SLOUGH SCHOOLS' FORUM 17 January 2013

Final Statutory Schools Budget (Director of Wellbeing)

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To inform Schools Forum on the current position regarding the blocks that will make up the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) in 2013-14.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 For information.

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 For Information

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

4.1 Not applicable.

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

5.1 Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) 2013-14

The DfE have given details of Slough's DSG for 2013-14. The DSG is now divided into three blocks, the Schools Block, the Early Years Block and the High Needs Block. There is also additional funding from the DfE for new areas within the overall DSG.

5.2 The Schools Block

The 2013-14 per pupil Unit of Funding for Slough is £4,861.93. Slough's allocation for 2013-14 is £104.425m. This is before academy recoupment which will be taken and given to the EFA (Education Funding Agency) for all Slough academies.

The Schools Block will fund mainstream schools and central items that are still allowed from 2013-14. The central items are unchanged from 2012-13 and are:

Contribution to Combined Budgets: £1,192,735
School Admissions: £277,530
Servicing of Schools Forums: £53,055
Capital Expenditure from Revenue: £149,100
Total: £1,672,420

5.3 The Early Years Block

The 2013-14 per pupil Unit of Funding for Slough is £4,984.88. Slough's estimated allocation for 2013-14 is £8.699m. The final allocation will be based on January 2013 census numbers.

The Early Years block will continue to pay for free nursery places in Nursery schools, Primary schools, including academies and Private, Voluntary and Independent providers.

5.4 The High Needs Block

Slough's allocation for 2013-14 is £19.250m. The High Needs Block will fund place and top-up funding for Slough's special schools and resource bases, support for Slough children with high needs in mainstream schools, placements of Slough children in independent and out-borough special schools and some central expenditure related to children with high needs. A High Needs Block paper will be presented to the February 2013 Schools Forum.

5.5 Additions to the DSG

The DfE have allocated a further £1.994m in 2013-14 for the following additions:

Funding for early education places for two year olds from lower income households: £1.961m.

Funding for induction for newly qualified teachers: £0.033m.

5.6 Comparison to 2012-13

It is difficult to directly compare the 2012-13 DSG to 2013-14 because of the changes in the overall calculation. For instance, place funding for Slough children has been removed from the High Needs Block and Slough is receiving the equivalent funding for non Slough children in Slough special schools. Funding for two year old places was previously part of the Early Intervention Grant and the number of two years to be offered places has been increased.

Overall the amount of funding available in the DSG has increased because of the overall increase in children in Slough. In mainstream schools this increase from October 2011 to October 2012 was 801 which alone gives an increase of £3.894m.

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.

<u>Section 151 Officer – Strategic Director of Resources</u>

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 Not Applicable.

Method of Consultation

7.2 Not Applicable.

Representations Received

7.3 Not applicable.

Contact for further information

Steve Elson (Interim Finance, ECS) (01753 477209) steve.elson@slough.gov.uk