

Meeting:	Funding Formula Working Group
Date:	Friday 17 May 2019
Time:	9.30-10.30
Venue:	Wellshurst Golf Club, Horam,
Attendees:	Jane Johnson, Hugh Hennebry, Monica Whitehead , James Freeston, Phil Matthews ,Ed Beale, Kirsten Coe and Sarah Rice
Apologies:	None

1.0 Aim of the Funding Formula Working Group (FFWG)

To review the current funding factors and unit rates used by ESCC for 2019/20 and consider whether it is appropriate to retain these factors at their current level for 2020/21 with the principles of working towards the NFF rates to continue.

Consideration was given as to how the available funding factors can be used and the following areas discussed:

- Investigate aligning all factors to the NFF, with and without funding floor protection.
- To look at options regarding the Primary lump sum.
- To look at options regarding the minimum per pupil funding rates for both phases.
- To investigate affordable MFG and capping rates.

2.0 Review information that had been provided

This included a timeline which set out the timescales from this initial meeting to submitting the funding formula to the DfE, a summary of the current 2019/20 funding rates.

3.0 Observations and Proposals

- The Group acknowledged that the lump sum is an important factor for primary schools and more significant to smaller schools. It was felt that looking at a step change may be more appropriate for primary schools.
- It was acknowledged that if the NFF rates do not increase then effectively the NFF is flat cash with no increase for cost of living.
- It was acknowledged that some changes would benefit a group of schools, but at the cost of a different group of schools and if this is a decision that the group makes, the group will need to continue to be clear in their observations and decisions made.
- As we do not anticipate any increase in the overall funding pot, we are looking at re-aligning the pot amongst schools.

4.0 Action Summary

- To model the scenarios below and to review any potential impact to schools and academies.
- To model the scenarios below for affordability.
- To have follow up meeting on the 21st June to discuss scenario's.

5.0 Actions - Scenario's

For all scenarios – the Prior attainment, EALs, sparsity, deprivation and per pupil rates will be the same as the NFF.

Scenario 1 – All rates and transitional protection as the NFF, including funding floor for both Primary and Secondary.

Scenario 2 – All rates and transitional protection as the NFF, excluding funding floor for both Primary and Secondary

For scenario's 3 - 5 MFG will be at 98.5% and capping at 3.0%

Scenario 3

Primary - Lump sum to remain at £120,000 and increase the minimum per pupil rate £3,500.

Secondary - Increase the minimum per pupil rate to £4,800

Scenario 4

Primary - Decrease lump sum by £5,000 to £115,000 and increase the minimum per pupil rate £3,500.

Secondary - Increase the minimum per pupil rate to £4,800

Scenario 5

Primary - Decrease lump sum by £10,000 to £110,000 and increase the minimum per pupil rate £3,500.

Secondary - Increase the minimum per pupil rate to £4,800

For scenario's 6 - 8 MFG will be at 100% and capping at 1.5%

Scenario 6

Primary - Lump sum to remain at £120,000 and increase the minimum per pupil rate £3,500.

Secondary – Increase the minimum per pupil rate to £4,800

Scenario 7

Primary - Decrease lump sum by £5,000 to £115,000 and increase the minimum per pupil rate £3,500.

Secondary - Increase the minimum per pupil rate to £4,800

Scenario 8

Primary - Decrease lump sum by £10,000 to £110,000 and increase the minimum per pupil rate £3,500.

Secondary - Increase the minimum per pupil rate to £4,800