

Committee: **Lead Member for Learning and School Effectiveness**
 Date: **21 January 2013**
 Title of Report: **Low incidence high needs pupils top up banded funding framework**
 By: **Director of Children’s Services**
 Purpose of Report: **To recommend a banded funding framework for top up funding for pupils with low incidence high needs in maintained schools, academies, College Central and FE colleges**

Recommendation:

The Lead Member is recommended to approve the banded funding framework for top up funding for low incidence high needs pupils outlined in paragraph 2 below

1. Financial Appraisal

1.1 The top up fund is part of the High Needs Block of the Dedicated Schools Grant. It is made up from funding which has been de-delegated from schools and academies, budgets which are currently spent centrally such as inter authority recoupment and funding for pupils in independent special schools. The High Needs Block has been increased by funding for post 16 pupils in FE colleges which was previously allocated by the Education Funding Agency. This transfers the responsibility for funding post 16 pupils to the local authority. The top up fund will be managed by the Local Authority in consultation with the Schools Forum.

2. Supporting information

2.1 The Schools Forum set up a working group to make recommendations on how top up funding for low incidence high needs pupils should operate from 2013-14. The recommendations in this report are those of the working group. The Schools Forum will be consulted prior to the Lead Member decision and their formal response will be reported verbally to the meeting.

2.2 Appendix A explains the elements of funding for pupils with low incidence high needs as it is applied in a variety of settings.

2.3 The top up fund will be managed by the local authority. The local authority will pay top up funding for all high needs pupils irrespective of the setting in which they are educated.

2.4 East Sussex already operates a “Matrix Funding” system, which has been in place for some time. It provides high-level illustrations of how teaching and learning strategies and the use of resources should be differentiated and targeted to meet the needs of pupils with high levels of SEN. Where a pupil in mainstream schools has a statement of SEN they are allocated a statement “band” having taken account of the attainment levels and needs. Special Schools are allocated a mix of places based on the same bands.

2.5 In order to implement the new arrangements including a banded funding framework for the 2013/14 financial year, it is proposed that the current banded funding framework should be used and that a new banded funding framework should be developed for use in 2014/15 and beyond. For some pupils with exceptionally high needs individual negotiation will still need to take place in 2013-14.

2.6 The Framework is made up of two parts, the calculation of the top up rates and the funding rates to be used in the calculations. Appendix B sets out the calculation of the top up funding rates for each setting and Appendix C sets out the funding rates to be used in the calculations. The common banded funding for pupils in all settings with different levels of need is set out on Table A.

3. Conclusion and Reason for Recommendations

3.1 The High Needs top up framework (comprising the formulae and funding rates which are compliant with Department for Education requirements for 2013-14) is set out in Appendices B and C for approval. The Schools Forum has been consulted on the proposals.

3.2 It is recommended that the High Needs top up formulae and rates are approved

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Local Member(s): All

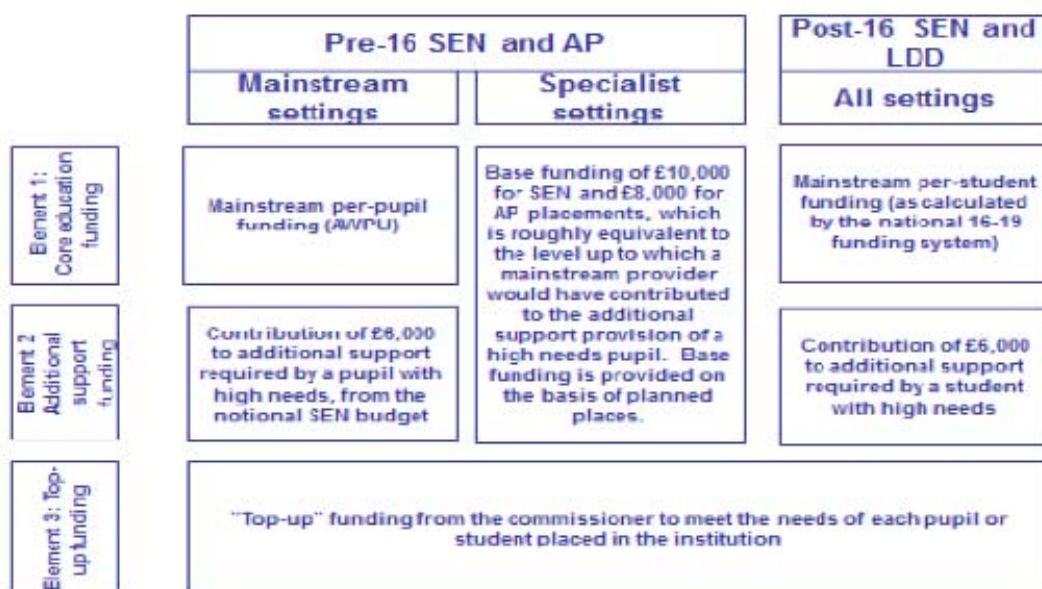
Background Documents: None

High Needs Pupil Funding

The underlying principle of the new funding arrangements for high needs pupils is one of consistency. To achieve this, the funding for all settings supporting high needs pupils will consist of three distinct elements of funding:

- Element 1: Basic per pupil funding according to a LA's pre-16 mainstream formula or the national 16-19 funding arrangements;
- Element 2: Additional support funding from schools, academies and colleges own budgets to meet the additional needs of pupils with low level needs; and
- Element 3: Top-up funding provided where a pupil or student's needs cannot be met from the funding provided for from within elements 1 and 2.

The way in which the elements fit together is shown in the diagram below



Appendix B

Calculation of per pupil top up funding (Low Incidence High Needs)

	A		B		C		D		E		F
	banded		Universal non banded		Exceptional non banded		Minimum Funding Guarantee/C apping		Place Funding		Top up funding
Special Schools & Academies	funding	+	funding	+	funding	+	apping	-	Funding	=	funding
Special facilities in mainstream schools & Academies	banded funding	+	Universal non banded funding			+	Minimum Funding Guarantee/C apping	-	Place Funding	=	Top up funding
Alternative Provison			Universal non banded funding					-	Place Funding	=	Top up funding
Post 16 pupils in FE colleges	banded funding	+						-	Funding included in EFA allocation	=	Top up funding
Pupils in mainstream schools and Academies	banded funding	+						-	Funding included in budget share	=	Top up funding

Appendix C
Funding values for top up funding calculation

A Banded funding		
	Banded funding values £	Assimilation from previous bands
Band 1	4596	Band A
Band 2	7422	Band B
Band 3	10133	Band C
Band 4	15861	Band D
Band 5	16385	Band I1
Band 6	19662	Band I2
Band 7	22939	Band I3
Band 8	26216	Band I4
Band 9	29494	Band I5
Band 10	34162	Band I6

Band 1 only applies to Wallands Special facility

B Universal non banded funding		
		£
Special Schools & Academies		5002
Special facilities in mainstream schools & Academies		5951
Alternative provision		12115

C Exceptional non banded funding		
		£
Glyne Gap		362
Grove Park		697
Hazel Court		689
New Horizons		329
The South Downs		219
Torfield		512

D Minimum Funding Guarantee/Capping		
		£
Cuckmere House		2663
Grove Park		-289
New Horizons		1412
The South Downs		-40
The Lindfield		-279
Manor Primary		-1242
Blacklands Primary School		-1242
Hailsham Community College		-1169
Heathfield Community College		-1097
Uckfield Community College		-1045
Ringmer Academy		-1463
Bexhill High School		-1330

E Place funding or included in budget share		
		£
Special Schools & Academies		10000
Special facilities in mainstream schools & Academies		10000
Alternative Provision		8000
Post 16 pupils in FE colleges		6000
Pupils in mainstream schools and Academies		6000

