SLOUGH SCHOOLS' FORUM 14th July 2020

Directorate of Children, Learning and Skills

DSG ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report sets out the actual deployment of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) in 2019-20. It explains the main variances, and reports on the amounts carried forward into 2020-201.

The analysis focuses on the four blocks within the DSG and schools balances.

- Central Schools' Service Block (CSSB)
- Early Years Block (EYB)
- High Needs Block (HNB)
- Schools' Block (SB)
- Schools' balances

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 Schools' Forum is asked to note the report.

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

3.1 It is obligatory to provide Schools' Forum with the annual financial position for each block.

4 REPORT

4.1 The DSG is a ring-fenced grant and can only be applied to meet expenditure properly included in the Schools' Budget as defined in the Schools Finance Regulations.

The majority of funding is delegated to schools, using locally determined factor rates, determined by annual consultation and approved by schools' forum. A large proportion of the grant is recouped by the DfE to fund Academy schools within the authority. The remainder is used to fund Early Years', High Needs provisions, and central functions.

4.2 Year End Position – Summary 2019/20

Table 1 (below) provides a high level analysis of the financial performance of the DSG, both in—year and cumulatively.

DSG	2018-19 Cumulative Balances as at 31/3/2019	2018-19 Cumulative Balances as at 31/7/2019	2019-20 In- year Balances as at 31/3/2020	2019.20 Cumulative Balances as at 31/3/2020
SB	-0.221	-0.221	-0.092	-0.313
EYB	-0.902	-0.656	0.151	-0.505
CSSB	0.018	0.018	-0.009	0.009
HNB	8.300	8.300	5.865	14.165
Sub Total	7.195	7.441	5.915	13.356

- 4.3 The DSG in-year over spend is currently £5.915m, excluding the final adjustment for Early Years'. The final funding position for the Early Years' block has not yet been confirmed but is expected later this month, once the January 20 census data has been analysed.
- 4.4 The **cumulative** deficit before any adjustments is **£13.356m**. Any end of year balances must be rolled forward into the next financial year, which has the first call upon the forthcoming budget.
- 4.5 The reported underspends will be explored further within the report.

5.0 Schools' Block

5.1 Table 2 (below) provides a more detailed analysis of the Schools' Block for 2019-20. The reported end of year position is an under spend of (£0.221m). This underspend is wholly situated within the growth fund. This balance has been placed into reserves and can be assessed for use within the 2021-22 budget setting process.

		Budget 2019/20	Outturn	
Schools' Block		£m	2019/20 £m	Variance
Balance b/fwd		0.000	-0.221	-0.221
Balance b/fwd Total		0.000	-0.221	-0.221
Receipts				
DSG Settlement		-132.014	-132.014	0.000
Academy Recoupment		96.313	96.313	0.000
HNB Transfer		-0.500	-0.500	0.000
Net Cash		-36.201	-36.201	0
<u>Expenditure</u>		0.000	0.000	0.000
Maintained Primary Schools Budget Shares		27.439	27.439	0.000
Maintained Secondary Schools Budget Share	es .	7.180	7.180	0.000
De-delegated Budget: Behavioural Services		0.000	0.000	0.000
Growth Fund: School Block Top Slice & Carry	•			
forward		0.800	0.800	0.000
Growth Fund: Not Recouped		0.282	0.282	0.000
Block transfer funding to Maintained School	S	0.106	0.106	0.000
Block transfer funding to Academy Schools		0.394	0.394	0.000

Expenditure	36.201	36.201	0.000
Variance	0.000	0.000	0.000
Bal C/fwd to 2020.21	0.000	-0.221	-0.221

6. CSSB

6.1 The reported end of year position is an underspend of £.009m, itemised within the table beneath.

CSSB			Budget 2019/20 £m	Actual 2019/20 £m	Variance
18/19 overspend due to Licences			0	0.018	0.018
B/fwd Total			0	0.018	0.018
Receipts					
DSG Settlement			-0.654	-0.654	0.000
Block Transfer			-0.255	-0.255	0.000
Income Total			-0.909	-0.909	0.000
<u>Expenditure</u>					
Servicing of schools forum			0.053	0.053	0.000
Admissions			0.178	0.172	-0.006
Education Welfare (Former ESG)		0.145	0.145	0.000	
Asset Management (Former ESG)			0.013	0.000	-0.013
Statutory & Regulatory (Former ESG)			0.258	0.258	0.000
Licences			0.132	0.132	0.000
LA Safeguarding Board			0.030	0.030	0.000
VH			0.100	0.100	0.000
CSSB overheads		0.000	0.010	0.010	
Expenditure Total		0.909	0.900	-0.009	
Variance			0.000	-0.009	-0.009
Balance c/fwd to 20/21			0.000	0.009	0.009

- 6.2 **Admissions:** a staff driven service, with a slight underspend owed to staffing efficiencies.
- 6.3 **Asset Management:** No spend had been recorded 2019-20 as a pupil yield survey was commissioned costing £7,000 but due to delays the cost will be recorded in 2020-21
- 6.4 **Licenses:** Commercial and confidence, DSG annual licence fee paid gross of VAT, against a budget excluding VAT.

7.0 Early Years' Block

7.1 The **provisional** end of year position is an under spend of £0.656m and a cumulative underspend of £0.662m, a favourable movement of £0.06m over what was reported previously to forum.

This is a demand funded service with providers claiming funding for actual hours of provision at the hourly rate set by the authority for that particular financial year.

- 7.2 The final funding position within the Early Years Block will not be confirmed until the January census data has been analysed and the budget amended. This is usually completed in July, we are currently awaiting this information from the DfE.
- 7.2 Table 3 sets out the provisional 2019-20 Early Years DSG revenue budget and outturn position. The current funding allocation is based on the January 19 census data, and will be updated in July 20 to reflect 5/12ths of the January 19 and 7/12ths of the January 20 censuses. Expenditure is based on actual take up achieved during the financial year, with providers claiming funding for actual hours of provision at the hourly rate set by the authority for that particular financial year. The outturn data within the table demonstrates this and is now final.
- 7.3 There will be variances between actual funding and expenditure incurred because the funding is always an estimate of the potential activity for Early Years users and the demand is not uniform over the year. Both expenditure and funding is therefore variable and challenging to predict.

Table 3 refers, below:

	Budget	Outturn	
Early Years Block	2019/20 £m	2019/20 £m	Variance
Income	, .	, -	
DSG Settlement	-14.166	-14.166	0.000
Income Total	-14.166	-14.166	0.000
Expenditure			
Maintained Nursery Schools			
2 Year Old Funding	0.228	0.228	0.000
3-4 Year Old Universal Entitlement	1.387	1.387	0.000
3-4 Year Old Extended Entitlement	0.377	0.377	0.000
Deprivation	0.033	0.033	0.000
Maintained Nursery Supplement	0.728	0.728	0.000
EYPP	0.023	0.023	0.000
Sub Total	2.776	2.776	0.000
Primary Schools			
2 Year Old Funding	0.040	0.040	0.000
3-4 Year Old Universal Entitlement	3.676	3.676	0.000
3-4 Year Old Extended Entitlement	0.383	0.383	0.000
Deprivation	0.046	0.046	0.000
EYPP	0.032	0.032	0.000
DAF	0.001	0.001	0.000
Sub Total	4.178	4.179	0.000
Special Schools			
2 Year Old Funding	0.001	0.001	0.000
3-4 Year Old Universal Entitlement	0.010	0.010	0.000
Sub Total	0.011	0.011	0.000
PVI Sector	6.069	6.418	0.349
Sub Total	6.069	6.418	0.349
EYPP	0.013	0.038	0.025
Deprivation	0.000	0.053	0.053
Growth	0.351	0.000	-0.351
Disability Access Fund	0.054	0.001	-0.054
Sub Total	0.419	0.092	-0.327
Central Budgets			
Early Years Adaptations/ Practical			
Support	0.050	0.001	-0.049
Early Years Strategic Financial support	0.080	0.080	0.000
Early Years Behaviour Support Services	0.042	0.041	-0.001
Central Early Years Expenditure	0.070	0.070	0.000
Early Years Team Contribution	0.472	0.493	0.021
Central Expenditure Total	0.714	0.685	-0.028
Projected End of Year Variance	0.000	-0.006	-0.006
Carry forward from 2019/20	0.000	-0.656	-0.656
Cumulative Surplus/Deficit	0.000	-0.662	-0.662

- 7.4 A review of the main variances follows:
- 7.41 **Maintained Nursery and Primary Schools:** No Variance is shown against these budgets as the budget and actual allocation are made the same for internal reconciliation purposes. The total variance in the take up of hours will be known once the final adjustment has been made by the DfE in July 2020, once the January 2020 census has been verified.
- 7.42 **PVI Sector:** underspend of (£0.349m) due to lower demand against funding levels.
- 7.43 **Deprivation:** Correlates to demand, which has been lower than budgeted with the PVI sector.
- 7.44 **EYPP:** Whilst the ESFA will fund this based on the census data returns, actual funding is linked to the FSM applications. Early years providers are ultimately responsible for identifying eligible children. Providers should be encouraged to speak to parents to find out who is eligible for EYPP funding. If parents do not lodge an application, then the school or nursery will not receive the pupil premium for that child from the LA. The outturn reflects these differences.
- 7.45 **Growth:** The residual contingency set aside to support Early Years' providers if they experienced growth above the expected levels. It is expected that the DfE will recoup this.
- 7.46 **Disability Access Fund:** underspend of **(£0.054m)**. This was introduced in April 2017 to support disabled children's access to the entitlements for three and four year olds. The previous underspend of **(£.051m)** has been increased slightly. The Early years' service have raised awareness and agreed criteria across the sector.
- 7.47 **Centrally Retained:** underspend of **(£0.028m)** Adaptations/Practical Support is a relatively new area of funding and the take up has been slower than expected. This balance is expected to reduce as the Early Years' service have raised awareness and agreed criteria across the sector.

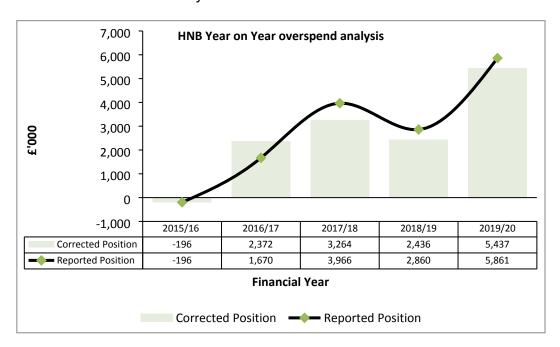
8. High Needs Block

- 8.1 The DSG 2019-20 High Needs Block final outturn shows an in-year overspend of £5.861m and a cumulative overspend of £14.161m.
- 8.2 The Council received a gross cash settlement of £16.498m which is reflective of in- year import and exports, and place funding recoupment. This settlement has been revised to £16.243m, to reflect the preagreed in-year block transfers. Total expenditure incurred was recorded at £21.604m, which can be traced through Table 4, beneath.

High Needs Block	Base Funding 2019/20 £m	Outturn 2019/20 £m	Variance
<u>Income</u>			
High Needs DSG	-16.498	-16.498	0.000
Schools Block Transfer	0.000	0.500	0.500
Central Block Transfer	0.255	0.255	0.000
Income Total	-16.243	-15.743	0.500
Expenditure			
HN Mainstream Based Top Ups – Nursery	0.040	0.043	0.003
HN Mainstream Based Top Ups - Maintained Schools	0.610	0.728	0.118
HN Mainstream Based Top Ups – Academies	1.412	1.622	0.210
HN Resource Based Top Ups – Nursery	0.059	0.098	0.039
HN Resource Based Top Ups - Maintained Schools	0.881	0.901	0.020
HN Resource Based Top Ups – Academies	1.574	1.554	-0.020
HN Place Funding – Nursery	0.100	0.100	0.000
HN Place Funding - Maintained Schools	0.540	0.540	0.000
HN Place Funding – Academies	0.020	0.056	0.036
SS Based Top Ups	5.462	6.474	1.012
SS Place Funding	0.000	0.110	0.110
Alternative Provision	0.659	0.915	0.256
Early Years Inclusion	0.000	0.059	0.059
Independent Special Schools	0.874	1.990	1.116
Post 16	0.600	1.359	0.759
Out-borough	0.930	2.610	1.680
Sub-Total	13.761	19.158	5.398
Centrally Retained Expenditure			
SEND Financial Support	0.055	0.052	-0.003
SEN - Assessment Capacity	0.182	0.182	0.000
Early Years Inclusion	0.070	0.070	0.000
Hard to Place Pupils	0.267	0.185	-0.082
Exclusions and Access to Education	0.032	0.037	0.005
Home Education	0.043	0.044	0.001
0-5 SEN Transport	0.046	0.046	0.000
Vulnerable Children Management Incl.	0.030	0.030	0.000
Autism Outreach Team	0.186	0.114	-0.072
EY SEN advisory Teachers/support Workers EY settings	0.118	0.118	0.000
EY SEN advisory Teachers/support Workers in Children's			
Centres	0.063	0.063	0.000
SENCO Network	0.100	0.096	-0.004
SEND Teacher Advisor	0.118	0.052	-0.066
Sensory Impairment	0.470	0.453	-0.017
SALT	0.252	0.289	0.038
Education Resource Services (Formerly LACES)	0.107	0.277	0.171
Primary Provision Behaviour	0.164	0.164	-0.000

Sub-Total	2.302	2.273	-0.029
Non Controllables	0.180	0.172	-0.008
Sub-Total	0.180	0.172	-0.008
Total Expenditure	16.243	21.604	5.361
Projected End of Year Variance	-0.000	5.861	5.861
Brought forward Deficit from 2019/20		8.300	
Carry forward Deficit into 2020.21		14.161	

8.3 Year on Year Analysis



- 8.4 The above graph shows the reported position against the corrected position, after the treatment of accruals within FY 2016/17 and 2017/18 which ensures that expenditure falls within the year it was incurred. The 2018/19 in-year deficit, although significant, has reduced against the 2017-18 outturn.
- 8.5 A full account of the reasons for the £14.161m overspend is given below:

£8.300m Brought forward deficit from prior years'.

£0.500 Schools Block Transfer

£1.116m Independent Special School spend above budget.

£0.759m Post 16 spend above budget

£1.680m Out of Borough spend above budget

£0.059m Early Years Inclusion

£1.783m In-Borough spend for mainstream, Resource based top-ups including Special Schools.

(£0.007) underspend Overhead charges

(£0.029) underspend against centrally retained items.

8.51 Independent Special Schools and Out of Borough: This budget has been consistently overspending over the past three years, attributable to a mixture of increased demand and an inadequate budget provision. The tables beneath demonstrate this, with the respective overspends highlighted in green.

2019/20	Out-borough & Post 16	Independent SS	TOTAL
Budget	1,330,000	873,620	2,203,620
Outturn	3,736,432	1,990,070	5,726,502
Variance	2,406,432	1,116,450	3,522,882

2018/19	Out-borough & Post 16	Independent SS	TOTAL
Budget	882,000	800,000	1,682,000
Outturn	2,179,162	1,975,333	4,154,495
Variance	1,297,162	1,175,333	2,472,495

2017/18	Out-borough & Post 16	Independent	TOTAL
Budget	785,190	800,000	1,585,190
Outturn	2,470,956	1,438,865	3,909,822
Variance	1,685,766	638,865	2,324,632

8.52 **Post 16:** The reported outturn position is an overspend of £0.759m.

Post 16				
Placement Cost Ranges	No of Pupils at Mar 18/19			
£0 - £10,000	55			
£10,001 - £25,000	10			
£25,001 - £40,000	5			
£40,001 - £55,000	1			
£55,001 - £75,000	2			
£75,001 - £100,000	0			
+£100,000	0			
TOTAL	73			

Post 16				
Placement Cost Ranges	No of Pupils at Mar 19/20			
£0 - £10,000	63			
£10,001 - £25,000	10			
£25,001 - £40,000	12			
£40,001 - £55,000	3			
£55,001 - £75,000	0			
£75,001 - £100,000	1			
+£100,000	0			
TOTAL	89			

Post 16- F558						
FY	Budget £m	Outturn £m	Variance £m	No of Learners	Average Cost £m	
2017.18	0.132	0.672	0.539	76	0.007	
2018.19	0.132	0.763	0.631	73	0.009	
2019.20	0.600	1.359	0.759	88	0.009	

8.53 **Independent Sector**: The reported outturn position is an overspend of £1.116m. The tables below categorises placement costs for 2018/19, 2019/20 and the average cost per placement within an independent setting.

Independent Sector				
Placement Cost Ranges	No of Pupils at Mar 18/19			
£0 - £10,000	8			
£10,001 - £25,000	21			
£25,001 - £40,000	15			
£40,001 - £55,000	8			
£55,001 - £75,000	6			
£75,001 - £100,000	2			
+£100,000	0			
TOTAL	60			

Independent Sector				
Placement Cost Ranges	No of Pupils at Mar 19/20			
£0 - £10,000	7			
£10,001 - £25,000	10			
£25,001 - £40,000	13			
£40,001 - £55,000	16			
£55,001 - £75,000	5			
£75,001 - £100,000	3			
+£100,000	1			
TOTAL	55			

	Independent Sector						
FY	Budget £m	Average Cost £m					
2017.18	0.800	1.439	0.639	51	0.012		
2018.19	0.800	1.975	1.175	60	0.020		
2019.20	0.874	1.990	1.116	55	0.020		

- 8.54 **Out of Borough**: This service has overspent by **£1.128m**, which is attributable to consistency higher placements made above budget. Other factor includes:
 - 400k invoices paid for the placements relating 2018-19.
 - 114k one off cost agreed for the place funding with the Windsor College

Below highlights the breakdown of the overspend

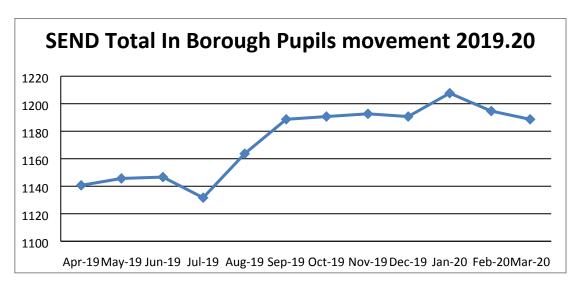
OB Mainstream							
FY	Pupil Annual cost	Unrealised Accruals	Unaccrued Expend	One off cost	Actual		
2018.19	321,385	-53,823	13,235		280,797		
2019.20	449,872	-8,654	95,030	114,000	650,248		
Variance	128,487	45,169	81,795	114,000	369,451		

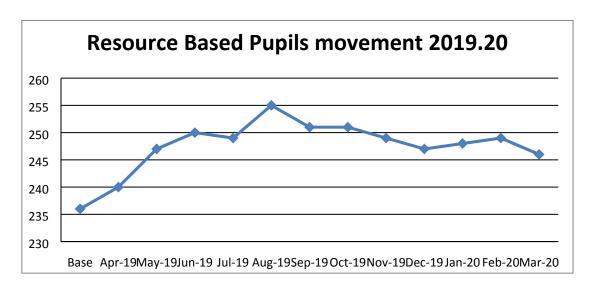
OB Special						
FY Budget £m Outturn £m Variance £m No of Learners A					Average Cost £m	
2018.19	0.418	0.997	0.579	50	0.020	
2019.20	0.600	1.756	1.156	75	0.023	

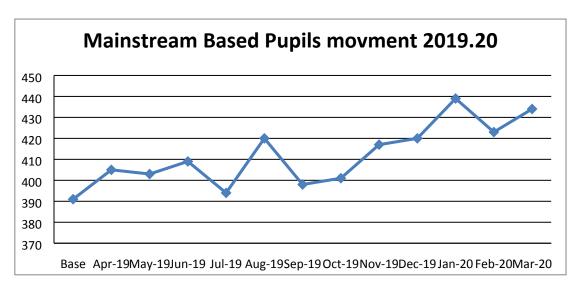
OB Special						
FY	Pupil Annual cost	Unrealised Accruals	Unaccrued Expend	Actual		
2018.19	1,029,780	-32,852	0	996,928		
2019.20	1,518,828	-68,837	306,106	1,756,097		
Variance	489,048	-35,985	306,106	759,169		

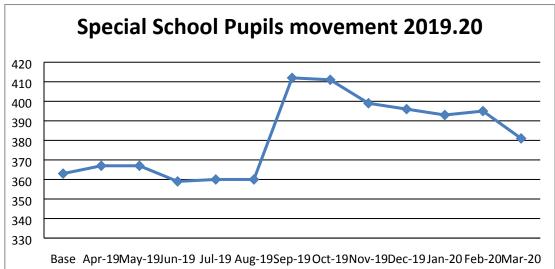
	OB Mainstream						
FY Budget £m Outturn £m Variance £m No of Learners Avera						Average Cost £m	
	2018.19	0.130	0.281	0.151	50	0.006	
	2019.20	0.130	0.650	0.520	61	0.011	

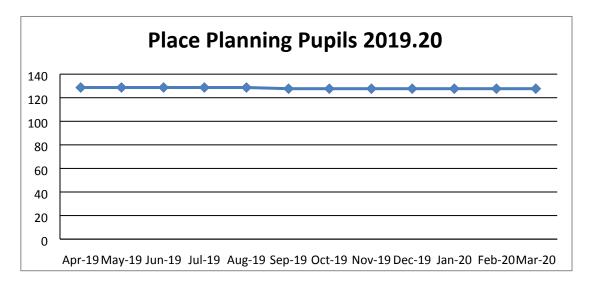
8.55 **In-Borough:** The reported overspend for 2019/20 is £1.783m, which is broadly attributable to increased demand.











- 8.6 **Centrally Retained Functions.**
- 8.61 Autism £0.072m underspend, which is in relation to staff vacancies

8.62 Sensory Impairment £0.017m underspend

Joint Arrangement providing services to support pupils within schools with sensory needs (HI,VI) and Berkshire Consortium providing teaching visits via a discrete Berkshire Sensory Impairment SLA and BHFT Consortium

8.63 **SALT Services £0.37m overspend.**

A new agreement has been reached with Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (BHFT) to provide SALT services. Whilst this service is being rolled out, SALT services are still being provided by other providers that are costed above budget. It is expected that these costs will taper away once the BHFT are providing SALT support to all schools.

8.64 High Needs Inclusion – overspend £0.104m

Due to increased Education Resource Services support for children looked after.

9. School Balances

- 9.1 A list of the actual balances carried forward by maintained schools is listed in table 5 below. This shows three nurseries now in deficit and three primary school with low balances.
- 9.2 Schools with low balances or who are in deficit will receive additional support so that the local authority is satisfied that robust plans are in place to ensure that the school is in good financial health. All maintained schools are required to submit a three year budget plan as well as a recovery plan, where they envisage a deficit. LA officers will be analysing all budget plans and will RAG rate them. Appropriate discussions will then be had with the affected schools and actions will be drawn up.

Table 5 refers:

School Balances	As at 31st March 2019	As at 31st March 2020	Change
Baylis Court Nursery	-75,568	17,494	93,062
Chalvey Nursery	38,529	112,616	74,087
Cippenham Nursery	-223,890	-227,475	-3,585
Claycots Junior School	-706,841	-1,506,966	-800,125
HOLY FAMILY	-101,588	-66,606	34,982
IQRA	-254,865	-289,995	-35,130
Khalsa V.A. Primary School	-29,245	-115,718	-86,473
Lea Nursery	-237,482	-126,255	111,227
Our Lady of Peace RC Infants	-27,514	-48,348	-20,834
PENN WOOD	-284,960	-220,409	64,551
PIPPINS	-122,044	-48,135	73,909
PRIORY	-1,618,959	-1,594,203	24,756
Slough Centre Nursery	115,190	180,461	65,271
ST BERNARDS	-219,717	-209,687	10,030
St Mary's C of E Primary	-243,142	-196,272	46,870
Wexham Court Primary	-867,005	-1,005,612	-138,607
Wexham Secondary	-706,388	-811,266	-104,878
	-5,565,489	-6,156,375	-590,887

9.3 Reasons for in-year variations:

The Nursery schools in general have seen a reduction in participation rates which directly correlates with a reduction in budget. Work will be undertaken with these establishments to offer assistance to help them in producing a balanced budget.

Further work will be undertaken with all the other schools in deficit or facing financial difficulties to assist them in setting a balanced budget or producing a deficit recovery plan.

10 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

11 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

Monitoring Officer

11.1 The relevant legal provisions are contained within the main body of this report.

<u>Section 151 Officer – Strategic Director of Resources</u>

11.2 The financial implications of the report are outlined in the supporting information.

12 CONSULTATION

Principal Groups Consulted

Not Applicable

Method of Consultation

Not Applicable

Representations Received

Not applicable.

Contact for further information:

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