

## LEEDS SCHOOL FORUM

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Meeting to be held in on  
Tuesday, 16th January, 2024 at 4.30 pm

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### MEMBERSHIP

Bradley Taylor, A, Primary Governors - Kirkstall Valley Primary  
Kate Burton, E. Academy Reps – Alder Tree Primary  
Rebecca White, B. Primary Heads, Sharp Lane Primary  
Victoria McWalker, A. Primary Governors, St Margaret's Horsforth C of E  
Stratis Koutsoukos, B. Primary Governors, St Nicholas Catholic Primary  
Nick Tones, J. Non Schools, Schools JCC  
Christopher Thornton, J. Non Schools 16-19 Providers  
Simon Prinsep, E. Academy Reps, Abbey Grange CofE  
Peter McQuillen Strong, J. Leeds Catholic Diocese  
Gavin Hosford, E. Academy Reps - Green Meadows  
Rachel Colbourn, E. Academy Reps - Bramhope Primary  
Dave Kagai, A. Primary Governors - St Nicholas Primary  
Sarah Talbot, E. Academy Reps - East Ardsley Primary  
John Garvani (LSF), A. Primary Governors - Broadgate Primary School  
John Hutchinson, B. Primary Heads - St Theresa's Catholic Primary  
Peter Harris, B. Primary Heads - Farsley Farfield Primary  
Julie Harkness, B. Primary Heads - Carr Manor Community school - Primary Phase  
Emma Wraight, B. Primary Heads - Fieldhead Carr Primary  
David Webster, C. Secondary Governors - Pudsey Grammar  
Delia Martin, D. Secondary Heads - Benton Park  
David Gurney, E. Academy Reps - Cockburn School  
Rob Dixon, E. Academy Rep, Pudsey Waterloo Primary  
John Thorne, E. Academy Reps - St Mary's Academy Menston  
Joe Barton, E. Academy Reps - Woodkirk Academy  
Russell Trigg, F. Governor East SILC  
Dan Cohen (Leeds School Forum), J. Jewish Faith Schools

## A G E N D A

<b>Item No</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
1.	<b>APOLOGIES</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>16:30</b>	<b>For information</b>
2.	<b>SCHOOL FORUM MEMBERSHIP</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>16:35</b>	<b>For information</b>
3.	<b>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING</b> <i>3 - 8</i>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>16:40</b>	<b>For decision</b>
4.	<b>MATTERS ARISING</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>16:55</b>	<b>For information</b>
5.	<b>SCHOOL FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS 2024/25</b> <i>9 - 24</i>	<b>Lucie McAulay</b>	<b>17:00</b>	<b>For decision</b>
6.	<b>DE-DELEGATION OF SERVICES 2024/25</b> <i>25 - 36</i>	<b>Lucie McAulay</b>	<b>17:35</b>	<b>For decision</b>
7.	<b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>18:15</b>	<b>For information</b>
8.	<b>MEETING DATES FOR 23/24 AND FORWARD PLAN</b> <i>37 - 38</i>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>18:25</b>	<b>For decision</b>
9.	<b>CLOSE</b>		<b>18:30</b>	



Item	Title	Actions
1.0	<b>Welcome and Apologies</b>	
1.1	The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were noted and introductions made.	
2.0	<b>Schools Forum Membership</b>	
2.1	Vacancies remain for: 1 x Primary Governor 1 x PVI Nursery Provider vacancy 1 x Alternative Academy vacancy 1 x Primary Headteacher vacancy 1 x SILC Governor 1 x SILC Principle 1 x Non-school representatives	
2.1.2	Primary Head Teachers had 3 applications for one vacancy – this had gone out to vote. Academy representatives received 2 applications; these have been filled. SILCs, have received one expression of interest and one application. Governor representatives will be advertised within the Governors Bulletin. LH will offer a briefing to the new members in the new year.	KB
3.0	<b>Minutes of Previous Meeting</b>	
3.1	The minutes were agreed.	
4.0	<b>Matters Arising</b>	
4.1	<b>Page 2 Action</b> to provide further information as regards assumptions in HNB projections, particularly around SEN Top-Ups and £6k blocks. SM provided further details via a report and PH advised he would like further information, such as the breakdown of typical amount per child. VB advised that due to the change in rates there is an average of more per pupil. Highest increase in year's 4,6 & 9. There has been an increase in requests for FFI and we also increased the FFI funding rate. The 10-15% increase is all Top Ups and has not varied that much. Question was asked - is the increase in anticipation of more children being in mainstream? It was advised that it is based on the last 12 months, and this is what we would anticipate spending. There is an expectation that 65% schools will Qualify for the £6K top ups. TP advised that any changes to the £6K blocks would go to schools for consultation and to School Forum for agreement.	
4.1.2	<b>ACTION</b> SM will circulate the figures.  Top ups to Mainstream schools  <i>7.1.4 A proportion of schools do not contribute to the Schools Block transfer. LM to advise on numbers.</i> <i>It is anticipated that an increased number of schools would contribute in 24/25.</i> LM advised that of 267 schools, 196 would contribute to block transfer (based on the provisional figures), slightly more than last year.	SM

<b>5.0</b>	<b>SCHOOL FUNDING PROPOSALS 2024/25</b>	
5.1	LM went through the funding reports.	
5.1.2	The Council is required to submit to the EFSA in January 2024. Of 267 school consulted, 73 responded.	
	a) Proposal 1 to transfer A 0.5% transfer between from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block in 2024/25 estimated to be £3.49m.	
5.1.3	Leeds is still subject to the cap on gains. if it wasn't for this cap, we would have had an additional increase of £2.92m. It was noted that any transfer can only be used to fund the high need block.	
5.1.4	Of the 73 responses 69 (94.52%) voted in favour of the transfer with 4 (5.48%) voting against the transfer.	
5.1.5	Schools Forum were requested to vote on the proposal transfer 0.5% from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block.  <b>Vote: 14 in favour 1 abstain and, 0 votes against.</b>	
	b) Two options for funding formula for 2024/25, considering the proposed transfer out of the school's block of approx. £3.49m. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Option 1: A cap on gains of 1.06%. All other factors are in line with the national funding formula, including the minimum funding guarantee of 0.5%.</li> <li>• Option 2: A reduced minimum funding guarantee of 0% and an increased cap on gains of 1.09%. All other factors are in line with the national funding formula.</li> </ul>	
5.1.6	Noted that PFI factors are excluded from the MFG calculations and so PFI schools receive the same MFG / Cap as non PFI schools.	
5.1.7	Of the 73 consultation responses, 45 (61.64%) favoured option 1 whilst 28 (38.36%) favoured option 2.	
5.1.8	The funding formula is a Local Authority decision, but Schools Forum were asked for their views for consideration.  Option 1, 15 in favour  Option 2, 0 votes  OPTION 1, supported.	
5.1.9	Falling rolls funds will come back for consideration to Schools Forum in January 2024. LM advised that it is a strict criterion, and we are working through the detail to see whether Leeds qualifies for the fund. PH asked for clarification that we are looking at it at a school level and LM confirmed this to be the case.	

5.1.10	<p>Schools Forum discussed the contribution towards severance costs for maintained schools. The Council proposed:</p> <p>c) A contribution in 2024/25 by maintained schools to be applied as a per pupil amount of £2.50, estimated to be a total of £140k.</p> <p>44 responses were received from maintained schools to this proposal. 34 maintained schools (79.27%) supported the proposal and 10 (22.73%) did not.</p>	
5.1.11	<p>It was asked, if all the money does not get spent will it get taken into overall DSG Schools Block?</p>	
5.1.12	<p>In addition, what would be the impact if there was no agreement, would schools have to cover all their severance costs?</p>	
5.1.13	<p>LM confirmed that schools and Schools Forum are being asked for a contribution to the general fund severance budget and any under or overspend will be assumed within the overall Council budget. If the contribution was not made, then the schools may be liable for severance costs.</p> <p><b>Vote on severance 5 in favour 0 against</b></p>	
8.0	<b>Any Other Business</b>	
8.1	<p>Question was asked when will the AIP budget for this financial year be received? It was also raised and reiterated that they need to see the budgets.</p> <p><b>ACTION</b> Tim will go back and find out why AIP have not been given their budgets yet.</p>	TP
8.2	<p>PH asked CS if any decisions have been made within Children and Families directorate regarding bids to the Schools in Financial Difficulty fund.</p> <p>CS will write to the schools next week advising on the bids.</p>	CS
8.3	<p>With regards to excess surplus balances, LM said final decision-making process is still ongoing. It is anticipated that there should be a final sign off this week and letters will go out to schools next week.</p> <p>Total value of potential claw backs would be in the region of £1m.</p>	
8.4	<p>It was also noted that clawback relates to excess surplus balances and schools subject to clawback will retain balances below the threshold used to define excess surplus balances.</p>	
8.5	<p>CS advised that another meeting of SIFD panel is happening next week. So far, only 1 bid from a school experiencing in financial difficulty has been received.</p>	
9.0	<b>Meeting Dates for 2023-24 and Forward Plan</b>	
	<p>The next meeting will take place via MS Teams on Tuesday 16th January 2024 at 1630-1830. The substantive items on the agenda will be School Funding Arrangement and de-delegation of services.</p>	
10.0	<b>Close</b>	

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**Report of the Director of Children and Families**

**Report to the Leeds Schools Forum**

**Date: 16th January 2024**

**Subject: 2024/25 School Funding Arrangements**

**Report Author: Lucie McAulay / Shirley Maidens**

**Contact telephone number: 0113 3788766**

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## **Summary of main issues**

1. The Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) is allocated in four blocks: schools, high needs, early years and central school services. Regulations set by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) require that we consult with Schools Forum, and in some cases ask Schools Forum to make decisions, on proposals relating to the use of the DSG. This report provides an update on the 2024/25 arrangements relating to the schools, high needs and central school services blocks. An update on the early years block will be provided at the February 2024 meeting.
2. In relation to the Schools Block, the report covers the Growth Fund, Falling Rolls Fund and the schools funding formula:
  - For the Growth Fund, the Council is proposing that
    - The existing criteria be retained for primary schools and secondary expansion.
    - The existing criteria for additional resources be retained at £150 per pupil for existing schools and £250 per pupil for new presumption free schools.
    - The existing criteria be retained for new presumption free schools
  - For the Falling Rolls Fund, the Council is proposing that we do not establish a Falling Rolls Fund for 2024/25 as the funding criteria has not been met.
  - The final proposal for the schools funding formula provides a per-pupil increase of 0.5% through the Minimum Funding Guarantee and a 1.26% cap on gains. The Minimum Funding Guarantee is equivalent to the 0.5% that was the preferred option from the funding consultation, and it follows the MFG within the National Funding Formula. The cap on gains has increased by 0.20% against the

consultation following the final funding allocation and growth fund requirements. The final proposal retains the Minimum Funding Levels of £4,610 for primaries and £5,995 for secondaries that were consulted on.

3. The report also includes the proposed expenditure for 2024/25 against the central school services block (CSSB), which funds local authorities for the statutory duties they hold for both maintained schools and academies. Approval is sought from Schools Forum on the proposed expenditure from this block.

## Recommendations

4. Schools Forum is asked to note the arrangements for the school funding formula for 2024/25.
  - The final decision on the formula will be taken by the Director of Children and Families in accordance with the council's decision-making framework.
5. In relation to the Growth Fund for 2024/25, Schools Forum is asked to approve that:
  - a) In relation to the funding criteria:
    - a. The existing criteria be retained for primary schools while for new secondary school growth, funding is allocated in the first year of expansion.
    - b. The existing criteria for additional resources and rental costs within existing schools be retained at £150 per pupil .
    - c. The existing criteria for leadership costs for new presumption free schools to be retained at over a 4-year period.
    - d. The existing criteria for additional resources for new presumption free schools to be retained at £250 per pupil.
  - b) The total Growth Fund of £430k which is fully funded from the Schools Block 2024/25. The Growth Fund would be split between £233k for primary growth and £197k for secondary growth.
    - This is a Schools Forum decision. In the event that Schools Forum does not agree, the DfE is able to adjudicate if the council requests this.
6. In relation to a Falling Rolls Fund Schools Forum is asked to note that the Council will not be establishing a fund for 2024/25.
7. In relation to the Central School Services Block, Schools Forum is asked to approve the 2024/25 amounts detailed within the report.
  - This is a Schools Forum decision. In the event that Schools Forum does not agree, the DfE is able to adjudicate if the council requests this.

## **1 Main issues**

### **1.1 Schools block funding formula**

- 1.1.1 At the November 2023 meeting Schools Forum noted the results of the consultation for the 2024/25 schools funding formula which demonstrated a preference for option 1 among schools that voted. 62% were in favour of option 1 compared to 38% for option 2. Option 1 proposed a Minimum Funding Guarantee of 0.5% and a 1.06% cap on gains per pupil. The figures provided in the consultation were provisional at that time and therefore subject to change pending confirmation of the final funding allocation in December 2023.
- 1.1.2 The final schools block funding for 2024/25 has been confirmed by the ESFA as £707m, an increase of £22m compared to 2023/24 when the allocation was £686m. Schools Forum in November agreed to transfer 0.5% to the high needs block and this value has now been confirmed as £3.54m. Subject to the proposed Growth Fund of £0.430m set out in section 1.2 below, £703.03m would remain to be allocated to mainstream schools through the funding formula.
- 1.1.3 The funding formula has been updated to take into account the views of Schools Forum and the final funding allocation from the ESFA. The revised formula provides for the same Minimum Funding Levels of £4,610 for primaries and £5,995 for secondaries, which are the amounts used in the National Funding Formula. It has been possible to retain the Minimum Funding Guarantee at 0.5% which is the level used in the National Funding Formula, and the cap on gains has been set at 1.26%.
- 1.1.4 The revised school level allocations proposed for 2024/25 are attached to this report as appendix 1. These are subject to finalisation, including quality checks by the ESFA and approval by the Director of Children and Families.
- 1.1.5 The approach taken in the local formula replicates the National Funding Formula as closely as possible, including the use of the same unit values. In line with the National Funding Formula, our calculation of the MFG and cap on gains for PFI schools excludes the PFI funding they receive. This will ensure that both PFI and non-PFI schools are treated equally in the funding formula and receive equivalent levels of funding protection.
- 1.1.6 The decision on the final formula will be made by the Director of Children and Families, in line with the council's decision-making framework.
- 1.1.7 The final funding formula proposals will be submitted to the ESFA for them to quality check by the deadline of 22nd January 2024. Once the ESFA has confirmed they are satisfied with the formula and the decision on the formula has been taken by the Director of Children and Families, the council will send out funding statements to maintained mainstream schools by the end of February. The ESFA will issue funding statements to mainstream academies in line with their usual timescales.

### **1.2 Growth Fund 2024/25**

- 1.2.1 Funding for growth is allocated to local authorities by the ESFA as part of the Schools Block of the DSG. This allocation funds pupil number variations within the funding formula for new schools that are still growing, as well as being used to establish a separate Growth Fund, which supports costs incurred by schools that are being established or extended to meet basic need and where admission numbers are increased. The Growth Fund recognises that these pupils are not recorded on the October census, and so will not attract funding through the usual schools funding formula.
- 1.2.2 The funding allocated to local authorities is calculated by the ESFA on the basis of pupil growth between the previous two October censuses, so it will not always match the actual growth in the coming year. For 2024/25, the Leeds total allocation for growth from the ESFA has reduced and is £3,731k for 2024/25, compared to £4,990k in 2023/24.
- 1.2.3 In addition to the decrease in funding, the estimated requirement for 2024/25 has reduced compared to 2023/24. The total 2024/25 allocation is expected to be sufficient to fund both the cost of new and growing schools within the standard funding formula and the anticipated growth fund requirements.
- 1.2.4 The total growth fund fully funded from the Schools Block 2024/25 is £430k this would be split between £233k for primary growth and £197k for secondary growth.

#### Growth Fund Criteria

- 1.2.5 Schools Forum is asked to approve the criteria for allocating funding from the Growth Fund.
- 1.2.6 We are proposing to retain the existing criteria for Leeds primary schools that have been in place for 2023/24. Primary schools in Leeds would be eligible for growth funding where a permanent expansion has occurred following an increase in the Published Admission Number (PAN), to meet basic need. Growth funding will be paid until the permanent change in PAN is accommodated in every year group.
- 1.2.7 We are also proposing to retain the existing criteria for Leeds secondary schools that have been in place for 2023/24. Secondary schools in Leeds will be eligible for growth funding where a permanent expansion has occurred following an increase in the Published Admission Number (PAN), to meet basic need. Growth funding will be paid in the first year only that the permanent change in PAN is established. This is as cost pressures in relation to an increase in pupils falls differently in secondary schools and are more likely to be able to manage these costs within economies of scale.
- 1.2.8 For the first time in 2024 to 2025 local authorities will be required to provide growth funding where a school or academy has agreed with the local authority to provide an extra class to meet basic need in the area (either as a bulge class or as an ongoing commitment). Funding, either through the growth fund, or by adjusting pupil numbers in the APT, will need to be provided regardless of whether the additional class is within or outside of the PAN

- 1.2.9 Schools would be eligible for Growth Funding where a temporary bulge has been created to meet basic need. Funding will be allocated for the bulge year only.
- 1.2.10 For existing schools, an allocation of £150 per pupil will be made to fund immediate additional resources, equipment or furniture costs to reflect increased costs.
- 1.2.11 For new presumption free schools, we are proposing to retain the provision of £250 per pupil for additional resources.
- 1.2.12 Additional funding would be available for existing schools that incur additional rental costs or for new schools with pre-opening costs.
- 1.2.13 In line with ESFA requirements to support pre and post start-up costs for academies where they are created to meet basic need, we are proposing to retain the criteria for leadership costs introduced in 2021/22 for any new schools opening through a free school presumption route over a 4-year period on a reduced sliding scale.

Growth funding available	Basis for allocation	Rate
<b>Funding for all schools eligible for Growth Funding:</b>		
Pupil funding	<p>Age Weighted Pupil Unit rate for each pupil (pro rata if part year).</p> <p>This is the basic entitlement all pupils receive through the schools funding formula.</p>	<p>The 2024/25 AWPU rates per year are shown below and are the same as used in the funding formula:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primary - £3,562.61</li> <li>• KS3 - £5,022.85</li> </ul> <p>As noted in the report, the funding formula rates are subject to approval by the Director of Children and Families in line with the council's decision-making framework.</p>
<b>Funding for existing schools:</b>		
Immediate additional resources, equipment or furniture	Standard per pupil rate. In the case of a single 'bulge' year group this is only paid in the year of expansion.	£150 per pupil is proposed for 2024/25
<b>Funding available for new presumption free schools:</b>		
Leadership costs for a new presumption free school	Amount allocated will be equivalent to that which would be received from the ESFA in the first 4 years of opening.	<p>The funding proposal for 2024/25 is:</p> <p>Year 1 £125k  Year 2 £93.5k  Year 3 £62.5k  Year 4 £31k</p>
Presumption free schools: additional resources	Standard per pupil rate: In the first year of each new cohort	£250 per pupil is proposed for 2024/25.

Growth funding available	Basis for allocation	Rate
<b>Funding available where applicable to schools:</b>		
Additional rental costs	For temporary accommodation needed to meet agreed growth.	Funded at cost through the growth fund until the financial year following the increase in numbers, at which point we would seek to fund the rental costs through the funding formula (assuming the criteria for this are met).

### 1.3 Falling Rolls Fund

1.3.1 For the first time in 2024 to 2025 to funding can be allocated to local authorities based on both growth and falling rolls.

1.3.2 Funding is allocated based on the reduction in pupil numbers that middle super output areas (MSOA) within each local authorities experience for each year. For 2024/5 it has been based on the observed differences between the primary and secondary numbers on roll in each local authority between the October 2022 and October 2023 school censuses. The falling rolls allocation for each local authority will be £140,000 per MSOA which sees a 10% or greater reduction in the number of pupils on roll between the 2 census years

1.3.3 Local authorities have discretion over whether to operate a falling rolls fund. Where local authorities operate a fund, they will only be able to provide funding where school capacity data 2022 (SCAP) shows that school places will be required in the subsequent three to five years.

1.3.4 If a Local authority decides to operate a falling rolls fund then the schools forum should agree both the value of the fund and the criteria for allocation, and the local authority should consult Schools Forum before expenditure is incurred.

1.4 For 2024/25 Leeds has not received a falling rolls funding allocation as it does not meet the criteria defined in 1.3.2, as such it will not be operating a falling rolls fund for 2024/25. The will criteria will be reviewed again when considering funding allocations for 2025/26.

### 1.5 Central School Services Block

1.5.1 The Central School Services Block (CSSB) was introduced by the ESFA in 2018/19 to fund local authorities for the statutory duties they hold for both maintained schools and academies. The CSSB brings together:

- funding for statutory duties
- funding for ongoing central functions, such as admissions, previously top-sliced from the schools block

- residual funding for historic commitments, previously top-sliced from the schools block

1.5.2 In December 2023, the Government issued a notification giving the amount of funding for this block. For 2024/25, this allocation has been set at £5.125m for Leeds. This is an increase of £19k compared to 2023/24. Within this, there has been a reduction of 20% on the historic commitment element in line with previous DfE statements to reduce funding on this element.

1.5.3 Schools Forum approval is required each year to confirm the amounts on each line. Schools Forum previously gave full approval for the 2023/24 proposals. The amounts requested to be approved for 2024/25 are shown below and can be afforded within the allocation of CSSB funding received for these duties.

### Statutory Duties

1.5.4 This funding contributes towards the cost to the Council of carrying out central functions on behalf of maintained schools and academies.

1.5.5 Costs can be funded for certain functions relating to statutory and regulatory duties, education welfare and asset management. Examples of functions which could be funded within each category are shown below.

#### *1.5.5.1 Statutory and regulatory duties*

- Director of children's services and planning for the education service as a whole.
- Revenue budget preparation, preparation of information on income and expenditure relating to education, and external audit relating to education.
- Formulation and review of local authority schools funding formula.
- Internal audit and other tasks related to the local authority's chief finance officer's responsibilities under Section 151 of LGA 1972 except duties specifically related to maintained schools.
- Provision of information to or at the request of the Crown other than relating specifically to maintained schools.

#### *1.5.5.2 Education welfare*

- Functions in relation to the exclusion of pupils from schools, excluding any provision of education to excluded pupils.
- School attendance.

#### *1.5.5.3 Asset management*

- Management of the LA's capital programme including preparation and review of an asset management plan, and negotiation and management of private finance transactions.
- General landlord duties for all buildings owned by the local authority, including those leased to academies

1.5.6 The CSSB funding can provide a contribution towards these functions, however it is not sufficient to cover all of these duties and the remainder of the cost is therefore met from the Council's budget.

The amount of funding requested from CSSB for the Statutory Duties in 2024/25 is £2,160,000 This is a decrease of £32,000 compared to 2023/24, when funding of £2,192,000 was agreed. The cost of providing these duties has increased since 2023/24, so this means that there is an increased cost to the Council's budget for these duties. The Council's costs for the example functions listed above have been calculated as £2.486m. This is a reduced cost compared to last year as these services have been required to make savings. However, after CSSB funding there is still a net cost of at least £326k to the Council.

#### Centrally employed teachers' pension costs

1.5.7 The separate grant received in 2020/21 for the additional pension costs for teachers employed by local authorities has now been added to the ongoing responsibilities element of CSSB in the same way grants to schools have been added to the schools block.

#### Historic commitments

1.5.8 Historic commitments are subject to a limitation of no new commitments or increases in expenditure from 2020/21. The amounts requested for 2024/25 are as follows and have stayed the same or reduced since 2019/20.

1.5.9 Prudential borrowing (amount requested £515k). This budget supports borrowing costs in relation to the ongoing debt repayment from the 2004/05 primary capital program and is paid back over 25 years.

#### Ongoing Central functions

1.5.11 Admissions Service – for 2024/25, it is proposed to increase the funding from this service from £1,469,000 to £1,499,000. The School Admissions Code (September 2021) introduced new responsibilities for the School Admissions Service in terms of statutory timescales and mandatory requirements in relation to in-year admissions. These additional requirements are currently being met within the current staffing and funding commitment, with the service prioritising the mandatory requirements. As such, the increase in Admissions service funding is to cover pay award and inflation and no additional duties.

1.5.12 Servicing of Schools Forum – this budget supports the administration and running of Schools Forum and associated sub-groups. This service has not changed, but as a



result of unavoidable inflationary costs, it is proposed to increase funding from £34,000 to £35,000.

1.5.13 The ESFA has agreed with a number of agencies to purchase a single national licence for all state funded schools in England. A full list of licences included in the single national licence is available on their website. The ESFA will pay the agencies and provide the service to local authorities. For Leeds this is estimated to amount to £700,000 in 2024/25 which is an increase of £20,000 from 2023/24, we have not yet received confirmation of this amount from the ESFA, but any variance to the estimated £700k will be adjusted for within the Statutory duties funding allocation. This arrangement covers maintained schools and academies, and local authorities are allowed to hold the budget centrally rather than include it in school budgets. The licences covered by this charge are:

- Copyright Licencing Agency
- School Printed Music Licence
- Newspaper Licensing Agency
- Education Recording Agency
- Public Video Screening Licence – Filmbank Distribution Ltd.
- Motion Picture Licensing Company
- Phonographic Performance Ltd.
- Performing Rights Society Ltd.
- Mechanical Copyright Protection Society Ltd.
- Christian Copyright Licensing International

This item does not require Schools Forum approval.

1.5.14 Schools Forum is therefore requested to approve the amounts summarised below, totalling £5,125,000 centrally for Statutory duties, centrally employed teachers' pension costs, ongoing central functions, historic commitments, and to note the increase in the charge for the single national licence

	2023/24 (for information) £	2024/25 (for approval) £
<b>Local Authority costs</b>		
Statutory Duties	2,192,000	2,160,000
Centrally employed teacher pension costs	216,000	216,000
<b>Historic Commitments</b>		
Prudential borrowing	515,000	515,000
<b>Ongoing Responsibilities</b>		
Admissions Service	1,469,000	1,499,000
Schools Forum	34,000	35,000

ESFA central licences (for information only, no vote required by Schools Forum)	680,000	700,000
	<b>5,106,000</b>	<b>5,125,000</b>

## 1.6 High Needs Block

- 1.6.1 Since the report on high needs projected funding and expenditure was presented to Schools Forum in November 2023, a number of outstanding elements in the funding allocated have been confirmed and are generally in line with the estimates made at that time.
- 1.6.2 Work is ongoing to finalise budgets for 2024/25 to produce a budget and a more detailed report on this will be brought to the next Schools Forum meeting.
- 1.6.3 In line with the council's decision-making framework, a high level summary of the proposed HNB budgets will be presented to the Executive Board in January to be approved by Full Council in February.

## 2 Recommendations

- 2.1 Schools Forum is asked to note the arrangements for the school funding formula for 2024/25.
- The final decision on the formula will be taken by the Director of Children and Families in accordance with the council's decision-making framework.
- 2.2 In relation to the Growth Fund for 2024/25, Schools Forum is asked to approve that:
- a) In relation to the funding criteria:
    - i. The existing criteria be retained for primary schools while for new secondary school growth, funding is allocated in the first year of expansion.
    - ii. The existing criteria for additional resources and rental costs within existing schools be retained at £150 per pupil .
    - iii. The existing criteria for leadership costs for new presumption free schools be retained as over a 4-year period.
    - iv. The existing criteria for additional resources for new presumption free schools to be retained at £250 per pupil.
  - b) The total Growth Fund of £430k. The Growth Fund would be split between £233k for primary growth and £197k for secondary growth.

- This is a Schools Forum decision. In the event that Schools Forum does not agree, the DfE is able to adjudicate if we request this.

**2.3** In relation to the Central School Services Block, Schools Forum is asked to approve the amounts summarised below for 2024/25 (apart from the ESFA central licence charge, which does not require approval).

- This is a Schools Forum decision. In the event that Schools Forum does not agree, the ESFA is able to adjudicate if we request this.

	2023/24 (for information) £	2024/25 (for approval) £
<b>Local Authority costs</b>		
Statutory Duties	2,192,000	2,160,000
Centrally employed teacher pension costs	216,000	216,000
<b>Historic Commitments</b>		
Prudential borrowing	515,000	515,000
<b>Ongoing Responsibilities</b>		
Admissions Service	1,469,000	1,499,000
Schools Forum	34,000	35,000
ESFA central licences (for information only, no vote required by Schools Forum)	680,000	700,000
	<b><u>5,106,000</u></b>	<b><u>5,125,000</u></b>

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School Name	Is the school new and growing in 24-25? (Implicit growth only)	2023/24 local funding formula			
		Funded Pupils Oct 22	Per pupil funding = total funding/ funded pupils	Formula Allocation 2023-24 (including MSAG)	Total Funding
<b>Maintained Primary Schools</b>					
Aberford Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School		107	5,509	£589,418	£589,418
Adel Primary School		209	4,719	£986,255	£986,255
Adel St John the Baptist Church of England Primary School		208	4,633	£963,564	£963,564
All Saint's Richmond Hill Church of England Primary School		209	6,009	£1,255,984	£1,255,984
Allerton CofE Primary School		619	4,865	£3,011,728	£3,011,728
Alwoodley Primary School		420	4,659	£1,956,754	£1,956,754
Asquith Primary School		396	5,042	£1,996,532	£1,996,532
Bankside Primary School		587	5,651	£3,316,847	£3,316,847
Barwick-in-Elmet Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School		197	4,726	£930,965	£930,965
Beechwood Primary School		419	5,627	£2,357,513	£2,357,513
Beecroft Primary School		301	5,249	£1,579,866	£1,579,866
Beeston Hill St Luke's Church of England Primary School		406	5,431	£2,204,929	£2,204,929
Beeston Primary School		618	5,029	£3,107,643	£3,107,643
Birchfield Primary School		206	4,955	£1,020,712	£1,020,712
Blenheim Primary School		416	5,305	£2,206,882	£2,206,882
Bracken Edge Primary School		400	5,439	£2,175,442	£2,175,442
Bramham Primary School		193	4,650	£897,363	£897,363
Bramley St Peter's Church of England Primary School		361	5,357	£1,933,911	£1,933,911
Broadgate Primary School		420	4,784	£2,009,229	£2,009,229
Brodetsky Primary School		210	4,637	£973,787	£973,787
Brudenell Primary School		249	5,715	£1,423,130	£1,423,130
Burley St Matthias Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School		192	5,963	£1,144,856	£1,144,856
Calverley Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School		413	4,613	£1,905,275	£1,905,275
Carlton Primary School		311	4,628	£1,439,239	£1,439,239
Castleton Primary School		378	5,795	£2,190,450	£2,190,450
Chapel Allerton Primary School		445	4,639	£2,064,565	£2,064,565
Churchwell Primary School		417	4,638	£1,933,891	£1,933,891
Clappgate Primary School		390	5,338	£2,081,739	£2,081,739
Cobden Primary School		196	6,101	£1,195,874	£1,195,874
Collingham Lady Elizabeth Hastings' Church of England Primary School		208	4,566	£949,721	£949,721
Cookridge Holy Trinity Church of England Primary School		411	4,556	£1,872,330	£1,872,330
Cookridge Primary School		311	5,511	£1,714,014	£1,714,014
Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School		273	5,482	£1,496,506	£1,496,506
Cross Gates Primary School		204	5,529	£1,127,933	£1,127,933
Crossley Street Primary School		208	4,638	£964,696	£964,696
Deighton Gates Primary School		210	4,570	£959,628	£959,628
Drighlington Primary School		366	4,669	£1,708,980	£1,708,980
Farsley Farfield Primary School		409	4,628	£1,892,683	£1,892,683
Farsley Springbank Primary School		417	4,621	£1,927,011	£1,927,011
Fieldhead Carr Primary School		326	5,103	£1,663,568	£1,663,568
Five Lanes Primary School		417	5,325	£2,220,465	£2,220,465
Fountain Primary School		391	4,698	£1,837,058	£1,837,058
Gildersome Primary School		341	4,782	£1,630,590	£1,630,590
Gledhow Primary School		624	4,636	£2,892,732	£2,892,732
Grange Farm Primary School		416	5,580	£2,321,119	£2,321,119
Great Preston VC CofE Primary School		206	4,898	£1,008,915	£1,008,915
Greenhill Primary School		371	5,350	£1,985,005	£1,985,005
Greenmount Primary School		418	5,513	£2,304,248	£2,304,248
Greenside Primary School		302	4,619	£1,395,042	£1,395,042
Grimes Dyke Primary School		219	5,930	£1,298,701	£1,298,701
Guiselley Primary School		382	4,581	£1,750,010	£1,750,010
Harehills Primary School		629	5,552	£3,492,345	£3,492,345
Harewood Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School		100	5,501	£550,096	£550,096
Hawthornthwaite Church of England Primary School		105	5,023	£527,383	£527,383
Hawthornthwaite Wood Primary School		319	5,588	£1,782,428	£1,782,428
Highfield Primary School		420	4,637	£1,947,638	£1,947,638
Hollybush Primary		391	5,760	£2,252,002	£2,252,002
Holy Family Catholic Primary School		188	5,743	£1,079,670	£1,079,670
Horsforth Featherbank Primary School		210	4,644	£975,146	£975,146
Horsforth Newlathes Primary School		421	4,606	£1,938,947	£1,938,947
Hovingham Primary School		657	5,542	£3,641,183	£3,641,183
Hugh Gaitskell Primary School		517	5,249	£2,713,744	£2,713,744
Hunslet Carr Primary School		356	5,651	£2,011,614	£2,011,614
Hunslet Moor Primary School		418	5,628	£2,352,662	£2,352,662
Ingram Road Primary School		298	6,251	£1,862,773	£1,862,773
Ireland Wood Primary School		412	4,906	£2,021,303	£2,021,303
Iveson Primary School		351	5,187	£1,820,727	£1,820,727
Kerr Mackie Primary School		405	4,761	£1,928,154	£1,928,154
Kirkstall St Stephen's Church of England (VA) Primary School		198	5,357	£1,060,767	£1,060,767
Kirkstall Valley Primary School		201	5,617	£1,129,110	£1,129,110
Lady E Hastings CofE Primary School		134	5,025	£673,377	£673,377
Lady Elizabeth Hastings' CofE VA Primary School, Thorp Arch		115	5,184	£596,170	£596,170
Lane End Primary School		402	5,617	£2,258,012	£2,258,012
Laws Park Primary School		210	5,376	£1,128,955	£1,128,955
Little London Community Primary School		394	5,535	£2,180,936	£2,180,936
Low Road Primary School		181	5,655	£1,023,589	£1,023,589
Lower Wortley Primary School		313	5,846	£1,829,795	£1,829,795
Lowtown Primary School		207	4,755	£984,254	£984,254
Manston Primary School		207	5,120	£1,059,762	£1,059,762
Meanwood Church of England Primary School		213	4,565	£972,340	£972,340
Middleton St Mary's Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School		353	5,682	£2,005,902	£2,005,902
Moor Allerton Hall Primary School		577	4,899	£2,826,614	£2,826,614
Moortown Primary School		211	4,589	£968,311	£968,311
Morley Victoria Primary School		422	4,611	£1,945,707	£1,945,707
Ninelands Primary School		417	4,564	£1,903,141	£1,903,141
Otley All Saints CofE Primary School		219	4,673	£1,023,413	£1,023,413
Otley the Wharftons Primary School		194	4,682	£908,317	£908,317
Oulton Primary School		305	5,332	£1,626,299	£1,626,299
Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Primary School		205	5,416	£1,110,259	£1,110,259
Park Spring Primary School		399	5,156	£2,057,166	£2,057,166
Parklands Primary School		392	5,629	£2,206,427	£2,206,427

Funded Pupils Oct 23	Change in Pupil Numbers from 2023/24
97	-10
210	1
207	-1
211	2
590	-29
423	3
378	-18
617	30
196	-1
415	-4
303	2
416	10
633	15
205	-1
416	0
391	-9
185	-8
356	-5
409	-11
200	-10
254	5
185	-7
415	2
299	-12
373	-5
419	-26
415	-2
385	-5
192	-4
209	1
409	-2
311	0
258	-15
208	4
205	-3
211	1
371	5
411	2
416	-1
351	25
419	2
397	6
366	25
621	-3
405	-11
207	1
375	4
417	-1
302	0
200	-19
371	-11
628	-1
95	-5
97	-8
321	2
421	1
364	-27
209	21
210	0
419	-2
677	20
525	8
354	-2
420	2
302	4
411	-1
365	14
426	21
202	4
203	2
137	3
112	-3
387	-15
207	-3
368	-26
192	11
315	2
206	-1
207	0
216	3
366	13
562	15
209	-2
420	-2
407	-10
211	-8
194	0
291	-14
206	1
384	-15
367	-25

2024/25 Funding Formula Allocations				
Formula Funding 2024-25	Per pupil funding = total funding/ funded pupils	Funding Difference from 2023/24 (affected by change in pupil numbers)	MFG/cap on gains %	
£557,993	£5,753	£-31,425	1.26%	
£1,009,636	£4,808	£23,381	1.26%	
£970,065	£4,686	£6,501	1.26%	
£1,280,092	£6,067	£24,109	1.26%	
£2,928,305	£4,963	£-83,423	1.26%	
£2,000,458	£4,729	£43,704	1.26%	
£1,997,983	£5,286	£1,450	1.26%	
£3,555,710	£5,763	£238,864	1.26%	
£939,248	£4,792	£8,283	1.26%	
£2,355,368	£5,676	£-2,145	0.78%	
£1,605,381	£5,298	£25,515	0.50%	
£2,276,252	£5,472	£71,323	0.93%	
£3,221,295	£5,089	£113,653	1.26%	
£1,030,822	£5,028	£10,110	1.26%	
£2,218,135	£5,332	£11,253	0.50%	
£2,177,057	£5,568	£1,615	1.26%	
£877,443	£4,743	£-19,920	0.50%	
£1,937,697	£5,443	£3,786	1.26%	
£1,990,837	£4,868	£-18,392	1.12%	
£942,756	£4,714	£-31,031	1.26%	
£1,466,756	£5,775	£43,626	1.26%	
£1,124,414	£6,078	£-20,441	1.26%	
£1,953,015	£4,706	£47,740	1.26%	
£1,412,437	£4,724	£-26,802	1.10%	
£2,190,283	£5,872	£-167	1.26%	
£1,982,548	£4,732	£-82,017	0.94%	
£1,958,718	£4,720	£24,827	1.26%	
£2,077,853	£5,397	£-3,886	1.03%	
£1,190,913	£6,203	£-4,962	1.26%	
£967,039	£4,627	£17,318	1.26%	
£1,892,553	£4,627	£20,123	1.26%	
£1,797,716	£5,780	£83,701	1.26%	
£1,439,212	£5,578	£-57,294	1.26%	
£1,160,969	£5,582	£33,037	1.26%	
£965,760	£4,711	£1,063	1.01%	
£975,801	£4,625	£16,172	1.26%	
£1,758,182	£4,739	£49,202	1.26%	
£1,932,598	£4,702	£39,915	1.26%	
£1,961,356	£4,715	£34,344	1.26%	
£1,783,497	£5,081	£119,928	1.26%	
£2,315,673	£5,527	£95,207	1.26%	
£1,884,895	£4,748	£47,837	0.79%	
£1,768,715	£4,833	£138,125	1.26%	
£2,943,706	£4,740	£50,974	1.26%	
£2,291,660	£5,658	£-29,459	1.26%	
£1,029,802	£4,975	£20,887	1.26%	
£2,038,114	£5,435	£53,110	1.26%	
£2,316,977	£5,556	£12,729	0.50%	
£1,416,709	£4,691	£21,668	1.13%	
£1,217,689	£6,088	£-81,011	1.26%	
£1,723,110	£4,645	£-26,900	0.98%	
£3,538,871	£5,635	£46,526	1.26%	
£540,063	£5,685	£-10,033	1.26%	
£502,727	£5,183	£-24,656	1.26%	
£1,819,526	£5,668	£37,098	1.26%	
£1,986,209	£4,718	£38,571	1.26%	
£2,069,229	£5,685	£-182,772	1.26%	
£				

Pool-in-Wharfedale Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School		195	4,669	£910,406	£910,406	192	-3	£911,602	£4,748	£1,197	1.10%
Primrose Lane Primary School		194	4,693	£910,470	£910,470	193	-1	£916,452	£4,748	£5,982	1.26%
Pudsey Bolton Royd Primary School		393	5,972	£2,347,080	£2,347,080	403	10	£2,522,740	£6,260	£175,661	1.26%
Quarry Mount Primary School		198	6,005	£1,189,002	£1,189,002	181	-17	£1,111,529	£6,141	£77,472	1.26%
Queensway Primary School		139	5,675	£788,796	£788,796	103	-36	£626,250	£6,080	£162,547	1.26%
Rawdon Littlemoor Primary School		313	5,245	£1,641,764	£1,641,764	312	-1	£1,712,318	£5,488	£70,554	1.26%
Rawdon St Peter's Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School		320	4,610	£1,475,276	£1,475,276	314	-6	£1,474,861	£4,697	£415	1.26%
Robin Hood Primary School		409	4,626	£1,891,890	£1,891,890	412	3	£1,940,074	£4,709	£48,184	1.26%
Rosebank Primary School		292	5,736	£1,674,843	£1,674,843	296	4	£1,716,504	£5,799	£41,661	1.26%
Rothwell Primary School		307	5,605	£1,720,764	£1,720,764	303	-4	£1,786,086	£5,895	£65,322	0.50%
Rothwell St Mary's RC Primary School		210	4,662	£979,099	£979,099	205	-5	£963,775	£4,701	£15,324	0.50%
Roundhay St John's Church of England Primary School		211	4,789	£1,010,578	£1,010,578	210	-1	£1,016,852	£4,842	£6,274	1.26%
Rufford Park Primary School		286	5,178	£1,480,830	£1,480,830	284	-2	£1,523,913	£5,366	£43,083	0.65%
Scholes (Elmet) Primary School		307	4,636	£1,423,337	£1,423,337	305	-2	£1,440,770	£4,724	£17,433	1.26%
Seacroft Grange Primary School		204	6,292	£1,283,514	£1,283,514	208	4	£1,307,447	£6,286	£23,933	0.50%
Seven Hills Primary School		417	4,915	£2,049,569	£2,049,569	416	-1	£2,076,437	£4,991	£26,868	1.16%
Shadwell Primary School		206	4,645	£956,768	£956,768	205	-1	£967,381	£4,719	£10,613	1.25%
Shakespeare Primary School		623	5,809	£3,619,281	£3,619,281	634	11	£3,742,717	£5,903	£123,436	0.50%
Sharp Lane Primary School		561	4,985	£2,796,804	£2,796,804	543	-18	£2,755,210	£5,070	£43,593	1.26%
Shire Oak VC Primary School		210	4,824	£1,013,032	£1,013,032	209	-1	£1,018,303	£4,872	£5,271	0.77%
Southroyd Primary and Nursery School		369	4,603	£1,698,389	£1,698,389	368	-1	£1,706,669	£4,638	£8,280	0.67%
Spring Bank Primary School		183	5,886	£1,077,157	£1,077,157	174	-9	£1,078,233	£6,197	£1,076	1.26%
St Anthony's Catholic Primary School, Beeston		212	5,072	£1,075,191	£1,075,191	211	-1	£1,083,905	£5,137	£8,715	1.26%
St Bartholomew's CofE Voluntary Controlled Primary School		494	5,592	£2,762,526	£2,762,526	489	-5	£2,743,963	£5,611	£18,563	0.57%
St Edward's Catholic Primary School, Boston Spa		174	4,571	£795,330	£795,330	182	8	£842,870	£4,631	£47,540	1.26%
St Francis Catholic Primary School, Morley		212	4,779	£1,013,148	£1,013,148	213	1	£1,029,212	£4,832	£16,064	1.26%
St James' Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School		117	6,099	£713,627	£713,627	132	15	£789,667	£5,982	£76,040	0.50%
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Hunstlet		200	5,556	£1,111,231	£1,111,231	208	8	£1,156,291	£5,559	£45,060	0.50%
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Wetherby		202	4,588	£926,682	£926,682	206	4	£954,490	£4,633	£27,808	1.26%
St Margaret's Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School		423	5,339	£2,258,353	£2,258,353	424	1	£2,385,969	£5,627	£127,616	1.26%
St Mary's Church of England Controlled Primary School Boston Spa		137	5,086	£696,793	£696,793	143	6	£728,357	£5,093	£31,564	1.26%
St Matthew's Church of England Aided Primary School		398	4,597	£1,829,680	£1,829,680	398	0	£1,849,511	£4,647	£19,831	1.26%
St Nicholas Catholic Primary School		315	5,099	£1,606,048	£1,606,048	316	1	£1,630,483	£5,160	£24,436	1.26%
St Patrick Catholic Primary School		205	5,500	£1,127,589	£1,127,589	209	4	£1,160,520	£5,553	£32,931	1.26%
St Peter's Church of England Primary School, Leeds		207	6,105	£1,263,695	£1,263,695	210	3	£1,295,826	£6,171	£32,131	1.26%
St Philip's Catholic Primary School		218	5,298	£1,154,871	£1,154,871	204	-14	£1,102,447	£5,404	£52,424	1.26%
St Theresa's Catholic Primary School		422	4,589	£1,936,583	£1,936,583	422	0	£1,961,993	£4,649	£25,409	1.26%
St. Oswald's CofE Primary School		380	4,567	£1,735,455	£1,735,455	377	-3	£1,745,658	£4,630	£10,203	1.26%
Stanningley Primary School		206	5,222	£1,075,804	£1,075,804	204	-2	£1,079,576	£5,292	£3,772	1.26%
Strawberry Fields Primary School		303	4,638	£1,405,313	£1,405,313	291	-12	£1,372,938	£4,718	£32,374	1.26%
Summerfield Primary School		203	5,581	£1,132,885	£1,132,885	184	-19	£1,055,654	£5,737	£77,231	1.26%
Swarcliffe Primary School		287	5,640	£1,618,818	£1,618,818	291	4	£1,666,562	£5,727	£47,743	1.26%
Swinnow Primary School		204	5,423	£1,106,192	£1,106,192	200	-4	£1,101,750	£5,509	£4,442	1.26%
Talbot Primary School		451	4,599	£2,074,124	£2,074,124	421	-30	£1,975,317	£4,692	£98,807	1.14%
The New Beverley Community Primary School		397	5,794	£2,300,028	£2,300,028	398	1	£2,349,456	£5,903	£49,428	1.26%
Thorpe Primary School		207	5,012	£1,037,579	£1,037,579	211	4	£1,071,775	£5,080	£34,196	1.26%
Tranmere Park Primary School		314	4,556	£1,430,440	£1,430,440	319	5	£1,475,637	£4,626	£45,197	1.26%
Valley View Community Primary School		420	4,726	£1,984,802	£1,984,802	411	-9	£1,967,109	£4,786	£17,693	1.26%
Victoria Junior School		163	5,513	£898,646	£898,646	146	-17	£833,130	£5,706	£65,516	1.26%
Weetwood Primary School		210	4,658	£978,112	£978,112	210	0	£998,007	£4,752	£19,895	1.26%
West End Primary School		230	4,645	£1,068,323	£1,068,323	235	5	£1,103,685	£4,697	£35,362	1.26%
Westbrook Lane Primary School		210	4,629	£972,047	£972,047	211	1	£989,802	£4,691	£17,755	1.26%
Westgate Primary School		210	4,585	£962,748	£962,748	210	0	£992,128	£4,724	£29,379	1.26%
Westroyd Primary School and Nursery		186	5,122	£952,679	£952,679	188	2	£968,275	£5,150	£15,595	1.26%
Westwood Primary School		274	5,778	£1,583,175	£1,583,175	277	3	£1,617,469	£5,839	£34,294	1.26%
Whingate Primary School		398	5,457	£2,171,942	£2,171,942	414	16	£2,288,210	£5,527	£116,268	1.26%
Whimmoor St Paul's Church of England Primary School		203	4,994	£1,013,782	£1,013,782	195	-8	£990,238	£5,078	£23,544	1.26%
White Laith Primary School		205	5,307	£1,087,993	£1,087,993	201	-4	£1,081,761	£5,382	£6,232	1.26%
Whitecote Primary School		397	5,396	£2,142,374	£2,142,374	378	-19	£2,080,856	£5,505	£61,518	1.26%
Wigton Moor Primary School		421	4,617	£1,943,788	£1,943,788	414	-7	£1,945,615	£4,700	£11,827	1.26%
Windmill Primary School		418	5,582	£2,333,252	£2,333,252	407	-11	£2,292,627	£5,633	£40,625	1.26%
Woodlesford Primary School		402	4,630	£1,861,327	£1,861,327	391	-11	£1,846,546	£4,723	£14,781	1.26%
Wykebeck Primary School		338	5,868	£1,983,295	£1,983,295	352	14	£2,094,068	£5,949	£110,772	1.22%
Yeadon Westfield Infant School		158	4,914	£776,408	£776,408	136	-22	£694,626	£5,108	£81,782	1.26%
Yeadon Westfield Junior School		203	4,753	£964,819	£964,819	201	-2	£967,544	£4,814	£2,725	1.21%

#### Primary Academies & Free Schools

Alder Tree Primary Academy		296	5,776	£1,709,766	£1,709,766	287	-9	£1,670,054	£5,819	£39,712	0.50%
Allerton Bywater Primary School		374	4,595	£1,718,472	£1,718,472	368	-6	£1,707,389	£4,639	£11,883	0.85%
Armley Park Primary School		177	6,056	£1,071,839	£1,071,839	197	20	£1,190,104	£6,041	£118,266	1.26%
Ashfield Primary School		210	5,068	£1,064,269	£1,064,269	197	-13	£1,018,053	£5,168	£46,216	1.18%
Austhorpe Primary School		215	4,574	£983,436	£983,436	212	-3	£981,287	£4,629	£2,149	1.12%
Bardsey Primary School		190	4,605	£875,043	£875,043	189	-1	£880,762	£4,660	£5,719	1.26%
Blackgates Primary Academy		250	5,337	£1,334,295	£1,334,295	223	-27	£1,213,863	£5,443	£120,431	0.78%
Bramhope Primary School		362	4,551	£1,647,320	£1,647,320	398	36	£1,839,071	£4,621	£191,752	1.26%
Bramley Park Academy		257	5,877	£1,510,316	£1,510,316	274	17	£1,618,677	£5,908	£108,361	1.26%
Calverley Parkside Primary School		206	4,617	£951,192	£951,192	208	2	£969,836	£4,663	£18,644	1.26%
Christ Church Upper Armley Church of England Primary School		186	5,824	£1,083,292	£1,083,292	199	13	£1,162,527	£5,842	£79,235	1.26%
Christ The King Catholic Primary School, A Voluntary Academy		160	5,655	£904,743	£904,743	161	1	£919,336	£5,710	£14,592	1.26%
Cockburn Haigh Road Academy		100	6,152	£615,237	£615,237	90	-10	£573,713	£6,375	£41,524	1.26%
Colton Primary School		209	4,582	£957,559	£957,559	209	0	£968,730	£4,635	£11,170	1.26%
Co-op Academy Beckfield		186	5,692	£1,058,646	£1,058,646	179	-7	£1,035,509	£5,785	£23,136	1.26%
Co-op Academy Brownhill		403	6,004	£2,419,516	£2,419,516	402	-1	£2,443,133	£6,077	£23,617	1.26%
Co-op Academy Nightingale		420	5,899	£2,477,446	£2,477,446	416	-4	£2,481,818	£5,965	£4,172	1.14%
Co-op Academy Oakwood		415	6,038	£2,505,573	£2,505,573	414	-1	£2,589,230	£6,254	£83,656	1.26%
Co-op Academy Woodlands		417	6,010	£2,506,308	£2,506,308	410	-7	£2,497,009	£6,090	£9,299	1.26%
Cottingham Primary Academy		252	5,930	£1,494,476	£1,494,476	264	12	£1,566,581	£5,934	£72,105	0.50%
East Ardsley Primary Academy		412	5,178	£2,133,370	£2,133,370	421	9	£2,263,443	£5,376	£130,072	1.26%
East Garforth Primary Academy		227	4,664	£1,058,627	£1,058,627	201	-26	£957,246	£4,762	£101,380	0.50%
Ebor Gardens Primary Academy		370	5,787	£2,141,274	£2,141,274	395	25	£2,303,663	£5,832	£162,390	1.26%
Elements Primary Free School	Yes	318	5,137	£1,633,449	£1,633,449	367	49	£1,900,494	£5,178	£267,045	2.16%
Green Lane Primary Academy		414	4,556	£1,886,268	£1,886,268	409	-5	£1,891,319	£4,624	£5,051	1.26%
Hill Top Primary Academy		207	5,214	£1,079,324	£1,079,324	205	-2	£1,112,050	£5,425	£32,726	1.26%
Hillcrest Academy		415	5,327	£2,210,600	£2,210,600	416	1	£2,226,662	£5,353	£16,062	0.50%
Holy Name Catholic Voluntary Academy		205	4,849	£994,099	£994,099	204	-1	£1,000,506	£4,904	£6,407	1.26%
Holy Rosary and St Anne's Catholic Primary School, a Voluntary Academy		207	6,100	£1,262,601	£1,262,601	210	3	£1,293,460	£6,159	£30,859	1.26%
Holy Trinity Church of England Academy, Rothwell		165	5,406	£891,974	£891,974	154	-11	£849,123	£5,514	£42,851	1.02%
Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Primary School, A Voluntary Academy		447	4,555	£2,036,212	£2,036,212	438	-9	£2,0			

Ryecroft Academy		297	5,361	£1,592,284	<b>£1,592,284</b>
Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, a Voluntary Academy		194	5,890	£1,142,715	<b>£1,142,715</b>
Ss. Peter and Paul Catholic Primary School, a Voluntary Academy		208	4,644	£966,053	<b>£966,053</b>
St Augustine's Catholic Primary School, A Voluntary Academy		403	5,315	£2,142,024	<b>£2,142,024</b>
St Benedict's Catholic Primary School		203	4,703	£954,779	<b>£954,779</b>
St Chad's Church of England Primary School		206	4,773	£983,227	<b>£983,227</b>
St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School		205	5,851	£1,199,393	<b>£1,199,393</b>
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Otley		198	4,571	£905,112	<b>£905,112</b>
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Pudsey		298	4,571	£1,362,236	<b>£1,362,236</b>
St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Horsforth		209	4,565	£954,066	<b>£954,066</b>
St Marys Church of England Primary Academy		260	5,599	£1,455,612	<b>£1,455,612</b>
St Paul's Catholic Primary School, a Voluntary Academy		212	4,795	£1,016,454	<b>£1,016,454</b>
St Urban's Catholic Primary School, a Voluntary Academy		209	4,775	£997,944	<b>£997,944</b>
Swillington Primary School		175	5,303	£928,032	<b>£928,032</b>
Templenessam Halton Primary School		418	4,565	£1,908,017	<b>£1,908,017</b>
The Richmond Hill Academy		568	5,881	£3,340,275	<b>£3,340,275</b>
Thorner Church of England Primary School		201	4,609	£926,332	<b>£926,332</b>
Victoria Primary Academy		366	5,597	£2,048,410	<b>£2,048,410</b>
Westerton Primary Academy		628	4,560	£2,863,727	<b>£2,863,727</b>
Whitkirk Primary School		381	4,567	£1,739,936	<b>£1,739,936</b>

<b>PRIMARY SUB TOTAL</b>		<b>67,996</b>		<b>350,252,976</b>	<b>350,252,976</b>
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<b>Maintained Secondary &amp; All-Through Schools</b>					
Allerton Grange School		1,441	7,059	£10,172,045	<b>£10,172,045</b>
Allerton High School		1,199	6,752	£8,096,243	<b>£8,096,243</b>
Benton Park School		1,296	6,297	£8,161,257	<b>£8,161,257</b>
Cardinal Heenan Catholic High School		918	6,794	£6,236,460	<b>£6,236,460</b>
Carr Manor Community School, Specialist Sports College		1,489	7,274	£10,830,716	<b>£10,830,716</b>
Guiseley School		1,147	5,966	£6,842,986	<b>£6,842,986</b>
Lawswood School		1,311	7,650	£10,029,763	<b>£10,029,763</b>
Mount St Mary's Catholic High School		935	7,394	£6,913,321	<b>£6,913,321</b>
Pudsey Grangefield School		1,094	6,762	£7,398,025	<b>£7,398,025</b>
Ralph Thoresby School		892	7,095	£6,329,119	<b>£6,329,119</b>
Roundhay School		1,927	6,367	£12,268,710	<b>£12,268,710</b>
Wetherby High School		709	6,427	£4,556,679	<b>£4,556,679</b>

<b>Secondary &amp; All Through Academies / Free Schools</b>					
Abbey Grange Church of England Academy		1,252	6,257	£7,833,424	<b>£7,833,424</b>
Bishop Young Church of England Academy		738	7,895	£5,826,393	<b>£5,826,393</b>
Boston Spa Academy		1,172	6,269	£7,347,414	<b>£7,347,414</b>
Brigshaw High School		1,216	6,175	£7,509,300	<b>£7,509,300</b>
Bruncliffe Academy		1,278	6,445	£8,236,906	<b>£8,236,906</b>
Cockburn John Charles Academy		1,207	8,356	£10,085,166	<b>£10,085,166</b>
Cockburn Laurence Calvert Academy	Yes	540	6,951	£3,749,946	<b>£3,749,946</b>
Cockburn School		1,273	6,956	£8,854,615	<b>£8,854,615</b>
Co-op Academy Leeds		875	8,937	£7,819,461	<b>£7,819,461</b>
Co-op Academy Priesthorpe		963	6,847	£6,593,372	<b>£6,593,372</b>
Corpus Christi Catholic College		897	6,961	£6,244,213	<b>£6,244,213</b>
Crawshaw Academy		1,097	6,215	£6,818,154	<b>£6,818,154</b>
Dixons Trinity Chapelton		923	6,481	£5,982,260	<b>£5,982,260</b>
Dixons Unity Academy		878	8,039	£7,057,827	<b>£7,057,827</b>
Garforth Academy		1,526	5,998	£9,153,366	<b>£9,153,366</b>
Horsforth School		1,272	5,943	£7,559,342	<b>£7,559,342</b>
John Smeaton Academy		627	8,544	£5,357,326	<b>£5,357,326</b>
Leeds City Academy		951	9,482	£9,017,447	<b>£9,017,447</b>
Leeds East Academy		1,036	7,595	£7,868,277	<b>£7,868,277</b>
Leeds Jewish Free School		137	7,787	£1,066,754	<b>£1,066,754</b>
Leeds West Academy		1,413	6,993	£9,880,472	<b>£9,880,472</b>
Otley Prince Henry's Grammar School Specialist Language College		1,307	5,941	£7,764,913	<b>£7,764,913</b>
Rodillian Academy		1,514	6,485	£9,817,773	<b>£9,817,773</b>
Royds School		1,003	6,783	£6,802,964	<b>£6,802,964</b>
St. Mary's Menston, a Catholic Voluntary Academy		1,007	5,934	£5,975,654	<b>£5,975,654</b>
Temple Learning Academy		936	6,581	£6,159,366	<b>£6,159,366</b>
Temple Moor High School		1,148	6,455	£7,410,696	<b>£7,410,696</b>
The Farnley Academy		1,487	6,664	£9,908,989	<b>£9,908,989</b>
The Morley Academy		1,434	6,233	£8,938,688	<b>£8,938,688</b>
The Ruth Gorse Academy		1,285	7,458	£9,582,964	<b>£9,582,964</b>
Trinity Academy Leeds	Yes	625	7,301	£4,563,397	<b>£4,563,397</b>
University Technical College Leeds		267	7,435	£1,985,179	<b>£1,985,179</b>
Woodkirk Academy		1,541	6,243	£9,620,206	<b>£9,620,206</b>

<b>SECONDARY SUB TOTAL</b>		<b>49,183</b>		<b>336,227,544</b>	<b>336,227,544</b>
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<b>GRAND TOTALS</b>		<b>117,179</b>		<b>686,480,519</b>	<b>686,480,519</b>
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Adjustments				<b>-£959,571</b>	
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Transfer to High Needs Block				<b>£3,338,612</b>	
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Growth Fund (Explicit)				<b>£980,000</b>	
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<b>TOTAL SCHOOLS BLOCK FUNDING (23/24)</b>				<b>£689,839,560</b>	
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310	13
214	20
207	-1
416	13
200	-3
206	0
210	5
193	-5
297	-1
208	-1
218	-42
206	-6
201	-8
178	3
413	-5
586	18
202	1
354	-12
628	0
383	2

<b>67,687</b>	<b>-309</b>
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1,475	34
1,278	79
1,335	39
921	3
1,491	2
1,168	21
1,321	10
952	17
1,098	4
884	-8
1,951	24
734	25

1,225	-27
763	25
1,243	71
1,219	3
1,367	89
1,228	21
757	217
1,287	14
962	87
1,006	43
883	-14
1,113	16
953	30
921	43
1,536	10
1,336	64
604	-23
990	39
1,054	18
136	-1
1,427	14
1,297	-10
1,503	-11
1,042	39
998	-9
959	23
1,143	-5
1,491	4
1,427	-7
1,273	-12
854	229
273	6
1,521	-20

<b>50,399</b>	<b>1,216</b>
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<b>118,086</b>	<b>907</b>
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£1,667,234	£5,378	£74,950	0.71%
£1,252,330	£5,852	£109,615	0.50%
£969,457	£4,683	£3,403	0.79%
£2,233,275	£5,368	£91,251	1.26%
£952,938	£4,765	-£1,841	1.26%
£987,979	£4,796	£4,753	0.50%
£1,239,167	£5,901	£39,773	1.26%
£895,309	£4,639	-£9,803	1.26%
£1,374,263	£4,627	£12,027	1.26%
£962,099	£4,625	£8,032	1.26%
£1,256,972	£5,766	-£198,641	1.26%
£1,002,847	£4,868	-£13,607	1.26%
£975,849	£4,855	-£22,095	1.26%
£952,556	£5,351	£24,524	1.26%
£1,909,641	£4,624	£1,624	1.26%
£3,461,909	£5,908	£121,634	0.50%
£940,377	£4,655	£14,045	1.26%
£2,009,622	£5,677	-£38,788	1.26%
£2,907,982	£4,631	£44,255	1.26%
£1,770,595	£4,623	£30,659	1.26%

<b>354,404,359</b>	<b>4,151,383</b>
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£10,663,003	£7,229	£490,959	0.66%
£8,929,278	£6,987	£833,035	1.26%
£8,659,008	£6,486	£497,750	0.50%
£6,464,911	£7,019	£228,452	1.26%
£11,300,840	£7,579	£470,124	0.50%
£7,057,938	£6,043	£214,953	1.26%
£10,580,214	£8,009	£550,451	1.26%
£7,071,596	£7,428	£158,275	1.26%
£7,645,134	£6,963	£247,109	1.18%
£6,499,689	£7,353	£170,570	1.26%
£12,584,539	£6,450	£315,829	1.26%
£4,755,108	£6,478	£198,428	0.95%

£7,770,535	£6,343	-£62,890	1.26%
£6,090,925	£7,983	£264,533	1.26%
£7,885,135	£6,344	£537,721	1.26%
£7,628,969	£6,258	£119,668	1.26%
£8,911,904	£6,519	£674,998	1.26%
£10,559,049	£8,599	£473,882	1.14%
£5,411,768	£7,154	£1,661,822	3.64%
£9,070,859	£7,048	£216,245	1.26%
£8,804,617	£9,152	£985,156	1.24%
£6,969,754	£6,928	£376,382	1.26%
£6,227,946	£7,053	-£16,267	1.26%
£7,007,252	£6,296	£189,098	1.26%
£6,235,026	£6,543	£252,766	1.04%
£7,570,150	£8,219	£512,323	1.26%
£9,327,782	£6,073	£174,416	1.26%
£8,045,672	£6,022	£486,330	1.26%
£5,359,342	£8,873	£2,016	0.50%
£9,430,752	£9,526	£413,305	0.50%
£8,091,626	£7,677	£223,349	1.05%
£1,064,594	£7,828	-£2,160	0.50%
£10,055,542	£7,047	£175,070	0.69%
£7,811,867	£6,023	£46,954	1.26%
£9,956,058	£6,624	£138,286	0.76%
£7,149,807	£6,862	£346,843	1.26%
£6,012,194	£6,024	£36,540	1.26%
£6,386,074	£6,659	£226,707	1.26%
£7,478,948	£6,543	£68,252	1.26%
£10,068,151	£6,753	£159,162	1.26%
£9,008,841	£6,313	£70,153	1.26%
£9,586,237	£7,530	£3,272	0.88%
£6,449,373	£7,552	£1,885,976	3.71%
£2,053,740	£7,523	£68,561	1.15%
£9,618,810	£6,324	-£1,396	1.26%

<b>351,310,554</b>	<b>15,083,011</b>
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<b>705,714,913</b>	<b>19,234,394</b>
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<b>-£1,782,000</b>	
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<b>£3,539,512</b>	
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<b>£430,000</b>	
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<b>£707,902,425</b>	
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**NOTES**

1. Numbers funded through the funding formula in reception to yr 11 (including pupils in resourced units as at October 2023 census).
2. Formula funding allocations before adjustments for de-delegation and education services.
3. The cap on gains cannot apply to any school classified as new & growing i.e. a school that opened in the past 7 years and has not reached its full number of year groups
4. The cap on gains cannot reduce the post minimum funding guarantee (MFG) budget below the minimum funding level (MFL) per pupil.
5. The Minimum Funding Guarantee is 0.5% and the cap on gains is 1.26%
6. All figures are subject to finalisation and approval by the Director of Children and Families

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## Report of the Director of Children and Families

### Report to the Leeds Schools Forum

**Date: 16 January 2024**

**Subject: De-delegation of funding for maintained schools – 2024-25**

**Report author: Rosie Harrison**

**Contact telephone number: 0113 37 88679**

### Summary of main issues

1. Schools Block funding within the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) is delegated to schools each year by the local authority. Schools Forum can however agree that the local authority retains some of this funding for maintained primary and secondary schools, in order to provide certain central services for schools. This is known as 'de-delegation' of funding.
2. This report informs Schools Forum members of the outcome of the recent consultation with all maintained primary and secondary schools on the de-delegation of funding in 2024/25. The majority of schools submitting a response wished to continue to de-delegate the funding for all services.
3. The local authority's recommendation is that de-delegation continues in 2024/25 for these services. Maintained primary and secondary members of Schools Forum are responsible for deciding whether this should be the case and will be asked to vote for each service.

## **1 Main issues**

- 1.1 The Education and Skills Funding Agency requires that the local authority consults all maintained primary and secondary schools on whether to delegate funding to schools for the services detailed below or whether to opt to de-delegate this so that the funding is retained centrally. A copy of the consultation paper is attached at Appendix 1.
- 1.2 The consultation was for maintained primary and secondary schools only as the regulations set by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) do not allow other settings, such as academies or SILCs, to de-delegate their funding in this way.
- 1.3 In total the 2024/25 consultation proposed de-delegated funding of £5.66m. This is an increase of £135k compared to 2023/24 proposals which totalled £5.53m. In order to ease the pressure on school budgets, as in 2023/24 it is again proposed that the claw back from excess school surplus balance will be used to contribute to the de delegated funding and reduce school budget contributions. This principles ensures that any surplus balances clawed back are effectively redistributed to all maintained schools. In 2024/25 at least £500k of the anticipated clawed-back funding from schools with excess surplus balances will be used to fund an element of the contingency budget. This will have the impact of the per pupil rate for that de-delegated budget from £4.05 in 23/24 to £4.16 in 24/25.
- 1.4 A summary is provided below of the proposals that were consulted on for each de-delegated budget for 2024/25 compared to 2023/24 along with the results of the consultation for each budget. Further information on each area that was consulted on is available in the attached consultation document (Appendix 1).
- 1.5 Responses were received from 41 schools; 36 primary schools, 4 secondary schools and 1 through school. This is a decrease against the response rate for 2023/24 of 60 (53 primary schools and 7 secondary schools). The majority of schools submitting a response wished to de-delegate the funding for all services. In line with the voting by schools it is recommended that funding for all the services listed below be retained centrally in 2024/25, in order for these services to be provided. A summary of the results and recommendations are provided below. A summary table of the consultation results is provided in section 2 of this report.
- 1.6 It is estimated that schools would pay between 1.13% and 1.87% of their formula funding for the de-delegated services detailed below, based on the funding figures consulted on in November. Differences in the percentage contributions between schools reflect the fact that primary schools are able to delegate an additional service compared to secondary schools, in addition to there being variances in schools' individual funding levels, due to both pupil and premises related factors.

### **1.7 Contingency and support for schools in financial difficulty**

#### Purpose of the budget

- 1.7.1 The School Contingency Fund is retained centrally for maintained schools but only for a limited range of circumstances:

- a. Exceptional unforeseen costs which it would be unreasonable to expect governing bodies to meet (including some costs relating to Managed Staff Reductions),
- b. Schools in financial difficulties,
- c. Additional costs relating to new, reorganised or closing schools; and
- d. A schools urgent improvement fund that schools can apply to if they require additional support from local authority services for urgent school improvement priorities.

1.7.2 The budget can be considered as one to pool risk, providing a safety net for schools.

#### Proposed budget

1.7.3 It is proposed that the funding would be de-delegated as an amount per pupil of £4.16.

1.7.4 Based on forecast pupil data this would provide central de-delegated funding of £249,306, with £50,000 of this being ringfenced for the Urgent School Improvement Fund. It is estimated that £500k will be added to the contingency budget from the claw-back of excess surplus balances, ensuring the overall budget remains at **£749,306** in 2024/25, the same level as in 2023/24.

#### Consequences if de-delegation does not continue

1.7.5 If de-delegation does not continue there will be no central contingency fund available to schools. Schools would have to take all action necessary to balance their own budgets and there would be no central budget available for schools finding themselves in financial difficulty, requiring urgent support for school improvement or for funding capitalised pension costs where staff have been made redundant due to financial difficulties. The budget is not suitable for operation under a Service Level Agreement (SLA) or traded offer.

#### Consultation responses

1.7.6 Of the 41 responses received, 37 (90%) were in favour of continuing to de-delegate this funding. One comment received stated, "Do not feel that a contingency fund should exist for schools that cannot manage their budget effectively. Especially since LCC are clawing money back off schools to put in this pot when they that have submitted surplus statements and have had no regard paid to them".

#### Recommendation

1.7.7 It is recommended that funding for this service continues to be de-delegated in 2024/25.

### **1.8 Maternity and other cover**

#### Purpose of the budget

1.8.1 This budget reimburses schools for the cost of staff that are on maternity, parental or adoption leave, working as a justice of the peace, magistrate or on reserve services

duties.

#### Proposed budget

- 1.8.2 The total budget proposed for 2024/25 is £2,704,000, which is a £104k (4.0%) increase compared to 2023/24. The increase in the total de-delegated funding is due to the additional costs of maternity leave payments.

#### Consequences if de-delegation does not continue

- 1.8.3 If de-delegation does not continue schools must meet all costs of maternity and other cover from their delegated budgets. There would cease to be any central support for schools that incur cover costs for staff away from school for the above reasons.

#### Consultation responses

- 1.8.4 Of the 41 responses received, all (100%) were in favour of continuing to de-delegate this funding. There were no specific comments about this budget submitted in the consultation.

#### Recommendation

- 1.8.5 It is recommended that funding for this service continues to be de-delegated in 2024/25.

### **1.9 Suspended staff cover**

#### Purpose of the budget

- 1.9.1 This budget provides support for schools where employees are suspended, after the first three months. It can be costly for a school to continue to pay a member of staff that is suspended pending investigations being completed and also paying for cover.

#### Proposed budget

- 1.9.2 The total budget proposed for 2024/25 is £100k, which is a £25k decrease from 2023/24 and is based on recent trends. This equates to a rate of £1.67 per pupil.

#### Consequences if de-delegation does not continue

- 1.9.3 If the de-delegation does not continue there will be no central support for schools where staff have been suspended, and schools will have to meet the continuing cost of the staff concerned and any cover costs from their delegated budgets.

#### Consultation responses

- 1.9.4 Of the 41 responses received, 36 (88%) were in favour of continuing to de-delegate this funding. One comment received stated, *“As ever, I feel that schools that use redundancy as a way of managing performance or choosing teams they would prefer should be highlighted by monitoring and perhaps a limit placed on the support they receive for redundancy not caused by a deficit budget.”*

#### Recommendation

- 1.9.5 It is recommended that funding for this service continues to be de-delegated in 2024/25.

### 1.10 Trade Union facilities

#### Purpose of the budget

- 1.10.1 The Trade Union Facilities budget covers the cost of providing convenor salaries, physical facilities and other associated costs. The allocation of union convenor time is based on a ratio of convenors to members of 1:1000. Where convenors work within a school, this budget provides the school with funds to cover the cost of release to undertake city-wide Trade Union duties.

#### Proposed budget

- 1.10.2 The total budget proposed for 2023/24 is £370,000. This budget is the same as the 2023/24 proposals. The amount per pupil has increased to £6.17 from £6.14 in 2023/24.

#### Consequences if de-delegation does not continue

- 1.10.3 If de-delegation does not continue, then the future access to local trade union representatives to support staff at all levels of seniority within schools is at stake. By retaining this budget centrally, schools benefit from collective bargaining; professional representation in policy-making; representation of employees in grievance, performance, absence and disciplinary processes; support in employment tribunals; reduced litigation risk by working with employers; advice on TUPE; support with school governance structures and support with Ofsted outcomes.

#### Consultation responses

- 1.10.4 Of the 41 responses received, 39 (95%) were in favour of continuing to de-delegate this funding. There were no specific comments about this budget submitted in the consultation.

#### Recommendation

- 1.10.5 It is recommended that funding for this service continues to be de-delegated in 2024/25.

### 1.11 School library service (primary schools only)

### Purpose of the budget

- 1.11.1 The School Library Service (SLS) provides a range of resources to underpin the curriculum, inspire creativity and raise attainment for primary-aged pupils.

### Proposed budget

- 1.11.2 It is proposed that the funding would be de-delegated for primary schools as an amount per pupil of £7.17. Based on forecast pupil data this would provide central de-delegated funding of £333,000.
- 1.11.3 This is an increase of £12,950 in total funding compared to 2023/24 (£320,050). The amount per pupil has increased from £6.80 in 2023/24.

### Consequences if de-delegation does not continue

- 1.11.4 If de-delegation does not continue primary schools would have to meet School Library Service costs from their delegated budget provided the service was able to continue by operating on a traded basis.

### Consultation responses

- 1.11.5 Of the 36 primary responses received, 34 (94%) were in favour of continuing to de-delegate this funding.

### Recommendation

- 1.11.6 It is recommended that funding for this service continues to be de-delegated for primary schools in 2024/25.

## **1.12 Free school meals eligibility**

### Purpose of the budget

- 1.12.1 The budget supports the administration cost of carrying out free school meal eligibility assessments and is provided by the council's Welfare & Benefits Service. The service is provided to all Leeds schools and charges are made separately to academies for the service where they choose to use it.

### Proposed budget

- 1.12.2 It is proposed that the funding for FSM eligibility checks would be de-delegated as £1.80 per pupil plus £4.18 per pupil in receipt of FSM in the past six years. This mechanism reflects the additional volume of work for schools with higher measures of deprivation.
- 1.12.3 Based on forecast pupil data this would provide central de-delegated funding of £171,600. The individual rates per pupil have increased; for 2023/24 the rates were £1.67 per pupil and £3.89 per pupil in receipt of FSM in the past six years.

### Consequences if de-delegation does not continue

- 1.12.4 If de-delegation does not continue, then each school would need to make arrangements to administer its own free school meals service. The Leeds Welfare & Benefits Service would continue to provide a traded service that assesses entitlement to FSM and assuming all schools continue to buy into the service would charge the above rates plus any additional costs created by the administration of charging individual schools. If all schools do not buy into the service, then the rates charged above may need to increase.

### Consultation responses

- 1.12.5 Of the 41 responses received, 39 (95%) were in favour of continuing to de-delegate this funding. One comment received stated, "I think there needs to be a bit more clarity on the free school meals one. As schools seem to be having to do far more work on this than we did".

### Recommendation

- 1.12.6 It is recommended that funding for this service continues to be de-delegated in 2024/25.

## 1.13 **Behaviour support services**

### Purpose of the budget

- 1.13.1 This budget is for the Inclusion Support Team which provides support to schools for pupils with social, emotional, and mental health needs. Work is undertaken to develop capacity within schools supporting key staff to identify and meet needs as part of a graduated approach for children and young people with SEND. The team provide advice to settings and, where appropriate, may provide assessments, recommendations, and training to build capacity and support needs.
- 1.13.2 The Inclusion Support Team is part of the SEND Inclusion Service based within Learning Inclusion. Aligned with the Educational Psychology to ensure consistent high quality SEMH practice, the Inclusion Support Team work with children and young people with complexities of SEMH need identified by school and settings, and often include other aspects of vulnerability such as extended non attendance, at risk of exclusion, care experienced.

### Proposed budget

- 1.13.3 It is proposed that this funding would be de-delegated at £1.05 per pupil plus £3.24 per pupil in receipt of FSM in the past six years. This reflects the additional need at schools with higher measures of deprivation. Based on forecast pupil data this would provide central de-delegated funding of £112,300 for 2024/25, which is an increase of £4,300 from 2023/24.

### Consequences if de-delegation does not continue

- 1.13.4 If de-delegation does not continue, then there would be no centrally retained budget for behaviour support unless the service operates under a traded basis. The difficulty in operating under a traded basis would be the fact that the budget would be delegated to all schools but as the service provided is targeted, the charging levels and income collection would be difficult to calculate and predict. The ability to operate the service under an SLA could not therefore be guaranteed.

#### Consultation responses

- 1.13.5 Of the 41 responses received, 36 (88%) were in favour of continuing to de-delegate this funding. There were no specific comments about this budget submitted in the consultation.

#### Recommendation

- 1.13.6 It is recommended that funding for this service continues to be de-delegated in 2024/25.

### **1.14 Support to underperforming ethnic minority groups and bilingual learners**

#### Purpose of the budget

- 1.14.1 This budget makes provision for staff who build capacity within schools to improve the educational outcomes for new arrivals (NA), black and minority ethnic (BAME) pupils as well as those for whom English is an additional language (EAL), in order to narrow the attainment gap. They provide leadership support and challenge; specialist advice and guidance on teaching and learning strategies and EAL assessment; curriculum materials for NA, BAME and EAL pupils; consultancy support to individual schools or localities and bespoke training programmes in order to meet specific identified NA, BAME and EAL needs.
- 1.14.2 In addition to what is outlined in the consultation document, there is work with supplementary schools, the provision of specific grants, maths and other consultancy work, specific projects such as the annual debating competition and the AROOJ writing project. This team also undertakes work with children new to the UK and developing cultural cohesion awareness/activity.

#### Proposed budget

The total budget proposed for 2023/24 is £290,000, which is the same as 2023/24. It is proposed that funding will be de-delegated at a rate of £1.39 per FSM pupil and £32.92 per English as an Additional Language (EAL) pupil for primary schools and £1.48 per FSM pupil and £186.57 per EAL pupil for secondary schools.

#### Consequences if de-delegation does not continue

- 1.14.3 If de-delegation does not continue there would be no centrally retained budget to support narrowing the attainment gap for NA, BAME and EAL pupils. The difficulty in trying to trade the service would be the fact that the budget would be delegated to all schools but



as the service provided is targeted, the charging levels and income collection would be difficult to predict. The ability to operate the service under an SLA could not therefore be guaranteed.

#### Consultation responses

- 1.14.4 Of the 41 responses received, 36 (88%) were in favour of continuing to de-delegate this funding. Two comments received stated, “I didn't know that support for underperforming groups was paid for centrally and didn't know this service existed - therefore what is their impact?” and “I'm unclear what the money for EAL goes to. We invest heavily in this in our school and not sure how we use this service. If other schools need this, then happy for it to be de-delegated”.

#### Recommendation

- 1.14.5 Children and Families recognise these as key priority areas for the city and is committed to reviewing these services and associated budgets in the new year. The directorate will be looking for input into this review from those schools who pay the higher proportions into this budget and plan to set up a working group to facilitate this. There is an awareness that more needs to be shared with schools about the work of this team and how schools access support. Taking this into consideration it is recommended that funding for this service continues to be de-delegated in 2024/25 to allow this work to take place.

### 1.15 **School Improvement**

#### Purpose of the budget

- 1.15.1 The Local Authority previously received a School Improvement and Brokerage Grant (SIBG) to enable it to undertake its statutory and core support, monitoring and intervention duties to maintained schools, as well as to broker additional support to schools requiring additional support. The grant supported the work of the Learning Improvement advisory service to undertake these roles.

In 2022/23 the DfE reduced the amount of grant available to the Local Authority and Schools Forum agreed to fund the £435k gap through de-delegation in order to maintain the service for schools. Following consultation, the DfE has confirmed that the grant was to be fully removed in 2023/24.

With the full removal of the grant in 2023/24 Schools Forum approved the de-delegation of £799k which represented the equivalent full grant that the Local Authority would no longer receive towards the provision of school improvement services.

The SIBG grant was funded directly from DfE and used centrally for maintained schools. The grant:

- Funded a core School Improvement Adviser support offer to all maintained schools
- Funded a core Early Years Improvement offer to all maintained schools

- Funded a school improvement adviser offer to Governing Bodies during Headteacher recruitment
- Provided additional time from School Improvement Advisers to support schools during an OfSTED inspection
- Provided support to schools through the Headteacher Support Service
- Enabled officers to undertake risk analysis of schools, providing support and intervention as appropriate
- Provided an enhanced school improvement adviser offer to schools judged as requiring improvement at no cost to the school
- Provided a school improvement adviser to support the Governing Body of a vulnerable school as part of an additional joint improvement committee
- Provided an additional offer of school improvement adviser and/or Learning Improvement officer (e.g. Head of Service) where schools have significant issues to manage i.e. Inadequate Ofsted judgements, financial difficulties, safeguarding issues, complaint/grievance issues etc
- Provided additional senior improvement adviser support to manage and co-ordinate the work of the school improvement team and provide additional support in more challenging situations
- Provided Learning Improvement Officer support (e.g. via Head of Service) to co-ordinate the work of other services and external bodies working with maintained schools e.g. Safeguarding, HR, complaints, Governance support, Learning teams, CPD teams, finance, data teams, audit, DfE, RSC, OfSTED, Trade Unions etc.
- Provided officer time to co-ordinate the relationship between the LA and maintained schools e.g. Headteacher Forums, briefings, communications etc.
- Provided financial support to schools and/or broker support to schools that require additional improvement from external sources
- Provided line management of teams undertaking statutory services, such as assessment and moderation

In addition, there has also been an ongoing reduction in the Central School Services Block funding due to the ESFA's belief that certain services should no longer be funded by that block. Two services are affected by this, the Head Teacher Support Service and Support Staff Training. In order to continue providing these services it is proposed that £54k is de-delegated for Head Teacher Support and £19k for Support Staff Training.

#### Proposed budget

1.15.2 The total budget proposed for 2024/25 is £831k.

It is proposed that the funding would be de-delegated as an amount per pupil of £13.86 per pupil; this is an increase of £0.61 per pupil from 2023/24.

### Consequence if the budget is not de-delegated

- 1.15.3 Without de-delegation there will be a very significant reduction, and potential removal, of the Learning Improvement services as described above that are currently available to all maintained schools.

Schools and Governing Bodies would need to take the action necessary to source and fund external support required for school improvement activity, including Headteacher recruitment, Headteacher support and managing complex improvement situations in school.

### Consultation responses

- 1.15.4 Of the 41 responses received, 34 (85%) were in favour of de-delegating this funding.

### Recommendation

- 1.15.1 It is recommended that funding for this service continues to be de-delegated in 2024/25.

## **1.16 Other General Consultation Comments**

- 1.16.1 The other general comments received in the consultation are as follows:

*“Health and Safety services should be part of these funds and we should have an optional SLA.”*

*“I continue to support the retention of centralised services for all schools and a strong local authority offer, even in times of extremely tight school budgets.”*

*“I value having a Local Authority!”*

*“Budgets are incredibly tight”.*

*“Thank you for all you do”.*

## **2 Recommendations**

- 2.1 Schools Forum members representing maintained primary and secondary schools only are requested to vote (by phase) on the de-delegation of funding for each of the services above in 2024/25. It is recommended that all nine services be de-delegated.
- 2.2 The services to be voted on are shown in the table below, along with the number and percentage of schools that voted in support of de-delegation continuing.

Service area	Schools in support of de-delegation continuing			
	Primary	Secondary/ Through School	Total	Percentage
School contingency fund	33	4	37	90%
Maternity and other cover	36	5	41	100%
Suspended staff cover	33	3	36	88%
Trades union facilities	35	4	39	95%
School library services (primary only)	34	-	34	94% (of Primary schools)
Free school meals eligibility	35	4	39	95%
Behaviour support services	33	3	36	88%
Support to underperforming ethnic minority groups and bilingual learners	34	2	36	88%
School Improvement	31	3	34	85%

Schools Forum forward plan 2023/24

Schools Forum date	Driver for date	Agenda items	Purpose	Responsible officer	Comments
Thursday 22/06/2023	No external requirements	School balances 2022/23 outturn	Information	Lucie McAulay/Liz Jackson	
		DSG 2022/23 outturn	Information	Lucie McAulay/Shirley Maidens	
Thursday 05/10/2023	Get views from SF before consultation	DSG budget monitoring 2023/24	Information	Lucie McAulay/Shirley Maidens	
		School funding update 2024/25, including consultation plans	Information	Lucie McAulay	
		DSG Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024/25 - 2028/29	Information	Lucie McAulay	
Thursday 16/11/2023	Assume consultation the week before and after half term then need time to clear reports before SF. Disapplication deadline usually 20th November, SF	School funding formula arrangements 2024/25, including any transfers of funding between the DSG blocks	Decision and consultation	Liz Jackson	
Tuesday 16/01/2024	APT deadline usually 21st Jan, SF needs to be before this. Final funding figures received from ESFA at end of Dec. Need as much time as possible at start of Jan to do modelling before SF meeting.	Final school funding arrangements 2024/25	Information	Lucie McAulay	
		De-delegation 2024/25 decision	Decision	Rosie Harrison / Lucie McAulay	
Thursday 22/02/2024	Approval of EY funding by SF before end of Feb. Can't hold SF meeting during half term.	Free Early Education Entitlement rates and centrally retained funding 2024/25	Decision and consultation	Chris Sutton	
		High Needs Budget 2024/25	Information	Lucie McAulay / Shirely Maidens	
		DSG budget monitoring 2023/24	Information	Lucie McAulay/Shirley Maidens	
		Schools In Financial Difficulty Terms Of Reference	Information	Lucie McAulay	

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