

Committee: **Lead Member for Learning and School Effectiveness**
Date: **24 March 2014**
Title of Report: **Dedicated Schools Grant – Inter block transfers**
By: **Acting Director of Children’s Services**
Purpose of Report: **To seek approval for transfers between the blocks of the Dedicated Schools Grant**

Recommendation:

The Lead Member is recommended to approve the inter block transfer of funds from the Dedicated Schools Grant, as outlined in paragraph 3 and Appendices A to D of this Report.

1. Background

1.1 As in 2013/14 the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) for 2014/15 is allocated in three blocks and what they must be used for is outlined below:

- The Early Years Block funds payments to early years providers and central spending on early years pupils. In addition further funding has been provided for early education places for 2 year olds.
- The Schools Block must be delegated to schools and academies through a funding formula. Maintained schools can agree to pool budgets and these are spent on their behalf by the authority. Growth and Falling Rolls Funds can be agreed by Schools Forum to support maintained schools and academies for key stage 1 top up, additional classes and falling rolls. There are a limited number of exceptions which enable local authorities to hold funding centrally. In addition to the block funding, an additional allocation has been given by the DfE to provide for the monitoring and quality assuring of the Newly Qualified Teacher (NQT) induction.
- The High Needs Block funds provision in maintained schools, academies, alternative provision, FE colleges and independent providers for pupils with high needs and central spending on pupils with high needs.
- Funding for post 16 learners with high needs has been transferred from the Education Funding Agency (EFA) to local authorities to fund the learners currently attending FE colleges other appropriate settings with a limited amount for increases in the number of learners for whom support will be required.

2. DSG Block Funding

2.1 The total DSG for 2014/15 as notified by the DfE in December is £331,081,000.

2.2 The DfE have reduced our DSG by £338,000 for Carbon Reduction Credits, allocated £5,920,000 for 2 year old funding and allocated £91,000 for NQT induction.

2.3 In addition to the total DSG, a further sum of £945,816 has been added to the schools block, which is the unspent 2013/14 growth fund, and is required to be redistributed out to schools in 2014/15 as discussed at the September Schools Forum.

Please see appendices below which provide a summary breakdown on the DSG
Appendix A – Overall DSG summary (all blocks)
Appendix B – Schools Block
Appendix C – High Needs Block
Appendix D – Early Years Block

3. Interblock Transfers

3.1 For 2014/15, to support the Local Authority to maintain potential pressures within the High Needs Block, an interblock transfer of £700,000 is requested to the High Needs Block from the Schools Block. This is to support the following:

- £200,000 to continue with an exceptional fund, where schools cannot meet the costs for which they are responsible eg Place funding for special school which admits additional pupils over the funded places.
- £200,000 to support the expectation of additional post 16 learners in FE colleges and independent special schools.
- £300,000 to support increases in top up payments.

4. Conclusion

4.1 Schools Forum met on 15 January 2014 and agreed to recommend to Lead Member that the DSG interblock transfer of £700,000 from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block for 2014-15 be approved.

5. Recommendations

5.1 It is recommended that the inter block transfer of funds from DSG, as set out above and in Appendices A to D, are approved for 2014-15.

LIZ RUGG
Acting Director of Children's Services

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Local Members: All
Background Documents: None

Appendix A

DSG SUMMARY	Schools	High Needs	Early years	Total
	£	£	£	£
Total DSG including Academies	268,697,000	41,872,000	14,839,000	325,408,000
Less Carbon Reduction Credits	-319,580	-18,420	0	-338,000
plus 2 year old funding			5,920,000	5,920,000
plus NQT Induction as per 2013/14	91,000			91,000
Total DSG Funding as notified by DfE	268,468,420	41,853,580	20,759,000	331,081,000
Inter block Transfer	-700,000	700,000		0
2013/14 Unspent Growth Fund	945,816			945,816
Total Funding Available	268,714,236	42,553,580	20,759,000	332,026,816

Appendix B

SCHOOLS BLOCK	£	£
Schools Block DfE notification		268,697,000
less Carbon Reduction Commitments		-319,580
add NQT Induction		91,000
Transfer to High Needs Block		-700,000
2013/14 Under spend Growth Fund		945,816
Adjusted Schools Block total		<u>268,714,236</u>
Growth Fund		
Key stage 1 top up	900,000	
Additional classes	600,000	
Falling Rolls Fund	95,000	
LA responsibilities		
Admissions	486,500	
Servicing Schools Forum	92,800	
National Copyright Licences	108,847	
Combined services	8,005,014	
		10,258,161
Allocated to Schools & Academies		258,426,075
		<u>268,714,236</u>

Appendix C

HIGH NEEDS BLOCK	£
Block total	41,872,000
less Carbon Reduction Commitments	-18,420
Add transfer from Schools block	700,000
Adjusted High Needs Block total	42,553,580

	£
Place and top up funding	
Special Schools and Academy places	8,870,000
Special facilities - place funding	1,730,000
College central - place funding	1,120,000
Outreach	1,676,274
Top up funding	13,006,753

LA responsibilities	
Fees for pupils at independent schools	9,542,000
Education out of School	1,114,900
Pupils with SEN (assigned resources)	313,750
SEN support services	4,393,203
Servicing Schools Forums	22,200

LA spending for Special Schools and Academies	
Support for inclusion	680,500
Ethnic minority and bi-lingual	8,500
Special Schools contingency	33,600
Free meals eligibility	10,800
Insurance	31,100
	42,553,580

Appendix D

EARLY YEARS BLOCK	£	£
Early Years Block DfE notification		14,839,000
add funding for 2 year olds		5,920,000
Early Years Block total		<u>20,759,000</u>
<u>Local authority central spending</u>		
Funding to support 3 & 4 year olds with learning difficulties or disabilities	200,000	
Early Years foundation incl training for moderators	419,515	
Statutory duty to ensure sufficient sustainable Childcare places	7,500	
Statutory duty to ensure sufficient sustainable Childminding capacity	16,000	
Early Years Improvement team	787,800	1,430,815
Early Years Formula Funding		19,328,185
		<u>20,759,000</u>