

**SLOUGH SCHOOLS' FORUM**  
**11 September 2013**

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**Balance Control Mechanism for 2012-13**  
**(Director of Wellbeing)**

**1 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To inform Schools' Forum of the surplus balances held by individual schools, and whether the schools have plans to use those balances in the following year.

**2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 That Schools' Forum notes the surplus balances and decides what to do with those balances that are not earmarked for a specific purpose.

**3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 Schools have the right to carry forward surplus balances from one financial year to the next.
- 3.2 Schools are required to complete a return on their planned use of balances within an approved budget plan.
- 3.3 The revenue balance control mechanism is used to determine whether the surplus balance exceeds the threshold (8% for primary schools and 5% for secondary schools).
- 3.4 Any surplus balance that exceeds the threshold, which has no evidence provided for how it will be spent, is eligible for potential claw back.
- 3.5 There are 3 schools that exceeded the threshold. They are Holy Family by £166, Beechwood by £5,431 and St Josephs by £490,616. Holy Family and Beechwood are small amounts and it is advised they are not pursued, and St Josephs have had exceptional circumstances surrounding their current financial situation.

**4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 4.1 None.

**5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 5.1 None

**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

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