

SLOUGH SCHOOLS' FORUM
24 October 2012

Schools' Balances 2011-12
(Director of Education & Children's Services)

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Schools' Forum of the balances brought forward by schools from the financial year 2011-12 and of their plans to spend the balances.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That Schools' Forum notes the figures in the attached appendix.

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is appropriate for the Schools' Forum to be aware of the carry forwards for Slough schools from 2011-12 and of plans to spend them.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 Not applicable.

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 5.1 The Slough Scheme for Financing Schools contains the following regarding balances:

The revenue balance will be calculated as a percentage of the current year's budget share. The Balance Control Mechanism threshold is set at 5% for secondary schools and 8% for primary and special schools. For any school exceeding the threshold, local authority officers will review the school's return on Planned Use of Balances. Amounts not fully supported by evidence will be considered as potentially subject to clawback.

The attached Appendix A shows the balances for each school, a broad explanation of the submitted plans to spend the balances and, where appropriate, the amount that any school is above the limit described above.

- 5.2 The appendix includes schools maintained at 31/03/2012 but a number have since converted to academy status. It should be noted that the new DfE Academies Handbook has removed the balance control mechanism for academies from September 2012.

- 5.3 Appendix 2 breaks down the planned expenditure of their 2011-12 balance reported by schools, across a number of broad areas.

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 A – Summary of School Balances brought forward from 2011-12.

Appendix B – A breakdown of planned expenditure of 2011-12 balances.

Contact for further information

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