

Report to: Lead Member for Education and Inclusion, Special Educational Needs and disability.

Date of meeting: 22 January 2018

By: Director of Children's Services

Title: Update on the Dedicated Schools Grant Allocation for 2018/19

Purpose: To provide an update on the Dedicated Schools Grant allocation for 2018/19 and the recommendation to Lead Member to approve the DSG Budget for 2018/19.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Lead Member is recommended to approve the Dedicated Schools Grant budget for 2018/19.

1 Background

1.1 The Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) for 2018/19 is allocated by the Department for Education (DfE) into four blocks. Each block is subject to separate regulations and the use of the four blocks is outlined below.

1.2 **The Schools Block** comprises the individual schools budget which must be delegated to schools and academies through a funding formula. Maintained schools can agree to de-delegate budgets and these are spent on their behalf by the local authority. There are a limited number of exceptions which enable local authorities to hold funding centrally, subject to School Forum approval (Growth Fund and Falling Rolls).

1.3 **The Central School Services Block (CSSB)** is a new block that the DfE have introduced from 2018/19 and brings together:

- Funding that was previously allocated through the retained duties element of the Education Services Grant (ESG)
- Funding for on-going central functions
- Funding for historic commitments

1.4 **The High Needs Block** is funding that is provided to local authorities for the provision in maintained schools, academies, alternative provision, FE colleges and independent providers as well as supporting central spending on pupils with special educational needs and disabilities from their early years to age 25.

1.5 **The Early Years Block** funds payments to early years providers in settings and schools and supports central spending on early years pupils.

2 Supporting information

2.1 The Schools block for 2018/19 is based on the October 2017 pupil census data and, including an additional £1.7m from the CSSB (see paragraph 2.3), equates to an allocation of £274.9m.

2.2 Growth and Falling Rolls Fund proposals (funds that can be deducted from the Schools Block) were presented at the November 2017 Schools Forum whereby a request was made for the continuation of support for maintained schools and academies in respect of Key Stage 1 top up, additional classes, pre-opening costs and dis-economies of scale costs for new schools and falling rolls. This was approved by Schools Forum.

2.3 The DfE allocated £8.1m to the Local Authority within the CSSB. However, the Local Authority requested approval, which was granted, from Schools Forum (November 2017) to retain £6.3m. The remaining £1.7m has been transferred to the Schools Block for additional distribution to schools and academies within their budget shares.

2.4 The total High Needs Block funding is calculated by the DfE and for 2018/19 is £50.5m.

2.5 The 2018/19 EY block funding (excluding funding for two year olds) is £23.5m and is based on the January 2017 census data. This allocation includes £151k indicative pupil premium funding and the indicative Disability Access Fund allocation of £105k.

2.6 The entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds will be revised in July 2018 based on the January 2018 census data.

2.7 The two year old allocation is an initial allocation based on the January 2017 census.

2.8 Appendix 1 provides a summary of the DSG that has been allocated to the Local Authority for 2018/19.

3. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

3.1 The Lead Member for Education and Inclusion, Special Educational Needs and Disability is requested to approve the allocation of the DSG budget for 2018/19.

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LOCAL MEMBERS – All Members

Appendices –

Appendix 1 – Summary of the Dedicated Schools Grant.

Background Documents –

None

Appendix 1

DSG Summary 2018/19	Schools	Central School Services	High Needs	Early Years	Total
Total DSG including Academies	£273,177,389	£8,121,300	£50,571,100	£23,558,200	£355,427,989
Indicative 2 Year Old Funding				£3,983,800	£3,983,800
Transfer	£1,755,000	-£1,755,000	£0	£0	£0
Total Funding Available	£274,932,389	£6,366,300	£50,571,100	£27,542,000	£359,411,789