

Date of issue: Date Not Specified

MEETING:	SLOUGH SCHOOLS FORUM Maggie Waller (Chair), John Constable (Vice Chair), Virginia Barrett, Gillian Coffey, Sally Eaton, Philip Gregory, Kathleen Higgins, Helen Huntley, Jo Matthews, Paul McAteer, Navroop Mehat, Angela Mellish, Eddie Neighbour, Carol Pearce, Jon Reekie, Debbie Richards, Jo Rockall, Kate Webb, Nicky Willis and Councillor Sabia Hussain
OBSERVERS:	None
ATTENDEES:	None
LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY:	Rachel Cartwright, George Grant, Coral Miller, Robert Hardy, Johnny Kyriacou and Jo Moxon
DATE AND TIME:	TUESDAY, 6TH DECEMBER, 2016 AT 8.00 AM
VENUE:	BEECHWOOD RESEARCH AND CONFERENCE CENTRE, LONG READINGS LANE, SLOUGH, BERKSHIRE, SL2 1QE

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| 1. | Apologies | | |
| 2. | Declarations of Interest | | |

All Members who believe they have a Disclosable Pecuniary or other Pecuniary or non pecuniary Interest in any matter to be considered at the meeting must declare that interest and, having regard to the circumstances described in Section 3 paragraphs 3.25 – 3.27 of the Councillors' Code of Conduct, leave the meeting while the matter is discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with Paragraph 3.28 of the Code.

AGENDA
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The Chair will ask Members to confirm that they do not have a declarable interest.

All Members making a declaration will be required to complete a Declaration of Interests at Meetings form detailing the nature of their interest.

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| 14. | Academies Update (verbal) | |
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Slough Schools Forum- Meeting held on Thursday, 13th October, 2016

Present: Maggie Waller, (Chair) John Constable (Vice-Chair) Gillian Coffey, Helen Huntley, Paul McAteer, Navroop Mehat, Eddie Neighbour, Jon Reekie, Jo Rockall, Nicky Willis, Jo Matthews, Carol Pearce, Debbie Richards, Sally Eaton and Phillip Gregory

Observers: Kathleen Higgins, Jacqueline Laver

Officers: Robert Hardy and Johnny Kyriacou

PART I

508. Apologies

George Grant, Angela Mellish, Richard Kirkham, Rachel Cartwright, Councillor Hussain

509. Declarations of Interest

None

510. Matters arising - non-agenda updates from last meeting 14th June 2016

An information paper on clarification of the PFI factor and SBC contribution to the affordability gap has been deferred until the December meeting.

Item 499. Any funding decisions on use of centrally retained DSG will be honoured for this financial year. Each year the council will review how it wishes to use the centrally retained budget for the following year and this table will come to the Schools Forum in December 2016.

511. Membership

The update report regarding the current position on membership following the analysis of the latest census and responses from schools and academy proprietors to proposals was noted.

Beechwood School has been converted to academy status, Kathleen Higgins attending as an observer pending the review of membership arrangements after the October census. Maggie Waller to check constitution to see how membership is updated, for example at set time throughout the year or on ongoing basis as schools convert to Academies. Maggie to feed back at the next Schools Forum meeting.

512. Update on National Fair Funding

At present the schools' national fair funding formula has been deferred to 2019-20. There is no information yet from the Department of Education (DFE) other than that the Phase 2 consultation will be in the autumn.

The DFE conducted an exercise in the summer to rebase the 2017-18 Schools Block to match the spending patterns; however, the current position has not changed except for the centrally retained items, where the DFE has instructed Local Authorities that if the Local Authority does not have any ongoing commitment from 2012-13 or current contractual commitment on certain items, this funding needs to go back into the Schools Block.

The ESG will be moved into the Schools Block budget from 2017-18, this is for statutory duties that the council must provide. A breakdown of the service and costs will be available at the December Schools Forum.

The Authority Pro forma tool (APT) from the DFE is now available to the Local Authority to model the impact. Some modelling of the impact has been presented at a Task Group in October. Other Task Group meetings are scheduled in November and January.

Coral Miller stated that the National Fair Funding Conference has been cancelled a number of times this year and has now been scheduled for 13th December 2016. Coral assumes that the final data and final APT form should be available around that date which will be slightly earlier than previous years. Coral expects the modelling of the impact using current information on the Schools Block budget to be completed for November 2016.

For further information please see the link.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/schools-funding-arrangements-2017-to-2018>

513. Early Years Block update

Coral presented a report on the proposed new Early Years formula to be implemented from September 2017. She emphasised the LA's concern about the fact that the protection means that the LA can lose up to 10% of their funding and has made that comment in the consultation.

It was noted that the consultation response was a joint Schools Forum / LA response.

It is not known when the consultation results will be published and what changes will be made. Coral Miller also highlighted concerns about all providers being given the same base rate. It was noted that overheads for nurseries and large PVI's for example are high.

It was noted that the DFE has recognised this in the transitional period which is until September 2019 (2 years) by providing a lump sum amount for Nursery provision only.

Phillip Gregory from Baylis Nursery asked a question about the Local Authority's plans for after the 2 year period. It was noted that this is difficult to assess until the consultation has been completed and the DFE confirms what the final changes will be.

It was noted that the LA will review various models to establish the proposed formula for Slough's Early Years provision in November.

It was agreed that the Early Years Task Group would be convened once initial work had been done. It was noted that the Council does have a little more time to produce the Early Years formula and that Schools Block will take priority.

It was noted that Pupil Premium will continue, but it has seen a reduction in Slough.

For further information please see the link:

<https://consult.education.gov.uk/early-years-funding/eynff>

514. High Needs Block and SEN update: financial issues and implications including commissioning of SEN places and financial forecast for year end 2016/17

Robert Hardy presented a report setting out the financial concerns affecting the 2016/17 High Needs Block (HNB) and suggesting a range of approaches needing to be considered so that action can be taken in the short, medium and longer term. It was noted that there is significant projected overspend in 2016-17, possibly around £800k. An LA working group is looking at the pressures and possible options.

Members of Schools Forum welcomed the openness of the paper.

It was agreed that the HNB Task Group be convened to support the process and recovery plan. Jacqueline Laver to be included in the group.

Paul McAteer asked if there may be additional resources available as Slough is the only Trust to include SEND. It was suggested that a case had not yet been made but this could be an option.

Helen Huntley mentioned that many out borough placements are driven by social care needs as the education needs can be met in Slough. It was noted that a lack of foster cares in Slough is part of the problem.

Helen also referred to the need to look at policy issues such as transition. It was noted that any High Needs review needs to be within the context of review of overall policy for SEND support.

Debbie Richards referred to the pressures on special schools currently taking children with no additional funding.

The Resource Base Review was raised. Robert Hardy indicated that work is ongoing and the next stages of the review will be completed by December. Any re-designation will be done in conjunction with Headteachers. A report will come to the January meeting of the Schools Forum.

It was noted that, following the resource base capacity review, while capital investment may be available to support increased SEND capacity, there may be difficulties with revenue funding for places.

It was noted that the recent Gatekeeper item re SEND mentioned a new appointment and it was agreed that contact details would be circulated. an up to date list of who does what was requested.

It was noted that whilst the pressures on the HNB are fully understood, there is pressure nationally not to be sympathetic to requests to move money to the HNB from the Schools Block.

Johnny Kyriacou stressed the importance of being solution focussed and agreed that going to the DfE for additional financial support as the only Trust with SEND was a good idea and should be pursued.

515. Centrally retained out-turn reports 2015-16 (High Needs, Early Years and Schools Block)

Coral Miller presented an information paper on the 2015-16 out-turn position. It was noted that there has been a significant underspend in the Early Years Block.

It was noted that the High Needs Block underspent by £195k. It was noted that the HNB included £190k moved from the Schools Block and this amount had already been included in the budget build for 2016-17 budget.

The Growth Fund underspend of £187k had already been agreed to be carried forward into the 2016/17 provision at the previous Schools Forum.

The DfE has stated that the CERA budget no longer has any contractual commitment from 2013 therefore the budget should be returned to the Schools Block. The CERA budget has underspent in 2015-16 and this will be returned to the 2017-18 Schools Block budget. A clarification of the £100k referred to in CERA was requested.

It was noted that the reference to the Virtual Head should refer to 'Virtual School'.

516. Update from Task Groups: 5-16, HNB and Early Years (verbal)

517. Cambridge Education update (verbal)

The education services previously provided by Cambridge Education services have been transferred back to the Council in stages. Some services including attendance and admissions transferred from 1st October 2016, the SBC, Children's Centres are due to come back to the LA on 1st November and all the remaining services by the 1st December 2016. Some internal restructuring may need to take place within SBC to manage the services.

It was agreed that the regular Cambridge Education update item should be removed from the Schools Forum forward agenda plan.

518. Academies update (verbal)

It was noted that Beechwood school has converted to an academy from 1st October. St Joseph's, St Ethelbert's and St Anthony's are all set to convert on 1st December 2016.

519. 2016-17 Forward Agenda Plan and Key Decisions Log

The Forward Agenda Plan and Key Decisions Log were noted.

Next meeting: Tuesday 6th December 2016, 8.00am for 8.15 am at Beechwood.

Date	Time	Venue
Tuesday 6 th December 2016	8am	Beechwood conference centre
Tuesday 10 th January 2017	8am	Beechwood conference centre
Tuesday 7 th March 2017	8am	Beechwood conference centre
Thursday 18 th May 2017	8am	Beechwood conference centre
Thursday 6 th July 2017	8am	Beechwood conference centre

(Note: The Meeting opened at 8.00 am and closed at Time Not Specified)

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Slough Schools Forum December 6th 2016

Special Educational Needs: High Needs Block 17/18

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report updates the financial position affecting the SEND elements of 2017/18 High Needs Block (HNB).

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 As most schools will be aware, both the funding for pupils with high-level special needs and the number of places at local Special Schools and Resource Bases in mainstream schools have been under significant pressure for some time. As at mid-January 2016 there were 957 pupils aged 16 and under with Statements of SEN or Education Health and Care Plans. By the end of September there were 1,089, with a further 100 aged 17 and over.

2.2 At the start of the current financial year, there were three areas of significant backlog of work within the SEND Service (managed by the Children's Services Trust since October 2015). These related to new Education Health and Care assessments being not completed on time; requests and recommendations for changes arising from annual reviews of pupils with Statements not being actioned and insufficient work undertaken to 'convert' Statement to EHCPs.

2.3 Progress has been made in all three areas, but the service is not complacent about the scale of what still remains to be done

2.4 Because specialist provision in Slough is currently at (or over) agreed capacity, more children and young people are attending schools in neighbouring areas and there are also more children who are attending fee-paying schools related to their social care needs and placements.

2.5 As part of the first round of monitoring spending within the High Needs Block for 16/17 a significant projected overspend had been identified, which was in large part a result of spending falling into this financial year which related to costs incurred by schools and others in previous financial years.

2.6 Clearly this situation has to be managed to reduce the projected overspend and to manage out the problem in this year and over future years. The next section of this report updates Schools Forum on a series of actions underway as part of the 'Recovery Plan' for the High Needs Block

3. WORK TO DATE

3.1 As outlined at the October meeting of Schools Forum, there are a range of options to be considered to address these issues, the first of which is already underway and consists of a joint Trust and SBC examination of the HNB budgets on

a line by line basis. This is ongoing and to date has focused on independent sector placements and top-up payments to Slough schools.

3.2 The two organisations have made significant progress since October, reducing the projected overspend from approximately £800k to £300k. However this work is not yet complete so this latter figure may increase.

3.3 Some of the options set out October are not being actively pursued – for example the roll-forward into 17/18 of costs from this year. The October report also made clear that there were other options likely to produce minimal or no short-term savings to the HNB – for example the placement of pupils in out-of-borough state schools. This too is not being actively considered.

3.4 A detailed review is underway of out-of-borough independent sector placements, but any changes to these (other than ending the placement altogether) are unlikely to produce significant savings in the current financial year.

3.5 Work has not yet commenced to model possible reductions in the financial value of the top-up funding bands, but this is an option that will need to be pursued and discussed with the HNB Task Group, but will not impact the 16/17 budget.

3.6 At this stage no formal approach to the DfE for additional financial support has been made by either the Trust or SBC, as suggested at the October Forum.

3.7 The detailed Recovery Plan has yet to be drafted and shared with the HNB Task Group. The first meeting of that group will now be re-arranged for January 2017.

4. LONGER-TERM ISSUES

4.1 Given the 2016/17 situation re lack of capacity at Special Schools and Resource Bases, there are a number of suggestions under discussion and proposals in development to invest capital resources in Slough to increase capacity

4.2 The costs of school places at Special Schools and of the majority of the cost of a place at a Resource Base are met in full from the HNB. The size of the HNB is determined based on a formula rather than pupil numbers, so (unlike the Schools Block) increases in school capacity are not matched by an increase in the pupil funding within by the HNB.

4.4 In short, any increase in capacity as a result of capital investment, may have no revenue stream to support it, but we have to make those investment decisions now if the additional capacity is to be in place two to three years hence.

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 See section 3 above

6. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

6.1 Schools Forum Report October 13th 2016

7. ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

7.1 Not applicable at this stage, but all proposals to be included in the proposed Recovery Plan will be the subject of detailed consultations with senior officers in Slough Borough Council Legal Services and Finance as well as with the Schools Forum HNB sub-group. The independent Consultant will report to the Council by end of December.

8. CONSULTATION

None at this stage

9 RECOMMENDATION

Schools Forum is asked to note the current projected 16/17 overspend on the SEND-related elements of the High Needs Block.

This is likely to form the basis of a requirement to transfer funding from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block for 17/18, the details of which will be submitted to the January meeting of the Forum.

Contact for further information –

**Robert Hardy
Interim Head of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, Slough Children's
Services Trust
Direct Line 01753 787674**

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SLOUGH SCHOOLS' FORUM
6th December 2016

3. Centrally Held DSG 2017-18

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report sets out the new Centrally Retained Budget for 2017-18 and seeks Schools' Forum agreement to the proposed allocations in Annex A. This reflects the changes to delivery of school improvement functions following the return of services to the Council from Cambridge Education in December 2016.
- 1.2 As more schools seek independence from LA control, the role of the Council with regard to the monitoring and intervention function with schools and academies has to be redefined. The proposals for spend relating to School Improvement are designed to be of benefit to all schools and academies and are over and above the statutory functions of the LA. Working in partnership with schools and academies, the LA seeks to use the DSG allocation to assist schools in their ongoing self-evaluation, challenge underperformance and co ordinate professional learning networks according to identified need.
- 1.3 The contributions to the role of the Virtual School including the role of the Virtual Head for Children in Care support the statutory function of the Council via the DCST.
- 1.4 Funding for admissions, also supports statutory duties of the LA for all children and young people attending Slough schools and Academies.
- 1.5 Contributions to the Safeguarding function add value to the work of the SCSB and support all schools and academies in their vital work to keep children and young people safe and achieve compliance with Ofsted requirements.
- 1.6 The DSG contributions are to be seen in conjunction with the spend of the ESG and the Council General Fund to provide a suite of support to education providers.
- 1.7 The delivery of school improvement functions will be in line with a published strategy, including the LA policy for Schools and Academies Causing Concern. The document will be published for consultation before the end of December 2016.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That Schools' Forum needs to agree or disagree to the centrally held School block DSG items in accordance with the Schools and Early Years DFE regulation.

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1.1 Appendix A shows the requested centrally held budgets for 2017-18, please note that some services are only applicable from April to September 2017, after that date these services are intended to be funded from the ESG, further details will be included in the ESG paper.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 Not applicable.

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 5.1 School funding regulations give Schools' Forums the decision making responsibility for centrally held budgets School block budget within the DSG. The budgets can no longer be increased and prior year commitment from 2013 need to be adhered to on certain budgets.

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

Appendix 1

Contact for further information

Coral Miller (Principal Accountant, ECS)

(01753 477209)

coral.miller@slough.gov.uk

Appendix A

Schools Forum

6th December 2016

School block Centrally Retained Funding

School Improvement activities delivered by Slough Borough Council

The centrally retained budget has decreased from £1.283,706 2016-17 to £723,598 as being requested in 2017-18, the difference will be added to the school block. The funding will support:

Area	Budget
School Forum Budget to support the work of Schools Forum, such as use of a consultant, Financial support, and research and various ad-hoc meetings as required.	53,055
Virtual school which includes the Virtual School Head are in charge of promoting the educational achievement of all the children looked after by the local authority they work for.	100,000
School Admissions	178,180
School Improvement Support in line with published SI strategy and Schools Causing Concern policy. (improvement and standards: early support, monitoring, challenge and intervention) commitment and from April 2017 to 30th September 2017 . This includes prior agreement to support the Teaching school alliance until September 2017. Then these services will be funded from the Education support grant in paper 4. (see breakdown)	314,863
Education, School Improvement and Raising Standards leadership, management, business and administrative support with on costs from April 2017 to 30th September 2017 then this will be funded from Education support grant detailed in Paper 4.	47,500
Local Authority Safeguarding Children Board: Schools' contribution to the Board and additional activity to improve school safeguarding provision. Accountable to the SCSB Education Subgroup.	30,000
Total	723,598

The 'School Improvement' work referred to above can be considered under the following broad headings:

Function	Budget £
<p>Early support, monitoring, challenge and intervention to support the LA school Improvement Strategy and Risk Assessment processes contributing to School and Academy Self Evaluation .: Use of School Improvement specialists/ partners</p> <p>This is to cover:</p> <p>1. Autumn Term standards conversations and risk assessments: consolidation and agreement of LA RA judgements for schools and academies in line with published strategy. Optional for Academies , compulsory for LA Maintained schools. Culminates in agreed Self Evaluation judgements in line with published criteria and categories for all schools and Academies. Subsequent brokering of bespoke action planning and support where needed.</p> <p>2. Support, monitoring, challenge and intervention for maintained schools of Concern (includes Academies where they are in agreement) during the year as a result of Ofsted inspection or issues arising from the Autumn Term Risk Assessment</p> <p>3. Targeted support on areas of agreed focus for schools and Academies</p> <p>4. Spring and Summer focus visits to be suggested by the LA and agreed with school leadership representative groups.</p>	150,000
Appointment of Cross Phase Bridging Adviser to manage and co-ordinate the work of the LA and Headteachers via the TSA, National and Local Leaders and other relevant partners .	65,000
Bespoke raising attainment projects in both phases to create professional learning networks. Co-ordinated by the SBC Advisers, bridging officer and the TSA, Nat and Local Leaders and Headteachers. Action plans needed for each phase.	49,863

Head teacher development. Commissioned to be coordinated by SBC in partnership with the TSA via the bridging officer and advisers.	7,500
School Governance Training and Support delivered by the TSA in partnership with SBC and the SCST: aspects of this work: recruitment, induction, toolkit and conference programme) to include training on inclusive practice roles and safeguarding. •	30,000
LA Supporting head teacher meetings and consultation group suggest remove as we do this anyway and put towards the cost of a bridging Adviser post	5,000
Fischer Family Trust subscription for access by the Local Authority and access for all Slough schools and academies	6,000
CLEAPSS: is an advisory service providing support in science and technology for a consortium of local authorities and their schools including establishments for pupils with special needs	1,500
Total	314,863

SLOUGH SCHOOLS' FORUM 6th December 2016

4. Education Support Grant Budget 2017-18

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Schools' Forum of the new arrangements for the Education Support Grant. The report also requests the Schools' Forum approval to retain the Education Support Grant so that this can be used to fund its statutory duties as outlined and required by the Department of Education to Schools and Academies.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Slough Borough Council recommends that the Education Support Grant which has now been transferred into the Schools' Block be retained by the council to enable it to perform its statutory duties.

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The Council has recently taken back the school service from Cambridge Education. These services included the statutory functions that the DFE requires the Council to perform. In order to provide these services the council will require the contribution from the Education Support Grant.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 None considered.

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 5.1 This is not new money. It is funding the council has received in a different way for several years. This funding has reduced from £1,369k in 2016/17 to £430k for next year. For 2017/18 the Government has decided to move the ESG into the Schools Block.
- 5.2 It is also pertinent to point out that if the DFE had implemented its school funding reforms, the Council would have received this funding

automatically in the new centrally retained, 4th block, for its statutory obligations within the DSG.

5.3 The council intend to spend in 2017-18 £1,036,810 on ESG services, which is broken down into Council funding £606,810 and contribution from the School block from ESG allocation of £430,000.

5.4 The funding will support the following School Improvement activities provided by Slough Borough Council

Area	Budget
<p>Education Welfare Service. The statutory Education welfare functions include the promotion of good attendance for all children and young people, enforcement duties on behalf of schools and Academies for non attendance and the licensing processes for the employment and engagement in entertainment activities by children and young people. Additional activity includes monitoring of attendance and the early intervention in cases of absence giving cause for concern in schools and academies. EWS performs an essential role in safeguarding and family support. The newly established MASH will include an Education Welfare Officer.</p>	215,018
<p>School Improvement support. From October 2017 to March 2018 all School improvement and raising standards will be funded from the Education support grant, in previous year some services have been funded from ESG and some from the School block centrally retained budget. Statutory duties for school improvement include the overall monitoring of provision and standards in schools and academies on behalf of children and families and in accordance with published strategy and policy for schools of concern. Funding supports the leadership of the service and a very small core team of education advisers who will perform the partnership and intervention function for maintained schools and academies as appropriate. The team will manage the traded services of Consultants and the data systems and processes necessary to analyse outcomes for schools, groups and individuals. The service also supports the inclusion and safeguarding duties of the Council and the Trust. Brokering of school to school partnerships, training and support from local, regional and National providers and leading on Slough improvement partnership, including governors, is key to the activity funded from this resource.</p>	412,589

Asset Management - Education	19,049
Statutory and Regulatory duties. Contributions to the statutory posts of DCS , business support for school improvements and systems for strategic information returns are funded from this contribution together with the provision of training, moderation and monitoring of the administration of statutory tests and assessments .	384,045
Monitoring national curriculum assessment	6,109
Total	£1,036,810

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

Coral Miller (Principal Accountant, ECS)
(01753 477209)
coral.miller@slough.gov.uk

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**INFORMATION ONLY
SLOUGH SCHOOLS' FORUM
6th December 2016**

5. 2017-18 Draft DSG

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Schools' Forum on the current draft 2017-18 DSG.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Not applicable.

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

Not applicable.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 None.

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 5.1** The draft DSG and School block budget has been calculated and is presented in the Appendices. However Schools' Forum members should note that this **will change** for the following reasons:

- **Census:** The estimates are based on the October 2015 census and the final budget will be based on October 2016 census. The 2016 census figures will be available mid December 2016. The DFE will normally provide a new budget setting tool with the October 16 census information around the 15th December 2016.
- **IDACI** - the estimates are based on the model which uses the 2016-17 rates this is because the 2017-18 version has not been published.
- **Prior Attainment Measure** – the Prior Attainment Measure for Secondary Schools has also changed. However, the DFE has not produced the new data as yet.

5.2 A summary of the Draft DSG in full is presented in Appendix A.

6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

Borough Solicitor

6.1 None.

Section 151 Officer – Strategic Director of Resources

6.2 None.

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

Coral Miller (Principal Accountant, ECS)

(01753 477209)

coral.miller@slough.gov.uk

APPENDIX A

2017-18 ISB Calculation

DRAFT - based on DSG allocation in July 16

Allocation for formula

Description	2017-18 Amount	2016-17 Amount	Various between 17-18 to 16-17 Various	Comments
Actually received DSG Dec. settlement	£119,045,513	£118,773,142	£272,370	NOR 24560 per pupil funding £4,836.04
Variance				
Increase from last year NOR				

Centrally Held

F840 Schools Forum	£53,055	53,055	-	
CERA	£0	149,100	149,100	No historical commitment
ESG Grant	£430,000		(430,000)	
Virtual Head Teacher	£100,000		(100,000)	On-going commitment
Safeguarding training "one off"	£48,646		(48,646)	
Safeguarding training "one off" - Refund back to block	-£48,646		48,646	
Mott Macdonald contract:		932,905	932,905	
School admissions	£178,180		(178,180)	
School improvements - only 6 month commitment	£314,863		(314,863)	Committed to Sept 2017
Education, school improvement & raising standards (6mths)	£47,500		(47,500)	Committed to Sept 2017
LA safeguarding children's board	£30,000		(30,000)	On-going commitment
Non Controllables	187,709	187,709	-	Doesn't need to be agreed.
NEW Growth Fund	£900,000	1,100,000	200,000	
CLA and MPA Schools Licence	-	113,250	113,250	Taken out before DSG is given to LA.
School improvement to be confirmed\high needs block	£0	120,246	120,246	Agreed January 2016
F840 Schools improvement	£0	28,400	28,400	Agreed January 2016
Total Centrally Held	£2,241,307	2,684,665	443,359	
Already transferred to High needs block	£190,000	190,000	-	Transfer perm to High needs block
Total reduction from School block	£2,431,307	2,874,665	443,359	

Additional funding outside DSG block

PFI - 2017-18 to be included.	500,000	£500,000	-	PFI affordability gap.
Carried forward underspend in centrally retained 15/16	£25,741	-	25,741	Requested Oct SF - underspend in CERA
	£525,741			

Total school block budget though the APT	£117,139,947	£116,398,477	741,470
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One off adjustments

PFI - 2015-16 Paid late - "one off".

Camb. Educ. to pay back from underspend 14-15 "one off" 0 £500,000
£72,994

Final budget 2016-17	£117,139,947	£116,971,471	168,476
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SLOUGH SCHOOLS' FORUM

6th December 2016

6. De-delegation Budget 2017-18

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Schools' Forum of the 2017-18 De-delegation requirements and to seek the approval from Mainstream Primary and Secondary representatives to fund this from their Schools' budget share.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Slough Borough Council recommends that the trade union service and the behaviour support service budget be approved for de-delegation.

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The DFE requires that the Schools' Forum representatives for mainstream Primary and Secondary Schools vote on whether to delegate funding for their respective schools.
- 3.2 Appendix A shows the split in costs between maintained schools. However it should be noted that once a school becomes an Academy in 2016-17, it's de-delegated amount will be refunded and it will no longer be required to de-delegate any budgets via the school block budgets. Currently there is 1 school waiting for approval to convert to a Academy.
- 3.3 Summary of Estimated costs

Description	School type	Sub division	Unit Cost	Total
Staff Supply cover costs	Primary	AWPU	£0.8247	£4,886
	Secondary	AWPU	£0.3332	£433
TOTAL				£5,329
Behaviour Support	Primary	FSM (ever6)	£63.45	£78,846
	Secondary	FSM(ever 6)	£57.94	£22,992
	Primary	Prior attainment	£63.45	£96,663
	Secondary	Prior Attainment	£57.94	£14,141
TOTAL				£212,641

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 None considered.

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 5.1 The trade union de-delegation amount is to cover staff costs for trade union duties since more than half of all school staffing is now not within council employment and this will shift further in the immediate future the Council proposes (2014) that:
- JTUC arrangements are now separated and
 - schools formalise an agreement regarding the funding, accommodation and hosting of any school staff-side representative.
- 5.2 It was recommended that School JTUC meetings, Consultative Committees and desk space for the staff-side representatives would be provided within a school setting. The School hosting these arrangements could add these costs onto the recharge back to all schools.
- 5.3 Hence asking for the recharge amount to be de-delegated from maintained schools and given to the schools union rep. providing the service which is Haybrook and Baylis court. Separate arrangement can be made with Academies.

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

Coral Miller (Principal Accountant, ECS)

(01753 477209)

coral.miller@slough.gov.uk

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**SLOUGH SCHOOLS' FORUM
6th December 2016**

**Growth Fund 2017-18
(Directorate of Children's Services)**

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Schools' Forum of the 2017-18 Growth Fund requirement and to seek their approval to fund this from the School's block budget.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

Slough Borough Council requires a topslice of £900,000 for the Growth Fund. This figure is a decrease from last year by £110,000 mainly due to a reduction in the number of permanent expansion classes, where schools have reached their full capacity and all pupils will be funded through the School Census.

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Slough continues to have an increasing pupil population due to inward migration alongside a significant growth in numbers already working through the primary sector therefore the growth fund should be reviewed in light of the latest pupil projections.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 All options for creating new places in 2017-18 will require some additional revenue support as pupils will not have been recorded on the October School Census.

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 5.1 Proposed bulge classes will be discussed at Slough Schools Education Forum (SSEF). Bulge classes will only be funded from the Growth Fund if a letter confirming the bulge classes has been issued to the school from Slough Borough Council.
- 5.2 A second solution for meeting any shortfall in provision is to increase class sizes. SSEF has agreed that larger classes are a preferred solution in some situations and support the use of Growth Fund to fund places created after the October School Census.

- 5.3 The DfE allows the local authority to have a Growth Fund for children that start a new class after the October census and are therefore not funded.
- 5.4 Permanent new expansions agreed by Slough will be funded per additional year group until the school is full.

6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

Borough Solicitor

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

Section 151 Officer – Strategic Director of Resources

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

Access Implications

- 6.3 There are no access implications.

7 CONSULTATION

Principal Groups Consulted

- 7.1 Slough Schools Education Forum (SSEF)

Method of Consultation

- 7.2 Meeting.

Representations Received

- 7.3 Minutes available.

Background Papers

None

Contact for further information

Tony Madden (Principal Asset Manager)
(01753 875739)
tony.madden@slough.gov.uk

APPENDIX A - GROWTH FUND
2017-18 Estimates for Growth Fund Allocation

AWPU (2015-16)	3,179.91
Pupils per Class	30
Full Year Growth Funding per Class	95,397.30
Non-Academies (Sept 15 - March 16)	55,648.43
Academies (Apr 15 - Aug 15)	95,397.30
Academies (Sep 15 - Mar 16)	

Agreed to leave at 15-16 AWPU SF DEC 15

Academies Recoupment Apr to August 16 39,748.88

17-18 BUDGET (EXCLUDING ACADEMIES)

CARRIED FORWARD 2016-17 estimated to be agreed at School forum

0 Subject to change

TOPSLICED FROM 2016-17 SCHOOL BLOCK

900,000

TOTAL BUDGET

900,000

FORECAST 2017-18

Ref	School		New Pupils	No. of Classes	Option A	Claim 17-18 Budget from DFE	TOTAL FOR 2016-17 ACADEMIC YEAR
					2017-18 SBC September to March	2017-18 Academies April 2018- Aug 2018	
	Claycots School	Non-Academy	150	5	278,242		278,242
2	Godolphin Junior School*	Academy	30	1	55,648	39,749	95,397
	Penn Wood Primary and Nursery School	Non-Academy	30	1	55,648		55,648
	Priory School	Non-Academy	30	1	55,648		55,648
4	Ryvers Primary School*	Academy	30	1	55,648	39,749	95,397
	St Anthony's Catholic Primary School	Non-Academy	30	1	55,648		55,648
	St Mary's CE Primary School	Non-Academy	30	1	55,648		55,648
7	James Elliman	Academy	30	1	55,648	39,749	95,397
CONTINGENCY (T Madden recommended 4 classes) paid from September - confirm with Tony							
9	Estimated 1 new class	Academy	30	1	55,648	39,749	95,397
10	Estimated 1 new class	Non Academy	30	1	55,648	0	55,648
10	Estimated 1 new class	Non Academy	30	1	55,648		
10	Estimated 1 new class	Non Academy	30	1	55,648		
Total					890,374	158,996	938,073
						DFE pays	
ESTIMATED OVER\UNDERSPEND (FINANCIAL YR 17-18) CONT					-9,626		

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Schools Forum 6th December 2016

Virtual School Update 16/17 and Issues for 17/18 and beyond

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT – FOR INFORMATION ONLY

1.1 This report sets out the progress made by the Slough Virtual School between December 2015 and December 2016

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 As most schools will be aware, The Slough Virtual School was singled out for particular criticism in the November -December 2015 OFSTED Inspection of services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers and Review of the effectiveness of the Local Safeguarding Children Board report of Children's services published in February 2016.

A recommendation was, 'Improve the educational support provided to children looked after and strengthen significantly all services offered by the virtual school.'

2.2 Permanent Headteacher took up post in June 2016 and a staff restructure is out for consultation

2.3 The two key areas of delivery for a Virtual School are sufficient, quality, timely Personal Education Plans for children in care with Slough wherever they go to school. Pupil Premium Plus is spent to have maximum impact for each child in Slough's care.

2.4 Personal Education Plans must be held at least twice a year. (Current performance set out below.)

2.5 Pupil Premium Plus is direct government funding that is allocated to the Virtual School for all the children in care with that 'local authority', in this case delegated to the Trust. (It is not the funding for all children in care in Slough schools, who could be in care with any local authority.)

3. DEVELOPMENTS BETWEEN DECEMBER 2015 AND DECEMBER 2016

There have been a range of developments over the year with measureable impact. They are listed below.

3.1 PEPs

3.1.1 In Slough we use an electronic EPEP

PEPs are currently running at 70% of the cohort had a PEP by October 2016 half term led by the Virtual School. This means that 100% of children will have had a PEP by the end of this term, the vast majority led by a member of the Virtual School Team.

3.1.2 As a result the 'themes' are set for the year and the quality of PEPs is rising. This includes

- Voice of child in every PEP
- SMART learning targets linked to Pupil Premium Plus spending
- Clear interventions such as relevant tutoring identified

3.1.3 100% of PEPs are now in ICS. Systems are in place with LAC teams to continue this level of performance

3.1.4 All social care and Designated Teachers are EPEP trained

3.1.5 PEPs give quality information for other work for example

- Reading preferences for Parcel in the Post individual book parcels starting in January 2017
- Career aspiration

3.1.6. The Slough Virtual School finds a termly approach better synchronised with a school year, so we undertake 3 PEPs a year. Virtual School staff will attend all first PEPs and at least one PEP a year.

3.2 Pupil Premium Plus

3.2.1 A consultation was held with Slough headteachers as to how this should be allocated. There were a range of views expressed. The Policy adopted was sent to schools in September 2016 to Designated Teachers.

3.2.2 The Policy states any PP+ funds allocated to an individual child have to be recorded as a SMART target in the EPEP and will be paid through invoicing.

3.2.3 All spending in financial year 2015-16 was spent with no monies returned to DfE. The 'flightpath' for this year's spending is closely tracked and matches income.

3.2.4 Some Pupil Premium Plus funding has been retained by the Virtual School and used to fund

Training for Designated Teachers

Letter box parcels

Pupil Premium Champion post to support users of EPEP and use it and other sources to gain quality information

3.3 Reducing NEETs

NEET Figures all Slough Children in care with Virtual School November 2016
(including those not in Slough schools)

	Under 16	Yrs 12 and 13	TOTAL
June 2016	4	22	26
September 2016	4	10	14
November 2016	2	3	5

3.4 Emotional Health and Well-Being

3.4.1. The reducing numbers of NEETs is having a positive impact on the emotional health and well being of Slough Children in Care as they are more settled in their everyday experiences

3.4.2 The greater number and quality of PEPs and where relevant Education, Health and Care Plans are allowing the right interventions to be speedily identified.

3.4.3 Improved access to Educational Psychologists to write priority reports is also contributing to these improvements.

3.4.4 Choosing the right education placement for each child is a priority, as is planning transitions

All transitions to secondary schools for Year 7 have gone smoothly
100% of young people started college and are all still on their courses

3.4.5 Child's Voice is now more clearly heard through EPEP

3.4.6 Good relationship with LAC nurses who provide an excellent service

Coming Priority

Working with Dr Jennifer Wallace new Trust lead to develop processes and services to support CiC with social, emotional and mental health needs.

3.5 Raising Aspiration

3.5.1 Three enhanced career support visits to current Year 11s from Slough Borough Council Young People's Service funded through PP+ to:-

Analyse young person's strengths with them

Review with young person their current thoughts on further training and career

Second visit led by discussion in first visit could include

- Visiting the college course they aspire to

- Discussing further options that the initial discussion raised including apprenticeships at all levels

- Setting up tutoring

- Signing up to Virtual School University visits

- Working with a mentor

Third visit (by March 2017) is handing over to 16+ Team and Virtual School specialist to support first days in September

3.5.2 Raising Aspiration Residential to current Year 8s from Slough Borough Council Young People's Service funded through PP+ to:-

- Look at the breadth of options available with wide range of GCSE choices

- Look at the range of job roles at the London Skills Show

- Longitudinal support of this group

3.5.3 SEND needs identified and interventions in place. Where relevant EHCPs in place

3.5.4 OFSTED ratings of schools currently 82% in good or outstanding schools. Virtual School, involved in any school choice

3.5.6 Aspiration to University

- Visits to universities of Oxford, Reading and Brunel

- Joined NNECL (the Russell Group Universities outreach), including mentors and experiences at local universities

- Working with other South East authorities to develop Post 16 offer

3.5.7 Work Experience

- Looking to match all Year 9 to Year 10 students with relevant work experience to their aspiration during summer holiday in 2017

Develop with partners including Slough Trading Estate Employability Passport

3.5.8 Aspiration to Apprenticeships

Link with Slough Business Park and known suppliers like Arvarto to look for relevant apprenticeships and work experience

Examples

Year 13 looking to do accountancy linked with Trust accountancy department for work experience

Year 10 with 8 GCSES A*-C already visiting Oxford with view to being a doctor

Year 12 who decided that Health and Social Care not right for her will be supported into an agreed A level place at Slough and Eton an outstanding Slough school

Year 12 being taken to UTC Reading which has links into Microsoft as next stage in ICT development

3.5.9 Quality tutoring having impact on grades and subsequent aspiration

3.5.10 Reducing exclusions

3.5.11 Minimising school and placement moves

Targets for 2016-2017 the journey to good Attainment and Progress

- 80%+ of all children have educational outcomes that support good life chances
 - 80%+ are at a Good level of Development in Early Years Foundation Stage
 - Key Stage 1 80%+ meet or exceed national attainment
 - Key Stage 2 80%+ meet or exceed national attainment
 - GCSE 50%+ have under the new grading system five grade 9 (A**) to 6 (C) GCSEs including English and Maths.
- OR Compare well with statistical neighbours in planned national CIC dataset

- Broader range of courses chosen at Colleges
- Harder options taken in school and college
- Rise in aspiration of career choices

Who are children are

- NEETS reduced to <5% of 16-18 year olds. 0% in younger age groups
- 95%+ attendance for well children
- No permanent exclusions
- Fewer than 10 FTE and never more than one a child
- All children who would benefit from an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) have one
- All children have their SEND needs met, including those without EHCPs

Where our children go to school

- 90% plus children in schools good or outstanding with OFSTED
- No child has more than 3, (non cohort) moves of school in a year
- No moves of school in Year 11
- Choosing schools that match the needs of all our children
- <15% of CIC of secondary age and living in Slough attend alternative provision (Currently this figure is 40%)
- School moves minimised, particularly at key points

EPEPS

- Child's voice section is always completed in all EPEPs
- All children have three PEPs if they are in care for the full year
- First PEPs are within 20 days of starting new school
- The number of PEPs in ICS to reflect the number of completed PEPs.
- At least one PEP a year, and all first or complex PEPs, are led by a member of Virtual School staff
- PEP rates at 90%+ all year
- All PEPs are quality assured and have
 - Voice of Child
 - SMART aspirational targets
 - Complete attainment and progress data, related to age expectation
 - SDQs and Special Educational needs are identified and how they will be met is clear

Pupil Premium Plus

- Individual Pupil Premium Plus spending is always linked to a SMART target in their PEP
- No money returned to DfE

Training

- BSOs upload 100% PEPs into ICS

- All DTs based in Slough and within 20 miles use EPEPs effectively.
- Foster Carers confident in using EPEP

Develop a widening remit

- Meet new legislation requirements for supporting children at edge of care , adopted etc

Data compliant with national CIC dataset

Sign up to Circe Project work with colleagues in Slough Borough Council

- Circe is implemented at the same time as in other Children's Services departments

Improved communication

- Website active and Newsletter sent

Staffing Secured

- Restructure implemented

Contact for further information –

Anne Bunce

Virtual School Headteacher, Slough Children's Services Trust

Direct Line 01753 875920

AGENDA ITEM 15

Slough Schools' Forum: 2016-17 Forward Agenda Plan

Tuesday 6th December 2016

No.	Description	Lead
1.	Update on National Fair Funding	Coral Miller
2.	PFI Update verbal	Neil Wilcox
3.	High Needs Block and SEN update: financial issues and implications including commissioning of SEN places and financial forecast for year end 2016/17	Robert Hardy
4.	2017-18 Centrally retained DSG requirement	Jo Moxon
5.	2017 to 18 Education support Grant	Jo Moxon
6.	2017-18 Draft School block DSG for information only	George Grant/ Coral Miller
7.	2017-18 De- delegated items	Coral Miller
8.	2017-18 Growth Fund	Tony Madden
9.	Virtual School Headteacher's update with KPIs	Anne Bruce
10.	Update from Task Groups: 5-16, HNB and Early Years (verbal)	Maggie Waller / Johnny Kyriacou
11.	Academies update	Jo Moxon
12.	2016-17 Forward Agenda Plan and Key Decisions Log	Johnny Kyriacou

Tuesday 10th January 2017

No.	Description	Lead
1.	Verbal update if required	Coral Miller / George Grant
2.	Funding Formula changes for 2017 – 18	Coral Miller / George Grant
3.	School block budget and changes and impact report Funding Formula changes for 2017 – 18	Coral Miller / George Grant
4.	Early Years Formula	Coral Miller / George Grant
5.	Budget timeline for 2017 – 18	Coral Miller / George Grant
6.	High Needs Block and SEN update: financial issues and implications including commissioning of SEN places and financial forecast for year end 2016/17	Robert Hardy
7.	Resource Base Review Update	Robert Hardy
8.	School Improvement update on centrally retained items	Johnny Kyriacou
9.	Update from Task Groups: 5-16, HNB and Early Years (verbal)	Maggie Waller / Johnny Kyriacou
10.	Cambridge Education update	Johnny Kyriacou

11.	Academies update	Jo Moxon
12.	2016-17 Forward Agenda Plan and Key Decisions Log	Johnny Kyriacou

Tuesday 7th March 2017

No.	Description	Lead
1.	Update on National Fair Funding	Coral Miller / George Grant
2.	Confirmation of indicative budgets	Coral Miller / George Grant
3.	High Needs Places	Children's Services Trust –Robert Hardy
4.	Annual consultation on 2017 – 2018 High Needs Block	Children's Services Trust –Robert Hardy
5.	Annual consultation on 2017 -2018 Early Years Block	Coral Miller / George Grant
6.	Update on centrally retained items	Coral Miller / George Grant
7.	Update from Task Groups: 5-16, HNB and Early Years (verbal)	Maggie Waller / Johnny Kyriacou
8.	Cambridge Education update	Johnny Kyriacou
9.	Academies update	Jo Moxon
10.	2016-17 Forward Agenda Plan and Key Decisions Log	Johnny Kyriacou

Thursday 18th May 2017 - meeting tbc if required

No.	Description	Lead
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Thursday 6th July 2017

No.	Description	Lead
1.	Update on National Fair Funding	Coral Miller / George Grant
2.	Update on 15/16 (16/17?) 2 year olds block funding spend and carry forward	Coral Miller / George Grant
3.	Centrally retained out–turn reports 2016 -17 (High Needs, Early Years and Schools Block)	Coral Miller / George Grant
4.	Review of the Scheme for Financing Schools	Coral Miller
5.	Update from Task Groups: 5-16, HNB and Early Years (verbal)	Maggie Waller / Johnny Kyriacou
6.	Cambridge Education update	Johnny Kyriacou

7.	Academies update	Jo Moxon
8.	2016-17 Forward Agenda Plan and Key Decisions Log	Johnny Kyriacou
9.	Dates and venues of next year's meetings	Coral Miller/ Maggie Waller & clerk

To be discussed: Budget Monitoring (maintained schools)

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