

Appendix B 1. School's comments

Brief summary of Schools comments:

1. Disagreed with all options

- The school questioned the data and the participation of only 25 schools out of 42 schools, which was present when this work was commissioned.
- This school also wanted to wait to see what the impact of the National funding formula would be in 17/18.

2. Option 1

- These schools question the method and process as they think there are flaws in the data.
- Due to the National funding formula, questioned why change it now.
- This option gives them more funding therefore more financial stability.

3. Option 2

- No schools opted for this option.

4. Option 3

- One school's comments, We agree with option 3 however, despite being a primary school, if you take into consideration that we are one of the largest schools in the country, our operational needs in terms of resources and staffing are that of a secondary school and we feel that there is nothing built into the formula to compensate the school for this.
- Most schools agreed with the council's comments on this option **uses evidence based information** and compensating the secondary schools for some losses incurred by using the evidence based approach with additional lump sum. They also agreed that the Minimum funding and capping amount is more affordable than using option 2.
- Most schools in this option received more funding than option 2.
- Again 1 school was concerned about the 60% response from schools in the cost of provision project.
- One school commented that, whilst this was the preferred option, they were aware of the changes for 2017 which could cause much turbulence if a National AWPU is set. A further concern was that if the MFG is removed for 2017/18, some schools could lose a substantial amount of already stretched budgets.

School Forum comments:

Schools Forum raised serious concerns about the number of risks around the new national funding formula and the three main comments were:

- any decision made by the Council about 2016/17 changes should be made in the context of the pace and size of imminent change through the national funding formula across all blocks and all phases; it should not ignore the potential turbulence in funding
- any such decision should be communicated to all schools with an explanation about how this will fit in with the national changes ahead
- future consultations are more timely and done in genuine partnership with both the Task Groups and Schools Forum itself