

**Report of Head of Financial Services to Schools**

**Report to the Director of Children's Services**

**Date: 27 March 2015**

**Subject: Schools in Financial Difficulties 2014-15**



Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

**Summary of main issues**

1. The report seeks approval of the recommendations of the School's Forum Panel to assist schools in financial difficulty as outlined in the attached report and appendix.

**Recommendations**

2. It is recommended that the Director of Children's Services agree the allocation of £983,992 from the central budget to support schools in financial difficulty in accordance with the recommendations of the panel of the Leeds School's Forum which was established to consider applications.

## **1 Purpose of this report**

- 1.1 To seek approval of the recommendations of the Schools Forum Panel to assist schools in financial difficulty as outlined in the attached report and appendices

## **2 Background information**

- 2.1 Report to Schools Forum 19 March 2015, Schools in Financial Difficulties 2014/15 – Panel Recommendations (attached at appendix 1).

## **3 Main issues**

- 3.1 As part of the 2014/15 budgetary process Schools Forum agreed to retain a budget of £1,000,000 to support schools in financial difficulty.
- 3.2 Schools Forum previously agreed that all applications, should be considered by a panel of the School's Forum and that recommendations from that panel would be submitted to the Chief Officer (Strategy, Commissioning and Performance), who has delegated responsibility on behalf of the Director of Children's Services of Leeds City Council, for a formal decision to be made.
- 3.3 The panel consider applications at three meetings during the financial year, and recommended that £983,992 be allocated to various schools as tabled in the report to Schools Forum on 19 March 2015.

## **4 Corporate Considerations**

### **4.1 Consultation and Engagement**

- 4.1.1 No impact

### **4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration**

- 4.2.1 No impact (screening form attached).

### **4.3 Council Policies and City Priorities**

- 4.3.1 No impact

### **4.4 Resources and Value for Money**

- 4.4.1 The total value of the recommended allocations leaves £16,008 unallocated.

### **4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In**

- 4.5.1 No impact

### **4.6 Risk Management**

- 4.6.1 No impact

## **5 Conclusions**

- 5.1 The amounts recommended for allocation are within the budget set for 2014/15, and have followed the agreed procedure.

## **6 Recommendations**

- 6.1 It is recommended that the Director of Children's Services agree the allocation of £983,992 from the central budget to support schools in financial difficulty in accordance with the recommendations of the panel of the Leeds Schools Forum which was established to consider applications.

## **7 Background documents<sup>1</sup>**

- 7.1 None

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<sup>1</sup> The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.