

Date of issue: 12th September 2014

MEETING:	SLOUGH SCHOOLS FORUM Maggie Waller (Chair), John Constable (Vice Chair), Louise Lund, Debbie Richards, Julie O'Brien, Gillian Coffey, Paul McAteer, Jon Reekie, Mary Sparrow, Maggie Stacey, Jo Rockall, Virginia Barrett, Jean Cameron, Philip Gregory, Nicky Willis, Navroop Mehat and Hardip Singh
OBSERVERS:	Lynda Bussley
ATTENDEES:	Kathleen Higgins, Helen Huntley, Angela Mellish,
LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Atul Lad, Julie Pickering and Rajpreet Johal (Clerk)
CAMBRIDGE EDUCATION:	Robin Crofts
DATE AND TIME:	WEDNESDAY, 17TH SEPTEMBER, 2014 AT 8.00 AM
VENUE:	BEECHWOOD RESEARCH AND CONFERENCE CENTRE, LONG READINGS LANE, SLOUGH, BERKSHIRE, SL2 1QE

<u>AGENDA</u> <u>ITEM</u>	<u>REPORT TITLE</u>	<u>PAGE</u>	<u>WARD</u>
1.	Welcome and Apologies		
2.	Declarations of Interest		
3.	Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising	1 - 8	
4.	Balance Control Mechanism	9 - 12	
5.	Changes to Schools and Early Years finance regulations 2014	13 - 24	
6.	Centrally held DSG under spend items	25 - 50	
7.	2015-16 Budget Process Plan		

<u>AGENDA ITEM</u>	<u>REPORT TITLE</u>	<u>PAGE</u>	<u>WARD</u>
8.	PFI Update	51 - 52	
9.	Cambridge Education		
10.	Academies Update		
11.	2014-15 Work Programme and Key Decisions Log	53 - 64	
12.	Any Other Business		

Slough Schools Forum- Meeting held on Wednesday, 2nd July, 2014

Present: Maggie Waller, Holy Family Primary School (Chair)
Debbie Richards, Arbour Vale School
Kathleen Higgins, Beechwood Secondary School
Helen Huntley, Haybrook College
Paul McAteer, Slough and Eton C of E Business and Enterprise College
Jon Reekie, James Elliman Primary School
Mary Sparrow, Wexham Secondary School
Maggie Stacey, St Anthony's RC Primary School
Jo Rockall, Herschel Grammar School
Angela Mellish, Northampton Diocese
Jean Cameron, Slough Children's Centres
Nicky Willis, Cippenham Primary School
Philip Gregory, Baylis Court Nursery School
Maggie Waller, Holy Family Primary School (Chair)
Hardip Singh, Khalsa Primary School

Observers: None

Attendees: Angela Mellish, Northampton Diocese, Tony Smith (Cambridge Education), Dawn Bailey (Slough Learning Partnership), Eddie Neighbour (Upton Court Grammar School), Jo Matthews (Littledown School)

Officers: Ruth Bagley, Julie Pickering and David Banham (for PFI item only).
Atul Lad, Coral Miller and Rajpreet Johal (Clerk)

Apologies: John Constable, Chris Aston, Louise Lund, Barbara Clark, Virginia Barrett, Lynda Bussley, Robin Crofts, Navroop Mehat and Jane Wood

PART I

333. Welcome and Apologies

Apologies noted from John Constable, Virginia Barrett, Jane Wood, Louise Lund, Robin Crofts, Lynda Bussley, Navroop Mehat and Barbara Clark

Maggie Waller welcomed Ruth Bagley (Chief Executive, Slough Borough Council), Julie Pickering (Interim Assistant Director, Commissioning & Procurement, Slough Borough Council), David Banham (Contracts Manager Children, Young People and Families), Dawn Bailey (Slough Learning Partnership)

334. Declarations of Interest

None

335. Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising

Page 2

Ruth Bagley advised that the issue of the adverse impact of lagged funding in times of rapid expansion had been raised with the Local Government Association representative.

Atul Lad advised the key dates for the Budget Process 2015/16 have been confirmed. The consultation will go out week commencing 8th September with an end date in the first week of October. Formula factors to be submitted to the DfE by the end of October; the final formula to be submitted by January and the Task and Finish group to be reconvened. Rajpreet Johal to email out proposed dates for the Task and Finish group suggesting that the first meeting take place before September with two meetings in December / January.

Paul McAteer noted he has checked minutes of meeting with Jackie Wright in reference to resource base place figures and these were correct.

Paul McAteer also noted that the Slough and Eton 14/15 formula budget allocation was down by £160,000 not £140,000 as indicated in the minutes, despite there being over 40 additional pupils on roll with an overall loss of over £350,000.

Page 4

Membership: Maggie Waller reported that Jo Rockall, John Constable and Paul McAteer had all agreed to continue their membership following agreement of academies. As no responses had been received from governors to find a secondary maintained governor member, SASH was asked to find a Headteacher representative. Kathleen Higgins was welcomed to the Forum as that new member. Also SASH endorsed Mary Sparrow continuing as a member.

Primary Head Teachers were asked to nominate a maintained school Headteacher member and a nomination was received instead for a Governor, Carol Pearce, Chair of Governors of Penn Wood School. Maggie Waller had written to maintained primary schools to seek Governor endorsement and Carol will become a substantive member from September.

Barbara Clark is retiring and standing down from Schools Forum. Maggie Waller thanked Barbara for her long and valuable service on the Forum. A replacement will be sought in the autumn term.

Atul Lad reported that the £500,000 PFI contribution being returned to the DSG would be distributed based on pupil numbers to ensure that all schools receive funding. The Forum agreed.

Schools Forum Operational and Decision Making Framework: the updated Schools Forum Constitution was approved.

336. PFI

Julie Pickering provided the Forum with an update on the progress that has been made regarding PFI.

David Banham has located the original Final Business Case and this will be circulated to members of the Schools Forum.

Julie Pickering reported that an initial meeting took place internally with David Banham, the Finance Team and Legal Team to ascertain the way forward. A positive meeting had also been held with QED/Pario (PFI contractor) and the managing agent. A meeting with the Headteachers of the three PFI schools is planned before the end of the summer term.

Julie reported that the DfE has invited SBC to be potentially part of a pilot which could provide pace and additional resources to take forward the review, including legal input. The cost of taking part in the pilot would be met by the LA. And if any of these savings are implemented then DfE are asking for 10% of savings. If successful in being selected the pilot would take place over the next 3 months. Debbie Richards raised concerns re the timing as this is over the summer holiday.

Kathleen Higgins asked for more information on the pilot for members of the Forum and Julie agreed to circulate the information to the Forum.

Julie noted the deadline to confirm to the DfE is the 4th July.

The recommendations were:

- The Forum noted the progress made since the last meeting
- The Forum noted that, once any savings have been realised, the remaining affordability funding gap will need to be found on a phased basis from 2015/16. This was noted but with no assumptions about the sources of that funding at this stage e.g. no assumptions about implications for the DSG.
- The Forum confirmed support for SBC participating as one of DfE pilots if successful in being selected.
- Agreed that further updates are provided to the Forum as progress is made with the next updates scheduled for the autumn term: September and October meetings. To be noted on the forward plan.

337. SEBDOS

Jo Matthews introduced the SEBDOS report. The report was brought for information as the service is part funded by de-delegated funding.

Jo advised that the report looks at the charging mechanism that is in place for the provision of the SEBD Outreach Service to schools and academies and provides a proposed change to the fee structure from September 2014. Every school will be provided with information regarding the suggested new SLA. The service will not change but the charging will be fairer and the model will also give an opportunity to sell the service beyond Slough.

Jean Cameron raised the impact on Early Years and it was noted that Jo Matthews is meeting with Early Years regarding the impact on the early years block.

Paul McAteer urged caution in relation to the service trading beyond Slough and the need to ensure that this means no dilution of service.

It was noted that the service is a good quality, multi-disciplinary service.

Helen Huntley referred to the Strategic Support Group and asked Headteachers to let her know if they wish to join.

Schools Forum thanked Jo for bringing the report and it was duly noted.

338. Schools Outturn 2013-14 and 2014-15 Budget Plans

Atul Lad presented the report to update members of the Schools Forum on:

- The balances held at the end of 2013-14 financial year
- The comparison between balances held at the end of the 2012-13 and 2013-14 financial years.

Appendix A of report shows information on schools' outturn. Atul reported that the figures show a decrease in balances of 17%. There had been some amendments made to the figures since the report had been published so an amended Appendix A is to go out with the minutes of this meeting.

Appendix B (Balance Control Mechanism) shows those schools carrying balances which are surplus to the threshold (final column). Discussions are being held with schools regarding plans for these balances and an update will be provided at the September Schools Forum.

Appendix C shows the summary of budgets and how balances are planned to reduce over the year.

Appendix D compares schools' outturn 13/14 and budgets 14/15. It shows expenditure increasing by 6.2% and income only by 1.9%. It was noted that this reflects the reality of pressures on schools' budgets despite government claims that education funding is 'ring-fenced'.

Paul McAteer reported that the Slough and Eton Governing Body is writing to the Chief Executive of the Education Funding Agency (EFA), Peter Lauener to raise concern regarding dropping funding levels despite pupil number increases and when budgets are supposedly ring-fenced.

It was suggested that the Schools Forum should also write to relevant people and bodies: DfE, EFA, local MP, Trades Unions and Leader of the Council. Paul agreed to share the Slough and Eton letter and to draft a letter. Maggie Waller agreed to liaise with Paul on this and to sign the letter on behalf of Schools Forum.

Kathleen noted it needs to be repeatedly stated that schools cannot fund PFI shortfall in the short term.

With regard to balances, Nicky Willis noted that, as more schools become academies, the figures become imbalanced as the report only covers maintained schools. Nicky asked if Schools Forum can ask academies to supply their figures. Forum supported this in the interest of overall transparency. It was agreed that this would be raised at the two Headteacher phase groups in the first instance. Nicky Willis and Paul McAteer agreed to liaise with Atul Lad to clarify exactly what information would be requested as academies' accounts are presented in a different way. It would be necessary to clarify, when asking academies, that the information was being requested to present alongside maintained schools' balances and that this request had the support of academy members of Schools Forum.

339. Central Outturn 2013-14

Atul Lad presented report to the Forum on the final outturn for the LA managed budgets funded by the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) for the 2013-14 financial year.

Appendix A show details of each block and has been split out across SBC and Mott Macdonald.

Appendix C shows that there is a £2.9 million underspend but £500,000 needs to be taken out to meet a pensions deficit. It was unclear what the pensions deficit was to fund and Atul Lad will clarify and bring this back to the Forum in September as part of the discussion regarding distribution of the final underspend.

Atul outlined the commitments already in place against the underspend leaving an unallocated amount of £1.3 million.

Coral Miller confirmed that DfE has confirmed that funding can be distributed in-year.

Paul McAteer asked if any further funding was expected to be returned by St Joseph's. It was noted that the original allocation had not been a loan but that substantial amounts had been repaid. Atul Lad is to follow this up.

A number of priority areas were discussed including ensuring that adequate contingencies are built into the three blocks; an element of the funding being distributed to all schools and school improvement, as agreed by Headteachers, as a priority area.

It was agreed that any of the funding later agreed to go to all schools should be distributed based on pupil numbers.

Atul Lad to provide confirmation on final position for September Forum meeting.

It was noted that the underspend on Early Years (two year old funding) was substantial as numbers have not materialised at the rate they might have done but this is changing. Jean Cameron asked that this be given consideration in the discussions going forward. She agreed to provide a paper on this for the September meeting as part of this item.

Tony Smith referred to the year having been atypical since expenditure in the first half of the year had been under auspices of the Council which had been circumspect given the prospect of outsourcing. Expenditure in the second half of the year was Cambridge Education's responsibility. He confirmed, the aim for Cambridge Education was to maximise delegation to schools.

Both Headteacher phase groups will discuss and feed back their priorities for deploying the underspend .

It was agreed that any relevant area (e.g. school improvement and Early Years) should provide a business case for the consideration of Forum at the September meeting and that these should be sent to Atul Lad.

A member asked about support for free school applications and it was noted that the initial support for these had been a one off.

340. Revised Growth Fund 2014-15

Atul Lad presented report to Schools Forum on the 2014-15 Revised Growth Fund.

Appendix A shows the position for 2014/15 budget, taking account of any underspend and including having received some additional funding from the DfE for academies. This means an underspend of £375,940 available to carry forward into 2015/16.

Appendix B shows estimates for the growth fund allocation for the next three years based on worst case scenarios if responsibility for free schools' growth shifts to LAs instead of the EFA. Concern was noted regarding this and clarification needs to be sought as this estimate suggests that not only expansion above full capacity in free schools might fall under growth fund, but also growth as the free school builds to full capacity from opening. Maggie Waller and Coral Miller to discuss and Coral to confirm.

It was noted that the Growth Fund is currently being deployed in primary as this is where the growth is but the fund was established for both phases and the criteria would apply in secondary as the growth works through.

Schools Forum agreed the recommendation in the report that the underspend of £375,940 be carried forward into the Growth Fund for 2015/16.

341. Confirmation of Final DSG Allocations 2014-15 (subject to DfE notification date)

Report informs the Schools Forum of the Final DSG allocations. Early Years has still to be updated.

It was noted that the figures are always likely to change in year e.g. because the DfE recoups from the DSG for schools that become academies in year. Updates will be provided to the Forum.

342. Review of Scheme for Financing Schools

Coral Miller presented a report to Schools Forum. 5 schools responded to the consultation on changes to the Scheme for Financing Schools and there are two adjustments that schools want to make on 2.10 and 2.15 of the Scheme.

A re-drafted paragraph 2.10 was tabled and agreed and this will be included in the final Scheme. This paragraph is simplified to state more clearly what schools must do in respect of purchasing, tendering and contracting.

2.15 of the report has been amended to include a reference to the Headteacher being notified first regarding any potential Notice of Concern.

Cora Miller will also include a reference to guidance regarding fraud which has recently been circulated by Audit.

It was noted that Appendix B to the Scheme needs updating to ensure that it is an accurate and up to date list of maintained schools only. Coral Miller to do this.

Schools Forum formally agreed to the Scheme for Financing Schools being amended as above and as set out in the changes included in the consultation.

Coral Miller will place the final document on the SBC website and the link will be circulated to Schools Forum members.

343. Cambridge Education - review of outcomes and financial implications

Tony Smith provided a verbal update.

- Tony reported that Chris Aston is on sick leave and cover arrangements are being put in place.
- Cambridge Education is reviewing services and responding to Ofsted inspections with the improvement process underway.
- The Early Years team has moved to The Centre for 18 months.
- Integrated support services is being reviewed.
- Access: a review of SEN transport is underway and Debbie Richards and Helen Huntley are involved.
- There may be a School Improvement inspection at any time.
- School Improvement: there has been a meeting with the Chairs of both phase groups regarding a voluntary scheme for monitoring and challenge for academies and this will go to phase groups in September.
- Next Strategic Partnership meeting is scheduled on 14th July. Mary Sparrow is representative.
- Mary Sparrow noted concern regarding appeals (resource units) and Tony is to follow up.
- Tony indicated that Cambridge Education is not anticipating higher funding from the LA.

344. Academies Update

Tony Smith reported that Parlaunt Park Primary School became an academy on 1st July

345. Dates of meetings 2014-15 academic year

Future meeting dates were noted as outlined on the work programme. The dates are set in line with the financial cycle. Agreed 6th May 2015 for the May date.

346. 2014-15 Work Programme and Key Decisions Log

Key Decisions Log is updated after each meeting. Maggie Waller is to put together a new log starting from the September meeting. Nicky Willis noted that her full membership confirmation has not been noted on the log. The updated log will be circulated with the minutes.

347. Any Other Business

None

(Note: The Meeting opened at 8.15 am and closed at 10.20 am)

SLOUGH SCHOOLS' FORUM
17th September 2014

Balance Control Mechanism for 2013-14
(Director of Wellbeing)

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Schools' Forum of the surplus balances held by individual schools, and whether the schools have plans to use those balances in the following year.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That Schools' Forum notes the surplus balances and consider whether further steps as part of the balance control mechanism process are required.

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1.1 Schools have the right to carry forward surplus balances from one financial year to the next.
- 3.1.2 Schools are required to complete a return on their planned use of balances within an approved budget plan.
- 3.1.3 The revenue balance control mechanism is used to determine whether the surplus balance exceeds the threshold (8% for primary schools and 5% for secondary schools).
- 3.1.4 Any surplus balance that exceeds the threshold, which has no evidence provided for how it will be spent, is eligible for potential claw back.
- 3.1.5 There were 17 schools that exceeded the relevant thresholds (5 nurseries, 9 Primary schools and 3 secondary schools). 16 schools have provided satisfactory returns detailing future plans of expenditure for balances that exceed the threshold.
- 3.1.6 Only 1 School is yet to provide a response, Western House Primary. Western House has now converted to academy status. Correspondence has been sent to the school reminding them of the need to provide necessary information for Balance Control Mechanism process.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

4.1 None.

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

5.1 Appendix A – Schools Balances that exceed the BCM threshold

6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

Borough Solicitor

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

Section 151 Officer – Strategic Director of Resources

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

Access Implications

6.3 There are no access implications.

7 CONSULTATION

Principal Groups Consulted

7.1 None.

Method of Consultation

7.2 Not applicable.

Representations Received

7.3 Not applicable.

Background Papers

None

Contact for further information

Atul Lad (Principal Accountant - Schools)
(01753 875547)
atul.lad@slough.gov.uk

Appendix A

School	Phase	Total Revenue Funding	Closing Revenue Balance	BCM Threshold	Surplus to Threshold
Baylis Court Nursery	Nursery	(£572,145)	(£93,727)	8%	£47,955
Beechwood School	Secondary	(£6,303,299)	(£622,790)	5%	£307,625
Chalvey Early Years centre	Nursery	(£655,976)	(£89,207)	8%	£36,728
Cippenham Nursery	Nursery	(£568,248)	(£109,365)	8%	£63,905
Claycots Primary	Primary	(£3,983,998)	(£357,241)	8%	£38,521
Holy Family Catholic School	Primary	(£1,736,333)	(£165,998)	8%	£27,091
Khalsa Primary School	Primary	(£1,920,003)	(£363,397)	8%	£209,796
Lea Nursery	Nursery	(£530,960)	(£105,648)	8%	£63,172
Parlaunt Park Primary School	Primary	(£2,771,863)	(£316,612)	8%	£94,863
Priory School	Primary	(£4,411,874)	(£738,509)	8%	£385,559
Slough Centre Nursery	Nursery	(£891,440)	(£537,533)	8%	£466,218
St Joseph's Catholic High School	Secondary	(£4,219,585)	(£636,450)	5%	£425,471
St. Ethelbert's Catholic Primary School	Primary	(£2,056,599)	(£248,549)	8%	£84,021
St. Mary's C E Primary School	Primary	(£2,397,435)	(£446,414)	8%	£254,619
Western House Primary School	Primary	(£2,448,413)	(£314,253)	8%	£118,379
Wexham Court Primary School	Primary	(£2,510,982)	(£220,689)	8%	£19,810
Wexham School	Secondary	(£6,863,838)	(£959,593)	5%	£616,401
Total		(£44,842,992)	(£6,325,972)		£3,260,135

	Total Revenue Funding	Closing Revenue Balance	BCM Threshold	Surplus to Threshold
Nursery	(£3,218,769)	(£935,480)	8%	£677,978
Primary	(£24,237,500)	(£3,171,660)	8%	£1,232,660
Secondary	(£17,386,723)	(£2,218,832)	5%	£1,349,496
Special	£0	£0	8%	£0
Total	(£44,842,992)	(£6,325,972)		£3,260,135

This page is intentionally left blank

SLOUGH SCHOOLS' FORUM
17th September 2014

**Consultation on the School and Early Years Finance Regulations 2014
and additional grant conditions for the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG)
(Director of Wellbeing)**

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Schools' Forum of the DfE's proposed new School and Early Years Finance Regulations 2014 and additional grant conditions for the DSG. The regulations are currently the subject of a consultation that ends on 17th October 2014 and Schools' Forum can decide whether it wishes to reply to the consultation.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Schools' Forum are asked to note the DfE's proposed new School and Early Years Finance Regulations 2014 and additional grant conditions for the DSG and decide whether it wishes to make a reply to the consultation.

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The DfE have made a number of changes to the regulations and grant conditions and those that affect Slough are detailed below.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 None.

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 5.1 The changes highlighted below are the significant changes. I have also added comments in italics where I felt that it would be useful. Appendix A is the Schools and Early Years Finance Regulations 2014 document released by the DfE, and contains details of all changes.

Some of the changes have previously been published as part of the Fairer schools funding arrangements for 2015 to 2016. The impact of the Fairer schools funding is to establish at a national level a minimum basic per pupil amount and minimum amounts reflecting other pupil and school characteristics.

Regulation 3 makes amendments to the Schools Forum (England) Regulations 2012. The principal changes to the membership of the forum are:

- That if there are any special academies in the local authority's area, there must be at least one member representing them;
- That if there are any alternative provision (AP) academies in the local authority's area, there must be at least one member representing them.

The purpose of these changes is to strengthen the representation on the forum of special provision and AP respectively.

Regulation 14(1) and paragraph 18 of Schedule 2 - these changes would mean the dedicated schools grant must not be used to fund places or top-up for 19 to 25 year olds in maintained special schools and special academies.

This reflects the current position that young people with statements cannot remain in special schools beyond age 19. Without these changes, the introduction of EHC plans would otherwise create an anomaly under the existing funding regulations for maintained special schools.

Regulation 14(3) implements, with transitional provision, the change in value for an AP place from £8,000 to £10,000 a year.

Regulation 16 and Schedule 2, paragraph 15(c) require local authorities to pay the early years pupil premium (of 53p per hour) to all early years providers that are delivering Government-funded early education to eligible three-and four-year-olds.

This is new money that is being made available for Early Years settings.

Regulation 21(2) makes revised provision for the determination of budgets for new maintained schools and for schools that have opened in recent years and are still adding year groups. Such schools are to be funded on the basis of estimated rather than actual pupil numbers.

Any difference between estimated and actual numbers may be corrected for in the following financial year. The purpose of this change is to allow more discretion to local authorities in funding such schools, rather than requiring them to apply to the Secretary of State for a variation in every case. This does not apply to already established schools that are going through an expansion.

Schedule 2, paragraph 14 has been extended so that early years expenditure held centrally cannot relate to an excluded provider.

Paragraph 18 of Schedule 2 has been amended to reflect the provisions in the Children and Families Act. It now includes persons aged between 19 and 25 years of age with an EHC plan, but not where they are attending schools or academies.

5.2 Proposed changes to conditions of grant

The dates in the conditions of grant will be updated by one year so that they relate to the financial year 2015-16. There are no other proposed changes.

6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

Borough Solicitor

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

Section 151 Officer – Strategic Director of Resources

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

Access Implications

- 6.3 There are no access implications.

7 CONSULTATION

Principal Groups Consulted

- 7.1 None.

Method of Consultation

- 7.2 Not applicable.

Representations Received

- 7.3 Not applicable.

Background Papers

DfE Paper – School and early years finance. Summary of proposed changes to regulations and conditions of grant for 2014

Contact for further information

Atul Lad (Principal Accountant, ECS)
(01753 875547)
atul.lad@slough.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank



Department
for Education

Launch date 8 August 2014
Respond by Friday 17 October 2014
Ref: Department for Education

School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2014

School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2014

The Department for Education is seeking views on the proposed changes to the School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations. The regulations put in place the new arrangements for local authorities to set school budgets for the financial year 2015 to 2016.

To Chief finance officers and finance officers at local authorities; chairs and clerks of schools forums; and other interested parties.

Issued 8 August 2014

Enquiries If your enquiry is related to the policy content of the consultation you can contact the Department on 0370 000 2288

e-mail:

2014SchoolFinanceRegulations.Consultation@education.gsi.gov.uk

Contact Details

If your enquiry is related to the DfE e-consultation website or the consultation process in general, you can contact the Ministerial and Public Communications Division by e-mail: consultation.unit@education.gsi.gov.uk or by telephone: 0370 000 2288 or via the Gov.UK '[Contact Us](#)' page.

1 Summary

- 1.1 The Department is proposing to amend the Schools and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2013. Some of the changes had previously been published as part of the [Fairer schools funding arrangements for 2015 to 2016](#) and [Schools revenue funding 2015 to 2016 – operational guide](#) published on 17 July 2014. The proposed changes will come into force in January 2015 and shall be applied for the financial year 2015 to 2016.

2 Proposed changes to the school and early years finance regulations

- 2.1 The Regulations have been updated throughout to make them relevant to the financial year 2015-16.

A number of amendments have been made to take account of the new provisions relating to special educational needs in the Children and Families Act 2014. Much previous legislation has been re-enacted with amendments. There will be a period of transition from statements of special educational needs (SEN) and learning difficulty assessments to Education Health and Care (EHC) plans, and the drafting of the regulations allows for this.

Some other changes to the regulations are as a result of the Fairer schools funding arrangements for 2015 to 2016 and its supporting operational guide published on 17 July 2014.

Below is a brief explanation of the policy behind the changes to the regulations.

- 2.2 **Regulation 3** makes amendments to the Schools Forums (England) Regulations 2012.

The principal changes to membership of the forum are:

- That if there are any special academies in the local authority's area, there must be at least one member representing them;
- That if there are any alternative provision (AP) academies in the local authority's area, there must be at least one member representing them.

The purpose of these changes is to strengthen the representation on the forum of special provision and AP respectively.

In addition, more specificity is added to the provisions for the forum to discuss SEN and AP matters. In both cases, the forum must discuss places to be commissioned by the local authority – and in the case of AP also by schools – and the arrangements for paying top-up funding. The purpose of these changes is to ensure that the forum discusses the detail of local SEN and AP arrangements.

- 2.3** In **Regulation 14(1)** the transitional provision in last year's regulations for separate levels of place funding for sixth form places in special schools has been removed. Since 1 August 2014 the value of all such places has been £10,000. We have also clarified that the provision does not include hospital places or those aged over 19 years of age.
- 2.4** **Regulation 14(1) and paragraph 18 of Schedule 2 - these changes would mean the dedicated schools grant must not be used to fund places or top-up for 19 to 25 year olds in maintained special schools and special academies.** This reflects the current position that young people with statements cannot remain in special schools beyond age 19. Without these changes, the introduction of EHC plans would otherwise create an anomaly under the existing funding regulations for maintained special schools.

The SEN reform programme is a significant culture change. We want to allow time for the SEN reforms to bed in and for local authorities and existing further education and training providers to respond to these challenges. We consider that there are a number of risks associated with extending special school provision up to 25 which may cause uncertainty and volatility in the market as the SEN reforms are introduced.

Young people with EHC plans may need longer in education or training in order to achieve their outcomes and make an effective transition into adulthood. However, this position does not mean that there is an automatic entitlement to continued support at age 19 or an expectation that those with an EHC plan should all remain in education until age 25. For those that do need more time, the core aim of this further education must be on preparing them for adulthood within an adult orientated environment. This should include opportunities to experience the world of work and to develop as far as possible independent living skills and the ability to make independent choices and decisions in an adult context.

Special schools can still set up provision for 19 to 25 year olds that is a legally separate entity from the school through the Education Funding Agency's (EFA) market entry process. This ensures the policy objectives are embedded fully in new provision and helps manage the market.

As the reforms bed in we will keep the provision for 19 to 25 year olds with EHC plans under review.

- 2.5 Regulation 14(3)** implements, with transitional provision, the change in value for an AP place from £8,000 to £10,000 a year. Regulation 14(4) makes clear that places in pupil referral units include those to be commissioned by schools as well as directly by the local authority, and that the local authority is responsible for including the appropriate sum in the pupil referral unit's budget share for all such places. This was always the Government's intention but has not happened in all authorities in previous years.
- 2.6 Regulation 16 and Schedule 2, paragraph 15(c)** require local authorities to pay the early years pupil premium (of 53p per hour) to all early years providers that are delivering Government-funded early education to eligible three- and four-year-olds. Children will be eligible if: they meet the eligibility criteria for free school meals; they have been looked after by the local authority for at least one day; they have been adopted from care; they have left care through special guardianship; or they are subject to a child arrangement order.
- 2.7 Regulation 21(2)** makes revised provision for the determination of budgets for new maintained schools and for schools that have opened in recent years and are still adding year groups. Such schools are to be funded on the basis of estimated rather than actual pupil numbers. Any difference between estimated and actual numbers may be corrected for in the following financial year. The purpose of this change is to allow more discretion to local authorities in funding such schools, rather than requiring them to apply to the Secretary of State for a variation in every case. Local authorities will be expected to follow the same principles in setting budget shares for new and recently opened academies and free schools.
- 2.8 Schedule 1, paragraph 10(e) and Schedule 2, paragraph 13:** we have noticed that the previous regulations split local authority functions in relation to remission of boarding fees between the two schedules. We have put all these provisions in Schedule 2 to indicate that we regard expenditure on them as falling within the schools budget.

- 2.9** The former **paragraph 26 of Schedule 1**, relating to teachers' emoluments in circumstances where they have failed to complete induction satisfactorily, has been deleted. We no longer regard this expenditure as falling outside the schools budget.
- 2.10** **Schedule 2, paragraph 14** has been extended so that early years expenditure held centrally cannot relate to an excluded provider. An excluded provider is defined as an independent school that: does not meet the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils set out in the Independent School Standards; does not actively promote fundamental British values; or promotes, as evidence-based, views and theories which are contrary to established scientific or historical evidence and explanations. A definition of excluded provider has been added to **Regulation 1**.
- 2.11** **Paragraph 18 of Schedule 2** has been amended to reflect the provisions in the Children and Families Act. It now includes persons aged between 19 and 25 years of age with an EHC plan, but not where they are attending schools or academies.
- 2.12** **Schedule 3, paragraphs 14 and 15** have been amended to reflect our new policy for 2015-16 of setting thresholds for average year-group size rather than school size to decide whether a school should receive funding through the sparsity factor. Detail of the new policy is in chapter 3 of Fairer schools funding arrangements for 2015 to 2016.

3 Proposed changes to the conditions of grant

- 3.1** The dates in the conditions of grant will be updated by one year so that they relate to the financial year 2015-16. There are no other proposed changes.

4 How to respond

- 4.1** Consultation responses can be completed online at: <https://www.education.gov.uk/consultations/>

by emailing:

2014SchoolFundingRegulations.Consultation@education.gsi.gov.uk

or by downloading a response form which should be completed and sent to:
Department for Education
Beth O'Brien
Department for Education
Great Smith Street
London
SW1P 3BT

5 Additional Copies

- 5.1** Additional copies are available electronically and can be downloaded from the [Gov.UK](http://www.gov.uk) website.

6 Plans for making results public

- 6.1** The Department will publish our response to the consultation on the [Gov.UK](http://www.gov.uk) website and lay the Regulations before Parliament by early December 2014.

This page is intentionally left blank

SLOUGH SCHOOLS' FORUM
17th September 2014

Centrally held DSG bought forward balance from 2013-14
(Director of Wellbeing)

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Schools' Forum of the bought forward balance from 2013-14 and the options available for the distribution and retention of the bought forward balance.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That Schools' Forum notes the bought forward balance, considers the proposals put forward and decides on the next steps.

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1.1 Schools Forum can decide on how the centrally held DSG bought forward balance is used. To enable the Schools' Forum to make effective decisions it is appropriate to provide supporting information for each proposal.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 To distribute any remaining central DSG under spend balances back to all schools within the current year, using the funding formula or on a per pupil basis.

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 5.1 There are 3 proposals put forward for how the bought forward balance could be used. These are detailed in the attached appendices.

Appendix A – Slough Learning Partnership
Appendix B – High Needs Provision for 2015-16

The 3rd proposal is to retain any remaining balance as a schools block provision, to support the schools block given pressures in future years in relation to growth, and minimise the need to top slice the schools block in future years.

5.2 The Central DSG Carry Forward from 2013-14 is £1,317,476.

Proposal	Provision
Slough Learning Partnership	2014-15 £60k - £160k 2015-16 £175k - £275k
High Needs 2015-16 Provision	£300k
Schools Block Provision	£582 - £957k
Total	£1,317

6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

Borough Solicitor

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

Section 151 Officer – Strategic Director of Resources

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

Access Implications

6.3 There are no access implications.

7 CONSULTATION

Principal Groups Consulted

7.1 None.

Method of Consultation

7.2 Not applicable.

Representations Received

7.3 Not applicable.

Background Papers

None

Contact for further information

Atul Lad (Principal Accountant - Schools)
(01753 875547)
atul.lad@slough.gov.uk

Slough Learning Partnership

Business Case for Future Funding

September 2014

Dawn Bailey, Partnership Coordinator

John Constable, Director



Summary and proposal

The Slough Learning Partnership was established in January 2012 using grants from headroom to support staffing costs. Additional income has been generated through a membership fee and the development of traded services.

The SLP has a three-fold remit around

- a) Development of CPD activity
- b) Brokering school-to-school support
- c) Utilising economies of scale to gain advantageous terms in contracts.

The Local Authority wishes to take a more strategic lead in school improvement in line with the requirements of the Ofsted framework for inspecting School Improvement. The Slough Learning Partnership, working with the Slough Teaching School Alliance, can play a significant role in providing a range of school improvement services.

Future sustainability of the Slough Learning Partnership depends on a funding model which comprises a number of elements:

- DSG funding to support the basic organisational running costs
- Affiliation fees from schools
- Grant funding from National College of Teaching and Leadership (Teaching School grant and other ad-hoc grants)
- Revenue from traded services (eg courses and other CPD events)

The current reserves will support the operation of the SLP until April 2015. Three options are proposed for the future:

- Option 1** Continue to operate at the current scale providing a core offer of services, a significant proportion which would be considered 'Teaching School' activity.
- Option 2** Aligned with the LA's strategic plan for school improvement, develop the offer during 2014-15 to provide an agreed range of CPD and development services which meet the needs of schools.
- Option 3** Continue a narrow range of activity focusing on NQT administration and support and other aspects of Teaching School programme until the residual funding runs out.

Taking into account potential income from affiliation fees and grants, the Slough Learning Partnership therefore requests:

- a) An allocation of **£60,000** from 2013-14 DSG underspend to cover operating costs and contingency until the end of August 2015 (*Option 1*.)
- b) An additional allocation of **£100,000** from 2013-14 DSG underspend to enable the SLP to deliver a range of additional school improvement services during 2014-15. (*Option 2*).

To sustain the SLP from September 2015 and beyond requires:

- c) An ongoing allocation of approximately **£175,000** per annum from DSG or retained school improvement funds to cover the core costs and provide the basis service (*Option 1*).
- d) An additional ongoing allocation of approximately **£100,000** from DSG or retained school improvement funds to support the delivery of the additional school improvement services as set out in this proposal (*Option 2*).

The Slough Learning Partnership requests the approval of Schools Forum for ongoing funding from DSG to ensure the Partnership's long-term viability and its commitment to providing and facilitating a range of school improvement activities aligned with the Local Authority's strategy for school improvement. The

rest of this Business Case sets out the background to the SLP's current funding position, and provides more detail on the core and extended school development offers.

Part 1

a) Background

The Slough Learning Partnership was set up in the autumn of 2011 by a group of primary and secondary headteachers working on behalf of the whole community of schools in Slough. The key drivers for the organisation were the loss of the Local Authority school improvement function and the increasing marginalisation of education as the Local Authority responded to budget cuts and other local priorities.

The SLP was specifically promoted as a 'by schools for schools' organisation with a headteacher steering group. The organisation was intended to respond to school needs with a three-part remit:

- a) Provision of high-quality continuing professional development
- b) Brokering of school-to-school support and consultancy
- c) Securing cost-effective services for schools through economies of scale

It was quickly realised that the remit was largely that of a Teaching School, and as a strategic partner in the successful bid to the National College, the SLP essentially represented the wider schools network for the Slough Teaching School Alliance.

Originally set up as an informal network with a constitution, the SLP is now a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee with a separate trading arm and employing staff in its own right. **See Appendix 1 for a summary of SLP activity in 2013-14.**

b) Funding sources

The SLP currently has five sources of funding:

- 1) Historic allocations from DSG 'headroom' in 2011 and 2013, totalling £340,000.
- 2) Teaching School core grant (£60k in 2013-14, decreasing to £50k in 2014-15, and £40k in 2015-16); the majority of this fund is passed to SLP to support the administration of Teaching School activity.
- 3) Affiliation fees, paid on a per-pupil basis by schools from their individual budgets.
- 4) Occasional small grants to support delivery of particular activity on behalf of the National College – eg £10k grant to arrange CPD for primary schools on the delivery of the new national curriculum.
- 5) Income from traded services (eg courses), theoretically balanced by expenditure as activity run on not-for-profit basis.

c) Financial position at end of 2013-14 financial year

The SLP's income from affiliation fees was never intended to cover the operating costs; the historic allocations from DSG headroom were intended to support salary and other operating expenses.

Summary financial position for the 2013-14 financial year:

Income in 2013-14 (including traded services)	£171,000
Expenditure in 2013-14	£273,000
Operating surplus for the year (deficit)	(£102,000)
Remaining reserves	£185,000

The SLP currently has sufficient reserves to enable it to continue in operation until approximately April 2015 based on the current levels of activity and income and projections of expenditure.

d) Core costs and traded services

The SLP incurs a level of **core costs** to maintain the organisation itself, currently estimated at £195,000. This includes salaries and on-costs, premises and office management expenses, IT support and website maintenance etc. This core organisation has the capacity to organise a range of activity, which can be provided at no charge to schools, or as **traded services**.

The current position is that activities such as CPD courses and programmes are traded services where the income from participation fees is intended to balance the expenditure on venues, speakers, facilitators etc. Fees for traded service activities do not include any contribution towards SLP salary costs, as these are considered to be covered by the combination of the residual headroom grants, affiliation fees and the Teaching School administration grant. Some traded CPD activities have run at an operating loss in 2013-14 due to poor uptake despite initial enthusiasm.

e) Income from affiliation fees

Any funding for the SLP other than external grants effectively comes from the DSG:

- An allocation from underspend reduces the amount that can be passed out to schools to increase their individual budgets;
- Future allocations from centrally retained DSG are essentially a 'top slice' from schools' funds at source;
- Affiliation fees are paid from schools' individual budgets, which come from the DSG (or EFA parallel funding for academies).

Schools are most directly impacted by having to pay out from their individual school budgets, and it is important to retain the SLP affiliation fee at a level which does not seem prohibitive for schools and which encourages 'buy-in' to the organisation.

An affiliation fee of £3 per pupil means approximately £3,000 for a typical secondary school and £1,500 - £1,800 for the majority of primary schools. The income for the SLP clearly depends on the number and size of schools affiliating. A rough calculation assuming a Slough school population of 25,000 (primary and secondary phase) and 60% uptake from schools would suggest a potential income from affiliation fees of around £45,000 per year. ***It is considered unlikely that schools would continue to support the organisation if the affiliation fee was raised above this point.***

f) Future position

Three possible options for the SLP could take in the medium term (3 years) are:

- Option 1** Continue to operate at the same scale as now – an organisation of approximately 2 full-time equivalent staff – providing a core offering of services centred around CPD, support for NQTs and school-to-school support. A significant proportion of these services would be considered 'Teaching School' activity.
- Option 2** As part of the Local Authority's strategic plan for school improvement, develop the CPD offering and other support services during 2014-15 to provide an agreed range of CPD and development services which meet the needs of schools. This would require funding for the expansion of the core organisation in order to provide sufficient capacity for delivery and administrative support of an enhanced programme of activity.
- Option 3** Continue a relatively narrow range of activity focusing on NQT administration and support and other aspects of Teaching School programme until August 2015 when the residual funding effectively runs out. At this point the Partnership would be wound up; the administrative support could be directly employed by the schools in the Teaching School Alliance for Years 3 and 4 of the Teaching School designation.

g) Funding options

To fund **Option 1** up to August 2015 would require an additional £60,000 (including an element of contingency) on top of the existing reserves, and approximately £200,000 per annum thereafter to support the core organisation.

Potential funding sources to support the core organisation for this option are:

- An affiliation fee per pupil in Primary and Secondary schools.
- Grants from 2013-14 DSG underspend, approved by Schools Forum
- A top-slice of DSG for 2015-16 and beyond at the budgeting stage, approved by Schools Forum
- School improvement funds currently held by Cambridge Education as part of their contract with the Local Authority
- A proportion of the Teaching School Core grant (maximum £50k in 2014-15 and declining)

Option 2 requires additional administrative capacity to deliver the proposed programme of school improvement activity. There are three possible ways to fund this expansion:

- a) On a fully traded basis whereby participation charges cover the full costs of the activity including the additional salaries. This would raise participation charges to commercial levels and would discourage attendance at events.
- b) Raising the core Affiliation Fee to cover the additional salary costs, and running the activity on a traded break-even basis. This would most likely lead to a minimum of an additional £5 per pupil for primary and secondary schools, based on the programme proposed in Part 2.
- c) Seeking additional funding from DSG underspend in 2014-15 and centrally retained DSG thereafter (as for Option 1) to cover salary costs, and running the activity on a traded break-even basis.

Part 2 provides additional detail of the core offer and additional proposed activity. **Appendix 4** details a draft programme for additional school development activity in 2014-15. The additional capacity required to deliver the full programme proposed is approximately £100,000 to cover the increased salary and on-costs.

It is recognised that the funding request for expansion of the SLP organisation is based upon a proposed programme of school development activity (**See Appendix 4**) drawn up in response to local needs. Additional funding secured over and above the requested amount would enable more activities to be developed. If the funding allocation is less than requested, the activity programme would have to be reduced to match the funds available.

Part 2

a) SLP Core Funding

The core funding for the SLP would provide it with the capacity to organise and deliver a range of activities and services to meet schools' needs at preferential rates.

Core funding is intended to cover the SLP's basic organisational costs:

- Salaries, on-costs and other employee expenses for the Coordinator and Manager (ie two full-time equivalent staff)
- Office rental and resourcing
- SLP website design and maintenance
- IT support
- Financial management software and professional services
- Data, online-learning and support software group licences for schools

The total basic organisational cost per annum is approximately £195,000.

Assuming an uptake of 60% of Slough schools and approximately 25,000 pupils across the borough, the "Affiliation Fee" required to provide this core funding without addition funding streams would be approximately £13 per pupil for primary and secondary schools (contributions from Nursery schools would be lower)

If the affiliation fee was capped at £3, this would generate £45,000 of income based on the uptake proportion assumed above. Additional funding from DSG of at least £150,000 per annum would be required. Raising the fee to £5 per pupil would reduce the demand on the DSG to minimum of £120,000 but runs the risk of significantly reduced affiliation levels from schools.

The core funding allows the SLP to provide a range of basic services for affiliated schools:

- a) FFT data for all Slough primary and secondary schools
- b) Access to Educare online learning resource package – Level 2 training in 16 core areas of school practice and administration, eg safeguarding/child protection, safer recruitment etc.
- c) Negotiation of group discounts on behalf of schools
- d) Organisation and facilitation of optional traded CPD programmes (ie courses/events additionally charged per delegate). **See part (b)**
- e) Online directory of local expertise and resources
- f) 'Brokerage' of school-to-school support – matching request for support with locally available resources.
- g) Core NQT support programme including training for mentors (See Appendices 2 and 3)**
- h) Signposting to range of best-value services for schools eg DBS checks, governor training, HR support.
- i) Networking on behalf of schools to build links with local commerce, neighbouring Teaching School Alliances, Higher Education providers etc.
- j) Administrative support for local networks eg subject or phase meetings
- k) Facilitation of non-residential cross-phase mini-conferences (in collaboration with Cambridge Education)

- l) Welcome event for new headteachers

b) Core traded CPD programme

The core organisation of 2 FTE staff has the capacity to organise and deliver or facilitate a range of traded CPD programmes, courses and events:

- Slough Headteachers' annual residential conference
- Slough Chairs of Governors' annual residential conference
- NQT cross-phase residential conference
- Approx 5 curriculum-themed training events across each phase addressing agreed priorities for school improvement, each event repeated (20 events in all)
- TA training (two days, cross-phase)
- Licensed 'Outstanding Teacher Programme' (primary and secondary)
- Licensed National College NPQML programme (primary and secondary)

These CPD events and programmes are a traded service operating on a break-even basis. Schools are charged per delegate to cover the costs of venues, catering, external speakers, resources etc. The cost of SLP staff time to organise the programme is included in the basic Affiliation Fee.

c) Additional school development activity

Expansion of the offer of service (whether CPD or other services related to school development, traded or non-traded) is dependent on increasing the staff capacity of the SLP beyond the core of 2 FTE. This could include the employment of function-specific administrative support eg finance support, events management.

- a) Recruitment service
 - Database of school vacancies and coordinated response to enquiries
 - Targeted recruitment campaign
- b) CPD programmes, conferences, courses and events including
 - Focused training programme/events for NQTs
 - Further networking conferences eg deputies/senior leaders
 - 'Reactive response' workshops or training input
 - Additional curriculum-themed training in response to need.
 - Operational training for support and administrative staff eg IT competency, HLTA, bespoke courses according to need.
 - Licensed 'Improving Teacher Programme'
 - Subject Knowledge Enhancement (SKE) courses
- c) Masters programme focusing on educational leadership and management (eg with Oxford Brookes)
- d) Expansion of online resources eg 'New to Headship Toolkit', 'New to Governance' Toolkit.
- e) Development and coordination of peer-led diagnostic review service.

A capacity of approximately 2.5-3 full-time administrative support staff over and above the core would enable the SLP to organise, deliver or facilitate the range of additional activity listed above. **See Appendix 4 for a draft programme.**

The approximate cost of this would be approximately **£100,000** per annum to employ the additional staffing capacity. The additional expenses incurred in arranging many of the deliverables (eg venues, speakers etc) would be covered by participation fees and other traded service arrangements.

Appendix 1 - SLP activity in 2013-14

The significant majority (approximately 60%) of the SLP's activity is as the operational and delivery arm of the Slough Teaching School Alliance.

In 2013-14 this has included:

NQT induction support

- Administration of the NQT Manager system for the Appropriate Body service, covering 164 NQTs.
- Quality assurance of NQT induction provision in schools – visits to approx 1/3 of schools.
- Negotiation around extensions to induction period.
- NQT support/training programme
 - Induction and celebration events
 - Primary training sessions
 - Secondary NQT conference

Middle and senior leadership training

- Organisation and facilitation of NPQML programme – two cohorts
- Finance training for senior leaders

General CPD courses

- Pilot programme of science courses for teachers and technicians
- Computing in the primary curriculum
- Negotiation of discounted on-line training package (Educare)
- English and Maths new curriculum

School-to-school support

- 'Behind the scenes' support for a number of schools in response to need.
- Administration support for Primary Heads
- New Heads Network meetings and training

The remaining 40% of the activity does not specifically come under the 'Teaching School' remit, and includes:

- Organisation of the Slough Headteachers' Conference
- Governors' conferences organised in collaboration with Cambridge Education
- Assessment conference

Previous SLP activity on behalf of schools has included renegotiation of two major contracts; Sophos and web appliances, broadband and firewall, individual school audit and support, and FFT license for school data.

Appendix 2 - NQT Induction arrangements

a) The role of the Appropriate Body

An Appropriate Body is responsible for the quality assurance of the induction process. Langley Grammar School and Lynch Hill Primary School are registered as Appropriate Bodies for the induction of NQTs in the Slough area. Registration of NQTs, the organisation of the NQT support programme and the quality assurance process are carried out on behalf of the Appropriate Bodies by the Slough Learning Partnership.

Schools receive a notional allocation within their individual school budget to enable them to buy the services of an Appropriate Body in relation to statutory requirements for induction of newly-qualified teachers. The only funding open to an Appropriate Body are the charges made to schools who use their services; there are no additional funding streams available from either DfE or the NCTL.

b) Appropriate body services

Schools affiliated to the Slough Learning Partnership will pay an affiliation fee of £3 per pupil on roll in 2014-15. The core NQT support programme (*see Appendix 3*) including training for mentors is offered to affiliated schools at no additional cost.

Affiliated schools may then secure the services of the Appropriate Body for an additional cost of £300 per NQT. This enables the Slough Learning Partnership to provide the following services to member schools on behalf of the Appropriate Bodies:

- Registration of NQTs with the Appropriate Bodies through the NQT Manager software, and tracking of NQT assessments;
- Reports and termly statutory returns to the National College for Teaching and Leadership;
- Final decisions on extensions to the induction period, and whether NQTs have met the required standards, based on recommendations by headteachers and induction tutors;
- Quality assurance of the induction process;

Schools not affiliated to the Slough Learning Partnership may access the Appropriate Body services at a charge of £600 per NQT, and the core NQT support programme on a traded basis.

c) Quality assurance

Quality assurance of the induction process involves monitoring the quality of written assessments and making visits to a proportion of the schools each year to assess the quality and effectiveness of each school's:

- NQT assessment processes
- CPD programme and specific support for NQTs
- Timetable and mentoring arrangements

Written reports on the quality assurance visit are provided for each school.

d) NQT training and support

The Slough Learning Partnership organises a core support programme for NQTs. Participation in this programme is funded from the SLP affiliation fee. A wider programme of chargeable activities, including an NQT conference, will be developed during the year if funding levels permit. Secondary schools generally arrange their own NQT induction programmes, but will also have access to aspects of the wider programme.

e) Support for NQTs experiencing difficulties

Schools may need additional specific support, over and above the Appropriate Body's normal quality assurance process, to help them monitor and evaluate NQTs who are experiencing significant difficulties. Subject to agreement by the Appropriate Bodies, such additional support may be commissioned through the Slough Learning Partnership, and may be chargeable depending on the circumstances.

Appendix 3 - NQT Core offer 2014-15

Month	Event
September	Welcome event Introduction to the year – NQT Booklet Mentor Network
December	Cross phase network meeting Themed focus and networking opportunities
April	Cross phase network meeting Themed focus and networking opportunities Mentor Network
July	Celebration Event Opportunity to share good practice and celebrate achievements Where next?

Page 39

There will be a Mentor helpline

Throughout the year there will be a rolling programme of training which will be universally delivered covering core subjects and a two day NQT Conference featuring focused workshops and speakers with an opportunity to network which you will be welcome to attend at an additional cost.

Appendix 4 - Draft SLP Conferences/Events/Training programme 2014-2015

2014	Conference/Event	Training
September	Cross Phase NQT Welcome Head's mini Conference Newsletter	English Curriculum - Cross Phase NQT Mentor Training – Cross Phase Improving Teacher Practice TA Training – Cross Phase Admin Training – Cross Phase
October	Potential Recruitment Project New Heads Meeting	Maths – Cross Phase Outstanding Teacher Practice PE – Primary TA Training – Cross Phase NQT Mentor – Writing a Report – Cross Phase HLTA Training NPQML Cohort 2 - Current
November	Head's Conference 19-21 Nov Chair of Governor's Conference 28-29 Nov	Assessment Training Science – Cross Phase
December	NQT Networking Meeting – Cross Phase	ICT – Cross Phase Behaviour/Classroom Management NPQML Cohort 2 - Current
2015		
January	Topic Tables – Themes of the moment Network – NQT Mentor – Cross Phase New Heads Meeting Newsletter	TA Training – Cross Phase Improving Teacher Practice English – Cross Phase Masters – Cross Phase Cohort 5 NPQML – Cross Phase NPQML Cohort 2 - Current

2015	Conference/Event	Training
February	Head's Conference/Seminar Deputy Head's Conference	Maths – Cross Phase PE – Primary TA Training – Cross Phase HLTA Training – Cross Phase Outstanding Teacher Practice NPQML Cohort 2 – Current
March	Secondary School's Conference NQT Primary School's Conference NQT } Joint	SEN – Cross Phase Science – Cross Phase NPQML Cohort 2 – Current NPQML Cohort 5
April	NQT Networking Meeting – Cross Phase	Recruitment Fayre NPQML Cohort 5
May	Head's Conference Assessment Workshop – Cross Phase Newsletter	NPQML Cohort 2 – Current NPQML Cohort 5
June	Topic Tables – Themes of the moment New Heads Meeting	TA Training – Cross Phase SEN – Cross Phase Admin Training – Cross Phase NPQML Cohort 5
July	NQT Celebration – to include mentors and new mentors for the following year	Behaviour/Classroom – Cross Phase TA Training – Cross Phase NQT Mentor Training

SLP - Slough Learning Partnership

Teachers' professional development pathway

Support for ITT recruitment

Schools Direct training year CPD to supplement HEI provision and provide focus on local issues.

Support for Assessment-only route (potential growth?)

Post-ITT professional development

- NQT programme (courses, events, conferences, network?)
- General local CPD programme - literacy, numeracy, assessment etc
- Wider subject-based CPD programmes eg Science with Herts & Bucks TSA
- Outstanding teacher programme (franchised or local bespoke)

Middle leadership development

- NPQML licensed programme (uncertain future?)
- Inspired to Lead programme
- Subject/phase/theme networks
- Bespoke leadership training

Senior leadership development

- NPQSL & NPQH licensed programmes (uncertain future?)
- Masters' programme - linking with additional HEI

Support for schools in difficulty

CEA have contractual monitoring and challenge role

- Brokerage/information provision/links
- Helpline
- Directory of expertise and support

Support for school improvement

Helpline

Brokerage - school-to-school support

Website directory of local expertise and available support

General local CPD programme - literacy, numeracy, assessment etc

Training for support staff

- Role-specific
- IT skills

Conferences

- Slough headteachers
- Senior leaders
- Chairs of Governors

Discounted access

- Data packages (FFT)
- Online training (Educare)
- Licences

Appropriate body administration and quality assurance

Other roles.....

Collective voice for Slough schools

Promotion of the Slough education community

Development of links with local business

Recruitment

- Teaching
- Administrative and support roles
- Related other areas.....

Areas of focus

"Good to great"
Building sustainability and capacity

Intervention
Crisis support

"School improvement"

School improvement activity

Individual professional development

- Initial teacher training
- Post-ITT and NQT
- Middle leadership
- Senior leadership

General CPD programme

- Events eg conferences
- Courses and programmes
- Targeted at teachers, support staff, governors

Underpinning services

- Data, licenses
- Operational training

Individualised support

- School-to-school
- Local expertise
- External consultancy and perspective
- Peer review and audit

Networking and links

- Supporting local networks eg subject specific
- Developing links across TSAs and Las
- Building bridges to other organisations

This page is intentionally left blank

Developing Local Provision for Children and Young People with Additional Needs in Slough

Revenue Impact Report – August 2014

1. Introduction

- 1.1 We are currently revising the Additional Needs Strategy (2011) in light of significant changes occurring in the local and, to a lesser extent, national SEN population. Whilst more detailed strategic plans will ultimately be compiled we are conscious that there are more immediate financial pressures that must be addressed.
- 1.2 This report has been produced to highlight the financial impact of the increasing numbers of CYP with SEND forecast in the document 'Additional Needs Strategy – Interim Update 04/04/14'. This report also updates the growth forecast in line with the additional increase in SEND recorded since April 2014.

2. Data

- 2.1 The data that informs this report has been collected from a range of sources including school census reporting from the previous four years, national census data and live information held within the SEN database. Since the previous interim update we have also received autism diagnosis data from Health that reinforces the expected and sustained growth in additional needs provision across the board.
- 2.2 The banded top-up funding matrix has been used to apply costs to the data.

3. Method

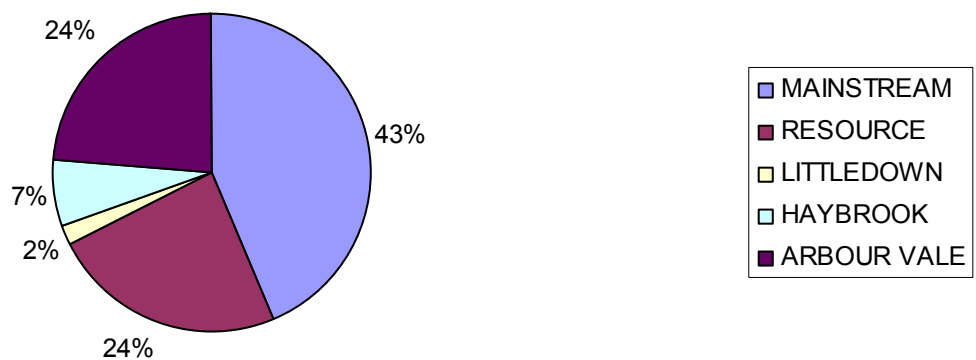
- 3.1 The banding model varies according to the type of setting the pupil attends. For example band 3 is £6k in a mainstream setting, £9k in a resourced unit, £15k in Littledown etc. Given this variation we need to factor in to our growth projections the type of setting pupils are currently in, what band applies to their funding and variations in forecast growth within primary need type.
- 3.2 Taking into account the data available and the factors described above, the following method has been used to forecast the revenue impact from academic year 2014/15 on:
 1. Identify total current pupil numbers (SEN)
 2. Split pupil numbers into differentiated settings in line with the banding matrix
 3. Calculate numbers of pupils within individual bands
 4. Apply relevant top-up costs to identified banding breakdown
 5. Calculate overall current and forecast SEN growth rate as a percentage
 6. Apply growth rate percentage proportionally to the differentiated settings

Appendix B

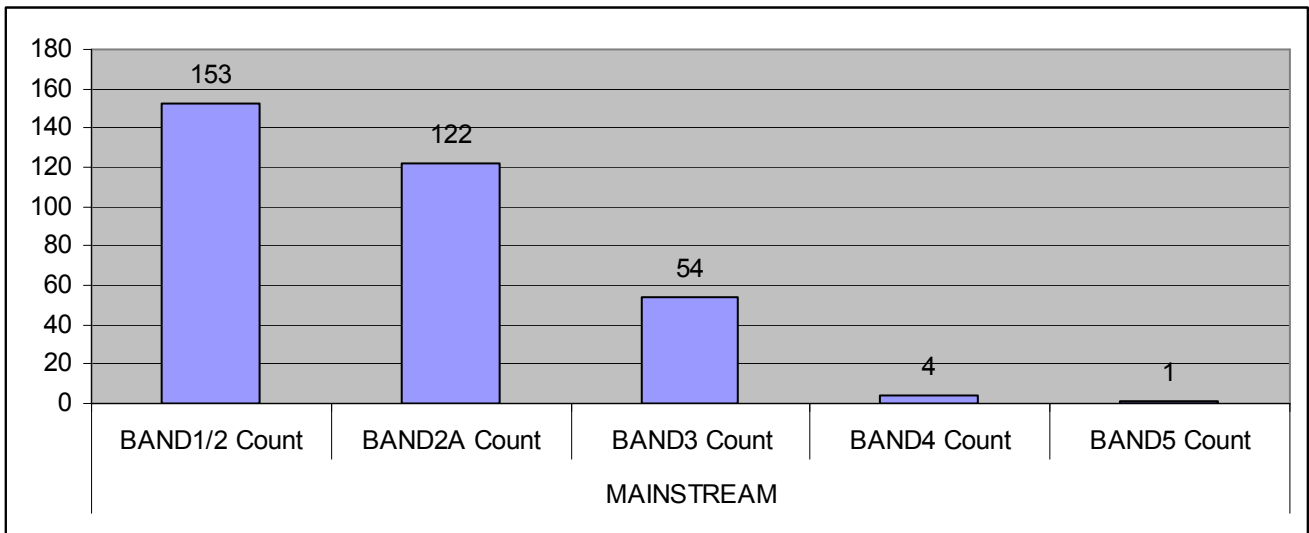
4 July 2014

4.1 In July 2014 the total numbers of pupils with SEN were split across the differently banded types of provision as follows:

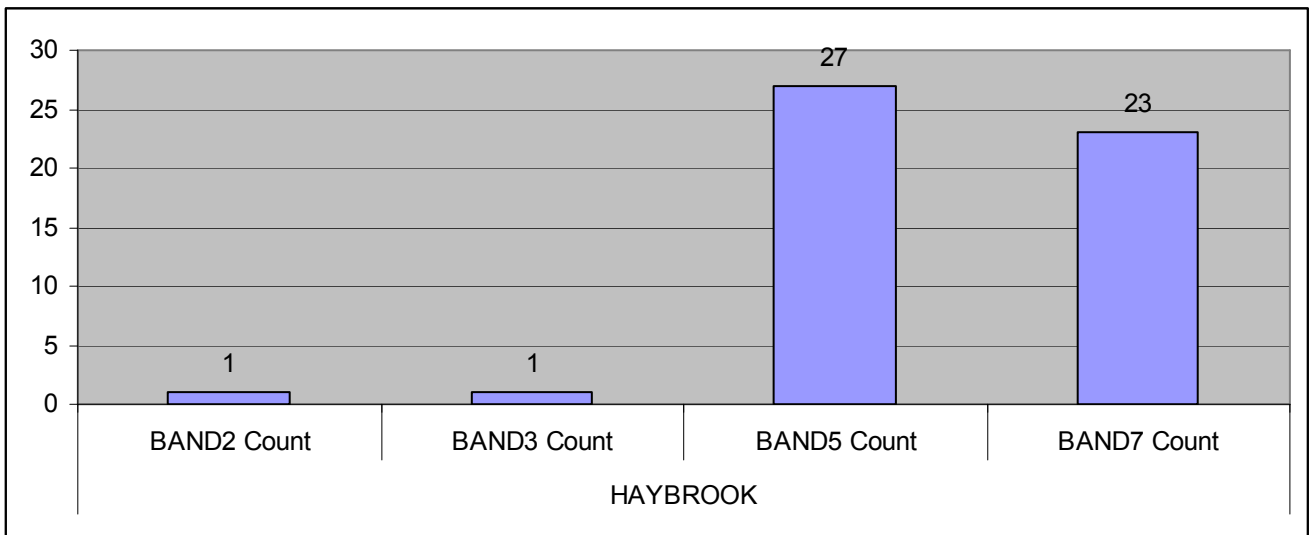
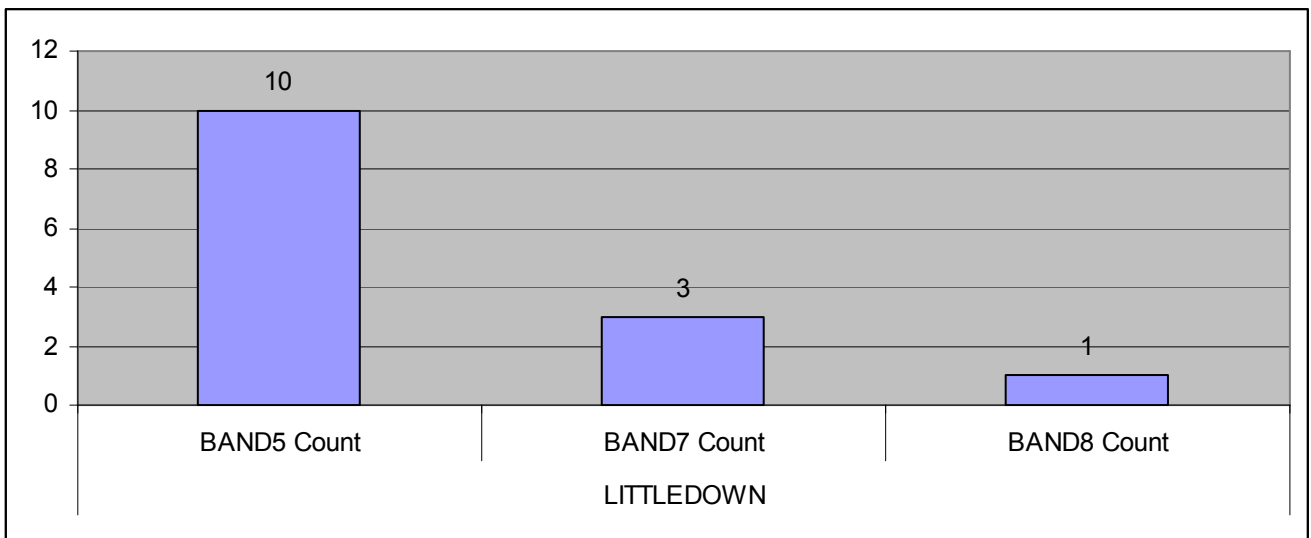
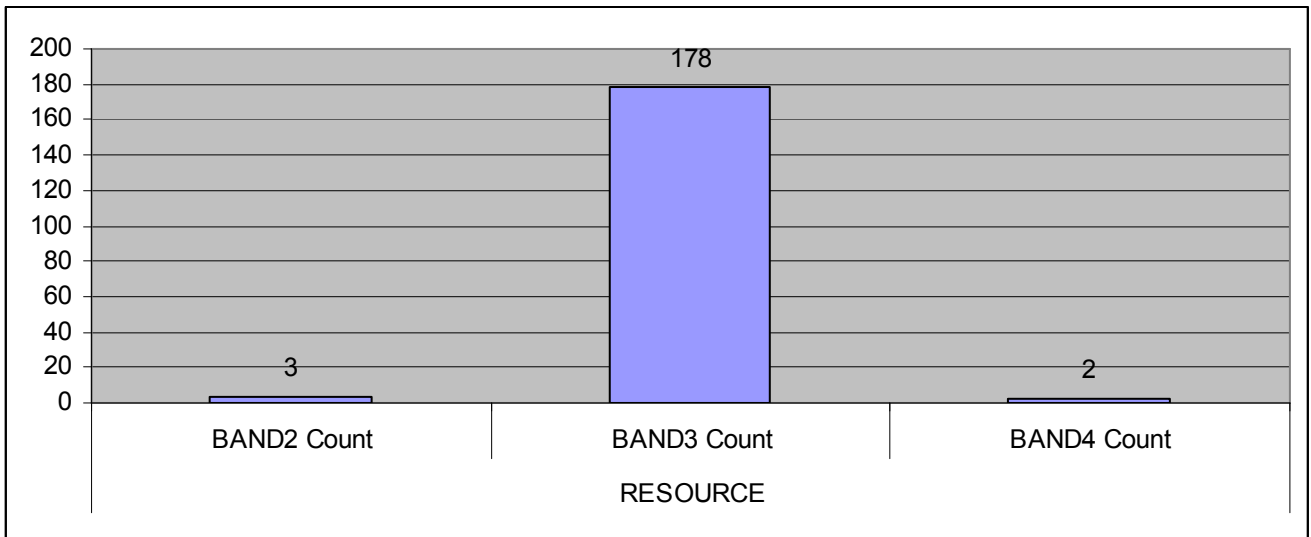
Mainstream	334
Resource	183
Littledown	14
Haybrook	52
Arbour Vale	298
TOTAL	881



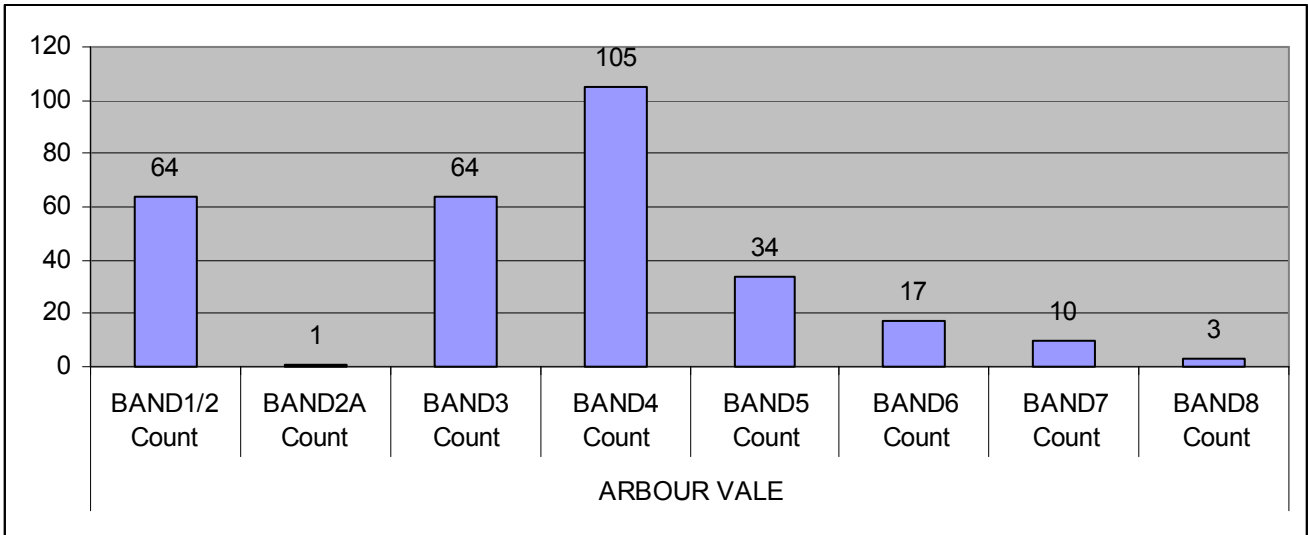
4.2 The totals, above, are split into the following Top Up funding bands, according to the recognised local settings:



Appendix B

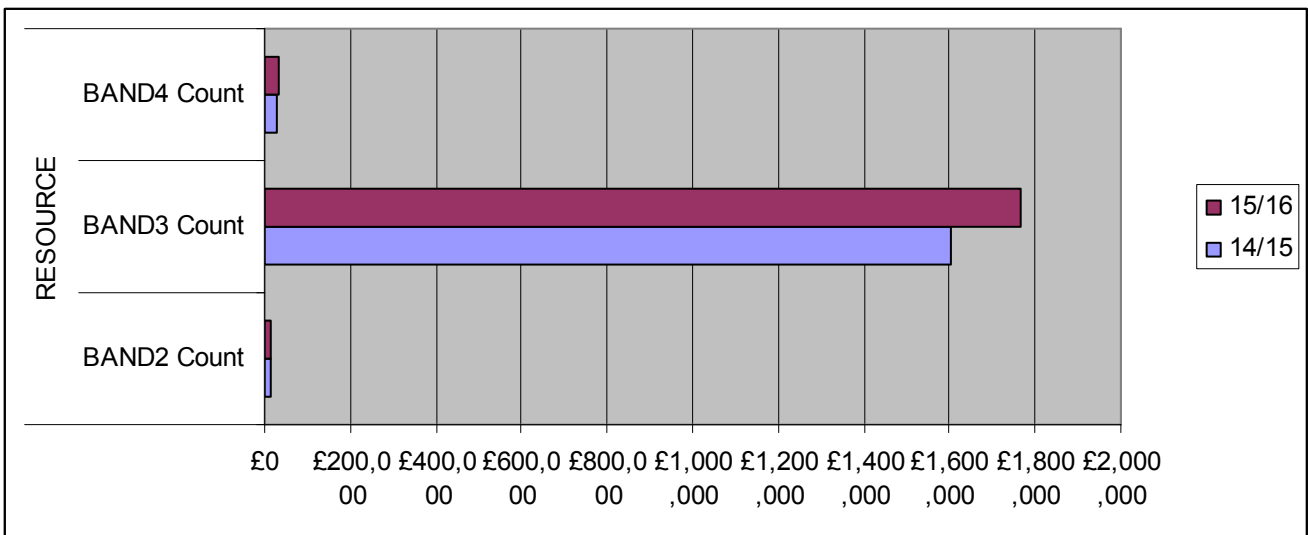
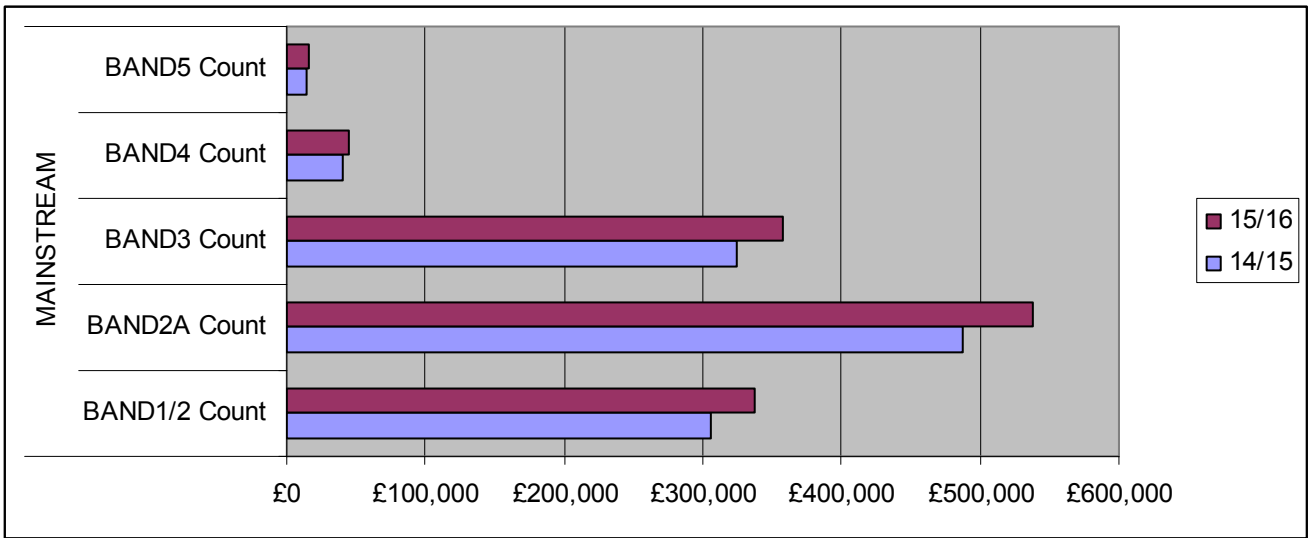


Appendix B

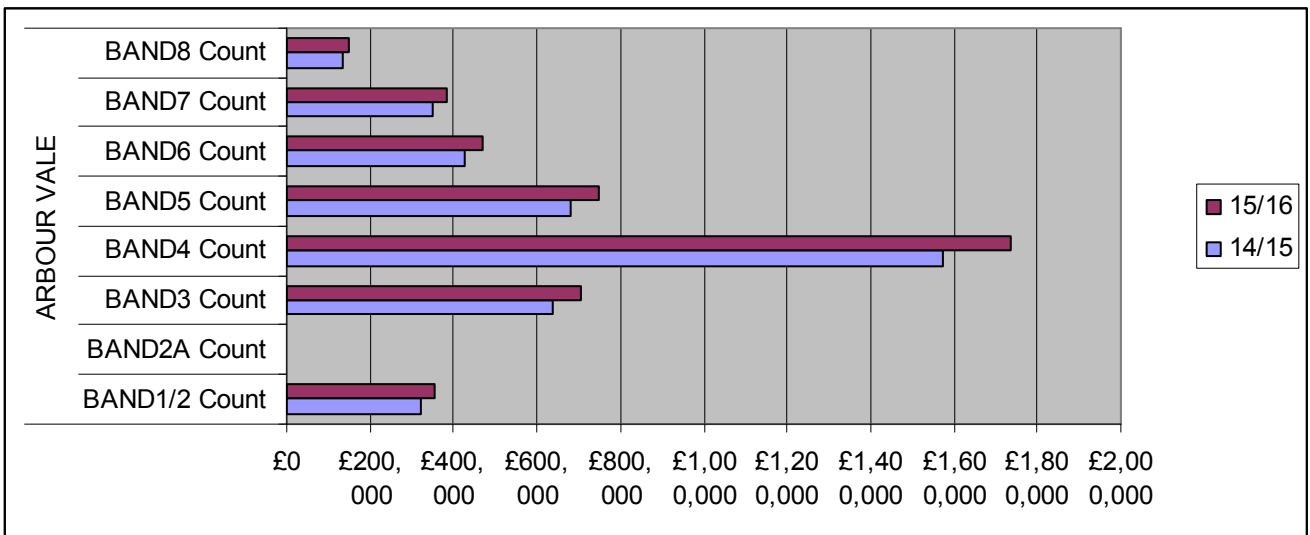
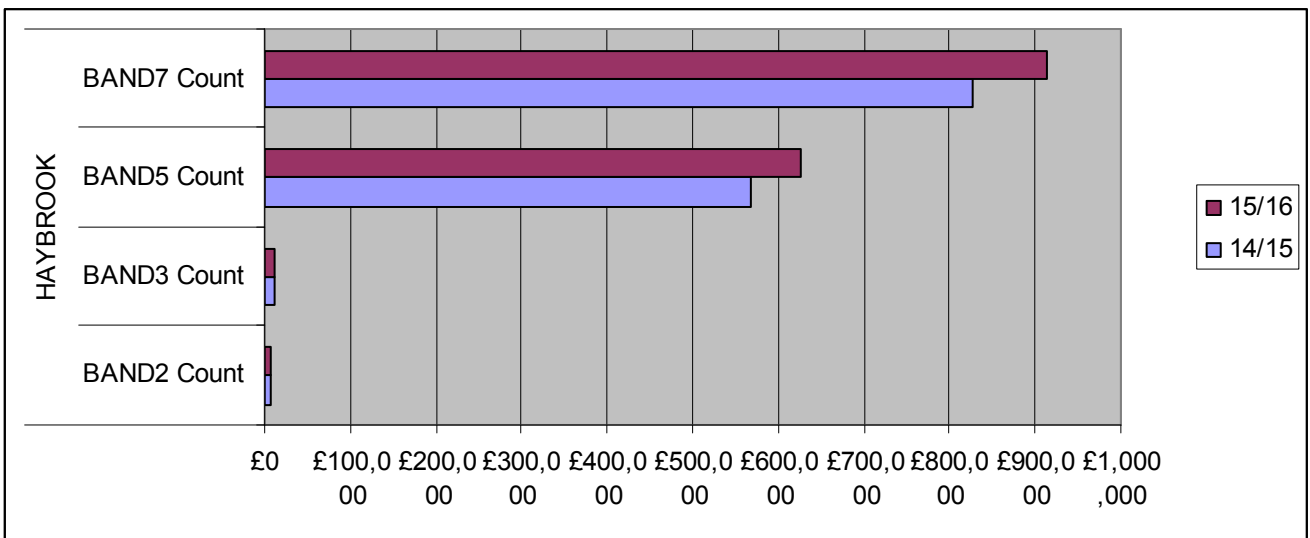
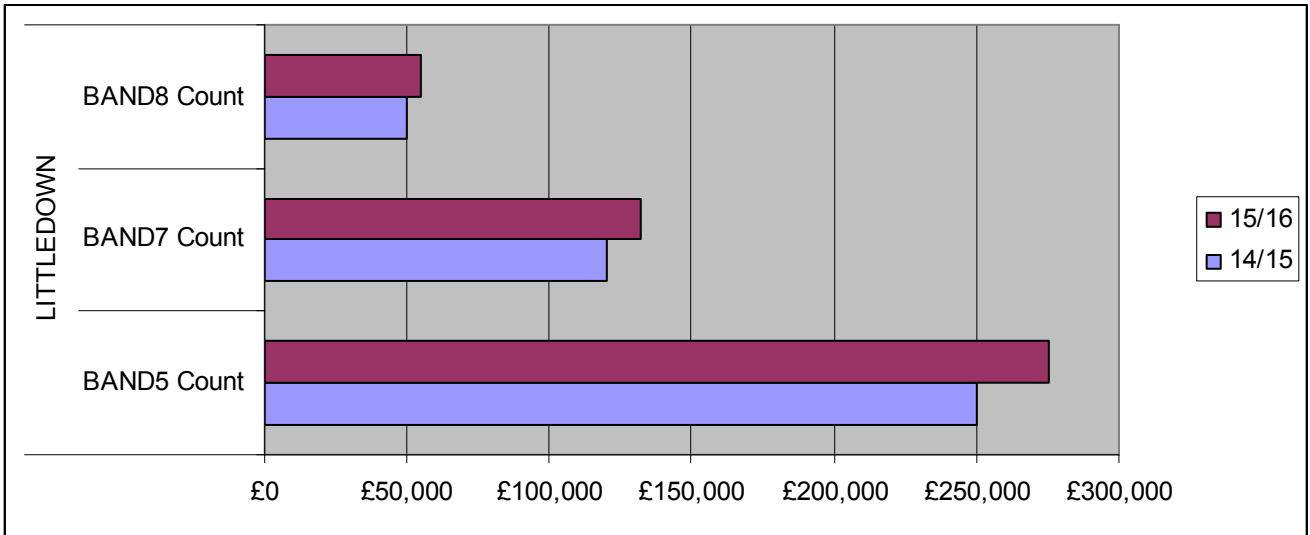


5. 2015/16 Growth Forecast

5.1 The following tables apply financial values to the various bands now and show the forecast for 2015/16 using a growth increase of 10.26%. This is the actual growth between 2013/14 – 2014/15. Early years autism diagnosis figures indicate that this general rate of growth is likely to continue over the next 3 – 4 years.



Appendix B



6 Additional Funding Required

6.1 Total forecast revenue growth for 2015/16 is broken down as follows:

	2014/15	2015/16
	,000	,000
Mainstream	1,172	1,292
Resource	1,642	1,812
Littledown	420	463
Haybrook	1,412	1,557
Arbour Vale	4,125	4,548
TOTAL	8,771	9,671

Additional top-up required for 2015/16 = £900,000.00

Existing High Needs Growth budget = £600,000

Provision required for 2015/16 = £300,000

SLOUGH SCHOOLS' FORUMWednesday 17th September 2014**PFI FUNDING OPTIONS
Update on progress**1. Purpose of Report1.1 To update the Forum on progress since the meeting on 2nd July 2014.2. Recommendations

2.1 The Council asks that:

- The forum notes the commencement of DfE pilot aimed at delivering efficiencies and reducing costs
- The forum notes the update in this report relating to the requirement to reduce the General Fund 's contribution to the Schools PFI

3. Introduction

3.1 At the last meeting the Forum were updated on the progress since the last meeting in May 2014. The purpose of the current discussions relate to the requirement to agree a way forward on the redistribution of the PFI funding gap to achieve significant reduction to the figure £810k per annum on a phased basis. In addition there is the additional £180k from the benchmarking exercise that also needs to be addressed.

3.2 At this meeting the recommendations were;

- The Forum noted the progress made since the last meeting
- The Forum noted that, once any savings have been realised, the remaining affordability funding gap will need to be found on a phased basis from 2015/16. This was noted but with no assumptions about the sources of that funding at this stage e.g. no assumptions about implications for the DSG.
- The Forum confirmed support for SBC participating as one of DfE pilots if successful in being selected.
- Agreed that further updates are provided to the Forum as progress is made with the next updates scheduled for the autumn term: September and October meetings. To be noted on the forward plan

4. **Current Position**

- 4.1 Following the Forum meeting in July a meeting was held with the three PFI Heads on 14th July 2014. The purpose of this meeting was to have an initial discussion and it was suggested that a follow up meeting would be held in early September 2014 and the Chair and Vice Chairs of the three PFI schools would be invited to attend. This has now been scheduled for 12th September at Beechwood School and Val Knight from DfE will also be attending the meeting .
- 4.2 In respect of PFI Operational Savings Programme, the start date for DfE pilot was delayed and the initial planning meeting has now been scheduled for 9th September 2014 to finalise the projects remit and targets.
- 4.3 The Project Lead from DfE is to be Steve Hazelton supported by Val Knight and their proposal is to have their final report available in late October /early November 2014.
- 4.4 It is proposed that the Project Lead and Project Manager meet with the three PFI Heads at the earliest opportunity following this meeting.
- 4.5 In addition to the above, a further meeting was held with QED Board/Pario on 18th August 2014 to further review and confirm any savings that can be delivered outside the remit of PFI pilot.

5. **Advice received from Statutory and other Officers**

5.1 Borough Solicitor

Advice on the principle of the report has been sought and the Council's Legal Service is party to the contract review.

5.2 Section 151 Officer – Assistant Director- Finance and Audit

The financial implications of the report were outlined in the report to Slough Schools Forum on 7th May 2014.

5.3 Access Implications

There are no access implications.

5.4 Consultation

Principal Groups Consulted – none

Julie Pickering
Interim Assistant Director
Contracts, Commissioning and Procurement

Slough Schools' Forum – 2014-15 Work Programme

Wednesday 17th September 2014

- Balance Control Mechanism
- Changes to schools and early years finance regulations 2014
- Centrally held DSG under spend items
- 2015 -16 Budget Process Plan
- PFI Update
- Cambridge Education
- Academies update
- 2014-15 Work programme and Key Decisions log

Wednesday 15th October 2014

- Quarter 1 Budget Monitoring 2014-15
- 2015-16 Budget Process Update
- ESG reduction – impact on services to schools
- PFI Update
- Cambridge Education
- Academies update
- 2013-14 Work programme and Key Decisions log

Wednesday 12th November 2014

- 2015-16 Budget Process Update
- PFI Update
- Cambridge Education
- Academies update
- 2013-14 Work programme and Key Decisions log

Wednesday 10th December 2014

- Quarter 2 Budget Monitoring 2013-14
- 2015-16 Budget Process Update
- Growth Fund Update 2014-15 and 2015-16 budget
- 2015-16 DSG Blocks (School Block, High Needs Block, Early Years Block)
- Centrally Retained DSG
- De-delegated budgets
- Cambridge Education
- Academies update
- 2013-14 Work programme and Key Decisions log

Wednesday 14th January 2015

- 2015-16 Budget Process Update (including Formula report)
- 2015-16 DSG Blocks (School Block)
- 2015-16 DSG Blocks (High Needs Block)
- 2015-16 DSG Blocks (Early Years Block)

- Cambridge Education
- Academies update
- 2013-14 Work programme and Key Decisions log

Wednesday 25th February 2015

- Quarter 3 Budget Monitoring 2014-15
- 2015-16 Budget Process Update
- Cambridge Education
- Academies update
- 2013-14 Work programme and Key Decisions log

Wednesday 18th March 2015

- 2015-16 Budget Process Update
- Growth Fund Outturn 2014-15
- Cambridge Education
- Academies update
- 2013-14 Work programme and Key Decisions log

Wednesday 6th May 2015

- Review of Scheme for Financing Schools
- Cambridge Education
- Academies update
- 2014-15 Work programme and Key Decisions log

Schools Forum Key Decisions Log September 2012 to July 2014

Issue and Decision	Schools Forum date	Schools Forum agenda item no.
Fair Funding Formula Consultation for 2013 -14	12/09/12	
Schools Forum agreed the content of the consultation with all schools regarding changes to the Fair Funding formula for 2013, with the principle that the aim in moving to the new formula arrangements is, within restrictions imposed by the DfE regulations, to minimise turbulence for individual schools	12/09/12	6
Confirmation of DSG Allocation 2012 - 13		
Schools Forum acknowledged final DSG allocation 2012 - 13 and confirmed outline Schools Budget	12/09/12	7
Headroom	12/09/12	
Headroom to support the development of secondary school places		
Schools Forum agreed that the £30,000 allocated at the July 2012 meeting to support the development of secondary school places, be allocated equally across the three successful free school proposers in Slough whose bids were approved by the Prime Minister in July 2012	12/09/12	8
Headroom to support the implementation in-year of new resource unit places from September 2012		
Schools Forum agreed that £376,000 be retained to support the implementation in-year of new resource unit places from September 2012	12/09/12	8
Headroom - PRU activities at Littledown during 2012 - 13		
Schools Forum agreed that £70,000 be set aside but not allocated at this stage, to support PRU activities at Littledown during 2012 - 13, pending further work on the overall funding	12/09/12	8
Fair Funding Formula Consultation for 2013 -14	03/10/12	3
It was confirmed that, for formula purposes, Claycots is a split site school and therefore it was appropriate to consult on the option of a formula factor to reflect this.		
Headroom	03/10/12	3
Schools Forum agreed that the £30,000 allocated at the July 2012 meeting to support the development of secondary school places and intended to be allocated equally across the three successful free school proposers in Slough whose bids were approved by the Prime Minister in July 2012 - be allocated at a later date when sites and intake clearer. LA to contact the three free school proposer groups.		
Early Years Single Funding Formula (EYSFF)	03/10/12	5
Schools Forum agreed a number of changes to the EYSFF:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An additional provider type 'Academy' at the same rates as the provider type 'primary'. • Provider specific lump sums as a short term position. • Hourly rates for supplements as a short term position. • Base hourly rates equivalent to current staffing rates for EYSFF MFG purposes. 		
Headroom		
Following update that the majority of the students of the three successful free schools will be from Slough and that the sites would not have an impact on intake, Schools Forum agreed to the £30,000 being held and kept under review.	24/10/12	3
It was confirmed that the £70,000 for Littledown School was formally approved at the last SSEF meeting.	24/10/12	3
Fair Funding Formula 2013 -14		
Schools Forum recommended the following proposals to the Council for approval:	24/10/12	5
Not to include a factor for Looked after Children or English as an Additional Language as the DfE datasets do not target the real need in Slough appropriately and recommended that all the other relevant factors be included in the Slough formula.	24/10/12	5

Schools Forum Key Decisions Log September 2012 to July 2014

Agreed to propose Appendix F and G of report to SBC with further discussion to follow amongst Secondary Headteachers re Appendix G which moves 1% of funding to basic entitlement from low attainment and has the effect of smoothing the distribution across non-selective and selective schools to the benefit of the selective schools (later endorsed by Secondary Headteachers 31/10/12)	24/10/12	5
Agreed to distribute deprivation funding using 51% free school meals (Ever 6 FSM) and 49% IDACI.	24/10/12	5
Agreed the recommended model for pupil mobility which maps the current turbulence factor to the compliant mobility factor.	24/10/12	5
Agreed the standard lump sum factor.	24/10/12	5
Agreed the split site factor – the final unit value to be confirmed by January 2013.	24/10/12	5
Agreed the factor for rates and PFI. Current formula factors are replicated in the recommended model.	24/10/12	5
De-delegation		
Maintained schools agreed de-delegation of Outreach (former behaviour support) for 2013/14 to support the planned transfer of the management of the service to Littledown and Haybrook from January 2013. Academies present indicated clear support for the service, indicating a willingness to buy in	24/10/12	5
De-delegation of Trade Union staff costs was agreed for 2013/14.	24/10/12	5
Growth Fund		
Schools Forum agreed to retain relevant central funding for significant pupil growth.	24/10/12	5
Early Years Single Funding Formula (EYSFF)		
Schools Forum endorsed the proposals put forward by the Task and Finish group: simplifying the formula by reducing it to 3 factors: 1) Staffing; 2) Central costs and 3) Deprivation with differentiation across different sizes of providers. These factors combine to provide an hourly rate. Deprivation to be based on IDACI and Free School Meals.	17/01/13	5
Split site factor		
Schools Forum agreed that the split site factor criteria in the 5-16 main funding formula should be: "A split site is where a school operates on two (or more) distinctly separate sites. The sites will be in separate, not adjacent streets and not connected by a footpath".	17/01/13	6
Funding Formula 5 - 16 primary: secondary ratio		
No consensus was reached regarding the two options considered: the status quo of 1:1.43 and 1: 1.39. It was agreed that views of Primary Headteachers would be sought following the meeting and it would also be considered at SASH. If no formal agreement could be reached there would be a vote arranged for those Schools Forum members eligible to vote. The result of the vote would be communicated to the LA to inform the LA decision prior to submission to the DfE.	17/01/13	6
<i>Note: A vote was later held regarding the two models proposed for primary / secondary ratio (1:1.43 and 1:1.39) and the Schools Forum vote did not provide a consensus with the vote being in favour of 1:1.43 (11 votes to 6). The final LA decision was to move to the ratio of 1:1.39.</i>	n/a	n/a
Early Years Single Funding Formula (EYSFF)		
Deprivation to be based on Free School Meals	27/02/13	3
Funding Formula 5 - 16		
It was agreed that further work to review the needs led principles behind the formula should be continued immediately with initial research being done to identify potential sources of expertise for the research, prior to any further financial modelling work.	27/02/13	6
Schools Forum Constitution		
The updated Schools Forum Constitution was approved.	27/02/13	8
Membership		

Schools Forum Key Decisions Log September 2012 to July 2014

One current vacancy in the maintained membership will not be filled (leaving 8 members). The Primary Headteachers group to elect 2 members to fill the maintained schools vacancies. Academy proprietors be asked to elect an additional academy representative (giving 8 academy members) and to consider this being a secondary governor representative to reflect phase balance. Nominations to be brought back to Schools Forum in May. Nicky Willis was approved as substitute for Barbara Clark and Gill Denham for Gillian Coffey	20/03/13	5
Two Year Old Funding Formula		
It was agreed that the formula based on staffing and central costs as set out in the report be recommended to the LA for implementation.	08/05/13	5
School specific contingency and LA budgets funded by DSG - Outturn 2012/13		
Schools Forum agreed that £780,000 be retained for potential overspend on High Needs and Early Years funding. Further areas to return to Schools Forum for later review and decision.	03/07/13	4
Scheme for Financing Schools		
It was agreed that the updated Scheme for Financing Schools be put on the SBC website.	03/07/13	7
Two Year Old Funding Formula		
Schools Forum agreed the revisions to the Early Years 2 Year Old Funding Formula as set out in the report and recommended the formula to the LA for implementation.	03/07/13	9
Membership		
Paul Adams joined Schools Forum as an academy governor representative; one community primary vacancy has been filled by Navroop Mehat of Wexham Court Primary; a review of the balance of membership across academies and maintained schools to be undertaken by the Chair over the summer.	03/07/13	12
Chair and Vice-Chair		
Maggie Waller was elected Chair and John Constable Vice-Chair	11/09/13	1
School Balances		
It was agreed that if, at any time in the future, there is an option to claw back money from a school, this would come back to Schools Forum.	11/09/13	6
New Schools and Early Years Finance Regulations - DfE Consultation		
It was agreed that a joint LA and Schools Forum response would be submitted to the DfE	11/09/13	7
Membership		
It was agreed that the Chair would write to all Academies with a recommendation to fill the primary academy member vacancy to provide a balance of primary and secondary representation i.e. 4 primary and 4 secondary members and to recommend: the appointment of Jon Reekie as primary representative; agreement to the appointment of Nicky Willis to the next vacancy; to seek any alternative nomination	11/09/13	8
It was agreed that the Chair would write to Chairs of Governors of maintained primary schools to seek nominations and Maggie Stacey would also raise this with primary Headteachers	11/09/13	8
Membership		
Hardip Singh, Khalsa Primary School was appointed as a Governor Primary Representative for Maintained Schools. Julie O'Brien, Our Lady of Peace Junior School was endorsed as Primary Maintained School Headteachers' representative.	16/10/13	3
DSG Centrally Retained Budgets		
Schools Forum agreed the need for a framework to be agreed for reporting to Schools Forum to enable any recommendations or decisions to be made regarding any relevant DSG centrally retained items. A process is to be built into the Work Programme.	16/10/13	6
High Needs Financial Sustainability Policy		
Schools Forum endorsed the High Needs Financial Sustainability Policy, subject to a timeframe being added in to the criteria. It was noted that an annual report on the policy's operation should be provided for Schools Forum.	16/10/13	7
Carbon Reduction		

Schools Forum Key Decisions Log September 2012 to July 2014

Schools Forum approved payment of £114,168.94 for the Carbon Reduction Commitment for 2012-13 via the potential in year DSG underspend for 2013-14.	16/10/13	8
Membership		
Debbie Richards was welcomed as the new member representing maintained special schools.	15/11/13	3
Jon Reekie was welcomed as academy primary representative and Ni ky Willis as reserve for next relevant academy vacancy.	15/11/13	3
Repayment		
It was noted that St Joseph's has now repaid £400,000 to the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG)	15/11/13	3
Review of Accountability for Central Budgets		
The process for Schools Forum scrutiny and review of expenditure in centrally retained budgets was agreed: a report will be brought in July each year with the out turn figures and a brief explanation of spend and this will inform the Schools Forum decisions about the following year's budgets.	15/11/13	7
Free Schools		
Schools Forum agreed that the £30,000 agreed to be allocated at the July 2012 meeting to support the development of secondary school free school applications now be allocated equally to The SASH School, Lynch Hill and Khlasa. It was noted that this was honouring an historical decision and did not set a precedent.	15/11/13	3
Membership		
It was recommended that when the January review of membership is done, Helen Huntley be recommended to the Academies as a nomination for PRU / special school representation.	11/12/13	3
Nicky Willis was approved as substitute for Gillian Coffey.	11/12/13	3
Split Site Factor		
The Split Site Factor was agreed at a value of £34,300.	11/12/13	5
Half Year DSG Forecast		
Schools Forum agreed that from the forecasted underspend of £871,000, £500,000 be allocated to 14/15 budgets (£400,000 to the Schools Block and £100,000 for the High Needs block).£300,000 from last year's unspent central DSG agreed to be added to the Schools Block for 14/15. Schools Forum also agreed that the previously reported Contingency figure of £708,293 from 2012-13 should be split: £567,293 to the schools block and £141,000 to the high needs block.	11/12/13	6
Centrally Retained DSG		
Schools Forum agreed centrally retained budgets for 2014/15 but with some items requiring further clarification. A full list will be included in this log after the January meeting (included below - February 2014) .	11/12/13	8
De-delegated Budgets: Behaviour Support Service and Trades Union		
The primary and secondary maintained school representatives present at the meeting voted to de-delegate both the Trades Union and Behaviour Support Services funding.	11/12/13	9
2014-15 Budget Process Update		
Noted that Mobility Factor had been removed as agreed previously and funding has been added to social deprivation.		
Schools Forum agreed to endorse the recommendation regarding the unit values for the formula factors for 2014/15, noting that this moved the primary: secondary ratio to 1: 1.38 but registering concern about the impact.	15/01/14	4
Schools Forum noted that the following amounts have been added to the 2014-15 Schools Block from previous years' underspends: £567,293 from the 2012-13 unspent contingency; £300,000 from the remaining 2012-13 DSG underspend and £400,000 from the estimated 2013-14 underspend.	15/01/14	4
Growth Fund		
Schools Forum agreed to accept the recommendation to increase the Growth Fund by £1.2 million to £1.5 million for 2014/15 to enable funding to be provided for agreed permanent expansions after the first year. (Note: currently the Growth Fund criteria only allows support for agreed bulge classes and the first year of an agreed permanent expansion.)	15/01/14	5
2014-15 DSG Blocks (Schools Block)		

Schools Forum Key Decisions Log September 2012 to July 2014

Schools Forum noted that £28,000 previously held to fund a KS3 Coordinator has been returned to schools' budgets; it was agreed that the £30,000 for Broadband maintenance be held for 2014/15 and included in the Cambridge Education Review of centrally held expenditure.	15/01/14	6
Schools Forum noted the estimated Schools Block but subject to clarification of the funding from the Council relating to the PFI factor being confirmed. The Chair is to request clarification from the Council of the PFI figures implicit in the estimated Schools' Block figures and confirmation regarding the Council's contribution to the 'affordability gap'.	15/01/14	6
2014-15 DSG Blocks (High Needs Block)		
Schools Forum noted a verbal update that the PFI figure in the report was updated to £309,000, having been £29,542 in the published papers.	15/01/14	7
Schools Forum noted the estimated High Needs Block but subject to clarification of the overall funding from the Council relating to the PFI factor being confirmed. The Chair is to request clarification and confirmation from the Council regarding the Council's contribution to the 'affordability gap'.	15/01/14	7
2014-15 DSG Blocks (Early Years Block)		
Schools Forum noted the estimated Early Years Block for 2014-15 and agreed the carry forward into 2014/15 for two year old funding. Schools Forum agreed two central expenditure items:£41,070 for Behaviour Support and £1,428 for Trades Union duties.	15/01/14	8
DSG Centrally Held Budgets 2014-15 - starting position		
Update to this log bringing together all centrally retained budgets agreed by Schools Forum over December 2013 and January 2014 meetings		
High Needs Block	£	
Support for Inclusion		
F406 Inclusion Management	103600	
F166 Hard to Place Protocol	267000	
F430 Vulnerable Children	61700	
F417 Vulnerable Children	251770	
F191 Early Years Inclusion	70000	
F321 Roma Community Project	15200	
F235 Traveller' Service (DSG)	27400	
SEN Support Services		
F406 Inclusion Management	6340	
F446 Educ Resource Services (former LACES)	106780	
F410 Autism	185730	
F417 Sensory Impairment	470000	
F460 SENASS	399300	
F461 Retained SENASS	182000	
SEN Transport		
F413 SEN Transport	40000	
EOTAS		
F418 Haybrook Provision (EOTAS)	130995	
Schools Block		
F169 Admissions (DSG)	178180	
F840 Schools Forum	53055	
E903 Schools Apportionment (AN)	149100	
F322 Extended Schools Sustainability	335285	
F333 Raising Standards	576176	

Schools Forum Key Decisions Log September 2012 to July 2014

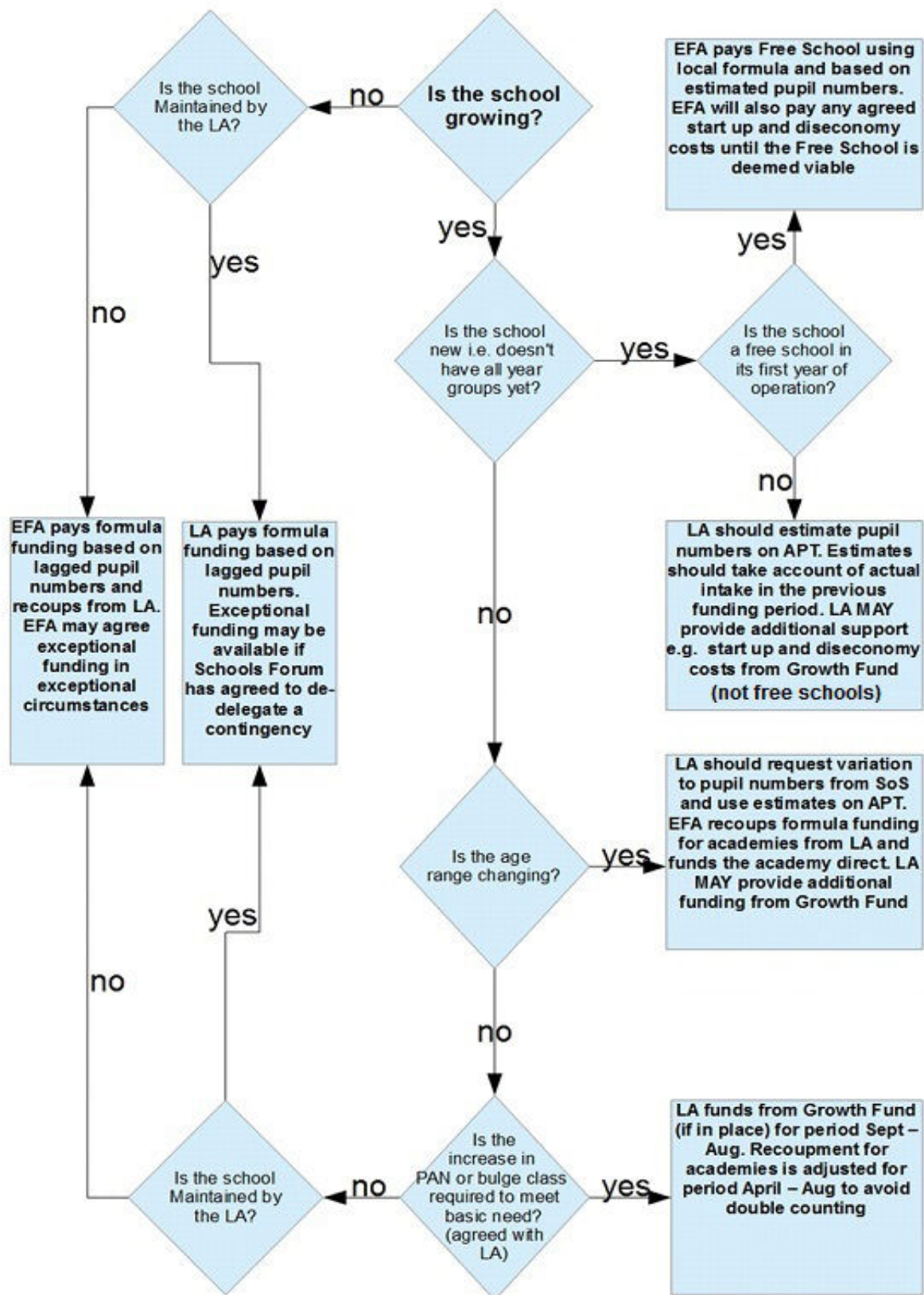
F348 Primary Strategy	26210	
F384 Gifted and Talented	31000	
F254 Infrastructure/Broadband Con	30000	
F260 Primary Strategy Central Coordinator	36300	
Early Years Block		
E901 Nursery Growth	159211	
Central Early Years Expenditure	132070	
Issue and Decision	Date	Agenda item no.
Membership		
Nicky Willis was approved as substitute for Barbara Clark (Godolphin Junior)	26/02/14	1
Budget Process		
It was noted that the formula recommended by the Forum in January 2014 had been ratified by the Chief Executive and Cabinet Member for Education and submitted to the DfE.	26/02/14	5
Membership		
It was agreed that: Schools Forum membership should be increased to 21. Academy proprietors be asked to elect an additional academy representative, giving 9 academy members in total Academy proprietors be asked to consider this being Helen Huntley to represent the PRU and special academies. Nicky Willis also takes up vacancy as previously agreed - see 15/11/2013 above.	19/03/14	11
Membership		
Academies had agreed that Helen Huntley should take up the vacant position so Helen was confirmed as an academy representative.	07/05/14	3
Academies had agreed that Jo Rockall, John Constable and Paul McAteer be asked if they are willing to serve a further term of office when theirs end in summer 2014. Agreed they will be asked formally if they wish to do so.	07/05/14	3
No nominations for a maintained school governor representative had been received. SASH asked to find a maintained school member.	07/05/14	3
PFI		
Schools Forum voted on how the £500,000 PFI funding being returned by the Council to the DSG should be distributed. The vote was 8 to 2 in favour of distributing the £500k to all schools via the 5 – 16 formula. This was therefore agreed.	07/05/14	4
Schools Forum supported the recommendation that the Council review the contract with the PFI contractor with a view to renegotiating and reducing the overall cost	07/05/14	4
Membership		
Following academy proprietors' approval, Jo Rockall, John Constable and Paul McAteer had all agreed to serve a further term of office.	02/07/14	3
Kathleen Higgins was welcomed as a new member having been appointed by SASH and SASH had also endorsed Mary Sparrow continuing as a member.	02/07/14	3
Carol Pearce will become a governor member representing maintained primary schools, from September 2014.	02/07/14	3
PFI		
Agreed that the £500,000 being returned to the DSG by the Council to reinstate its full contribution for 2013/14, be distributed on pupil numbers.	02/07/14	3
Schools Forum Constitution		
The updated Schools Forum Constitution was approved.	02/07/14	3
PFI		

Schools Forum Key Decisions Log September 2012 to July 2014

Schools Forum noted an update on PFI and gave its support to the LA participating as a DfE pilot LA. In noting the position regarding the affordability gap, the Forum made clear that there were no assumptions about the sources of that funding - no assumptions about implications for the DSG.	02/07/14	4
Schools Outturn 2013-14 and 2014-15 Budget Plans		
It was agreed that the Chair and Vice Chair would write to the Secretary of State, DfE, EFA and local MP to raise concerns re dropping funding levels despite increasing pupil numbers, at a time when education funding is supposed to be 'ring-fenced'.	02/07/14	5
Schools Forum members agreed that the two phase groups would discuss asking academies to share information about balances in the interest of overall transparency as this data is currently only available for maintained schools. This has the support of Schools Forum academy members.	02/07/14	5
Central Outturn 2013 -14		
Agreed that business cases would be presented at the September meeting to enable decisions to be made about the use of underspend. Agreed that, if any of the underspend was later returned to school budgets, this should be distributed by pupil numbers.	02/07/14	6
Revised Growth Fund		
Schools Forum agreed that the underspend of £375,940 be carried forward into the Growth Fund for 2015/16.	02/07/14	7
Scheme for Financing Schools		
Schools Forum agreed to the amendments to the Scheme for Financing Schools as presented and to the updated Scheme for Financing Schools being put on the SBC website. .	02/07/14	10

This page is intentionally left blank

Annex 1: Funding flow chart for growing schools



This page is intentionally left blank