

## SLOUGH SCHOOLS FORUM

### **SCHOOLS GROUP:**

John Constable (Chair), Peter Collins, Philip Gregory, Valerie Haffrey, Ray Hinds, Kathleen Higgins, Navroop Mehat, Angela Mellish, Carol Pearce, Kathy Perry, Jon Reekie, Jo Rockall, Jamie Rockman, Coral Snowden, Neil Sykes, Maggie Waller, Nicky Willis and Maxine Wood

### **OBSERVERS:**

Jo Matthews, Eddie Neighbour and Councillor Martin F. Carter

### **LOCAL AUTHORITY:**

Cate Duffy, Michael Jarrett, Johnny Kyriacou, Neil Wilcox, Susan Woodland and John Wood

**DATE & TIME: TUESDAY, 14TH JULY, 2020 AT 2.30 PM**  
**VIRTUAL MEETING**

### **AGENDA**

**Supplementary Papers: the following papers have been added to the agenda for the above meeting**

	<b><u>Page</u></b>
6. Update on Growth Allocations/Issues	<b>(Pages 1 - 12)</b>
7. Annual DSG Report 2019/20	<b>(Pages 13 - 28)</b>
8. High Needs/SEND Review Update 2020/21	<b>(Pages 29 - 36)</b>

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**SLOUGH SCHOOLS' FORUM**  
**14<sup>th</sup> July 2020**

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**Growth Fund 2019-20 - Outturn**  
**(Directorate of Children Learning and Skills)**

**1 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To ask that Schools' Forum note the outturn for the Growth Fund 2019-20 and note the latest estimates for 2020-21 and future years.

**2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

That Schools' Forum:

- 2.1 note the contents of this report.

**3 BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 The prescribed methodology for calculating revenue funding for schools means that growing schools are not fully funded for the extra pupils attending the school. The reason for this shortfall in funding is due to the lag in the period from pupils starting until they appear on the School Census and funding is allocated at a later date. To support schools through this period of lag in funding while they are expanding the LA requests an annual sum of money through Schools' Forum called the "Growth Fund".
- 3.2 The methodology for qualification and allocation of the Growth Fund is reviewed and agreed by Schools' Forum on an annual basis. Schools' Forum is asked to consider the financial impact on schools of expansion and agree an affordable level of additional revenue support.

**4. SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 4.1 A report was presented to Schools' Forum in November 2019 seeking approval for the criteria by which funding would be allocated in 2018-19. The table below briefly summarises these criteria:

Criterion	
School permanently expands at the request of the LA	The number of primary schools qualifying under this criterion is reducing each year, while more secondary schools are beginning to qualify.

School opens a bulge class at the request of the LA	One bulge class opened in 2018-19. Academies receive additional funding in the second year of a bulge class equal to the growth between October censuses.
School admits pupils above their PAN at the request of the LA	This is a 'last resort' option that may be considered when a handful of places are required and a bulge class offering 30 places would not be value for money.
New school opens	New schools may require additional support to ensure viability when first opened.

### **Outturn Figure**

- 4.1 The outturn for 2019-20 is shown in Appendix A. When all payments are deducted from the funding available including the contribution towards Grove Academy underwriting costs there is a carry forward of £284,165. This is higher than necessary even allowing for contingency and means that only £600K of 'topslice' funding is required for 2020-21 down from £800K in 2019-20.
- 4.2 The only change to the table from the version presented to School's Forum in November 2019 is the removal of a contingency sum.

### **Estimated 2019-20 Requirements**

- 4.5 Appendix B shows the expected expenditure including contingency allowances for 2020-21. The changes between 2019-20 and 2020-21 are:
- St Mary's will have fully expanded and will no longer be entitled to receive Growth Funding.
  - Wexham School will increase its PAN up to 240 by opening one additional permanent class.
  - A final request for funding to support the Council in funding the underwriting costs related to the opening of Grove Academy. This funding covers the period April to August 2020 and represents the completion of the 3 year's of support required to ensure Grove Academy opened when required by Slough. This figure is currently being checked by Schools Finance.
  - It is uncertain at this time whether the DfE will agree to fund the 5<sup>th</sup> Year 7 class at Grove Academy, so an allowance has been included to ensure the class is fully funded. Due to delays with the completion of their new school building Grove Academy took a decision to retain the 2019 PAN for another year rather than increase the admission number. However, Slough's projections for 2020-21 indicated that this class would be required to reduce the risk that pupils would be diverted out of borough.

The DfE may claim that they were informed too late to be able to fund the class.

- 4.6 Appendices C and D are projections of Growth Fund expenditure for 2021-22 and 2022-23 assuming no changes to either local criteria or Growth Fund guidance. Please note the suggested topslices for both years.

## **5 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS**

### Borough Solicitor

- 5.1 Local Authorities are under a statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient school places in their area, ensure fair access to educational opportunity and promote the fulfilment of every child's educational potential.

### Section 151 Officer – Strategic Director of Resources

- 5.2 The financial implications of the report are outlined in the supporting information.

### Access Implications

- 5.3 There are no access implications.

## **6 CONSULTATION**

### Principal Groups Consulted

None

### Method of Consultation

### Representations Received

### Background Papers

None

### **Contacts for further information:**

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Susan Woodland (DSG Accountant)  
[Susan.Woodland@slough.gov.uk](mailto:Susan.Woodland@slough.gov.uk)

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2019-20 Final Growth Fund Allocations (£)

Appendix A

Date: Jul 2020

<b>Primary AWPU (2019-20)</b>	<b>3,348.41</b>
Pupils per Class	30
Full Year Growth Funding Per Class	100,452.30
All schools (Sep 19 - Mar 20)	58,597.18
Academies (Apr 20 - Aug 20)	41,855.13

<b>Secondary AWPU (2019-20 average)</b>	<b>4,481.18</b>
KS3	4,254.20
KS4	4,708.15
Pupils per Class	30
Full Year Growth Funding Per Class	134,435.25
All schools (Sep 19 - Mar 20)	78,420.56
Academies (Apr 20 - Aug 20)	56,014.69

<b>2019-20 BUDGET (excluding funding claimed from the ESFA for academies)</b>	
CARRY FORWARD 2018-19 (agreed by School's Finance)	203,301
TOP SLICE FROM 2019-20 SCHOOL BLOCK (agreed by Schools' Forum)	800,000 reduced from £900K
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>1,003,301</b>

FORECAST EXPENDITURE 2019-20

	School	Status	New Pupils	No. of Classes	Remaining years	Sept 2019 - March 2020	April 2020- August 2020	TOTAL COMMITMENT
PRIMARY	Claycots School	Non-Academy	30	1	3	58,597		58,597
	St Mary's CE Primary School	Non-Academy	30	1	1	58,597		58,597
SECONDARY	Langley Grammar	Academy	30	1	3	78,421	56,015	134,435
	The Westgate School	Academy	60	2	4	156,841	112,029	268,871
	Wexham School	Non-Academy	45	1.5	4 / 5	117,631		117,631
	<b>2nd Year of Academy Bulge Class</b>							
	Marish Primary School (numbers grew from 99 to 129 between Oct-18 to Oct-19)	Academy	30	1	1	100,452		100,452
	<b>CONTINGENCY REQUIREMENTS</b>							
	Marish bulge class	Academy	30	1	1	58,597	41,855	100,452
	Grove Academy - underwriting support	Academy / FS				90,000	0	
	<b>Total</b>		<b>255</b>	<b>8.5</b>		<b>719,136</b>	<b>209,899</b>	<b>839,036</b>
	<b>ESTIMATED UNDERSPEND (FINANCIAL YR 19-20)</b>					<b>284,165</b>		

- Historically Slough has always ended up with an underspend at year end from the Growth Fund budget.
- This reflects the cautious approach that is taken with contingency requirements.
- The preference is to have a working surplus rather than risk unexpected growth mid-year which requires an additional contribution from the DSG.
- Schools' Forum agreed to reduce the top slice to £800K for 2019-20.
- Grove Academy underwriting request has increased from £60K to £90K and covers the period April 19 to March 20, following a reduction in 2018-19 from £90K to £25K.

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2020-21 Estimated Growth Fund Allocations (£)

APPENDIX B

Date: Jul 2020

<b>Primary AWPU (2020-21)</b>	<b>3,201.67</b>
Pupils per Class	30
Full Year Growth Funding Per Class	96,050.10
All schools (Sep 20 - Mar 21)	56,029.23
Academies (Apr 21 - Aug 21)	40,020.88

Finance to check these are final AWPU figures

<b>Secondary AWPU (2020-21 average)</b>	<b>4,648.65</b>
KS3	4,387.99
KS4	4,909.30
Pupils per Class	30
Full Year Growth Funding Per Class	139,459.35
All schools (Sep 20 - Mar 21)	81,351.29
Academies (Apr 21 - Aug 21)	58,108.06

<b>2020-21 BUDGET (excluding funding claimed from the ESFA for academies)</b>		
CARRY FORWARD 2019-20	284,165	
TOP SLICE FROM 2020-21 SCHOOL BLOCK	600,000	reduced from £800K
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>884,165</b>	

FORECAST EXPENDITURE 2020-21

	School	Status	New Pupils	No. of Classes	Remaining years	Sept 2020 - March 2021	April 2021- August 2021	TOTAL COMMITMENT
PRIMARY	Claycots School	Non-Academy	30	1	2	56,029		56,029
SECONDARY	Langley Grammar	Academy	30	1	2	81,351	58,108	139,459
	The Westgate School	Academy	60	2	3	162,703	116,216	278,919
	Wexham School	Non-Academy	75	2.5	3 / 4	203,378		203,378
	2nd Year of Academy Bulge Class (estimated growth Oct-19-Oct-20)							
	Marish Primary School	Academy	18	1	1	57,630		57,630
	<b>CONTINGENCY REQUIREMENTS</b>							
	Provisional primary class or 15 x 'plus 2s'	50% Academy	30	1	1	56,029	20,010	76,040
	Provisional secondary academy class	Academy	30	1	1	81,351	58,108	139,459
	Grove Academy - 5th Year 7 class (if not funded by DfE)	Academy / FS	30	1	1	81,351	58,108	139,459
	Grove Academy - underwriting support (Apr-20 to Aug-20)	Academy / FS				47,000	0	
	<b>Total</b>		<b>303</b>	<b>10.5</b>		<b>826,823</b>	<b>310,551</b>	<b>1,090,374</b>

Finalised when Oct 20 Census data confirmed

Still to be agreed

ESTIMATED UNDERSPEND (FINANCIAL YR 20-21)

57,341

- Historically Slough has always ended up with an underspend at year end from the Growth Fund budget. The reduction in top slice from £800K to £600K for 2020-21 means the carry forward may be much lower at the end of 2020-21. The preference is to have a working surplus rather than risk unexpected growth mid-year which requires an additional contribution from the DSG.
- Possible further underwriting of Grove Academy required from Slough for April to August to complete the 3rd year of underwriting.
- For 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 there is a forecast pressure on year 7 places and additional classes may be required to get through this peak in demand.

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## 2021-22 Estimated Growth Fund Allocations (£)

## APPENDIX C

Date: Jul 2020

<b>Primary AWPU (2020-21)</b>	<b>3,201.67</b>	<b>2021-22 rates will be different</b>
Pupils per Class	30	
Full Year Growth Funding Per Class	96,050.10	
All schools (Sep 20 - Mar 21)	56,029.23	
Academies (Apr 21 - Aug 21)	40,020.88	

<b>Secondary AWPU (2020-21 average)</b>	<b>4,648.65</b>	<b>2021-22 rates will be different</b>
KS3	4,387.99	
KS4	4,909.30	
Pupils per Class	30	
Full Year Growth Funding Per Class	139,459.35	
All schools (Sep 20 - Mar 21)	81,351.29	
Academies (Apr 21 - Aug 21)	58,108.06	

<b>2021-22 BUDGET (excluding funding claimed from the ESFA for academies)</b>		
CARRY FORWARD 2020-21 (to be confirmed by School's Finance)	57,341	carry forward could be lower than in previous years
TOP SLICE FROM 2021-22 SCHOOL BLOCK (to be agreed by Schools' Forum)	750,000	<b>Note proposed increase from 2020-21</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>807,341</b>	

### FORECAST EXPENDITURE 2021-22

	School	Status	New Pupils	No. of Classes	Remaining years	Sept 2021 - March 2022	April 2022- August 2022	TOTAL COMMITMENT
<b>PRIMARY</b>	Claycots School	Non-Academy	30	1	1	56,029		56,029
<b>SECONDARY</b>	Langley Grammar	Academy	30	1	1	81,351	58,108	139,459
	The Westgate School	Academy	60	2	2	162,703	116,216	278,919
	Wexham School	Non-Academy	75	2.5	2 / 3	203,378		203,378
<b>CONTINGENCY REQUIREMENTS</b>								
	Provisional primary academy class	Academy	30	1	1	56,029	40,021	96,050
	Provisional secondary academy class	Academy	30	1	1	81,351	58,108	139,459
	Provisional secondary class	50% Academy	30	1	1	81,351	29,054	110,405
	<b>Total</b>		<b>285</b>	<b>9.5</b>		<b>722,193</b>	<b>301,507</b>	<b>1,023,700</b>
<b>ESTIMATED UNDERSPEND (FINANCIAL YR 21-22)</b>						<b>85,148</b>		

1 Historically Slough has always ended up with an underspend at year end from the Growth Fund budget. This reflects the cautious approach that is taken with contingency requirements.

The preference is to have a working surplus rather than risk unexpected growth mid-year which requires an additional contribution from the DSG.

2 For 2021, 2022, 2023 there is a forecast pressure on year 7 places and additional classes may be required to get through this peak in demand.

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## 2022-23 Estimated Growth Fund Allocations (£)

## APPENDIX D

Date: Jun 2020

<b>Primary AWPU (2020-21)</b>	<b>3,201.67</b>	<b>2022-23 rates will be different</b>
Pupils per Class	30	
Full Year Growth Funding Per Class	96,050.10	
All schools (Sep 20 - Mar 21)	56,029.23	
Academies (Apr 21 - Aug 21)	40,020.88	

<b>Secondary AWPU (2020-21 average)</b>	<b>4,648.65</b>	<b>2022-23 rates will be different</b>
KS3	4,387.99	
KS4	4,909.30	
Pupils per Class	30	
Full Year Growth Funding Per Class	139,459.35	
All schools (Sep 20 - Mar 21)	81,351.29	
Academies (Apr 21 - Aug 21)	58,108.06	

<b>2021-22 BUDGET (excluding funding claimed from the ESFA for academies)</b>		
CARRY FORWARD 2021-22 (to be confirmed by School's Finance)	85,148	carry forward could be lower than in previous years
TOP SLICE FROM 2022-23 SCHOOL BLOCK (to be agreed by Schools' Forum)	700,000	<b>This could be lower or higher depending on classes opened in 2021-22</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>785,148</b>	

## FORECAST EXPENDITURE 2022-23

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School	Status	New Pupils	No. of Classes	Remaining years	Sept 2022 - March 2023	April 2023- August 2023	TOTAL COMMITMENT
The Westgate School	Academy	60	2	1	162,703	116,216	278,919
Wexham School	Non-Academy	75	2.5	1 / 2	203,378		203,378
2nd Year of Academy Bulge Class (estimated growth Oct22-Oct23)							
Primary School	Academy	15	1	1	48,025		48,025
Secondary School	Academy	15	1	1	69,730		69,730
<b>CONTINGENCY REQUIREMENTS</b>							
Provisional secondary academy class	Academy	30	1	1	81,351	58,108	139,459
Provisional secondary class	50% Academy	30	1	1	81,351	29,054	110,405
<b>Total</b>		<b>225</b>	<b>8.5</b>		<b>646,538</b>	<b>203,378</b>	<b>849,916</b>
<b>ESTIMATED UNDERSPEND (FINANCIAL YR 22-23)</b>							
					<b>138,610</b>		

1 Historically Slough has always ended up with an underspend at year end from the Growth Fund budget.

This reflects the cautious approach that is taken with contingency requirements.

The preference is to have a working surplus rather than risk unexpected growth mid-year which requires an additional contribution from the DSG.

2 For 2021, 2022, 2023 there is a forecast pressure on year 7 places and additional classes may be required to get through this peak in demand.

**SLOUGH SCHOOLS' FORUM**  
**14<sup>th</sup> July 2020**

**Directorate of Children, Learning and Skills**

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**DSG ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20**

**1 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report sets out the actual deployment of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) in 2019-20. It explains the main variances, and reports on the amounts carried forward into 2020-201.

The analysis focuses on the four blocks within the DSG and schools balances.

- Central Schools' Service Block (CSSB)
- Early Years Block (EYB)
- High Needs Block (HNB)
- Schools' Block (SB)
- Schools' balances

**2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 Schools' Forum is asked to note the report.

**3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

- 3.1 It is obligatory to provide Schools' Forum with the annual financial position for each block.

**4 REPORT**

- 4.1 The DSG is a ring-fenced grant and can only be applied to meet expenditure properly included in the Schools' Budget as defined in the Schools Finance Regulations.

The majority of funding is delegated to schools, using locally determined factor rates, determined by annual consultation and approved by schools' forum. A large proportion of the grant is recouped by the DfE to fund Academy schools within the authority. The remainder is used to fund Early Years', High Needs provisions, and central functions.

**4.2 Year End Position – Summary 2019/20**

Table 1 (below) provides a high level analysis of the financial performance of the DSG, both in-year and cumulatively.

DSG	2018-19 Cumulative Balances as at 31/3/2019	2018-19 Cumulative Balances as at 31/7/2019	2019-20 In- year Balances as at 31/3/2020	2019.20 Cumulative Balances as at 31/3/2020
SB	-0.221	-0.221	-0.092	-0.313
EYB	-0.902	-0.656	0.151	-0.505
CSSB	0.018	0.018	-0.009	0.009
HNB	8.300	8.300	5.865	14.165
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>7.195</b>	<b>7.441</b>	<b>5.915</b>	<b>13.356</b>

- 4.3 The DSG in-year over spend is currently **£5.915m**, excluding the final adjustment for Early Years'. The final funding position for the Early Years' block has not yet been confirmed but is expected later this month, once the January 20 census data has been analysed.
- 4.4 The **cumulative** deficit before any adjustments is **£13.356m**. Any end of year balances must be rolled forward into the next financial year, which has the first call upon the forthcoming budget.
- 4.5 The reported underspends will be explored further within the report.

## 5.0 Schools' Block

- 5.1 Table 2 (below) provides a more detailed analysis of the Schools' Block for 2019-20. The reported end of year position is an under spend of (**£0.221m**). This underspend is wholly situated within the growth fund. This balance has been placed into reserves and can be assessed for use within the 2021-22 budget setting process.

Schools' Block	Budget 2019/20 £m	Outturn 2019/20 £m	Variance
<b>Balance b/fwd</b>	0.000	-0.221	-0.221
Balance b/fwd Total	0.000	-0.221	-0.221
<b>Receipts</b>			
DSG Settlement	-132.014	-132.014	0.000
Academy Recoupment	96.313	96.313	0.000
HNB Transfer	-0.500	-0.500	0.000
<b>Net Cash</b>	<b>-36.201</b>	<b>-36.201</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	0.000	0.000	0.000
Maintained Primary Schools Budget Shares	27.439	27.439	0.000
Maintained Secondary Schools Budget Shares	7.180	7.180	0.000
De-delegated Budget: Behavioural Services	0.000	0.000	0.000
Growth Fund: School Block Top Slice & Carry forward	0.800	0.800	0.000
Growth Fund: Not Recouped	0.282	0.282	0.000
Block transfer funding to Maintained Schools	0.106	0.106	0.000
Block transfer funding to Academy Schools	0.394	0.394	0.000



<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>36.201</b>	<b>36.201</b>	<b>0.000</b>
<b>Variance</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>
<b>Bal C/fwd to 2020.21</b>	0.000	-0.221	-0.221

## 6. CSSB

6.1 The reported end of year position is an underspend of **£0.009m**, itemised within the table beneath.

<b>CSSB</b>	<b>Budget 2019/20 £m</b>	<b>Actual 2019/20 £m</b>	<b>Variance</b>
18/19 overspend due to Licences	0	0.018	0.018
<b>B/fwd Total</b>	0	0.018	0.018
<b>Receipts</b>			
DSG Settlement	-0.654	-0.654	0.000
Block Transfer	-0.255	-0.255	0.000
<b>Income Total</b>	<b>-0.909</b>	<b>-0.909</b>	<b>0.000</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Servicing of schools forum	0.053	0.053	0.000
Admissions	0.178	0.172	-0.006
Education Welfare (Former ESG)	0.145	0.145	0.000
Asset Management (Former ESG)	0.013	0.000	-0.013
Statutory & Regulatory (Former ESG)	0.258	0.258	0.000
Licences	0.132	0.132	0.000
LA Safeguarding Board	0.030	0.030	0.000
VH	0.100	0.100	0.000
CSSB overheads	0.000	0.010	0.010
<b>Expenditure Total</b>	<b>0.909</b>	<b>0.900</b>	<b>-0.009</b>
<b>Variance</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>-0.009</b>	<b>-0.009</b>
<b>Balance c/fwd to 20/21</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.009</b>	<b>0.009</b>

6.2 **Admissions:** a staff driven service, with a slight underspend owed to staffing efficiencies.

6.3 **Asset Management:** No spend had been recorded 2019-20 as a pupil yield survey was commissioned costing £7,000 but due to delays the cost will be recorded in 2020-21

6.4 **Licenses:** Commercial and confidence, DSG annual licence fee paid gross of VAT, against a budget excluding VAT.

## 7.0 Early Years' Block

7.1 The **provisional** end of year position is an under spend of **£0.656m** and a cumulative underspend of **£0.662m**, a favourable movement of **£0.06m** over what was reported previously to forum.

This is a demand funded service with providers claiming funding for actual hours of provision at the hourly rate set by the authority for that particular financial year.

- 7.2 The final funding position within the Early Years Block will not be confirmed until the January census data has been analysed and the budget amended. This is usually completed in July, we are currently awaiting this information from the DfE.
- 7.2 Table 3 sets out the provisional 2019-20 Early Years DSG revenue budget and outturn position. The current funding allocation is based on the January 19 census data, and will be updated in July 20 to reflect 5/12ths of the January 19 and 7/12ths of the January 20 censuses. Expenditure is based on actual take up achieved during the financial year, with providers claiming funding for actual hours of provision at the hourly rate set by the authority for that particular financial year. The outturn data within the table demonstrates this and is now final.
- 7.3 There will be variances between actual funding and expenditure incurred because the funding is always an estimate of the potential activity for Early Years users and the demand is not uniform over the year. Both expenditure and funding is therefore variable and challenging to predict.

Table 3 refers, below:

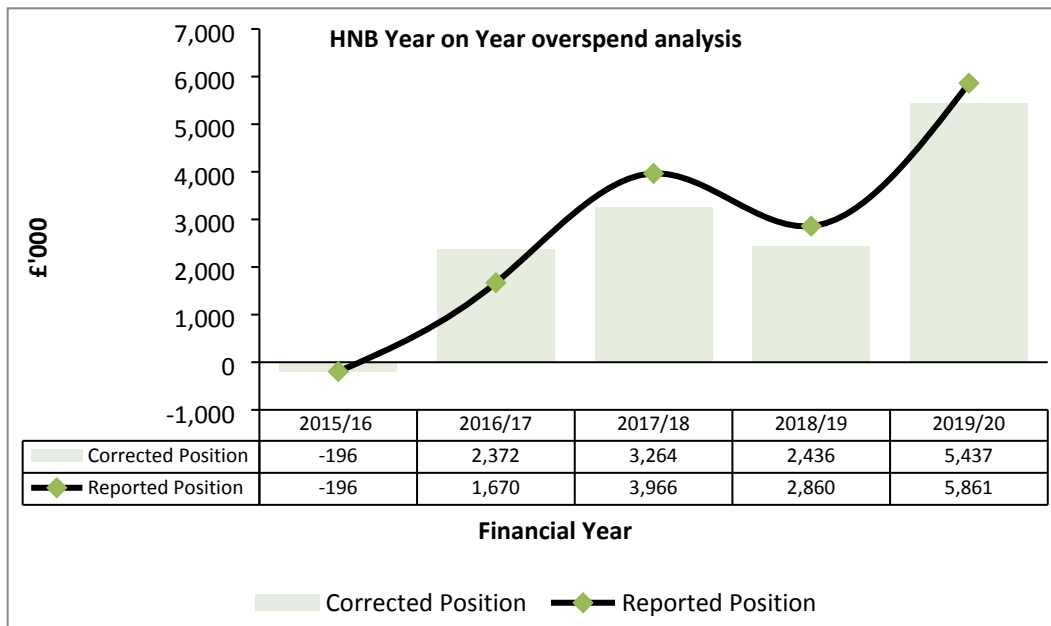
Early Years Block	Budget 2019/20 £m	Outturn 2019/20 £m	Variance
<b><u>Income</u></b>			
DSG Settlement	-14.166	-14.166	0.000
<b>Income Total</b>	<b>-14.166</b>	<b>-14.166</b>	<b>0.000</b>
<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>			
<b>Maintained Nursery Schools</b>			
2 Year Old Funding	0.228	0.228	0.000
3-4 Year Old Universal Entitlement	1.387	1.387	0.000
3-4 Year Old Extended Entitlement	0.377	0.377	0.000
Deprivation	0.033	0.033	0.000
Maintained Nursery Supplement	0.728	0.728	0.000
EYPP	0.023	0.023	0.000
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>2.776</b>	<b>2.776</b>	<b>0.000</b>
<b><u>Primary Schools</u></b>			
2 Year Old Funding	0.040	0.040	0.000
3-4 Year Old Universal Entitlement	3.676	3.676	0.000
3-4 Year Old Extended Entitlement	0.383	0.383	0.000
Deprivation	0.046	0.046	0.000
EYPP	0.032	0.032	0.000
DAF	0.001	0.001	0.000
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>4.178</b>	<b>4.179</b>	<b>0.000</b>
<b><u>Special Schools</u></b>			
2 Year Old Funding	0.001	0.001	0.000
3-4 Year Old Universal Entitlement	0.010	0.010	0.000
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>0.011</b>	<b>0.011</b>	<b>0.000</b>
<b><u>PVI Sector</u></b>	6.069	6.418	0.349
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>6.069</b>	<b>6.418</b>	<b>0.349</b>
EYPP	0.013	0.038	0.025
Deprivation	0.000	0.053	0.053
Growth	0.351	0.000	-0.351
Disability Access Fund	0.054	0.001	-0.054
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>0.419</b>	<b>0.092</b>	<b>-0.327</b>
<b><u>Central Budgets</u></b>			
Early Years Adaptations/ Practical Support	0.050	0.001	-0.049
Early Years Strategic Financial support	0.080	0.080	0.000
Early Years Behaviour Support Services	0.042	0.041	-0.001
Central Early Years Expenditure	0.070	0.070	0.000
Early Years Team Contribution	0.472	0.493	0.021
<b>Central Expenditure Total</b>	<b>0.714</b>	<b>0.685</b>	<b>-0.028</b>
<b>Projected End of Year Variance</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>-0.006</b>	<b>-0.006</b>
<b>Carry forward from 2019/20</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>-0.656</b>	<b>-0.656</b>
<b>Cumulative Surplus/Deficit</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>-0.662</b>	<b>-0.662</b>

- 7.4 A review of the main variances follows:
- 7.41 **Maintained Nursery and Primary Schools:** No Variance is shown against these budgets as the budget and actual allocation are made the same for internal reconciliation purposes. The total variance in the take up of hours will be known once the final adjustment has been made by the DfE in July 2020, once the January 2020 census has been verified.
- 7.42 **PVI Sector:** underspend of (£0.349m) due to lower demand against funding levels.
- 7.43 **Deprivation:** Correlates to demand, which has been lower than budgeted with the PVI sector.
- 7.44 **EYPP:** Whilst the ESFA will fund this based on the census data returns, actual funding is linked to the FSM applications. Early years providers are ultimately responsible for identifying eligible children. Providers should be encouraged to speak to parents to find out who is eligible for EYPP funding. If parents do not lodge an application, then the school or nursery will not receive the pupil premium for that child from the LA. The outturn reflects these differences.
- 7.45 **Growth:** The residual contingency set aside to support Early Years' providers if they experienced growth above the expected levels. It is expected that the DfE will recoup this.
- 7.46 **Disability Access Fund:** underspend of (£0.054m). This was introduced in April 2017 to support disabled children's access to the entitlements for three and four year olds. The previous underspend of (£0.051m) has been increased slightly. The Early years' service have raised awareness and agreed criteria across the sector.
- 7.47 **Centrally Retained:** underspend of (£0.028m) Adaptations/Practical Support is a relatively new area of funding and the take up has been slower than expected. This balance is expected to reduce as the Early Years' service have raised awareness and agreed criteria across the sector.
- 8. High Needs Block**
- 8.1 The DSG 2019-20 High Needs Block final outturn shows an in-year overspend of £5.861m and a cumulative overspend of £14.161m.
- 8.2 The Council received a gross cash settlement of £16.498m which is reflective of in- year import and exports, and place funding recoupment. This settlement has been revised to £16.243m, to reflect the pre-agreed in-year block transfers. Total expenditure incurred was recorded at £21.604m, which can be traced through Table 4, beneath.

<b>High Needs Block</b>	<b>Base Funding 2019/20 £m</b>	<b>Outturn 2019/20 £m</b>	<b>Variance</b>
<b><u>Income</u></b>			
High Needs DSG	-16.498	-16.498	0.000
Schools Block Transfer	0.000	0.500	0.500
Central Block Transfer	0.255	0.255	0.000
<b>Income Total</b>	<b>-16.243</b>	<b>-15.743</b>	<b>0.500</b>
<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>			
HN Mainstream Based Top Ups – Nursery	0.040	0.043	0.003
HN Mainstream Based Top Ups - Maintained Schools	0.610	0.728	0.118
HN Mainstream Based Top Ups – Academies	1.412	1.622	0.210
HN Resource Based Top Ups – Nursery	0.059	0.098	0.039
HN Resource Based Top Ups - Maintained Schools	0.881	0.901	0.020
HN Resource Based Top Ups – Academies	1.574	1.554	-0.020
HN Place Funding – Nursery	0.100	0.100	0.000
HN Place Funding - Maintained Schools	0.540	0.540	0.000
HN Place Funding – Academies	0.020	0.056	0.036
SS Based Top Ups	5.462	6.474	1.012
SS Place Funding	0.000	0.110	0.110
Alternative Provision	0.659	0.915	0.256
Early Years Inclusion	0.000	0.059	0.059
Independent Special Schools	0.874	1.990	1.116
Post 16	0.600	1.359	0.759
Out-borough	0.930	2.610	1.680
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>13.761</b>	<b>19.158</b>	<b>5.398</b>
<b><u>Centrally Retained Expenditure</u></b>			
SEND Financial Support	0.055	0.052	-0.003
SEN - Assessment Capacity	0.182	0.182	0.000
Early Years Inclusion	0.070	0.070	0.000
Hard to Place Pupils	0.267	0.185	-0.082
Exclusions and Access to Education	0.032	0.037	0.005
Home Education	0.043	0.044	0.001
0-5 SEN Transport	0.046	0.046	0.000
Vulnerable Children Management Incl.	0.030	0.030	0.000
Autism Outreach Team	0.186	0.114	-0.072
EY SEN advisory Teachers/support Workers EY settings	0.118	0.118	0.000
EY SEN advisory Teachers/support Workers in Children's Centres	0.063	0.063	0.000
SENCO Network	0.100	0.096	-0.004
SEND Teacher Advisor	0.118	0.052	-0.066
Sensory Impairment	0.470	0.453	-0.017
SALT	0.252	0.289	0.038
Education Resource Services (Formerly LACES)	0.107	0.277	0.171
Primary Provision Behaviour	0.164	0.164	-0.000

<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>2.302</b>	<b>2.273</b>	<b>-0.029</b>
Non Controllables	0.180	0.172	-0.008
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>0.180</b>	<b>0.172</b>	<b>-0.008</b>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>16.243</b>	<b>21.604</b>	<b>5.361</b>
<b>Projected End of Year Variance</b>	<b>-0.000</b>	<b>5.861</b>	<b>5.861</b>
<b>Brought forward Deficit from 2019/20</b>		8.300	
<b>Carry forward Deficit into 2020.21</b>		<b>14.161</b>	

### 8.3 Year on Year Analysis



8.4 The above graph shows the reported position against the corrected position, after the treatment of accruals within FY 2016/17 and 2017/18 which ensures that expenditure falls within the year it was incurred. The 2018/19 in-year deficit, although significant, has reduced against the 2017-18 outturn.

8.5 A full account of the reasons for the **£14.161m** overspend is given below:

**£8.300m** Brought forward deficit from prior years'.

**£0.500** Schools Block Transfer

**£1.116m** Independent Special School spend above budget.

**£0.759m** Post 16 spend above budget

**£1.680m** Out of Borough spend above budget

**£0.059m** Early Years Inclusion

**£1.783m** In-Borough spend for mainstream, Resource based top-ups including Special Schools.

**(£0.007)** underspend Overhead charges

**(£0.029)** underspend against centrally retained items.

8.51 Independent Special Schools and Out of Borough: This budget has been consistently overspending over the past three years, attributable to a mixture of increased demand and an inadequate budget provision. The tables beneath demonstrate this, with the respective overspends highlighted in green.

2019/20	Out-borough & Post 16	Independent SS	TOTAL
Budget	1,330,000	873,620	2,203,620
Outturn	3,736,432	1,990,070	5,726,502
<b>Variance</b>	<b>2,406,432</b>	<b>1,116,450</b>	<b>3,522,882</b>

2018/19	Out-borough & Post 16	Independent SS	TOTAL
Budget	882,000	800,000	1,682,000
Outturn	2,179,162	1,975,333	4,154,495
<b>Variance</b>	<b>1,297,162</b>	<b>1,175,333</b>	<b>2,472,495</b>

2017/18	Out-borough & Post 16	Independent	TOTAL
Budget	785,190	800,000	1,585,190
Outturn	2,470,956	1,438,865	3,909,822
<b>Variance</b>	<b>1,685,766</b>	<b>638,865</b>	<b>2,324,632</b>

8.52 **Post 16:** The reported outturn position is an overspend of **£0.759m**.

Post 16	
Placement Cost Ranges	No of Pupils at Mar 18/19
£0 - £10,000	55
£10,001 - £25,000	10
£25,001 - £40,000	5
£40,001 - £55,000	1
£55,001 - £75,000	2
£75,001 - £100,000	0
+£100,000	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>73</b>

Post 16	
Placement Cost Ranges	No of Pupils at Mar 19/20
£0 - £10,000	63
£10,001 - £25,000	10
£25,001 - £40,000	12
£40,001 - £55,000	3
£55,001 - £75,000	0
£75,001 - £100,000	1
+£100,000	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>89</b>

Post 16- F558					
FY	Budget £m	Outturn £m	Variance £m	No of Learners	Average Cost £m
2017.18	0.132	0.672	0.539	76	0.007
2018.19	0.132	0.763	0.631	73	0.009
2019.20	0.600	1.359	0.759	88	0.009

8.53 **Independent Sector:** The reported outturn position is an overspend of **£1.116m**. The tables below categorises placement costs for 2018/19, 2019/20 and the average cost per placement within an independent setting.

Independent Sector	
Placement Cost Ranges	No of Pupils at Mar 18/19
£0 - £10,000	8
£10,001 - £25,000	21
£25,001 - £40,000	15
£40,001 - £55,000	8
£55,001 - £75,000	6
£75,001 - £100,000	2
+£100,000	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>60</b>

Independent Sector	
Placement Cost Ranges	No of Pupils at Mar 19/20
£0 - £10,000	7
£10,001 - £25,000	10
£25,001 - £40,000	13
£40,001 - £55,000	16
£55,001 - £75,000	5
£75,001 - £100,000	3
+£100,000	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>55</b>

Independent Sector					
FY	Budget £m	Outturn £m	Variance £m	No of Learners	Average Cost £m
2017.18	0.800	1.439	0.639	51	0.012
2018.19	0.800	1.975	1.175	60	0.020
2019.20	0.874	1.990	1.116	55	0.020

8.54 **Out of Borough:** This service has overspent by **£1.128m**, which is attributable to consistency higher placements made above budget. Other factor includes:

- 400k invoices paid for the placements relating 2018-19.
- 114k one off cost agreed for the place funding with the Windsor College

Below highlights the breakdown of the overspend

OB Mainstream					
FY	Pupil Annual cost	Unrealised Accruals	Unaccrued Expend	One off cost	Actual
2018.19	321,385	-53,823	13,235		<b>280,797</b>
2019.20	449,872	-8,654	95,030	114,000	<b>650,248</b>
<b>Variance</b>	<b>128,487</b>	<b>45,169</b>	<b>81,795</b>	<b>114,000</b>	<b>369,451</b>

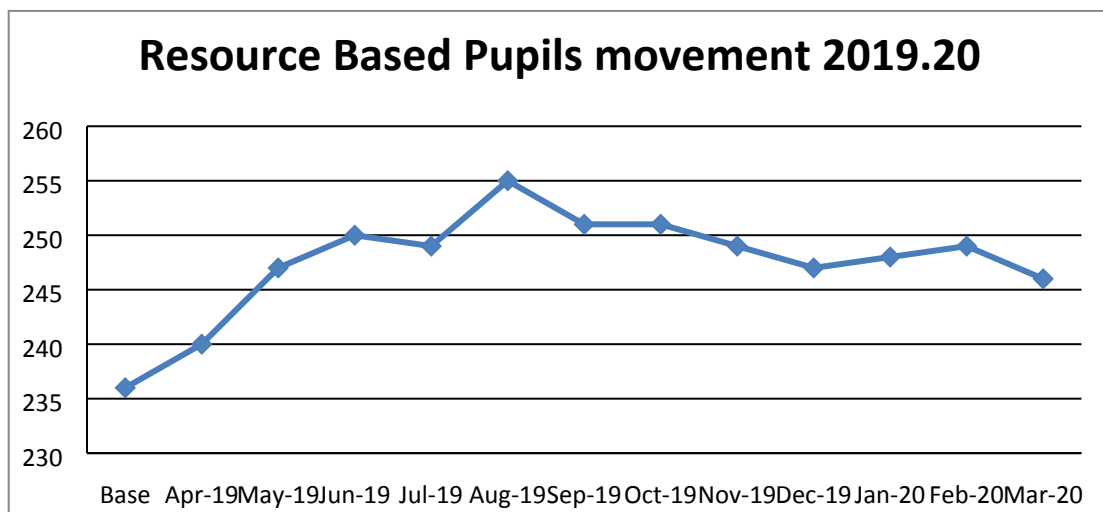
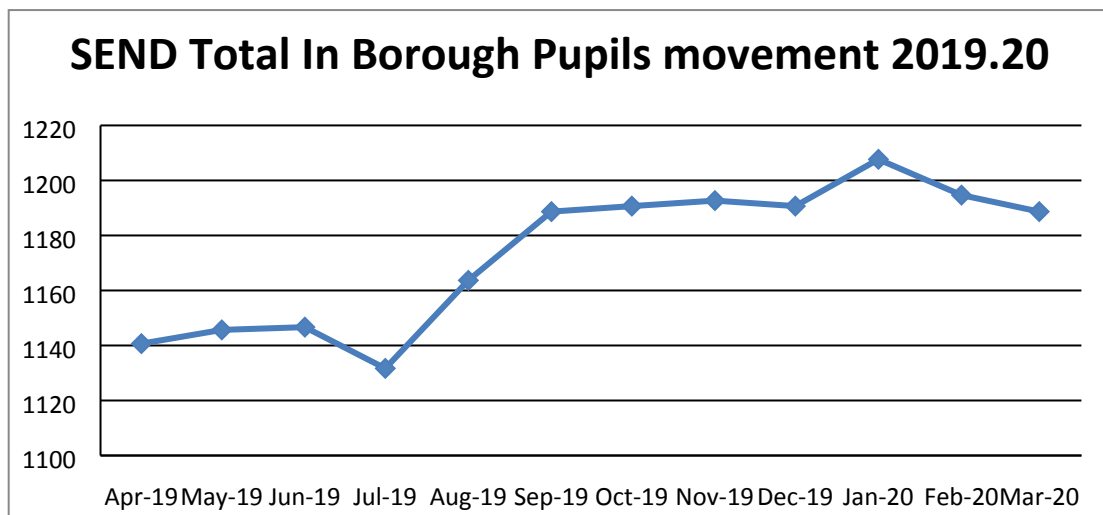
OB Special					
FY	Budget £m	Outturn £m	Variance £m	No of Learners	Average Cost £m
2018.19	0.418	0.997	0.579	50	0.020
2019.20	0.600	1.756	1.156	75	0.023

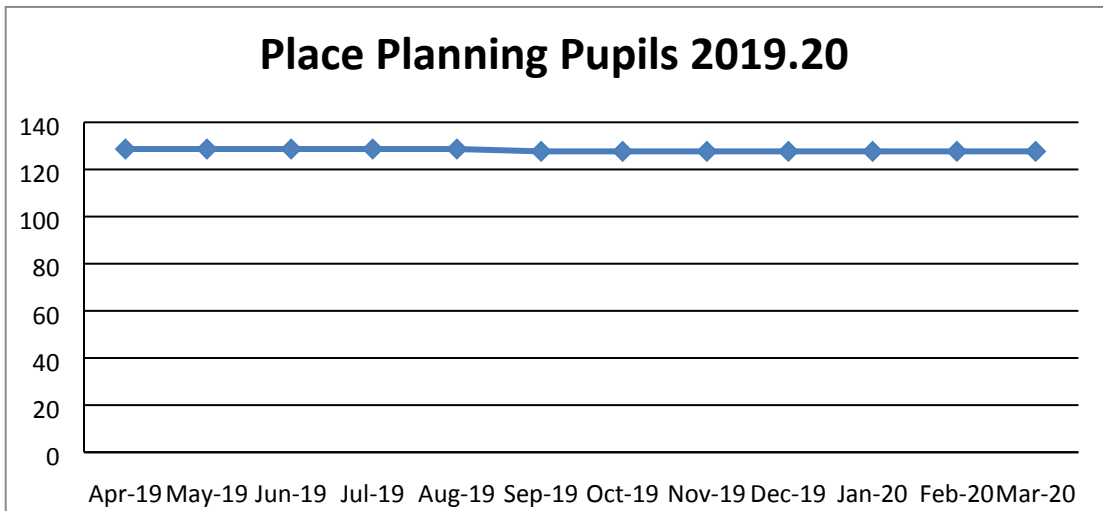
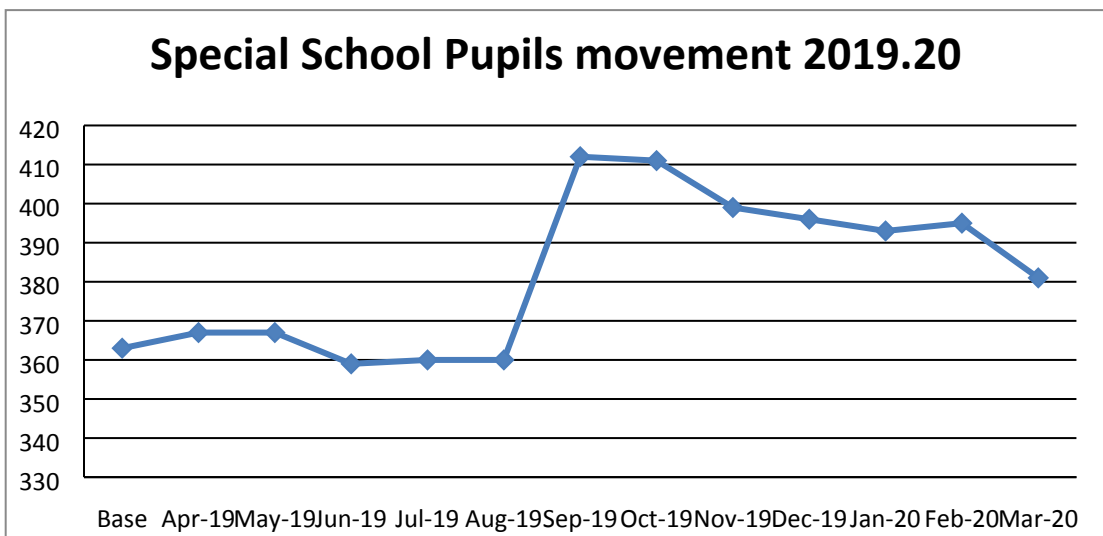
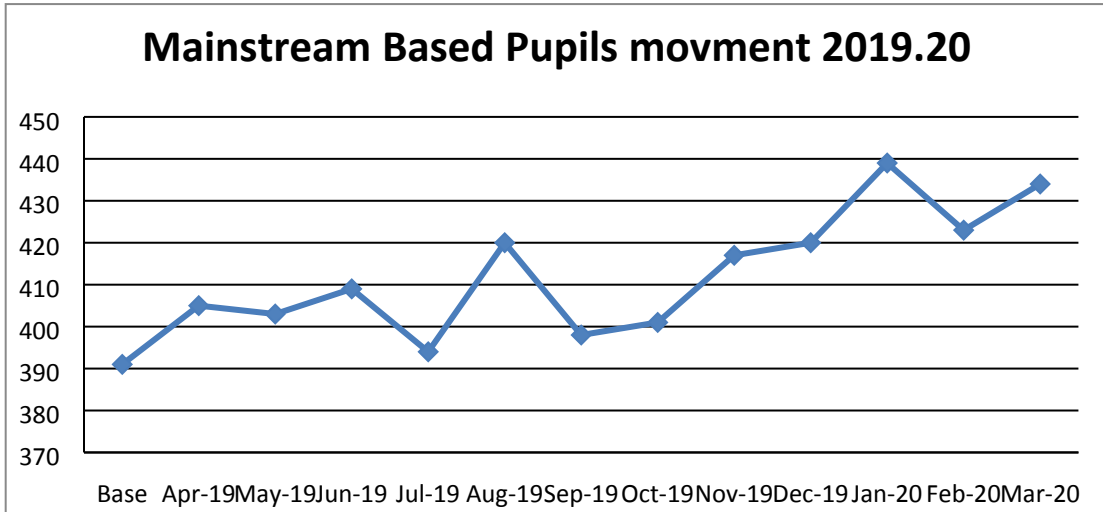


OB Special				
FY	Pupil Annual cost	Unrealised Accruals	Unaccrued Expend	Actual
2018.19	1,029,780	-32,852	0	996,928
2019.20	1,518,828	-68,837	306,106	1,756,097
<b>Variance</b>	<b>489,048</b>	<b>-35,985</b>	<b>306,106</b>	<b>759,169</b>

OB Mainstream					
FY	Budget £m	Outturn £m	Variance £m	No of Learners	Average Cost £m
2018.19	0.130	0.281	0.151	50	0.006
2019.20	0.130	0.650	0.520	61	0.011

8.55 **In-Borough:** The reported overspend for 2019/20 is **£1.783m**, which is broadly attributable to increased demand.





**8.6 Centrally Retained Functions.**

**8.61 Autism £0.072m underspend, which is in relation to staff vacancies**

8.62 **Sensory Impairment £0.017m underspend**

Joint Arrangement providing services to support pupils within schools with sensory needs (HI,VI) and Berkshire Consortium providing teaching visits via a discrete Berkshire Sensory Impairment SLA and BHFT Consortium

8.63 **SALT Services £0.37m overspend.**

A new agreement has been reached with Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (BHFT) to provide SALT services. Whilst this service is being rolled out, SALT services are still being provided by other providers that are costed above budget. It is expected that these costs will taper away once the BHFT are providing SALT support to all schools.

8.64 **High Needs Inclusion – overspend £0.104m**

Due to increased Education Resource Services support for children looked after.

**9. School Balances**

9.1 A list of the actual balances carried forward by maintained schools is listed in table 5 below. This shows three nurseries now in deficit and three primary school with low balances.

9.2 Schools with low balances or who are in deficit will receive additional support so that the local authority is satisfied that robust plans are in place to ensure that the school is in good financial health. **All** maintained schools are required to submit a three year budget plan as well as a recovery plan, where they envisage a deficit. LA officers will be analysing all budget plans and will RAG rate them. Appropriate discussions will then be had with the affected schools and actions will be drawn up.

Table 5 refers:

<b>School Balances</b>	<b>As at 31st March 2019</b>	<b>As at 31st March 2020</b>	<b>Change</b>
Baylis Court Nursery	-75,568	17,494	93,062
Chalvey Nursery	38,529	112,616	74,087
Cippenham Nursery	-223,890	-227,475	-3,585
Claycots Junior School	-706,841	-1,506,966	-800,125
HOLY FAMILY	-101,588	-66,606	34,982
IQRA	-254,865	-289,995	-35,130
Khalsa V.A. Primary School	-29,245	-115,718	-86,473
Lea Nursery	-237,482	-126,255	111,227
Our Lady of Peace RC Infants	-27,514	-48,348	-20,834
PENN WOOD	-284,960	-220,409	64,551
PIPPINS	-122,044	-48,135	73,909
PRIORY	-1,618,959	-1,594,203	24,756
Slough Centre Nursery	115,190	180,461	65,271
ST BERNARDS	-219,717	-209,687	10,030
St Mary's C of E Primary	-243,142	-196,272	46,870
Wexham Court Primary	-867,005	-1,005,612	-138,607
Wexham Secondary	-706,388	-811,266	-104,878
	<b>-5,565,489</b>	<b>-6,156,375</b>	<b>-590,887</b>

### 9.3 Reasons for in-year variations:

The Nursery schools in general have seen a reduction in participation rates which directly correlates with a reduction in budget. Work will be undertaken with these establishments to offer assistance to help them in producing a balanced budget.

Further work will be undertaken with all the other schools in deficit or facing financial difficulties to assist them in setting a balanced budget or producing a deficit recovery plan.

## 10 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

## 11 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

### Monitoring Officer

11.1 The relevant legal provisions are contained within the main body of this report.

### Section 151 Officer – Strategic Director of Resources

11.2 The financial implications of the report are outlined in the supporting information.

## 12 CONSULTATION

### Principal Groups Consulted

Not Applicable

### Method of Consultation

Not Applicable

### Representations Received

Not applicable.

### **Contact for further information:**

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**SLOUGH SCHOOLS' FORUM  
14<sup>th</sup> July 2020**

**Directorate of Children, Learning and Skills**

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**High Needs/SEND Review Update 2020/21**

**1) PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- a) To provide Forum with an update on the following activities:
  - i) HNB Centrally Retained Budget 2020-21
  - ii) DSG Recovery Plan
  - iii) Resource Base Review

**2) RECOMMENDATIONS**

That Forum notes the work underway and the reporting timetable.

**3) HNB Centrally retained Budget 2020-21**

- a) A review of the centrally retained budget was carried out following the reporting of the 2019-20 outturn to the January Forum. The changes proposed are limited in scope and will be revisited as part of the DSG Recovery Plan.
- b) The main changes include:
  - i) Dedicated finance support for the SEND team – recruitment underway
  - ii) Increased SALT funding
  - iii) Increase funding for LAC support
  - iv) Budget for early intervention initiatives linked to reducing requests for assessments.

	HNB Centrally Retained Budgets 2019-20	19-20	Revised budget 20-21	Difference	Reason for changes
F460	SEND Financial Support	55,000	105,000	50,000	£50k for new SEND Finance Officer. The SEND Service has no dedicated finance support. This is causing major delays in ordering, invoicing and accruals.
F461	SEN - Assessment Capacity	182,000	217,000	35,000	35k to SEND staffing from DSG
F191	Early Years Inclusion	70,000	70,000	0	
F166	Hard to Place Pupils	267,000	170,000	-97,000	Reduction in line with new FAP Protocol
F233	Exclusions and Access to Education	31,700	31,700	0	
F235	Home Education	42,600	42,600	0	No change position agreed before Covid. Pressures on service expected in autumn term 2020
F413	0-5 SEN Transport	46,300	46,300	0	
F430	Vulnerable Children Management Incl.	30,000	30,000	0	
F410	Autism Outreach Team	185,700	135,000	-50,700	Reduced based on actual spend over last 2 years. Autism support will be reviewed as part of the Recovery Plan project.
F691	EY SEN advisory Teachers/support Workers EY settings	118,100	118,100	0	
F692	EY SEN advisory Teachers/support Workers in Children's Centres	63,000	63,000	0	
F465	SENCO Network	100,000	65,000	-35,000	Reduced based on the actuals from last 2 years/ no change in the service
F463	SEND Teacher Advisor	118,200	60,000	-58,200	Reduced based on the actuals from last 2 years/ no change in the service
F416	Sensory Impairment	470,000	470,000	0	
F417	SALT	251,800	300,000	48,200	Demand increased
F446	Education Resource Services (Formerly LACES)	106,700	206,700	100,000	Demand increased
F406	Primary Provision Behaviour	164,300	164,300	0	
	Post 16 Advisor	0	40,000	40,000	Agreed post for 12 months with young people service team
	Early Intervention Projects	0	67,700	67,700	Early Intervention plans for 20.21
		<b>2,302,400</b>	<b>2,402,400</b>	<b>100,000</b>	

#### 4) DSG Recovery Plan

##### a) Key dates

- i) Recovery Plan submitted – June 2019
- ii) Response letter from DfE – October 2019
- iii) Schools Forum 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020 – initial brief
- iv) Meeting with DfE/SEND Advisor/ESFA – 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2020

##### b) Feedback from meeting

- i) Whilst the DfE response letter to the Recovery Plan was critical the meeting was very open and positive.
- ii) The Council acknowledged the weaknesses in the original plan and proposed a different, more robust approach. These are summarised in a briefing paper shared with the DfE, Appendix A:

The Council's approach was well received and approved by both DfE SEND Advisors and ESFA.



- iii) Increased HN Funding – for 2020-21SBC's HNB increased by £2m. The Council made the point that whilst the increased funding was welcome, if it was simply absorbed into the income, it would make little difference to the overall funding prognosis. It therefore suggested that some of additional funding should be used for invest to save projects (eg those linked to early intervention).which would in turn allow improved practices and efficiencies to be introduced early and improve the sustainability and effectiveness of the Recovery Plan. This was agreed by the DfE.
- iv) There was an acknowledgment of certain key factors impacting SBC's HNB situation:
  - Population mobility, immigration;
  - Costs of specialist places are comparable with national and regional comparators and are not excessive – so options for savings are limited
  - The growth in EHCPs and all the more importantly the increase in the percentage of requests for assessment approved (reflected across England
  - The growth in demand for EHCPs in early years and primary phases (national issue)
- v) The DfE acknowledged that for some LAs it might be impossible for HNB deficits to be completely cleared. However, it would be necessary for LAs to demonstrate, perhaps over a period of 5-7 years, that they had a robust and sustainable recovery plan for DSG/HNB which focused on efficiencies and most importantly meeting the needs of the area. It was likely that should such a recovery plan be implemented that deficits arising at the end of the recovery period would be written off.

c) Progress and next steps

- i) Due to the need to divert resources to managing the Covid pandemic it has not been possible to progress the Recovery Plan. However, additional interim resource dedicated to the Recovery Plan has been procured with effect from 20<sup>th</sup> July 2020 with assignment expected to run until December.
- ii) The first report will be submitted to Schools Forum in October with a draft plan to follow in December.

**5) Resource Base Review**

- a) As with the Recovery Plan the work to complete the review has been delayed due to Covid 19 commitments but with the additional resource referred to above the work will run in tandem with the Recovery Plan.
- b) Key dates:
  - i) Complete analysis, modelling – July-August 2020

- ii) Consultation with schools – September 2020
- iii) Schools Forum – October 2020
- iv) ESFA places return – November 2020

**Contact for further information:**

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## APPENDIX A – BRIEFING PAPER FOR DfE – 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2020

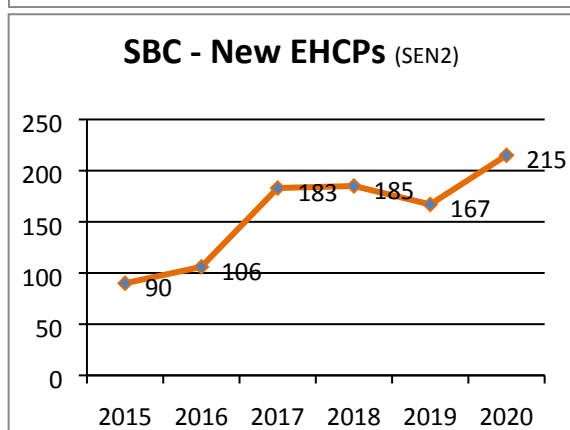
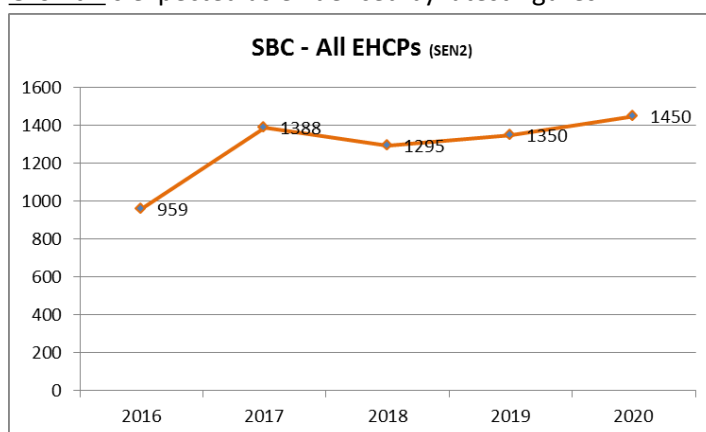
### DSG RECOVERY PLAN – MEETING WITH DfE - 22<sup>ND</sup> January 2020

#### 1. Summary

- EHCP forecasts – nil increase in future was never realistic and even had it been it had not been tested (see section 2 below)
- Opportunities and Pressures – in the main remain valid but arguments need to be developed further, be supported with robust data/projections and to have been consulted upon and owned by partners (see ‘3’ below)
- Savings (S1-S5) not justified – need to start afresh (see ‘4’ below)

#### 2. EHCP Projections

- Growth is expected as evidenced by latest figures:



- Approval of requests for assessment

New EHCPs	2019	2020
Total requests	265	257
Total approved	167	215
% approved	63%	84%

	2019	2020
Under age 5	76	76
Aged 5 to 10	60	88
Aged 11 to 15	26	44
Aged 16 to 19	4	5
Aged 20 to 25	1	2
	<b>167</b>	<b>215</b>

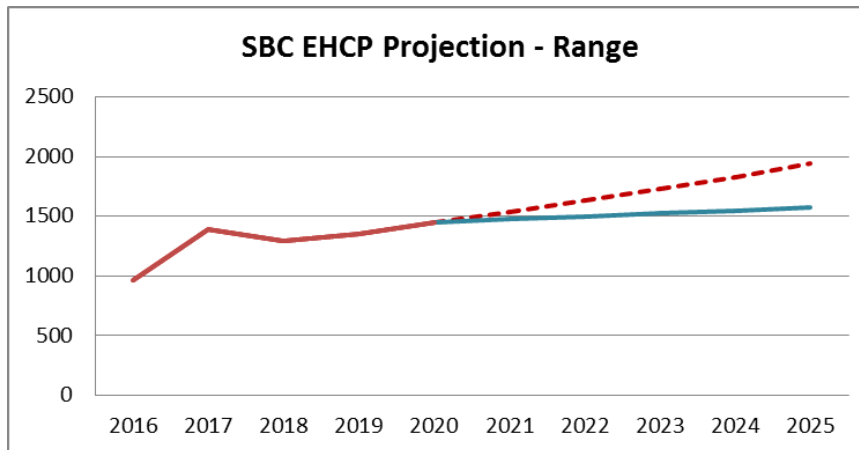
- i. Trends – increased number of approved assessments and higher proportions of EY and primary phases in particular
  - ii. The last 18 months has seen a strengthening of the SEND service and greater robustness in the SEND Panel decision making which has been supported by a new banding system;
  - iii. Confidence that decisions to approve are sound based on the evidence submitted, but....
  - iv. Many of the cases being submitted could have been avoided with much earlier identification of need, intervention and more therapeutic support:
    - Most new cases involve SEMH, anxiety and communication related needs;
    - The Local Area has acknowledged need for more SALT provision;
    - Schools are not identifying and dealing with behavioural issues early enough/are not inclusive enough – this is also is being addressed
    - Conclusion – that the number of new EHCPs can be managed downwards
- c. Existing EHCPs
- i. Further analysis will be carried out to identify ‘high risk’ groups of EHCPs ie those with top ups, levels of complexity, long term prognosis of need for complex support etc
  - ii. Identification of EHCPs due for cessation
  - iii. More scrutiny of transitions into employment
- d. Rationale for Projections
- Modelling needs to take into account the following:
- i. EHCP yield from natural population growth and
  - ii. from new housing
  - iii. EHCP demand from reforms – have we properly quantified it - should now be mainly post 19, with some EY
  - iv. What is an acceptable level of EHCPs for SBC – ie if national average is 2.9% and SBC is higher, does 2.9% become our ‘maximum allowable’ (or avge of stat neighbours)?
  - v. By how much as the number of EHCPs been inflated due to over approval, lack of timely cessation etc
  - vi. More forensic analysis eg. of trends in age groups:

Total EHCPs	2016	% against total	2017	% against total	2018	% against total	2019	% against total	Average
Under age 5	12	1%	97	7%	89	7%	97	7%	6%
Aged 5 to 10	356	37%	550	40%	505	39%	521	39%	39%
Aged 11 to 15	352	37%	454	33%	386	30%	430	32%	33%
Aged 16 to 19	239	25%	273	20%	265	20%	242	18%	21%
Aged 20 to 25	0	0%	14	1%	50	4%	60	4%	2%
	959	100%	1388	100%	1295	100%	1350	100%	

vii. Initial projection

- I. Worst case - based on annual increases in total EHCPs over last 3 years, 6% pa
- II. Least increase – based on average increase (actual & predicted) in school population, 2016-17 to 2023-24. 1.6%

All EHCPs	Least	Worst	Diff
2016	959	959	
2017	1388	1388	
2018	1295	1295	
2019	1350	1350	
2020	1450	1450	
2021	1473	1537	64
2022	1497	1629	132
2023	1521	1727	206
2024	1545	1831	286
2025	1570	1940	371



- III. Much more work will be carried out over next few months to refine the projections.

**3. Pressures & Opportunities:**

Further development is needed of those included in plan, other examples include:

- a. Overpayments to school settings, both in SEND and non SEND (eg AP) settings
- b. Misalignment of provision to need

- c. Until 18 months ago lack of robust management and policing of statutory processes
- d. Imperfect introduction of banding system has led to increased costs but was also not supported by the simultaneous implementation of the review of resource bases.

#### **4. Savings opportunities**

- a. Potential savings/efficiencies eg:
  - i. Retaining more children in mainstream schools through earlier intervention (eg early help mental health team) plus
  - ii. Reassignment of funding to early intervention
  - iii. Reconfiguring RBs and resetting funding model
  - iv. Renegotiation of special school rates
  - v. Review and renegotiation of independent/OOB placements (big savings should not be assumed as a matter of course – VFM should be a factor)
  - vi. Streamlining of therapies provision especially SALT eg ‘double payments’
  - vii. Ensuring Care and Health partners are paying their fair share of complex/high cost placements;
  - viii. Removal/reduction in unjustified demands on HNB especially exclusions, off rolling, CME;
- b. The level of savings will be predicated on:
  - i. A thorough understanding of our needs
  - ii. knowing whether or not we are paying the market rate both to SBC and other providers
  - iii. more efficient commissioning
  - iv. consistent practice across all services and schools – teaching, commercial approach, holistic
  - v. Introduction of robust controls

#### **5. Working with schools and partners**

- a. The plan and the need to improve it have been shared with all partners via Schools Forum, Inclusion and SEND Partnership Board
- b. A task and finish group has been agreed with Schools Forum to develop the Recovery Plan over the next few months with the intention of feeding into the 21-22 planning round;

The work will be integrated with the SEND Strategy Action Plan.