upfront interim payments to help cashflow, and waiving of some charges for the sector
- Supported arrangements for redeterminations in the spring and summer terms 2020 to protect high needs block providers at historic levels where census data was reduced by the impact of covid-19
- Supported numerous in year revisions to the Lancashire supply scheme arrangements to respond to changing government advice on covid-19, including, under certain circumstances, covering staff who are self isolation or clinically extremely vulnerable

Schools Forum response to Covid-19

- Wrote to the Secretary of State and DfE making representations about the covid response on behalf of Lancashire schools and early years providers
- Supported the allocation of a covid payment to Lancashire early years providers
- Underwritten the additional costs of the support through the DSG reserve
- Supported LCC position on school staff absences, where parents need to care for their own children asked to isolate
- Supported the remote delivery of the traded school finance package