

ROYAL BOROUGH OF WINDSOR & MAIDENHEAD SCHOOLS FORUM

Date:	16th January 2018	AGENDA ITEM: 8
Title:	Centrally Retained Budgets 2018/19	
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1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This paper summarises RBWM's proposed schools budget allocation and the schools block central budgets.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Schools Forum is asked to approve the central commitments and de delegated allocations detailed in this report.

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 De-delegation is the mechanism by which maintained schools pool some of their delegated budget in order to benefit from specific services that could be provided centrally in a more efficient, targeted way and at less risk to individual schools.
- 3.2 As in previous years, any decisions made to de-delegate funding in 2018/19 relate to that year only, so new decisions are required for the coming financial year to 'de-delegate' funding for those services prescribed by the EFA. Annex 1 sets out the Schools Forum Powers and Responsibilities for de delegated and central lines
- 3.3 Schools forum members for primary maintained schools and secondary maintained schools must decide separately for each phase whether the service should be provided centrally. The decision is binding on all maintained mainstream schools in that phase. The proposed charging basis and rates are reflected in tables 1 & 2.

Table 1: Primary schools de-delegated services

De-delegated services 2018/19	Charging Basis	2017/18 Rate	2017/18 Total £000	2018/19 Rate	2018/19 Total £000
Contingencies including schools in financial difficulties and deficits of closing schools	Per pupil	£15	£121	£15	£115
Behaviour support services	Per IDACI pupil	£50	£53	£50	£53
Staff costs supply cover (e.g. maternity, long term sick, trade union and public duties, suspended staff reimbursement)	Per pupil	£25	£201	£25	£192

Table 2: Secondary schools de-delegated services

De-delegated services	Charging Basis	2017/18 Rate	2017/18 Total £000	2018/19 Rate	2018/19 Total £000
Contingencies including schools in financial difficulties and deficits of closing schools	Per pupil	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Behaviour support services	Per IDACI pupil	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Staff costs supply cover (e.g. maternity, long term sick, trade union and public duties, suspended staff reimbursement)	Per pupil	£25	£15	£25	£14

- 3.4 Schools forum members for primary maintained schools and secondary maintained schools are asked to vote separately for each phase on the de-delegation arrangements as set out above. Annex 2 provides information on the services provided centrally.

4 CENTRAL SCHOOLS EXPENDITURE

- 4.1 RBWM has received a central block funding allocation of £1,142,000 for the financial year 2018/19. Detailed breakdown of all central line costs will be sent to Schools Forum after the S251 Budget statement has been completed.
- 4.2 In addition to the Central block, up to 5% (equates to £510,600 for 2018/19) of the Early Years block may be retained for centrally use in 2018/19, part of which requires Schools Forum approval. This funding allocation is recorded on line 1.3.1 of the S251 budget statement and forms part of table 3 below.
- 4.3 The growth Fund and falling rolls budget lines for 2018/19 onwards now form part of the Schools Block and are no longer categorised as central spend within the DSG. The Indicative Schools Growth Fund budget has been set at £402,100 and formed part of the recent consultation with schools. The falling rolls fund is budget is to be finalised under a separate Schools Forum Agenda item.
- 4.4 The Table below sets out RBWM's proposals for planned central expenditure including Early Years Central spend for 2018/19. This is where Schools Forum approval is required.

Table 3 : Central Expenditure - requiring Schools Forum approval

EFA limitations	S251 line	Expenditure budget	2017/18 Budget £000	2018/19 Proposal £000	Movement £000
No SF approval required (for information only)		Central School licenses negotiated by the DfE	98	109	11
SF approval required, no increases or new commitments	1.4.1	Combined services budgets	268	268	0
SF approval required, no increases allowed	1.4.2	Admissions	277	277	0
	1.4.3	Schools Forum	31	31	0
SF approval required	1.4.8	Fees for pupils without SEN	110	110	0
		Remission of boarding fees	0	0	0
SF Approval Required	1.3.1	EY Central for Under 5's	193	193	0
	1.3.1	Early Years – in year allocations to providers	30	30	0
Total			1,007	1,018	11

Combined services budgets

- 4.5 Combined services budgets are where the schools forum agreed prior to April 2013 a contribution from the schools budget to services which would otherwise be funded from other sources. Schools Forum approved the use of £268,000 of Schools Block funding for 2017/18 to support expenditure on the services set out in table 4. There are no new commitments or increases in budget for 2018/19.

Table 4: Combined services budgets 2018/19

Service	£000	Description of services provided
Discretionary education psychology services	104	Expenditure on non statutory services to provide all schools with a link EP, three Planning and Review meetings per year, availability for telephone consultations and email support as required.
Information, advice and support for parents	60	Expenditure on impartial information, advice and support services for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities, and their parents.
Early Help advisors in schools	104	Expenditure on early intervention social care support for pupils in school, to provide a link worker for telephone consultations and email support as required.
Total Combined Services	268	

Transfer of Retained Duties Education Services Grant into the Schools Block

- 4.6 The DSG now includes £315,000 previously paid to the Council as the retained duties element of the education services grant (ESG). This grant previously supported statutory services provided centrally on behalf of all schools, including:
- Education welfare services (prosecution of parents for non-attendance; tracking children missing from education; and issues relating to child employment).
 - Asset management (capital programme planning and functions relating to academy leases)
 - Statutory and regulatory duties – (including finance, HR and legal functions and the strategic planning of children’s services).
- 4.7 In October 2016, Schools Forum gave their approval to retain £315,000 to pay for the services that were previously funded by the retained duties element of ESG.

Table 5: Retained duties funded by ESG 2018/19

Retained Duties	£000
Education Welfare services	83
Capital planning	86
Statutory and regulatory duties	146
Total Retained duties funded by ESG	315

Schools Forum Powers and Responsibilities –de delegated and central lines

Approval required	Services covered (and funding block)
Schools Forum reps decide for each phase	De Delegated Budget lines .
Schools forum approval is required for each line	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • early years block provision • remission of boarding fees at maintained schools and academies • places in independent schools for non-SEN pupils • services previously funded by the retained rate of the ESG.
Schools forum approval is required for each line..	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • admissions • servicing of schools forum
Schools forum approval is required for each line. No new commitments can be entered into.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • contribution to combined budgets – this is where the schools forum agreed prior to April 2013 a contribution from the schools budget to services which would otherwise be funded from other sources. • existing termination of employment costs (costs for specific individuals must have been approved prior to April 2013 so no new redundancy costs can be charged).
Schools forum approval is required for each line including approval of the criteria for allocating funds to schools.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • funding for significant pre/16 pupil growth, including new schools set up to meet basic need, whether maintained or academy • funding for good or outstanding schools with falling rolls where growth in pupil numbers is expected within three years.

2018/19 DSG allocation

Behaviour Support	<p>Funding to cover central Behaviour Support Team providing support to young people, as well as helping schools manage behaviour more effectively:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing 1:1 support for children and young people. • Observation and assessments as appropriate. • Advice and training to families and schools. • Evidence-based programmes for groups of pupils, such as Nurture groups, 'Friends for Life'. • Transition and anti-bullying programmes for vulnerable groups and whole class level. • Support to develop strategies to manage difficult behaviour. • Regular monitoring and support for ELSAs. • Promoting the social and emotional skills that underpin effective learning. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive change for children and young people. • Bespoke training. • Dissemination of effective practice across schools. • The ability to manage resources on a needs basis and to respond to the individual needs of a school at short notice. • Ability to flexibly support staff in the workplace. • Expertise in understanding of the social and emotional aspects of emotional or challenging behaviour. • Suitably qualified and experienced staff available on a needs basis. • Responsive and supportive service.
Maternity Cover / Trade Union Duties	<p>Funding for eligible staff costs when there is an absence from school for official reasons. The main areas are: maternity, trade union duties, magistrates and jury service. Schools need to ensure sufficient staff are in place to meet their responsibilities. The incidence of these costs tends to be uneven, by year and by school.</p> <p>Allocations to schools under the 'suspended staff' policy.</p>	<p>Main benefits include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools pick up the costs for cover only, LA funds cost of substantive post. • Schools avoid double costs of substantive post and supply cover • scheme shares risk, eliminates unpredictability, and helps financial management.