

### Slough Borough Council Record of Significant Officer Decision

<b>Title of decision</b>	Authorisation of the School Block Budgets 2018.19
<b>Date decision taken</b>	8/02/2017
<b>Decision maker</b>	Cate Duffy - DCS
<b>Portfolio</b>	DSG
<b>Details of decision taken</b>	The process to agree the new formula used to set the budgets for local schools in the borough for the next financial year 2018/19 is underway. The timetable to agree the changes to the funding formula is very tight. Detailed discussions will be taking place with the Schools' Forum followed by full consultations with all affected schools and finally a submission to the Department of Education of the agreed position by January 19 <sup>th</sup> 2018.
<b>Reasons for taking decision</b>	Specific decisions that have been delegated to a particular officer by resolution at a Cabinet meeting to be taken following consultation with the relevant Commissioner
<b>Options considered</b>	N/A
<b>Details of any conflict of interest, disclosable pecuniary interest or non-statutory disclosable interest declared</b>	N/A
<b>Reports considered</b>	Attached

**SCHEDULE OF 'SIGNIFICANT' OFFICER DECISIONS** – To be circulated monthly to all Members and published on the website

1. Tenders/Contracts over £50,000 or 'sensitive' excluding individual social services care packages and school placements.
2. Exemptions to Competitive Tendering.
3. Redundancies/Early Retirements above 5 in Service area\*
4. Decision to commence formal organisational restructuring/consultation.
5. Consultation responses other than technical responses where officers asked for Member views.
6. Write-off of individual debts between £5,000 and £15,000.
7. Decisions arising from external report on significant Health and Safety at Work Act risk.
8. Compulsory Purchase Orders.
9. Action with regard to Petitions in accordance with the Council's Petition Scheme
10. Any exceptions made to the Council's agreed tender procedure as set out in Financial Procedure Rules
11. Consultancies over £5,000 (excluding cover for established posts) or any consultancy/employment offered to former Senior Officers of the Council of 3<sup>rd</sup> tier and above.
12. Other decisions such as those with political, media or industrial relations implications that Directors consider Members should be aware of.
13. Appointments to casual vacancies on committees, sub committees, Panels, Working Parties and outside bodies
14. Specific decisions that have been delegated to a particular officer by resolution at a Cabinet meeting to be taken following consultation with the relevant Commissioner

\*Decisions taken on the Redundancy/Early Retirement of a senior level officer to be reported to Group Leaders, Cabinet and Employment and Appeals Committee.

**Slough Borough Council  
CHILDREN, LEARNING SKILLS**

**Approval of Changes to the Schools Funding Formula 2017-2018  
(Under Delegated Authority)**

1. A report to Cabinet on 20th November 2017 considered the following request:

**Delegated Authority to Approve Changes to Schools National Funding Formula**

The process to agree the new formula used to set the budgets for local schools in the borough for the next financial year 2018/19 is underway. The timetable to agree the changes to the funding formula is very tight. Detailed discussions will be taking place with the Schools' Forum followed by full consultations with all affected schools and finally a submission to the Department of Education of the agreed position by January 19<sup>th</sup> 2018.

The quick turnaround required means that decisions about the composition of or changes to the formula will not fit into the current Cabinet cycle. Consequently Cabinet is requested to delegate authority to agree any changes to the national formula for 2018-19 financial year to the Director of Children, Learning and Skills, following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children, Education & Families. Any decisions taken under delegated action will be reported to the next Cabinet meeting.

The full copy of the report to Cabinet can be accessed here: [Agenda for Cabinet on Monday, 20th November, 2017, 6.30 pm](#)

2. The minutes of that Cabinet meeting confirmed that this request was approved (an extract reproduced below).

**Resolved**

That delegated authority be given to the Director of Children, Learning & Skills, following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children, Education & Families, to agree any changes to the schools funding formula for 2018-19 as outlined in paragraph 6.3.4 of the report.

A copy of the minutes can be accessed here:

[www.slough.gov.uk/moderngov/mgChooseDocPack.aspx?ID=5765](http://www.slough.gov.uk/moderngov/mgChooseDocPack.aspx?ID=5765)

3. A report on this matter was considered by School's Forum on January 17<sup>th</sup> 2018 and followed a consultation with all schools who were invited to give a view on 3 options put forward by the forum in conjunction with the Council. This report included the following recommendation:

That Schools' Forum:

- a) Notes the outcome from the consultation with all 44 maintained schools in that responses were received from 18 schools (41%), and
- 1 school (6%) selected option 1
  - 14 schools (78%) selected option 2
  - 3 schools (16%) selected option 3.
- b) Recommends option 2 as the preferred revenue funding option for 2018-19 to be agreed by the Council's Cabinet.

A copy of the full report can be accessed here:

<http://www.slough.gov.uk/moderngov/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=130&MId=6107&Ver=4>

4. Schools' Forum agreed this recommendation and the Council now needs to approve this decision using the delegated authority obtained in paragraph 2 above.

**Formal Approval:**

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**Cate Dunny**  
Strategic Director  
Children, Learning & Skills

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**Date**

8-February 2018.

Lead Commissioner **Cllr Shabnum Sadiq** consulted on .....