

SLOUGH SCHOOLS FORUM

SCHOOLS GROUP:

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

OBSERVERS:

Eddie Neighbour and Councillor Martin F. Carter

LOCAL AUTHORITY:

Catherine Cochran, Michael Jarrett, Johnny Kyriacou, Neil Wilcox, Mark McCurrie, Susan Woodland and Eleni Ioannides

**DATE & TIME: WEDNESDAY, 24TH MARCH, 2021 AT 9.00 AM
VIRTUAL MEETING**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82342881315?pwd=T2h0OHlHak9mTjlyRWx5Z3NUbVAzZz09> Meeting ID: 823 4288 1315 Passcode: 703378

AGENDA

Page

Apologies

1. Any Other Business
2. Declarations of Interest

The Chair will ask Members to confirm whether they have any declarable interests in relation to any item on the agenda.

All Members who believe they may have such an interest must declare it and may only:
(a) remain in the meeting while that matter is discussed at the discretion of the Chair or Vice Chair, and
(b) speak on the matter by invitation.

Examples of declarable interests include:
where the outcome of a discussion may provide a personal advantage or avoid disadvantage (pecuniary or non-pecuniary), or where the focus of an agenda item and the likely impact of any outcome is wholly or mainly on a school with which the Member is associated.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 19 January 2021 **(Pages 1 - 10)**
4. Schools Forum Membership update
5. National/Local Funding issues update
6. Confirmation of Schools Budgets 2021/22
7. Update on Centrally Retained Items: all blocks 2021/22
8. DSG Management Plan update
9. SEND Quarterly update
10. Update from Task Groups: Early Years, HNB and 5-16 **(Pages 11 - 16)**
11. Academies update
12. 2020/21 Proposed Forward Agenda Plan/Key Decisions Log **(Pages 17 - 24)**
13. Any Other Business

Slough Schools Forum- Meeting held on Tuesday, 19th January, 2021

Present: John Constable, Langley Grammar School (Chair)
Peter Collins, Slough & Eton Church of England Business and Enterprise College
Philip Gregory, Baylis Court Nursery School
Valerie Harffey, Ryvers School
Navroop Mehat, Wexham Court Primary School
Angela Mellish, St Bernard's Catholic Grammar School
Carol Pearce, Penn Wood Primary School
Kathy Perry, Mighty Acorns Day Nursery
Jon Reekie, Phoenix Infants
Jo Rockall, Herschel Grammar School
Jamie Rockman, Haybrook College
Coral Snowden, Western House Academy
Neil Sykes, Arbourvale School
Maggie Waller, Holy Family Primary School
Nicky Willis, Cippenham Primary School

Observers: Eddie Neighbour, Upton Court Grammar School
Lea Turkington, Finance Manager, Western House Academy

Officers: Catherine Cochran, Michael Jarrett, Tony Madden, Mark McCurrie and Susan Woodland

Apologies: Kathleen Higgins

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, in particular Lea Turkington, Finance Manager at Western House Academy who was observing the meeting on this occasion.

Attendees were reminded of the protocol for holding a remote meeting and it was noted the meeting would be recorded: an assurance was given that the recording would be deleted upon the production of accurate minutes.

Apologies: Apologies for absence had been received from Kathleen Higgins; there had been no apologies from Maxine Wood.

807. Any Other Business

Nothing was tabled.

808. Declarations of Interest

There were none.

809. Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 9 December 2020

The Minutes of the Schools Forum meeting held on 9 December 2020 were agreed as a correct record.

Matters Arising from those Minutes: There were none.

810. Schools Forum Membership update

The Clerk reported that she had not received any further nominations for the two Special School/PRU representative vacancies on Schools Forum. As a result, Jamie Rockman and Neil Sykes were reappointed for further 2-year terms of office.

Members of SASH had been advised of the remaining vacancy for a secondary academy representative. As a result, the Chair had received an expression of interest which he would follow up.

811. Update on National/Local Funding issues

There was nothing to add to the discussions of Task Groups and any information could be found in the papers for this meeting.

9.25am: Nicki Willis was admitted to the meeting

812. Schools Block Budget: Final Authority Proforma Tool (APT) and timeline for 2021/22

Susan Woodland explained that all budgets were indicative until sign off by full Cabinet, who were scheduled to meet on Thursday 18 February 2021 (*update: now scheduled for Monday 22 February*).

Just under £194m settlement had been received before recoupment for academies or High Needs, leaving an approximate net settlement of £186m to date. Academy recoupment was due in February and information would be duly updated.

The primary and secondary unit funding for 2021/22, as compared to 2020/21 was highlighted as there had been large increases of approximately 6.5% in primary and 7% in secondary. This was due to Teachers' Pay and Pension grants now being included in the DSG and the increase accounted for approximately £10m more on the previous year. It was stressed that schools would no longer receive these grants separately.

As noted by the 5-16 Task Group, there had been some changes in variances in the allocation of schools' budgets. This included models being based on the October 2019 census and indicative budgets on the October 2020 census. There were some notable large fluctuations in some schools, with overall primary numbers being reduced by about 160 pupils, mainly in Reception, and an increase in the secondary sector. This reflected the rise in primary numbers a few years previously, now moving through the secondary sector. Some schools had experienced more movement, with Our Lady of Peace losing more than 40 pupils and Lynch Hill having admitted 66 in KS4 and 48 in KS3. Overall, there was a 303 pupil increase across the combined primary and secondary sectors.

Indicative budgets could change following the submission to the DfE; any changes would be implemented and shared when the final figures became available. It was confirmed that any differences from the modelled budgets were likely to be due to changes in pupil numbers and it was suggested schools review any significant pupil number changes upon receipt of their budgets.

As part of the DfE's checking process figures could change when the APT was submitted. Susan Woodland explained one reason had been the settlement being funded on less pupils than paid for. Further investigation, it appeared this was due to duplicates in the academy sector as the LA could not run the same reports for academies as they could for maintained. Academies should have resolved such issues directly with the ESFA. Following the LA's discussions with the ESFA about the schools concerned it was thought dual registrations were the cause, as they took time to resolve following census day. Any adjustments on the APT would be cleared by the ESFA. No further changes were anticipated but final sign off by the ESFA and Cabinet would be awaited prior to issuing final budgets to schools. It was confirmed that the figures had been predicated on the introduction of full NFF funding rates although 'mobility' was not yet being used.

Table 2 was noted, showing the transfer from the High Needs Block (HNB) to Admissions, as agreed at the previous Schools Forum meeting.

It was pointed out that the Maintained Nursery Supplement (MNS) was indicative until September 2021 and would be conditional from September 2021 to March 2022, to be treated as unconfirmed. It was confirmed that the LA had not received any indication of what the conditional issues would be or when they might receive a final answer. Michael Jarrett added that the MNS issue had been raised with the DfE as a financial risk and a long-term plan had been requested. However, it was felt unlikely there would be anything to update whilst annual settlements remained in place.

813. DSG Budget Monitoring Report (all blocks)

Apologies were noted for the supporting paper having been posted as a supplementary document to the agenda.

The overall position of the DSG for the financial year 2020/21 would be outlined as updates were still being received. It was planned that a final paper would be presented at the next meeting of Schools Forum when all blocks had been updated. Members were reminded these were indicative figures.

Schools Block: a carry forward into the current year was expected through the Growth Fund, which it appeared would be overspent this year. The report showed a breakdown of supplementary grants which included the Teachers' Pay grant, Pupil Premium, UIFSM etc., for the current year. As previously noted, Teachers' Pay and Pensions would now be shown within the whole settlement for 2021/22. During the current year there had been two additional grants: Covid-19 Catch-up Premium and Covid-19 School Fund Exceptional Costs.

Early Years: there was a carry forward of £547,000 into the current year which was likely to increase. The end of July adjustment this year had received an increase for additionality of uptake, and it was anticipated there would be a carry forward balance of more than £1m into 2021/22. The supporting paper explained the adjustment made, noting there had been a number of impacts on this sector due to Covid-19, making it difficult to predict a final outcome.

The EY funding settlement would be predicated on the January 2021 census. It was noted numbers might not be as high as previously seen. Where attendance was below 85% of the January 2020 census and the LA could provide evidence for increased attendance in the spring term, the DfE would top up the additional places taken after January 2021 count. This would give settings and the LA more stability offering some protection.

The EY Block was currently forecast to carry forward approximately £1.048m into 2021/22, of which £0.547m related to prior years' underspend. It had previously been reported that the cumulative EY underspend would be £0.547, but it was highlighted that the ESFA would make a final adjustment for 2019-20 in the July update as in previous years. The ESFA had made an additional payment of £0.423m in July 2020, therefore substantiating the £1.048m carry forward balance (**update:** revised figures are below):

Early Years Block	Budget 2020/21 £m	Projection 2020/21 £m	Variance
Income			
DSG Settlement	-14.349	-14.349	0.000
Income Total	-14.349	-14.349	0.000
Expenditure			
Maintained Nursery Schools			

2 Year Old Funding	0.228	0.228	0.000
3-4 Year Old Universal Entitlement	1.552	1.502	-0.050
3-4 Year Old Extended Entitlement	0.290	0.680	0.390
Deprivation	0.028	0.044	0.016
Maintained Nursery Supplement	0.727	0.727	0.000
EYPP	0.019	0.020	0.001
Sub Total	2.844	3.201	0.357
<u>Primary Schools</u>			
2 Year Old Funding	0.028	0.023	-0.005
3-4 Year Old Universal Entitlement	3.745	3.484	-0.261
3-4 Year Old Extended Entitlement	0.329	0.402	0.073
Deprivation	0.045	0.066	0.021
EYPP	0.030	0.039	0.009
Sub Total	4.177	4.014	-0.163
<u>Special Schools</u>			
2 Year Old Funding	0.000	0.000	0.000
3-4 Year Old Universal Entitlement	0.000	0.000	0.000
Sub Total	0.000	0.000	0.000
<u>PVI Sector</u>			
Sub Total	6.289	6.381	0.092
EYPP	0.020	0.020	0.000
Growth	-0.046	-0.046	0.000
Disability Access Fund	0.054	0.000	-0.054
Sub Total	0.028	-0.026	-0.054
<u>Central Budgets</u>			
Early Years Adaptations/ Practical Support	0.050	0.026	-0.024
Early Years Strategic Financial support	0.080	0.080	0.000
Early Years Behaviour Support Services	0.042	0.042	0.000
Central Early Years Expenditure	0.068	0.068	0.000
Early Years Team Contribution	0.485	0.485	0.000
Central Expenditure Total	0.725	0.701	-0.024
Total Expenditure	14.063	14.271	0.208
Projected End of Year Variance	-0.286	-0.078	0.208
Carry forward from 2019/20		-0.547	
Early Years adjustment July 2020		-0.423	
Cumulative Surplus/Deficit		-1.048	

High Needs: included any overspend and was expected to increase by approximately £4m, taking the cumulative deficit to £18m. It was felt the breakdown of income and expenditure was a fair and clear reflection and although additional monies had been allocated to HNB they did not cover the demands of the Block. Members were aware this area had been under close scrutiny and a great deal of work was being carried out to mitigate the overspend and to streamline the funding. The DfE had now moved to the Deficit Management Plan, which would be covered in more detail during the meeting.

It was noted that in-borough maintained £235,000 overspend was mainly due to those with EHCPs and the work on the funding matrix in 2019. Those in Years 5 and 9 with EHCPs

had been reviewed, in line with new funding matrix and other year groups would follow. Independent schools showed increased numbers and costs. There was an overspend of just under £1m on Post-16s which was due to increased learners and the age range of EHCPs having been extended up to 25 years of age. Out of Borough costs had been outlined in the table provided. Independent schools and out-of-borough costs were two of the areas being included in the work of Mark McCurrie.

Central Schools Services Block (CSSB): The overspends on expenditure were highlighted:

Admissions were due to the increased costs as outlined to Schools Forum at their previous meeting.

An unexplained overspend appearing in the Schools Forum budget was being investigated by Susan Woodland to establish what it covered and it was hoped an answer would be available for the next Schools Forum meeting (**update:** this has now been resolved).

9.55pm: Tony Madden was admitted to the meeting

A typographical correction would be made in the Virtual School report under the 'projections' heading.

In answer to a query, it was confirmed that the High Needs place funding for academies reflected 'zero' as the funding came directly from the ESFA. The information had been included to cover any adjustments which might have to be made to the ESFA.

It was noted that it was good practice to obtain the approval of Schools Forum and, as recommended, Schools Forum:

NOTED the financial position as outlined and,

APPROVED the carry forward of any deficits, dependent on figures coming back to Schools Forum at their next meeting.

The Chair thanked Susan Woodland and her team for all their work in supplying such a comprehensive report for the meeting.

814. High Needs Place Change notification

The LA had submitted the annual ESFA High Needs Placement change form in November 2020. The form described the High Needs placements for the financial year April 2021 – April 2022, with the main changes being at Arbour Vale, Haybrook, Marish and Windsor Forest College Group. The known pressures for the next year were included, with the main changes on previous years being the increased places, including 3 places at Grove Academy effective from September 2021.

10.00am: Kathy Perry left the meeting

Although Grove Academy was an all-through school, it was confirmed that the 3 places were secondary, in line with plans for a secondary unit.

Schools Forum **NOTED** the LA had submitted the ESFA High Needs Placement Change Notification 2021-22 form in November 2020.

815. Growth Fund 2021/22 allocations and issues

It was noted that the supporting report was based on the format and criteria previously presented to Schools Forum.

The need for school places in Slough was primarily due to the birth rate in Slough over a 9-year period increasing by 48%, with the impact of that still being felt. The LA had considered and actioned a number of options to support this expansion. The attention of

members was drawn to Section 5 of the DfE Guidance explaining how the Growth Fund could be used.

Tony Madden explained that all calculations were based on the AWPU figures provided by the LA's Schools Finance and the paper showed how criteria was applied, with secondary AWPU being averaged for Key Stages 3 and 4. Growth was being funded in the second year at academies between censuses as the fund was to support and compensate for any lag a school would experience. It could support expansions for 7 years at primary, 5 years at secondary (being Years 7 -11).

10.05am: Kathy Perry was readmitted to the meeting

In the situation where a small number of additional pupils did not justify a bulge class, schools could be asked to go 2 over PAN in each class. It was felt this was a useful option but had not yet been used. Schools Finance had added a caveat that, if Growth Fund was not available the LA could ask Schools Forum to review this criteria.

Tony Madden took the meeting through the supporting appendices:

Appendix A: very little change made in 2020/21. As no further underwriting was required for Grove Academy the line had been removed. There were two further contingency sums, one for a primary class but there would not be a bulge unless necessary and it was unknown whether Grove had opened a fifth Year 7 class and, if so, an extra teacher had been employed. If not required there would be a carry forward of £315,000.

Appendix B: it was noted this was the best estimate for 2021/22. Four schools had expanded and would continue to appear on reports, with one primary and two secondary contingency classes. The correct AWPU had been used in line with the agreed figures and a carry forward of £121,617 was projected.

Appendix C: the following years had been projected using the 2021/22 AWPU figures. There was a large increase as explained by Susan Woodland of over 10% but allowances had to be taken into account. AWPU for 2021-22 included an element for the Teachers' Pay Grant and Teachers' Pension Employers Contribution Grant which had previously been separate grants. At the end of 2022/23, the current carry forward was estimated to be £49,000.

In answer to a query, it was confirmed that if a school with a bulge class lost another class, with the overall number of classes remaining the same, there was no need for growth funding. The Fund was primarily to support additional staffing costs.

It was confirmed that the AWPU now included the Teachers' Pay and Pensions, making a significant difference between the primary and secondary AWPU rates quoted. These would even out going forward unless other grants were incorporated into the DSG. It was suggested AWPU might be applied at the correct rates but it was pointed out this would result in a large increase from KS3 to KS4 as KS4 was weighted to include the exam element. In addition, it might not be to the advantage of primary schools to apply the individual AWPU rates, as historically the rates had always been averaged.

As recommended, Schools Forum:

AGREED:

- the principles of allocations for 2021/22 and,
- the carry forward and top slice for 2021/22, which was in line with previous years and aligned with the Schools Block as noted by the Task Group and,

NOTED the forecast outturn for 2020/21

10.20am: Tony Madden left the meeting

816. Early Years update

Michael Jarrett reported that through the DSG settlement Early Years had received a positive increase of £44m across the country.

Early modelling had been completed which the Early Years Task Group was to consider at their meeting scheduled for Thursday 21 January. Four options were to be proposed and when the work was completed the detail would be shared with the sector through Survey Monkey. It represented an increase of:

£0.08p hour for 2-year old provision

£0.06p hour for 3 and 4-year old provision

As previously discussed, MNS remained a risk and was an ongoing issue. Long-term certainty had been requested but no assurances had been forthcoming. It was suggested that whilst comprehensive annual spending reviews continued, this was unlikely to change.

Any proposals from the Task Group and responses from Survey Monkey would be reviewed and, in order to meet the timeframe, an update would be circulated to Schools Forum members via email. It was hoped proposals could be tabled at the next meeting of Schools Forum.

It was added there had been favourable responses from the sector about these proposals and this was felt to be encouraging.

817. DSG Deficit Management Plan update

The Chair thanked Mark McCurrie for his comprehensive report.

Mark McCurrie confirmed the report was very detailed in order to ensure the LA was meeting the conditions attached to the DSG grant: he outlined the background, explaining the previous single DSG Recovery Plan had been changed to the DSG Deficit Management Plan (the Plan) for this and future years. The ESFA expected the Plan to be a 'live' document, with the main focus being the strategies put in place to reduce the High Needs deficit. Further strategies would be introduced and narratives updated, allowing progress to be tracked in the information made available to key stake holders.

The Plan contained information by specific areas, allowing access to spending breakdowns by sector and enabling a view of pressure points. The Plan already contained financial details and, with the inclusion of new internal financial systems, there would be more alignment with financial information.

It was pointed out that the LA's deficit was reasonably large in comparison to some others LAs and the ESFA acknowledged that repayment would take time.

10.25am: Kathy Perry left the meeting

Members noted that the Plan had been included as the appendix for this item and apologies were extended as the type was small in some sections. A number of critical points were drawn to the attention of Schools Forum:

A number of assumptions had been made, with the HNB being the main focus: these had been discussed with the Task Group. The version presented (1.3) demonstrated the current position and if no further changes were made, these would be the forecasts for some years to come. Transfer requests between blocks of up to 0.5% had been included. The Plan was a useful tool and gave focus to the sectors factoring into High Needs. Over time it would be possible to analyse mitigated against unmitigated risks in order to demonstrate savings.

Key Risks identified to date included:

: the number of maintained EHCPs, which continued to grow in Slough year on year, being a little higher than average above average growth rates;
: the shortage of local therapeutic support interventions both pre and post statutory;
: a lack of local specialist provision in resource bases and special schools, leading to pupils being placed in the independent sector. It was added that a proportionate use was now being seen in Slough.

There was an increase in the number of EHCPs being maintained where ASD was the primary lead and monitoring of this would continue. Slough had a higher number of young people with speech and language needs which continued in those being granted an EHCP in the 20-25 year old group, although this was now leveling off.

It was stressed this was the current position and strategies were likely to change.

The Workforce Development Plan was being reviewed in order to promote inclusive practice to support schools. Analysis to show financial impact would be included in the Plan. The resource base review had been affected by the Covid-19 situation but it was anticipated the review could be closed in February. Any recommendations arising from the review would be included in the Plan.

A further approach was to review the SEN panel process to ensure decisions were legally binding and linked to the banding matrix. Capital investment plans were also under review and would be linked to other streams and factored into the Plan.

EHCP figures were mapped against residential population figures. However, predications had been made on historical figures as the population figures focused on school age and not the EHCP 0-25 years age range. There was approximately 2.6% growth on average over the years but a year-on-year increase had been factored in. Part of this work would be to establish why there was that growth above population growth.

It was noted that the mainstream factor had been assumed with an increased factor of 14% built in year on year, further to the recent review of the banding matrix. More work was to be undertaken to decrease that amount.

The 2022/23 HNB income settlement had used an 8% growth as opposed to the 11% income growth for 2021/22. Mark McCurrie explained it was considered prudent to plan on less income rather than more.

10.35am: Peter Collins left the meeting

The expenditure and income assumptions were highlighted, as there was an increase in both, with income increasing at a slightly higher rate than expenditure. It was noted this was shown in the table at 5.31 of the report.

It was noted that a forecasted reduced deficit should be seen over the forthcoming years but the accumulative position would continue to grow.

Budgeting would continue on a more prudent basis but the main area of focus would be the mainstream sector due to the growth of EHCPs and pupil numbers. There had also been a big change in the financial reporting of costs for independent schools and Post-16.

In answer to a query it was noted that the Plan did not have to be submitted to the DfE but had to be made available. It would have to be published as part of the local offer and would be presented to Schools Forum termly. It was also likely the ESFA would request regular update meetings with the LA and would review Schools Forum papers.

No increase in expenditure was forecast but there had been an application for additional resource base places. The information made available concerning resource bases referred to place funding rather than overall expenditure; as the majority were academy resource

bases this funding would come from the ESFA rather than the DSG. Top ups for resource bases were reported in the figures for mainstream, with top up funding as a whole included in the Plan but not place funding for academies.

It was understood there were possibly 32 other LAs undertaking this work but there had not been any collaborative work to date. It was confirmed that, going forward it would be useful for the LA to work with their neighbours.

In response to a question, Mark McCurrie explained he would aim to present a further version of the Plan to Schools Forum in March. However, as the resource base review had not been completed by Christmas as originally planned, it would be necessary to keep this under review and add it to the forward agenda plan.

818. Update from Task Groups: Early Years, HNB and 5-16

As noted, the Early Years Task Group was due to meet on Thursday 21 January.

No further dates had yet been set for meetings of the HNB Task Group and the 5-16 were not scheduled to meet.

819. Academies update

It was understood the conversion of Khalsa Primary School to multi-academy trust status remained on schedule to take effect from 1 February 2021.

820. 2020/21 Proposed Forward Agenda Plan/Key Decisions Log

The Forward Agenda Plan 2020/21 and Key Decisions Log were noted.

It was noted the next meeting of Schools Forum was scheduled to be held on:
Wednesday 10 March 2021 at 9.15am

Members would be advised if there should be any change.

821. Any Other Business

Nothing had been tabled.

The Chair thanked everyone for their time, in particular LA Officers and their teams for the detailed reports presented. All were wished well during this difficult time.

(Note: The Meeting opened at 9.15 and closed at Time 11.00)

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SLOUGH SCHOOLS' FORUM
24 March 2021

Directorate of People: Children

Early Years National Funding Formula 2021-22 Update

1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

This report updates Schools' Forum on the conclusion of the Early Years National Funding Formula (EYNFF) modelling following the outcome of the consultation with the Early Years sector and the Task Group meeting held 21st Jan 2021.

Background

- 1.1 In November, at the Spending Review, the Chancellor announced a **£44 million** investment in 2021-22, for local authorities to increase hourly funding rates paid next financial year to childcare providers for the government's free childcare entitlements.
- 1.2 The EY task group were alerted to the funding increases to the sector, which 2021-22 we will increase the hourly funding rates for all local authorities by **8p** an hour for the two-year-old entitlement and, for the vast majority of areas, by **6p** an hour for the three- and four-year-old entitlements. This will pay for a rate increase that is higher than the costs nurseries may face from the uplift to the national living wage in April.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That Schools' Forum:
 - **Notes** the conclusions of the work to develop the 2021-22 EYNFF funding model and associated budget development.
 - **Approve** the LA recommendation to implement **option 1** as per the outcome of the sector wide consultation.

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 The January Schools' Forum received a verbal update on the preparation of the 2021-22 EYNFF under the auspices of the Early Years Task group and this report offers a final update. Officers are grateful to the sector representatives who participated in the Task Group and consultation exercise.

4 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 4.1 Schools' Forum must be consulted on changes to local Early Years funding formulas, including agreeing central spend by the 28th **February**, although the final decision rests with the local authority.
- 4.2 Financial modelling was undertaken to stress test various hourly rates against estimated participation, using a dynamic sliding tool to establish affordability, which includes the additional local funding. It was agreed that a rate increase was affordable which incorporates the additional funding, whilst allowing for growth within the sector.
- 4.3 Four options were presented to the EY task group, where a decision was made to put forward the two most preferred options out to wider consultation, via a Survey Monkey poll.
- 4.4 The consultation was opened to the Early Years sector on the Friday 22th Jan 2021 and closed on the 5th Feb 2021. The sector were asked two questions and to choose one option for each question.
- Option 1 3 & 4 year funding rate: £5.55 (6p increase)
 Deprivation: £0.72 (same as 2020/21)
 2 year funding rate: £5.75 (8p increase)
 EYPP: £0.53 (same)
 SEN Inclusion Grant: £40,000 (£10,000 decrease from £50,000)
 - Option 2 3 & 4 year funding rate: £5.55 (6p increase)
 Deprivation: £0.75 (3p increase)
 2 year funding rate: £5.75 (8p increase)
 EYPP: £0.53 (same as 2020/21)
 SEN Inclusion Grant: £35,000 (£15,000 decrease from £50,000)
- 4.5 **The results of the consultation were as follows:**
- Of the 62 responses, 42 chose option 1 and 26 chose option 2.
- 4.6 A summary of the financial impact of the overall final position is set out in appendix A. It uses the estimated participation rates for 2021-22 which has been provided by and validated by the Early Years' Service.
- 4.7 Schools' Forum will recall the statutory requirement to pass through at least 95% of Early Years DSG to 3-and-4-year olds providers in 2021-22. Local authorities were provided with a compliance test formula by the ESFA to confirm the test would be met. This test was a fundamental feature of the modelling, viewable at Appendix B, which demonstrates its compliance with Early Years National Funding Formula regulations.

5 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 Not applicable.

6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

6.1 Monitoring Officer

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

6.2 Section 151 Officer – Strategic Director of Resources

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

6.3 Access Implications

There are no access implications.

7 CONSULTATION

7.1 Not applicable

Contact for further information:

Michael Jarrett

Associate Director – Children and Families

michael.jarrett@slough.gov.com

Susan Woodland

Interim Group Accountant – Children and Schools

susan.woodland@slough.gov.uk

Appendix A

Option 1		Option 2	
3-4 Yr. Old		3-4 Yr. Old	
DfE Rate	£5.93	DfE Rate	£5.93
Slough Rate	£5.55	Slough Rate	£5.55
Hours (Slough Estimate)	2,011,400	Hours (Slough Estimate)	2,011,400
Pass Through Cost	£11,163,270	Pass Through Cost	£11,163,270
Supplement - Deprivation	£162,856	Supplement - Deprivation	£169,642
Contingency	£50,000	Contingency	£50,000
SEN Inclusion	£40,000	SEN Inclusion	£35,000
Subtotal Pass Through	£11,416,126	Subtotal Pass Through	£11,417,912
Average Hourly Rate	£5.68	Average Hourly Rate	£5.68
DfE Rate	£5.93	DfE Rate	£5.93
Pass through Compliance	95.7%	Pass through Compliance	95.73%
MNS	£722,350	MNS	£722,350
Centrally Retained 3-4 Yr. Old	£654,229	Centrally Retained 3-4 Yr. Old	£654,229
Growth	£1,014,216	Growth	£1,012,431
TOTAL 3-4 Yr. Old	£13,806,921	TOTAL 3-4 Yr. Old	£13,806,921
2 Yr. Old		2 Yr. Old	
DfE Rate	£6.04	DfE Rate	£6.04
Slough Rate	£5.75	Slough Rate	£5.75
Hours (Slough Estimate)	187,340	Hours (Slough Estimate)	187,340
Subtotal Pass Through	£1,077,205	Subtotal Pass Through	£1,077,205
Centrally Retained 2 YO	£64,263	Centrally Retained 2 YO	£64,263
Growth	£143,799	Growth	£143,799
Total 2 Yr. Old Budget	£1,285,267	Total 2 Yr. Old Budget	£1,285,267
Disability Access Fund	£51,045	Disability Access Fund	£51,045
EYPP	£86,652	EYPP	£86,652
Grand Total	£15,229,885	Grand Total	£15,229,885
Settlement	£15,229,885	Settlement	£15,229,885
Variance	0	Variance	£0
Centrally Retained	£718,492	Centrally Retained	£718,492
SEN Inclusion	£40,000	SEN Inclusion	£35,000
	£758,492		£753,492

Appendix B

Calc	DfE Line	Description	DfE Example	Option x
A	1	Anticipated budget for base rate (including funding to MNS) for 3 and 4 year olds for UNI and EXT	£13,000,000	£11,163,270
	2	Anticipated budget for MNS lump sums for 3 and 4 year olds	£700,000	£722,350
	3	Anticipated budget for supplements for 3 and 4 year olds: Deprivation (including funding to MNS)	£600,000	£162,856
	4	Anticipated budget for supplements for 3 and 4 year olds: Quality (including funding to MNS)	£300,000	£0
	5	Anticipated budget for supplements for 3 and 4 year olds: Flexibility (including funding to MNS)	£200,000	£0
	6	Anticipated budget for supplements for 3 and 4 year olds: Rurality (including funding to MNS)	£200,000	£0
	7	Anticipated budget for supplements for 3 and 4 year olds: EAL (including funding to MNS)	£100,000	£0
	8	Anticipated budget for 3 and 4 year old SEN inclusion fund (top up grant element)	£400,000	£40,000
	9	Anticipated budget for 3 and 4 year old contingency	£1,000,000	£50,000
			Subtotal =	£16,500,000
B	10	DfE initial quantum allocation to local authority of MNS supplementary funding	£98,000	£722,350
C	11	Planned total base rate hours for universal 15 and additional 15 hours for 3 and 4 year olds	2,950,000	2,011,400
D	12	Equivalent average rate to providers for entitlement hours for 3 and 4 year olds (A-B) / C = (lines 1+2+3+4+5+6+7+8+9 - 10) / (line 11)	5.56	5.68
E	13	LA EYNFF hourly rate for 3 and 4 year olds (published alongside this document, or in DSG tables in future)	5.83	5.87
F	14	Test of meeting requirement $F = (D / E) * 100 = ((\text{line } 12) / (\text{line } 13)) * 100$	95.4%	95.9%

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**Slough Schools' Forum: 2020/21
Proposed Forward Agenda Plan**

Meeting 5 – Thursday 13 May 2021

No.	Description	Lead
1	Update on National/Local Funding issues	Susan Woodland
2	Growth Fund: financial year-end position	Tony Madden
3	High Needs Block Deficit Strategy	
4	DSG Management Plan update	
5	SEND Quarterly Update	
6	Update from Task Groups: 5-16, HNB and Early Years	
7	Academies Update	
8	2020/21 Forward Agenda Plan/Key Decisions Log	

Meeting 6 – Tuesday 6 July 2021

No.	Description	Lead
1	Update on National/Local Funding issues	Susan Woodland
2	Update on growth allocations and issues	Tony Madden
3	Annual DSG Report 2020/21 including impact	Susan Woodland
4	Review of the Scheme for Financing Schools 2020/21	Susan Woodland
5	Early Years Update	Michael Jarrett
6	High Needs Block Deficit Strategy	
7	DSG Management Plan update	
8	SEND Quarterly Update	
9	Update from Task Groups: 5-16, HNB and Early Years To include annual review of Terms of Reference	
10	Academies Update	
11	2021/22 Forward Agenda Plan/Key Decisions Log	

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Schools Forum Key Decisions Log January 2018 ongoing

Issue and Decision	Schools Forum date	Schools Forum agenda item no.	School Forum Minute
Matters Arising			
Peter Collins agreed as member of Schools Forum, representing academy schools.	17/01/18	3	617
2017/18 DSG Monitoring Report			
Schools Forum noted DSG projected overspend of £3.4M across all three blocks – Schools, Early Years and High Needs with projected £4.1m cumulative overspend in High Needs Block.	17/01/18	4	618
Funding Formula Changes 2018/19			
Consultation with schools closed, 41% response, majority in favour of Option 2.			
£165k additional funding available following transfer into CSSB agreed under agenda item 6; Forum endorsed SB Task Group recommendation to allocate this funding in proportion across the factors in the formula.	17/01/18	5	619
Central Services Schools Block (CSSB)			
Forum approved transfer of £124,000 for licences and £52,000 for historical items to CSSB from Schools Block, to cover partial shortfall in DfE funding. Updated report subsequently posted on SBC website following meeting	17/01/18	6	620
Early Years			
Forum noted EY Task Group recommendations regarding implementation of EYNFF for 2018-19	17/01/18	7	621
Growth Fund 2017-18			
Forum approved approximately £90,000 from 2017/18 underspend to part-fund Grove Academy 'ghost places' places.			
Forum agreed Growth Fund criteria for 2018/19, with AWPU rates based on 2018-19 formula.	17/01/18	8	622
De-delegation Report			
Maintained school members agreed de-delegation for SEBDOS Behaviour Support Service, subject to revised unit costs, to reflect rates for primary and secondary as agreed in December 2015.	17/01/18	9	623
2017-18 Forward Agenda Plan and Key Decision Log			
Forum agreed appointment of Chair and Vice Chair be held at July 2018 meeting, prior to first meeting in the 2018-19 academic year.	17/01/18	12	626
Confirmation of Indicative Budgets 2018-19			
Schools Forum agreed to transfer funding as follows:	06/03/18	5	632
£17,325 from HNB to the CSSB			
£100,045 from HNB to the CSSB for ongoing responsibilities			
£548,000 from HNB to the SB for PFI			
Early Years Block			
The same level of activity and model for 2018-19 would be required to maintain a similar level of centrally retained spend.	06/03/18	6	633
In principle, Schools Forum endorsed this and a detailed report would be presented at the next meeting for formal approval.			
PFI Update Report			
The Schools Block contribution was confirmed as £297,000 for one academic year only, 2018-19 and would be reviewed for 2019-20	06/03/18	8	634
A table would be produced to show where contributions had been made to the sum of £297,000.			
High Needs Block Budget 2018-19			
Members approved the centrally retained element for 2018-19 of £2.3m, which was a slight decrease on 2017-18.	06/03/18	9	635
Membership			
Kathy Perry from Mighty Acorns Nursery, was welcomed as the new PVI representative member.	05/07/18	1	640
The Chair thanked Helen Huntley (who was retiring at the end of the Summer Term) for her valuable contributions as both a member of Schools Forum and as a champion of children and young people with special needs.	05/07/18	1 & 11	640/652
Annual DSG Report 2017-18			
Schools Forum noted the comprehensive DSG annual report and requested this appear as an annual item on agendas	05/07/18	7	646

Schools Forum Key Decisions Log January 2018 ongoing

Review of the Scheme for Financing Schools 2017-18			
Schools Forum noted the consultation but requested that details of any licensed deficit scheme be circulated to Schools Forum prior to consultation	05/07/18	8	647
Early Years Centrally Retained 2018-19			
The details of the centrally retained Early Years funding for 2018-19 set out in the report were noted and lines of expenditure approved	05/07/18	9	648
Update from Task Groups			
Draft Terms of Reference for all three Task Groups were approved by Schools Forum	05/07/18	10	649
Election of Chair and Vice Chair			
The current Chair of Schools Forum would stand down at the end of the academic year: John Constable was proposed and duly elected to Chair of Schools Forum with effect from 1 September 2018, for a term of two years.	05/07/18	11	652
Schools Forum Membership/appointment of Vice Chair			
Noted that three members' terms of office due to finish 30 November 2018 and one further member had resigned.			
Forum agreed re-appointment of Jo Matthews as Special School/PRU Headteacher representative for a further year.			
Nominations to be sought from academy proprietors for the other three roles.			
One nomination for the role of Vice Chair and Nicky Willis, Executive Principal of Cippenham Primary School duly appointed for a two-year term.	10/10/18	4	656
Update from Task Groups: 5-16, HNB and Early Years			
Following 5-16 Task Group meeting, consultation to run with local schools from 15 October - 5 November 2018 regarding two options to move towards NFF (National Funding Formula of either 50% or 75%. Comments from schools to be invited. Task Group to meet again on 13th November following outcome of consultation.	10/10/18	9	658
Consultation results on the Scheme for Financing Schools and Licensed Deficit Scheme			
LA to write into the Scheme that maintained schools will be involved in discussions.			
Schools Forum approved the Scheme for Financing Schools.	10/10/18	6	659
Schools Forum Membership			
Following due process, Jon Reekie, governor at Phoenix Infant Academy reappointed, Susan Marsh, Headteacher Colnbrook Primary School and Ray Hinds, Baylis Court appointed, all for terms of two years. Eddie Neighbour, Upton Court Grammar School agreed to continue as an observer.	04/12/18	5	668
Growth Fund 2019/20			
DSG top slice for 2019/20 of £900,000 was requested. SBC was also asked to underwrite Year 7 places at Grove Academy: Schools Forum agreed to fund £90,000 for 2018/19, and to continue the underwriting into 2019/20 as the third and final year with a maximum of £60,000 or 50% of the cost, whichever was the lower.			
Schools Forum also agreed the criteria for accessing Growth Fund in 2019/20 as proposed. With all these commitments taken into account, SF agreed a reduced DSG top slice of £800,000, leaving an estimated carry forward of £130,000 at the end of 2019/20. Falling rolls were thought likely to really impact in the year 2021/22 and it was suggested a supporting paper be presented to Schools Forum in the summer 2019.	04/12/18	8	671
DSG Budget 2019/20			
A request was made to Schools Forum to approve re-allocation of funds to the correct blocks in order to correct DfE baseline errors.			
Schools Forum agreed to transfer £264,566 from High Needs Block to CSSB, £500,000 from High Needs Block to Schools Block, to re-allocate Virtual School funding of £100,000 from Historical commitment to Ongoing commitment within the CSSB, a move from 50% to 65% NFF in 2019/20 formula (following inconclusive consultation outcome). Schools Forum rejected SBC's proposal to transfer 0.5% (approximately £650,000) from 5-16 Schools Block to High Needs Block, based on the outcome of the consultation with schools.	04/12/18	9	672
Banding (High Needs top-up funding) Working Group update			
New Banding model to continue to be tested, with workshops and training sessions to be made available during the Spring term 2019.	04/12/18	10	673
Minutes of Previous Meeting			
Jo Matthews had stood down as Special School/PRU Representative but would continue as an Observer. The 3 special/PRU academies had confirmed that Neil Sykes would become Academy Special School member and Jamie Rockman Academy PRU member, both for 2 year terms of office w/e/f date of S/F meeting	16/01/19	4	681
S/F acknowledged the projected DSG outturn and approved the overall deficit should be carried forward into 2019-20	16/01/19	4	681
De-delegated funding for behaviour support services			
3 out of 4 S/F members representing maintained schools had voted against the de-delegation of funding from maintained school budgets for inclusion in the Schools Block APT	16/01/19	7	684
Early Years Centrally Retained Funds 2019/20			
Schools Forum members noted and agreed the use of Centrally Retained Funds 2019/20 for the Early Years block.	16/01/19	8	687
High Needs Block - Deficit Reduction Strategy			
The ESFA had requested that LAs inform them how deficits, particularly in High Needs, were being addressed. The LA had responded that it was doing all it could to address the issue and this work was ongoing. There was evidence of underfunding whilst demand was increasing. The link between High Needs and PFI was			

Schools Forum Key Decisions Log January 2018 ongoing

acknowledged and would be taken into account to reduce the deficit. A supporting paper would be presented to S/F for their March 2019 meeting.	16/01/19	10	685
High Needs Block – Centrally Retained Budget 2018/19			
New commissioned Speech & Language service commissioned to be available from Friday 1 February. Communication to be made re. launch.	16/01/19	11	686
Any Other Business			
Chair of S/F to write to the Education Secretary, on behalf of members, regarding the proposal to withdraw supplementary funding for maintained nursery schools.	16/01/19	15	692
Minutes of Previous Meeting			
S/F meeting scheduled for Wednesday 15 May cancelled.	05/03/19	3	695
High Needs Funding - final proposal for banding model			
Consultation was extended by 2 weeks, closing on 1 March. New banding model to be introduced 1 April 2019, agreed feedback be given July and December 2019, and April and July 2020. Some continuing concerns from special schools but work ongoing with Vikram Hansrani. Key monitoring reports to be shared with S/F.			
S/F approved the new banding model and agreed to receive feedback reports at the key stages noted.	05/03/19	6	698
Update on Central School Services Block			
Due to slight increase in copyright costs the amount required for transfer from High Needs to CSSB reduced by approximately £10,000.	05/03/19	8	700
PFI Update			
Noted Council reviewing High Needs Block and possible Section 106 funding.	05/03/19	9	701
Schools Forum membership			
Terms of office of nine members due to finish 31 July 2019. Clerk to arrange nomination process/elections (if appropriate)	05/03/19	12	704
Matters Arising			
Decision made taken by SBC to fund the £184,000 to 3 PFI schools and guarantee to be taken.	04/07/19	3	709
Growth Fund 2018/19			
Forum noted the contents of the Growth Fund 2018/19 outturn report and agreed the underwriting for Grove of £90,000 to £25,000 (2018/19) and maximum from £60,000 to £90,000 (2019/20)	04/07/19	5	711
DSG Budget Deficit Recovery Plan			
Neil Wilcox and Nic Barani to clarify whether historic £184,000 related to PFI contribution for Arbour Vale.	04/07/19	7	713
Review of the Scheme for Financing Schools 2019/20			
LA noted that maintained schools to be consulted on dates of publishing such consultations in future.	04/07/19	8	714
Update from Task Groups			
All Task Groups to meet before November 2019 Schools Forum meeting. A list of respective Task Group members to be drawn up for regular circulation to members.			
Terms of Reference for 5-16, HNB and Early Years Task Groups approved, without change, for academic year 2019/20	04/07/19	9	715
Schools Forum membership			
An email sent to all local schools, inviting nominations for membership	04/07/19	10	716
Any Other Business			
Forum approved the transfer of approximately £54,153 to Local School Improvement Board (LSIF) from Slough Primary Heads' Association (SPHA), being the remainder of £70,000 grant from DSG underspend agreed in 2016 to address issues around Recruitment and Retention.	04/07/19	13	719
Schools Forum Membership			
Following due process, it was confirmed that nine members of Schools Forum had been reappointed for a further two-year term.	01/10/19	4	723
Update on National/Local funding issues			
Schools Forum approved the transfer of £500,000 from HNB to Schools Block, to correct an historical error in the 2017/18 baseline.			
Schools Forum agreed that the consultation to schools should give two options for consideration, 65% and 85% National Funding Formula.	01/10/19	5	724
SEND Banding Update			
Schools Forum noted that Forum was to receive quarterly updates on the new banding model.	01/10/19	9	728
Growth Fund 2020-21			
S/Forum noted primary 'bulge' classes now working through secondary sector. Only two primary schools receiving Growth Fund allocations. S/Forum noted primary 'bulge' classes now working through secondary sector, with continued high pupil movement into and out of Slough. For the past two years S/Forum had agreed to support 50% underwriting for Grove Academy. Members queried Grove moving from 2 form entry to 4 form entry in 2020/21 in light of falling rolls.			
S/Forum approved Growth Fund top slice of £600,000 giving an estimated underspend of £24,000 and underwriting for Grove 2019/20 at £90,000 (previously £60,000) Falling Rolls Fund not considered necessary at this time.	12/11/19	6	738
Proposed Transfer from Schools Block to High Needs Block			

Schools Forum Key Decisions Log January 2018 ongoing

S/Forum noted the response to the consultation on the proposal to transfer 0.5% from Schools Block to High Needs Block and rejected the application, upholding the outcome of the consultation. LA representatives confirmed they would not apply to the DfE to overturn this decision.	12/11/19	7	739
Schools Block 5-16 Formula Consultation Outcome			
S/Forum noted the outcome to the other element of the consultation and recommended the LA follow the support to finalise budgets based on an 85% move towards the National Funding Formula (NFF). Final APT to be shared with S/Forum at next meeting.	12/11/19	8	740
Scheme for Financing Schools			
S/Forum noted 41% had responded to consultation on minor changes. Scheme only applicable to maintained schools and respective S/F members representing that sector approved the changes to the Scheme 2019/20. LA representatives noted request for changes to be shared earlier, although dependent on DfE	12/11/19	9	741
Update on Membership			
Philip Gregory, representing nursery sector and Peter Collins, representing academy sector reappointed unopposed as members of S/F. Maxine Wood appointed as 16-19 provider representative.	15/01/20	3	748
Final 2020-21 DSG Settlement			
Noted that the PFI premises factor had been allocated within Schools Block and transfer of £500,000 from High Needs in relation to PFI unnecessary. LA to adjust transfer and to be kept under review.	15/01/20	6	751
Schools Block 2020-21 - Final Authority Proforma Tool (APT) and budget timeline			
Final APT to be shared with S/F members electronically.	15/01/20	7	752
Central Schools Services Block 2020-21			
S/F approved the transfer of £250,000 from High Needs to CSSB and agreed the service allocations as detailed at the meeting.	15/01/20	8	753
Early Years Block 2020-21			
S/F agreed the use of centrally retained funds at 5% across the Early Years Block 2020-21.	15/01/20	9	754
2019-20 DSG Budget monitoring (all blocks)			
S/F approved the deficits to be rolled forward into the new financial year.	15/01/20	10	755
High Needs Place Change Notification			
Detailed report on Resource Bases and specialist provision to be shared.	15/01/20	11	756
Meeting scheduled for 03/03/20 cancelled			
Meeting scheduled for 23/04/20 cancelled			
Meeting scheduled for 13/05/20 cancelled			
Annual DSG Report			
Concern expressed about Nursery funding. Piece of investigative work to be carried out on those schools holding excessively large amounts of money.			
Schools Forum noted overall deficit on 2019/20 DSG which would be reversible on 2020/21 DSG.	14/07/20	7	768
High Needs/SEND Review Update 2020/21			
SBC Officers had met with ESFA representatives who acknowledged the SEND trends and pressures on Slough. Resources bases - ratification for any proposals suggested should be in line with Schools Forum calendar of meetings.	14/07/20	8	769
Impact of Covid-19 on School Finances: Local Perspective			
ESFA representative to refer points raised by Forum members to the ESFA.	14/07/20	11	772
Update from Task Groups: 5-16, HNB, Early Years			
Terms of Reference for respective T/G approved by Schools Forum for 2020/21.	14/07/20	12	773
Election of Chair and Vice Chair			
Schools Forum endorsed the reappointment of John Constable as Chair for a further two-year term. Election of Vice Chair deferred to next meeting.	14/07/20	14	775
Schools Forum Membership			
Nominations to be sought for a Primary academy governor representative and a Secondary academy representative	01/10/20	5	781
Scheme for Financing Schools (maintained) 2020/21 & proposed consultation			
Maintained school members approved minor amendments in the Scheme for Financing Schools: Consultation document to be circulated.	01/10/20	8	784
SEND Quarterly Update			
Quarterly visual of banding update to be shared with Schools Forum	01/10/20	11	787
Update from Task Groups: Early Years, 5-16 and HNB			
All three Task Groups to arrange to meet.	01/10/20	12	788
Any Other Business			
Chair to follow up whether ESFA representative had taken concerns back to DfE about Covid-19 associated precaution costs impacting on schools.	01/10/20	15	791

Schools Forum Key Decisions Log January 2018 ongoing

Schools Block 2021/22: consultation outcome and Task Group recommendation			
Schools Forum endorsed the recommendation to move to full NFF or as close as final settlement allowed.			
Schools Forum rejected the request to transfer £600,000 from Schools Block to High Needs Block.			
Proposals to change SBC's Admissions Team noted. Schools Forum approved transfer of £100,000 from Schools Block to Central School Service Block in order to support this change. Request for transfer and report to be made to Schools Forum on an annual basis.	09/12/20	6	797
Scheme for Financing (maintained) Schools 2020/21: update on consultation			
Schools Forum noted the outcome of the consultation.	09/12/20	8	799
High Needs Block Centrally Retained Budget			
Schools Forum noted the outcome of the consultation.	09/12/20	9	800
Schools Forum Membership update			
Jamie Rockman and Neil Sykes reappointed for further 2 year terms of office as Special School/PRU representatives	19/01/21	4	810
Schools Block Budget: Final Authority Proforma Tool (APT) and timeline for 2021/22			
Sign off by Cabinet (due on to meet 22 February) and ESFA prior to issuing budgets to schools.			
Ongoing issue of Maintained Nursery Supplement (MNS) had been raised with DfE as a financial risk and need for long-term plan requested.	19/01/21	6	812
DSG Budget Monitoring Report (all blocks)			
Schools Forum NOTED the financial position and APPROVED the carry forwards of deficits, dependent on the figures presented to Schools Forum at their next meeting.	19/01/21	7	813
High Needs Place Change Notification			
Schools Forum Noted the LA had submitted the ESFA High Needs Placement Change Notification 2021/22 form, in Novemembr 2020.	19/01/21	8	814
Growth Fund 2021/22 allocations and issues			
Schools Forum AGREED the principles of the allocations 2021/22 and the carry forward and top slice for 2021/22. in line with the previous year and aligned with the Schools Block.	19/01/21	9	815
DSG Deficit Management Plan update			
DSG Deficit Management Plan outlined, with a focus on High Needs deficit reduction but with a number of departments updating. This was a 'live' document which was to be available to stakeholders: the DfE would monitor and it was likely would request regular meetings with the LA and would review Schools Forum papers to confirm the members had been kept informed.	19/01/21	11	817

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