

**SLOUGH SCHOOLS' FORUM**  
**3 July 2013**

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**School Specific Contingency and Local Authority Budgets funded by the  
Dedicated Schools Grant – Outturn 2012-13  
(Director of Wellbeing)**

**1 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To present to the Schools' Forum the final outturn for the school specific contingency and local authority managed budgets funded by the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) for the 2012-13 financial year and recommend the distribution and retention of the brought forward underspend.

**2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 That the Schools' Forum notes the final outturn for 2012-13, notes the redistribution of unspent contingency in paragraph 5.6 and agrees the recommendations for retention in paragraphs 5.8 and 5.9.

**3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 It is appropriate for the Schools Forum to be aware of the financial outturn of the school specific contingency and local authority budgets funded from the DSG.

**4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 4.1 Not applicable.

**5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 5.1 The 2012-13 financial year has now been closed.
- 5.2 Appendix A shows the outturn for the local authority managed DSG budgets compared to the latest approved budget which incorporates changes approved by the Schools Forum during the 2012-13 financial year and the impact of academy recoupment.
- 5.3 As can be seen in Appendix A, central budgets are showing an overall underspend of £284,163.
- 5.4 Overall there is a carry forward of £2,173,237 into 2013-14.

- 5.5 Appendix B shows the outturn for the schools specific contingency compared to the latest approved budget which incorporates the impact of Academy recoupment.
- 5.6 DfE regulations no longer allow for in-year distribution of funds in the year following the underspend. This has been queried with the DfE but the current guidance is that the underspend should be carried forward to 2014-15 and distributed to all schools and academies using the funding formula. It is therefore recommended that £708,293 is retained to be added to the available budget for schools and academies in 2014-15.
- 5.7 After the retention of the unspent contingency for distribution in 2014-15, there is a remaining carry forward of £1,464,944.
- 5.8 It is recommended that a total of £1,058,796 is retained centrally for the following specific items.  
Potential overspends on High Needs and Early Years Funding in 2013-14 - £780,000  
Asbestos Survey (already previously agreed but not spent in 2012-13) - £80,000  
Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC) for 2010-11 and 2011-12 - £198,796. The on-going cost of the CRC will be the subject of a separate future forum paper.  
Total - £1,058,796
- 5.9 If the above items are agreed, there will be £406,148 remaining. It is likely that the current Growth Fund contingency of £385,000 will prove inadequate and there is still an element of volatility around the High Needs budget so it is recommended that the remainder is also retained.
- 5.10 If there is a predicted underspend in the DSG, a greater sum could be added to the funding formula in 2014-15 though it would be important not to create a potential overspend by doing so.

## **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 Not Applicable.

### Method of Consultation

7.2 Not Applicable.

### Representations Received

7.3 Not applicable.

### Contact for further information

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