

## Agenda Item 7

Report to: Schools Forum

Date: 20th November 2020

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 2021/22.



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**Recommendation:** Schools Forum are asked to note the outcome of the ESCC Funding Formula for 2021/22.

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### 1. Background

1.1 Since May '20, the Funding Formula Working Group has been reviewing the ESCC Funding Formula in preparation for 2021/22. Following the principles that had been set out of working towards the full National Funding Formula (NFF) implementation, proposals were reviewed to continue to:

- offer maximum support and benefit to the pupils in East Sussex Schools / Academies; and
- avoid any undue turbulence to schools and academies.

1.2 In July, the DfE announced the funding arrangements for 2021/22. The announcement provided guidance on a number of areas for 2021/22 such as:

- Increasing the Minimum Per Pupil rates to £4,180 and £5,415 in the Primary and Secondary phase respectively.
- Increasing the lump sum to £117,800 (Both phases) and Sparsity values to maximum values of £45,000 (Primary Phase) and £70,000 (Secondary Phase).
- Uplifting NFF rates by 3%.
- The inclusion of the Teachers Pay and Teachers Pension Employer Contribution Grant into the school's budget share / GAG.

1.3 Therefore, in September, when final proposals were brought to Schools Forum for discussion, the updated funding arrangements were included.

1.4 The two options issued for consultation were as follows:

#### **Option 1:**

Factors used in the East Sussex Funding Formula remain unchanged for 2021/22 (Rates used in the ESCC Formula will be uplifted to the revised NFF rates).

**Or**

#### **Option 2:**

Introduce the mobility factor into the East Sussex Funding Formula (Other rates used in the ESCC

Formula will be uplifted to the revised NFF rates).

## **2 Outcome of Consultation**

2.1 The consultation documents were sent to all mainstream schools and academies (174), with the consultation beginning on 19<sup>th</sup> October and running until 6<sup>th</sup> November.

2.2 Out of the 174 schools that were sent the consultation documents, 46 replied (26%). This compares to a 39% response rate last year (69 replies).

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

Primary Phase: (Out of 148)

Number of establishments that selected option 1	7
Number of establishments that selected option 2	31

Secondary Phase: (Includes All Through Schools) (Out of 26)

Number of establishments that selected option 1	0
Number of establishments that selected option 2	8

2.4 Forum are asked to note that for the Primary Phase, the overall outcome from respondents was in favour of option 2 for 2021/22.

2.5 Forum are asked to note that for the Secondary Phase, the overall outcome from respondents was in favour of option 2 for 2021/22.

## **3 Decision and next steps**

3.1 Given the outcomes of the consultation, option 2 (The introduction of the mobility factor into the ESCC Funding Formula), for both the Primary and Secondary phase, will be put forward to Lead Member for approval.

3.2 The report recommending the changes for the 2021/22 formula will go to Lead Member for Education and Inclusion Special Educational Needs and Disability on 17 December 2020.