

SLOUGH SCHOOLS' FORUM
11th December 2013

Quarter 2 Budget Monitoring 2013-14
(Directorate of Wellbeing)

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Schools' Forum of 2013-14 forecasted school revenue balances as at the end of quarter 2. The information presented is based on schools returns for the 2nd quarter, from April to September.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 For information only

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Not applicable

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 None.

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 5.1 The scheme for financing schools requires maintained schools to provide the authority with details of anticipated and actual expenditure and income on a quarterly basis.

- 5.2 All schools presented returns that forecasted a positive closing revenue balance (*shortfall in expenditure relative to the schools budget share plus/minus any balance brought forward from the previous year*).

- 5.3 5 Primary schools, 5 Nurseries and 3 Secondary schools are projecting to end the year with balances above the balance control mechanism thresholds (8% for Primary, Nursery and Special schools and 5% for Secondary schools). Queries have been made about how these balances will be used.

- 5.4 Summary of issues noted in returns:

- Unexpected staff changes.
- Difficulties in recruitment of staff in applications and quality of applicants.
- Capital works being cancelled, deferred or reduced.
- New grants identified (PE grant, teacher training, pupil premium)

- 5.5 Appendix A shows summary budget information for Nursery, Primary, Secondary and Special schools. The table gives forecasted expenditure

and income for the 2013-14 financial year, resulting in the forecasted closing revenue balances. It also shows the revenue balance as a percentage of local authority funding for the year.

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 1

Contact for further information

Atul Lad (Principal Accountant, ECS)
(01753 875547)
atul.lad@slough.gov.uk