

## Agenda Item 4

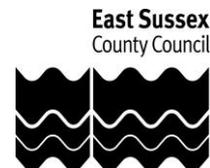
Report to: Schools Forum

Date: 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2018

Title of Report: East Sussex Funding Formula Consultation Update

By: Ed Beale, School Funding Manager

Purpose of Report: To update Schools Forum on the outcome of the ESCC Funding Formula consultation for 2019/20.



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**Recommendation:** Schools Forum are asked to note the outcome of the ESCC Funding Formula for 2019/20.

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### 1. Background

1.1 Since May '18, the Funding Formula Working Group have been reviewing the ESCC Funding Formula in preparation for 2019/20. Following the principles that had been set out of working towards the National Funding Formula (NFF) rates, whilst at the same time avoiding any undue turbulence to schools and academies, a number of proposals were reviewed.

1.2 After reviewing over 20 different scenarios, conclusions were drawn on what was felt to be the most appropriate proposal that would offer maximum support and benefit to the children in East Sussex Schools / Academies with a formula that was as fair as possible to as many as possible whilst causing the minimum amount of turbulence.

1.3 This proposal was subsequently brought to the September Schools Forum for discussion, after which, the proposal (shown below) was issued as a consultation to all schools and academies.

#### **Primary Phase Proposal:**

MFG at 100.5% and Capping at 1.5%

Decrease the lump sum by £2,000 to £120,000. \*\*Please note that the lump sum will need to reduce by a further £10,000 to reach the NFF rate of £110,000 in 2020-21.

Reduce the FSM rate to the NFF rate

Introduce FSM6 and IDACI factors at the proposed NFF rates.

Introduce a minimum per pupil amount

Amend the Sparsity calculation to align to the NFF

**Or**

No change to the current funding factors

#### **Secondary Phase Proposal:**

MFG at 100.5% and Capping at 1.5%

Decrease the lump sum by £7,000 to the NFF level of £110,000

Reduce the FSM rate to the NFF rate

Introduce FSM6 and IDACI factors to the NFF rates

Introduce a minimum per pupil amount

Amend the Sparsity calculation to align to the NFF

**Or**

No change to the current funding factors.

## 2 Outcome of Consultation

2.1 The consultation documents were sent to all schools and academies (178), with the consultation beginning on 8<sup>th</sup> October and running until 9<sup>th</sup> November.

2.2 Out of the 178 schools that were sent the consultation documents, 67 replied (38%). This compared to 19% for last year's consultation.

2.3 A summary of the results that were received from schools is shown below (by phase).

Primary Phase:

Number of establishments that said 'Agree'	51
Number of establishments that said 'No Change'	1

\*Please note that we also had one response that was 'unsure'.

Secondary Phase:

Number of establishments that said 'Agree'	14
Number of establishments that said 'No Change'	0

2.4 Forum are asked to note that for the Primary Phase, the overall outcome from respondents was in favour of changing the ESCC Funding Formula for 2019/20.

2.5 Forum are asked to note that for the Secondary Phase, the overall outcome from respondents was in favour of changing the ESCC Funding Formula for 2019/20.

2.6 Given the outcomes of the consultation, the proposals outlined in the consultation for both the Primary and Secondary phase will be put forward to Lead Member for approval.

## 3 Decision

3.1 A report recommending the changes for the 2019/20 formula as proposed will go to Lead member for Education and Inclusion Special Educational Needs and Disability on 24 January 2019 for final approval.