

SLOUGH SCHOOLS' FORUM
Date of Forum
10th March 2022
Directorate of People (Children)

Update on Dedicated Schools Grant Management Plan

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report provides an update to Schools Forum on the Dedicated Schools Grant Management Plan. The paper attached (Appendix A) presented at Slough Borough Council Cabinet meeting on 9th March addresses the plan.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

Schools Forum to note the following (from the cabinet report):

- the forecast position for DSG spend in 2021/22 to 2024/25
- the overarching issues that have resulted in the DSG deficit and the actions taken to date to address these
- the Council has been invited to take part in the 'safety valve' intervention programme with the DfE which is expected to commence in April/May 2022

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

Below taken from cabinet report:

Slough's priority outcomes include children growing up to be happy, healthy and successful, and people being healthier and managing their own care needs. Those who receive services via the Local Authority's DSG (High Needs Block) are the most vulnerable children and young people (aged 0-25) with special educational needs and disabilities. An effective Management Plan for DSG High Needs Block spending is required to address the current overspend and ensure that services are sustainable and can continue to meet the needs of children, young people and their families in Slough.

This priority has to be achieved within a balanced budget and this has not been the case in the past with increasing deficits and no management action to address them.

4 REPORT

Please refer to appendix A for the full report.

5 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

None

6 Financial Implications

The financial implications have been detailed in the body of the paper.

7 Legal Implications

There are no legal implications for this report.

8 Equality Implications

Not applicable

9 Consultation with Ward Members and Stakeholders

- Schools Forum members have been involved through a sub-group
- Appropriate stakeholders have been consulted/met with

10 Human Resources/Property Implications (if appropriate)

Not applicable

Contacts for further information

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