

Appendix D

The information included below has come from the Children's Services Finance team in relation to the request below.

Please provide the North East (Outer) Area Committee with further details on how much funding has been topsliced from the dedicated schools grant for EPOS Schools and how much is then given to the EPOS clusters.

It is not possible to provide a definite answer to the above question as there is no breakdown of the dedicated schools grant for EPOS schools.

The Dedicated Schools Grant is paid as a whole to the City Council at an average rate of £4,945.95 per pupil aged 3 to 16, but the average rate for Leeds is based on city wide indicators of need when compared with all other Local Authorities, with all previous grants rolled into the allocation from 2011/12 based on the cash totals allocated to each Local Authority at that point. It is therefore not possible to break down the DSG allocation into anything other than a city total.

However, as far as the funding for clusters is concerned the current funding formula allocating funding to each cluster uses the formulae and cash within the previous grants that were rolled up into the DSG from 2011/12.

It could therefore be claimed that the amount of DSG currently used to fund clusters is identical at a cluster level to the current allocations, adjusted for changes in data between 2010/11 and 2012/13.

The total funding currently held centrally and devolved to clusters is £5.2m. 50% of this total came from an extended services grant allocated to Local Authorities based solely on free school meals eligibility, with the other 50% based on a combination of pupil numbers and deprivation indicators.

The Schools Forum agreed that the continuing commitment to clusters should be maintained for the next three years, 2013/14 to 2015/16.

School Forum considered a report in January 2013 which recommended that they considered a different option to the current formula for cluster funding. The options considered and their impact at cluster level can be seen in Appendix E. The Forum voted conclusively for option 1 which was the most targeted and closest to the existing formula.