

Public Document Pack

AGENDA

Southend-on-Sea Education Board

Wednesday 24th June 2020

I confirm that a meeting of the Schools Forum/Education Board will be held on **Wednesday 24th June 2020 at 8.15am.**

The meeting will be held virtually via MS Teams.

Robert Harris
robertharris@southend.gov.uk
Clerk to the Forum

A G E N D A

Agenda	Item	Lead	Time
1.	Apologies for absence	Chair	5mins
2.	Minutes of the meeting held on 17th December 2019 – Minutes attached	Chair	5mins
3.	Matters arising (not covered elsewhere on the agenda)	Chair	5mins
4.	Education Board Membership and Vacancies Verbal update and current membership attached	RH	5mins
5.	Education response to Covid-19 (including implications) Verbal report (no papers)	BM	10mins
	<u>Schools Forum Matters</u>		
6.	Final Outturn for Dedicated Schools Grant 2019/20 Report for decision attached	PG	15mins
7.	High Needs Block detailed budget allocation 2020/21 Report for decision attached	PG	20mins

	<u>Education Board Matters</u> Note: Items 11 and 13 are Education Board matters and will be dealt with under Part 2 below.		
8.	Report back from Sub Groups RSG – draft minutes attached	SG Chairs	10mins
9.	Any other business (to be notified to the Chair/Clerk prior to the start of the meeting)	ALL	10mins
10.	<u>Exclusion of the Public</u> In accordance with paragraphs 65 to 67 of the Education Board Constitution, the press and public, be excluded for the items of business set out below in line with relevant legislation (such as the Data Protection Act) on the grounds that the matters contain sensitive information.		
11.	Place Planning Update Verbal report (no papers)	CB	10mins
12.	Provision of Alternative Provision – Update Report for decision attached Note: This is a Schools Forum matter	CB	10mins
13.	Early Years sustainability Report for decision to follow	EH	10mins

Public Document Pack

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA BOROUGH COUNCIL

Meeting of Education Board

Date: Tuesday, 17th December, 2019

Place: Seacole Room - Tickfield

2

Present: Maurice Sweeting (Chair) – Hinguar Primary School (Governor)
Dr Robin Bevan (Vice-Chair) - Southend Boys (Headteacher)
Julia Jones - Barons Court (Headteacher)
Jim Johnson - Edwards Hall Primary (Headteacher)
Stuart Reynolds - Southchurch High School (Headteacher)
Dr Paul Hayman - Westcliff High School for Girls (Headteacher)
Stephen Tollworthy - Shoeburyness High School (Governor)
Jane Ladner - Southend High School for Girls (Governor)
Jessica Russell - Chase High School (Governor)
Darren Woollard - Blenheim Primary School (Headteacher)
Jackie Mullan - St Christophers (SEN Trust)
Lesley Yelland - Essex Pre-School Learning Alliance (Early Years)
Jerry Glazier – Trade Unions
Bev Williams – CEO MAT Group representative (non-voting)

In Attendance: Councillor Anne Jones
Christine Hickey, Paul Grout, Elaine Hammans, Robert Harris,
Simon Leftley, Brin Martin, Cathy Braun and Gary Bloom.

Start/End Time: 8.15 - 11.00 am

1 Apologies for absence and substitutions

Apologies for absence were received from L. Clark, M Jordan, V. Wright and A. McGarel.

2 Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 22nd October 2019 and Action Log

The Board discussed the actions log and noted the progress made against several areas. The actions log would be updated as required.

Resolved:

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 22nd October 2019 were agreed as a correct record.

3 Matters arising (not covered elsewhere on the agenda)

There were no matters arising from the minutes at this meeting.

4 Education Board Constitution, Membership and Vacancies

The Board considered a report from the Clerk covering the current membership and vacancies, attendance and the final version of the Education Board Constitution updated and revised since the meeting held on 22nd October 2019.

The Board discussed the attendance and membership and noted the difficulties filling the current vacancies, particularly in the maintained primary sector.

Resolved:

1. That the attendance at Board meetings for the period March 2019 to October 2019, as set out in appendix 1, be noted and that the Clerk, on behalf of the Chair, writes to the PRU concerning their attendance.
2. That the current membership, vacancies and voting rights, set out at Appendix 2, be noted and that the vacancies in the relevant sectors be re-advertised within all schools and school governing bodies.
3. That the revised and updated Education Board Constitution, as set out in Appendix 3, with the effect date of 17th December 2019, be approved.

5 Dedicated School Grant (DSG) 2020/21 Budget Planning and 2019/20 Forecast Outturn

The Board considered a report from the Senior Finance Officer presenting the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) covering:

- The final funding methodology for distribution of the 2020/21 Individual School Block (ISB) allocations;
- The final indicative DSG budget allocation for 2020/21; and
- The updated forecast outturn for 2019/20.

The Board primarily discussed the Central Block funding for historic commitments and the need for a clearly defined strategy and options to manage and mitigate against the Department for Education (DfE) funding reductions in this area (i.e. 20% reduction in 2020/21 and an anticipated further 20% reduction for each of the remaining 4 years).

The Board also commented on the High Needs Block funding commending the work undertaken to restore the DSG high needs funding position to a sustainable financial position.

Resolved:

1. That the indicative and the remaining 2020/21 per pupil uplift applied to all individual school block allocations, who have either not benefited from and therefore already funded above the minimum funding rates per pupil for 2020/21 or a 4% uplift to applied to the applicable core NFF pupil led factors, be set on Option 1 as set out in Appendix 1, which incorporates the proposed, required and asked school block to central block funding transfer.

2. That it be recognised that Option 1 as agreed in resolution 1 above is a proposed short term measure for 2020/21, which has been driven by the Department for Education (DfE) recent announcement on 11th October 2019 that the Central Block funding for historic commitments will be reduced by 20% for 2020/21. Option 1 therefore allows the local authority (with working groups, as required) time to sensibly plan and consult (including with the Education Board), mitigating actions to address the continued and expected further funding losses from 2021/22 onwards.
3. That, on the basis of Option 1 (resolution 1 above) having been approved, the total funding amount of £1,746,170 for Central Block services (as referenced in paragraph 9.3 of the report), be approved.
4. That the continued de-delegation of public duties at £1.00 per pupil (at the same rate at 2019/20), which will also be applied to their Numbers on Roll as at the October 2019 Census, to be held centrally within the schools block (Maintained schools only), be approved.
5. That the growth fund to support schools continues to be held centrally within the schools block and distributed to provide the extra required planning places with the authority.
6. That, if affordable to the long term growth model, a back dated increase be applied to the growth rates proposed from September 2019, which will be presented in the next January Education Board DSG report alongside the rates for September 2020. This will also then, become an additional annual step of the model.
7. That the 2020/21 early year funding rates, as shown in Appendix 3, be approved.
8. That, on the basis of the decisions undertaken above and at the previous October 2019 DSG report, the DSG paper and the following January 2020 DSG Education Board paper, be recommended to Council for final approval in February 2020.
9. That with regard to individual school's budget (ISB) planning for 2020/21, as agreed at the Education Board meeting in October 2019, the following be noted:
 - The minimum per pupil 2020/21 funding levels have been set in line with the National Funding Formulae at £3,750 for primary schools and £5,000 for secondary schools (which is based on the nationally defined pupil led funding factors including lump sum); and
 - Within the funding formulae itself, the core Pupil led National Funding Formulae (NFF) factors have been set and applied with the NFF 2020/21 4% uplift applied to those core factors from 2019/20.
10. That the final DSG Individual School Budgets (ISB) for mainstream schools and the DSG 2020/21 budget, will be illustrated and simply for noting at the Education Board in January 2020, based on the agreed decisions made in both this December 2019 and the October 2019 DSG Education Board DSG reports.

6 Early Years (DSG) Investment

The Board considered a report from the Head of Early Years proposing the use of the one off funding resources available through the Early Years DSG reserve to maximise the available budget

The Board noted that updates and reports on progress will be provided through the School Performance Sub Group and annually to the Board.

Resolved:

1. That the one off funding resource of £224,000 over a period of two years, be approved.

2. That the use of the funds to support Early Years delivery in:

- Maintaining and expanding development officers' role for two years to include outreach activities to reach parents/carers of eligible children who are not accessing their entitlement;
- To ensure marketing and communication are fully developed using all platforms developed with the Communication Team;
- To maintain dedicated Early Years resource for two years within the Operational, Performance and Intelligence Team (OPI); and
- To develop specific training on inclusion practice, looking at behaviour through a different lens, in line with Southend 2050 outcomes, involving active participation in design and roll out of the programme.

7 Review of Service Level Agreements/Contracts

Due to the sensitive nature of the information this item/matter was considered under Part 2 at the end of the meeting.

8 ISOS Partnership Research Inclusion Project Initial Findings

The Board received PowerPoint presentation slides providing an overview of the key messages, findings and recommendations from the ISOS Partnership research project 'strengthening a culture of inclusion in Southend Schools'.

The Board discussed some of the barriers and challenges and the need to build on the existing strengths for a more inclusive approach to education and provide more consistent delivery and fairer distribution across all schools in the Borough. The Board also noted the governance arrangements to guide the strategy and action-plan.

Resolved:

That the ISOS Partnership project to strengthen a culture of inclusion in Southend Schools, be noted. Further progress would be provided to future meetings of the Education Board.

9 Report back from Sub Groups

The Board received the minutes of the Resources Sub Group held on 3rd December 2019 which were noted.

The minutes of the Vulnerable Learners and School Performance Sub Group were not available in time for this meeting and would be circulated separately.

10 Exclusion of the Public

Resolved:

That in accordance with paragraphs 65 to 67 of the Education Board Constitution, the press and public, be excluded for the items of business set out below in line with relevant legislation (such as the Data Protection Act) on the grounds that the matters contained sensitive information.

11 Dedicated Schools Grant - Confidential Appendix

The Board received the confidential Appendix 4 (Central Block allocation historic commitment) relating to agenda item 5 above.

Resolved:

That the confidential appendix 4 to agenda item 5 above (DSG 2020/21 Budget Planning and 2019/20 Forecast Outturn), be noted.

12 Update on Place Planning

The Board considered a series of slides containing sensitive information concerning forecasts against available primary (Reception to Year 6 and secondary school (Years 7-11) places in the Borough.

The Board discussed the data and asked a number of questions which were responded to by the officers.

Resolved:

That the information provided on school place planning, be noted.

13 Review of Service Level Agreements (SLAs/Contracts)

The Board considered a paper from the Director of Learning providing sensitive information covering a wide range of Service Level Agreements (SLA's) and Contracts.

The Board discussed a number of specific SLA's/Contracts and asked a number of questions which were responded to by the officers.

Resolved:

That the information concerning the SLA's/Contracts, be noted.

14 Date and time of future meetings

Tuesday 21st January 2020 at 08.15am (provisional)

Tuesday 17th March 2020 at 08.15am (confirmed)

Chair: _____

SCHOOLS FORUM MEMBERSHIP

UPDATED MARCH 2020

1. Full voting members

4

Maintained Primary Schools (4 places)

Dave Taylor – Milton Hall Governor	17 March 2024
Jim Johnson – Edwards Hall Primary	24 February 2024
VACANCY – Primary Maintained Governor	
Julia Jones – Barons Court	2 December 2024

Academy Secondary (6 places)

Robin Bevan - Southend Boys (Vice-Chair)	24 February 2024
Stephen Tollworthy – Shoeburyness High School	22 nd October 2023
Jane Ladner – Southend HS for Girls (Governor)	22 nd October 2023
Paul Hayman – Westcliff High for Girls	3 December 2020
Jessica Russell – Chase High School (Governor)	22 nd October 2023
Stuart Reynolds - Southchurch High School	2 December 2023

Academy Primary (4 places)

Lisa Clark - Hamstel Infant	7 December 2020
Maurice Sweeting - Hinguar Primary Governor (Chair)	4 December 2020
Darren Woollard – Blenheim Primary School	4 December 2022
David Allen – Academy Primary (Governor)	24 June 2024

Alternative Provision Academy (1 place)

TO BE ADVISED - YMCA

Pupil Referral Unit (1 place)

Mark Jordan – Victory Park Academy (PLT)	4 December 2022
--	-----------------

Academy Special (1 place)

Jackie Mullan - St Christophers (SEN Trust Southend)	7 December 2020
--	-----------------

Early Years (2 places)

Vicky Wright – Professional Association for Childcare & Early Years	24 October 2020
Lesley Yelland - Essex Pre-School Learning Alliance	7 December 2020

2. Members with restricted voting

14 – 19 sector (1 place)

Anthony McGarel - South Essex College

24 October 2020

Trade Unions (1 place)

Jerry Glazier

1 December 2023

3. Non-Voting Members / SBC Council Representation

Bev Williams – Southend CEO's

Councillor Anne Jones – Executive Cllr for Children & Learning - SBC

Michael Marks – Executive Director (Children and Public Health)(- SBC

Brin Martin – Director of Learning – SBC

Gary Bloom – Head of SEND - SBC

Paul Grout – Finance - SBC

Christine Hickey – Finance – SBC

Elaine Hammans – Early Years – SBC

Amanda Champ – Head of School Performance and Improvement – SBC

Cathy Braun – Head of Access and Inclusion - SBC

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Executive Director of Finance and Resources
Executive Director of Children and Public Health
to

Education Board

On
24th June 2020

Report prepared by:
Paul Grout, Senior Finance Business Partner

Agenda
Item No.

6

Final Outturn for Dedicated Schools Grant 2019/20

1 Purpose of Report

To update the Education Board on the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) final outturn for the 2019/20 schools budget, high needs, early years and centrally retained.

2 Recommendations

Education Board (EB) are asked to:

- 2.1 Note the final 2019/20 outturn.
- 2.2 And agree the subsequent DSG reserve balances shown for each funding block to be carried forward into 2020/21 (as referenced in 4.17).

3 Background

- 3.1 This report sets out the final outturn (spend position) compared to the 2019/20 DSG budget set for schools, high needs, early years, central and the subsequent resulting position for DSG reserve balances.

4 2019/20 Dedicated Schools Grant budgets and final outturn

- 4.1 Appendix 1 provides the detail of the allocated DSG Budget, final outturn and final variance for the schools block, high needs, early years, central and DSG income.
- 4.2 The budget and outturn are presented as gross figures which include allocations which are recouped from the Schools and the High Needs Block by the Department for Education (DfE) in order to pass funding directly onto academies, including high need place funding for free schools and further education colleges. This report summarizes the final spend variances to budget.

Schools Block total – (£58,326) underspend, of which:

Schools Block individual school block allocations – online to budget

- 4.3 Reflecting the DSG sum available and distributed to schools in accordance with the principles agreed in the January 2019 EB Budget paper.

Schools Block De-delegated – staff costs (Public duties) - (£7,716) underspend

- 4.4 As previously forecast and explained in the December 2019 EB DSG Budget paper. This underspend (which includes further academy buy in of 6 schools, in addition to the 12 maintained schools de-delegated balance) will be carried forward into 2020/21 within DSG reserve balances (and isolated) to contribute towards the cost of future years public duties claims.

Schools Block Growth – (£50,610) underspend

- 4.5 As previously forecast and explained in detail in the March 2019 EB DSG growth fund paper alongside the 2019/20 rates updated in the January 2020 EB DSG budget paper, the distribution of available growth funding (funding for new intake classes) from 2019/20 is now modelled over the planned life of the growth. Therefore this underspend will be carried forward into 2020/21 within DSG reserve balances (and isolated) to contribute towards the cost of future years growth.

Early Years Block – (£52,473) underspend against the provisional Early Years DSG funding allocation.

- 4.6 Early years block DSG funding for 2019/20 remains provisional until the DfE have revised the final funding allocation based on both the January 2020 and January 2019 early years census. This will be announced by the DfE in July 2020 and the DSG early years funding will be adjusted in accordance with that announcement. Therefore, again any in year residual early years under or over spend will be carried forward into 2020/21 within DSG reserve balances isolated for early years (either increasing or decreasing that balance respectively), and any DfE applied 2019/20 funding adjustment will continue to be either met from this reserve should any funds be reclaimed or will increase that the reserve should more funds be distributed.

- 4.7 Of the (£52,473) total underspend, A small net provisional £13,351 overspend is attributable to the direct funding allocations for early years providers as shown:

	2019/20 Provisional Budget allocation		2019/20 Spend position to Provisional Budget	
	PTE*	Budget £	PTE* (under) / over	Variance £ (under) / over
2 year old	488	£1.448m	(21)	(£0.048)m
3 & 4 year old Universal	2,693	£6.644m	(41)	£(0.135)m
3 & 4 year old Additional	714	£1.761m	71	£0.191m
Pupil premium	422	£0.127m	62	£0.019m
Disability Access Fund		£0.045m		£(0.013)m
Total		£10.024m		£0.013m

*PTE (Part Time Equivalent). DfE defined as the number of children taking up 15hours per week over 38 weeks. So 1 PTE = 15 hours per week child care over 38 weeks.

- 4.8 As previously explained, any underspend or overspend for early years providers will be due to either a lower or higher average distribution respectively of PTE paid out across the year for the 3 terms, compared to the provisional DSG funding currently based on the January 2019 and January 2018 census alone. Therefore, as we await the final 2019/20 DSG funding allocations for early years, this small net overspend will currently be met from the early years DSG reserve balance.
- 4.9 The remaining underspend of (£65,824), of the total (£52,473) underspend is against the centrally retained early years fund used to support early years children with SEND, additional supplied equipment and training for early years providers. Again, this underspend will also be carried forward into 2020/21 through the isolated DSG early years balance.
- 4.10 It is important to always hold an adequate level of early years DSG reserves balances to fund an in year overspend, should a subsequent funding year see a higher average PTE paid out to early years providers over the 3 terms/funding periods than funding received in, which, as previously stated is based on the annual January early years census's alone.

High Needs Block – (£409,791) underspend against allocated service line expenditure. Full underspend of (£757,527) including the agreed targeted restoration of (£347,733) to DSG reserve balances.

- 4.11 Appendix 1 – displays the full 2019/20 final outturn for high needs on a line by line basis. And as previously expected and highlighted in the December 2019 EB DSG Budget paper, the high needs block for 2019/20 has now fully recovered, including the full restoration of the depleted high need DSG reserve balance of (£348,000) as at the 1st April 2019, and now returning a surplus DSG reserve balance of £410,000 as at the 31st March 2020 which will be carried forward into 2020/21.

- 4.12 It must therefore be noted and continually commended, as planned, that given the national and recognised pressures on high needs funding, that through the joint and positive work of Southend's Local Authority, Education Board, Applicable Special Schools and Schools (where savings have been made and agreed over the last 3 years including a reduction in special school top up rates in 2017/18 and subsequent freeze on those rates since). Southend's own DSG high needs funding position is now restored to a sustainable financial position at this current time, and this is with consideration also applied to the 2020/21 funding allocation.
- 4.13 The following table summarises the current final spend to budget position for 2019/20.

	2019/20 Final Budget	2019/20 Final Outturn	2019/20 Final (under) / over
Place funding	£7.272m	£7.317m	£0.045m
Special and PRU provision top up funding	£5.407m	£5.310m	(£0.097m)
EHCP top up provision early years, schools	£2.892m	£2.967m	£0.075m
FE Post-16 providers	£0.750m	£0.474m	(£0.276m)
Independent Providers	£1.506m	£1.358m	(£0.148m)
Other Provision including SLA's	£1.361m	£1.352m	(£0.008m)
Subtotal – service line allocation	£19.188m	£18.778m	(£0.410m)
Funding allocated to restore depleted DSG High Need reserve balances	£0.348m	-	£(0.348m)
Final Total	£19.536m	£18.778m	(£0.758m)

- 4.14 As shown in 4.13, most service allocations are within a reasonable tolerance of the budget allocations (whether overspend or underspend) whilst also considering the associated demands of those budget lines. The most material underspend is on the top ups for Further Education (FE) Post-16 providers, this is mostly due to the following: one of the respective FE contracts being re-negotiated in 2019/20 and reduced to current demand of £26,000, alongside late credits due back from 2018/19 of £76,000 but received in 2019/20, and a reduction of £43,000 compared to the original anticipated spend forecast on top up payments.

Central block – (£34,328) underspend

- 4.15 A small net underspend on the central block. This one off underspend can therefore provide a small level of buffer into 2020/21 to support DSG central block funded services (isolated within DSG reserve balances). The underspend is mainly attributable to a small underspend on the Schools Admission team.

DSG funding income – (£130,000) additional income

- 4.16 As previously explained in the October 2019 DSG EB budget paper this relates to the Early years DSG funding adjustment for 2018/19 which is subsequently carried through to the DSG early years reserve balance.

Overall Position for the 2019/20 DSG Final Outturn and Reserve balances

- 4.17 The table below summarises the current forecast outturn position for 2019/20 and now DSG reserve balances allocated to each block as at the 31st March 2020 carried forward to the 1st April 2020.

Block	Schools – ISB £'000	Schools - growth £'000	Schools – de- delegated £'000	Early Years £'000	High Needs £'000	Central £'000	Total £'000
Reserves surplus / (deficit)							
1 April 2019							
B'fwd	0	(69)	0	594	(348)	39	216
18/19 Early years funding adj.	0	0	0	130	0	0	130
2019/20 forecast							
Variance	0	51	8	52	758	34	903
Transferred in year	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31 March 2020	0	(18)	8	776	410	73	1,248

5 Conclusion

- 5.1 A very welcome closing 2019/20 position for DSG balances now returning a final DSG surplus reserve balance of £1.248M (equivalent 0.83% of total 2019/20 DSG funding) to be rolled forward into 2020/21.
- 5.2 It is again (as shared in the previous papers), after consideration of the historic funding pressures on high needs, with particular praise to the work and decisions in recent years of the Local Authority, Education Board, Resource Sub Group, task and finish groups, special schools, schools, early years providers working constructively and collectively that have restored the DSG balances to a current and sustainable financial footing, which in turn benefits and maximizes available future funding to support all children and their educational development.

6 Appendices

Appendix 1 - DSG Final Budget to Spend Outturn 201920

Appendix 1 - DSG 2019/20 Final Outturn			A	B	C = A + B	D	E = D - C
Recommend, if printed, to print in A3 Portrait			£	£	£	£	£
			2019/20				
Block	S251 Line ref.	Summary Line	Original Budget	In Year Budget adjustments	Latest Budget	Final Outturn	Final Variance Over / (under)
Schools Block - Individual	1.0.1	Maintained - Primary	21,655,499		21,655,499	21,655,499	-
	1.0.1	Maintained - Secondary	-		-	-	-
School Block allocations	1.0.1	Academy Recoupment - Primary	38,713,242		38,713,242	38,713,242	-
	1.0.1	Academy Recoupment - Secondary	57,724,285		57,724,285	57,724,285	-
Subtotal Individual School Block allocations			118,093,026	-	118,093,026	118,093,026	-
Schools block - Centrally retained	1.1.8	De-delegated - Staff costs (Public duties)	5,538	-	5,538	(2,178)	(7,716)
	1.4.10	Growth Fund	991,004	-	991,004	940,394	(50,610)
Schools Block Total			119,089,568	-	119,089,568	119,031,242	(58,326)
Early Years	1.0.1	2 year old provision	1,260,330	187,386	1,447,716	1,399,311	(48,405)
	1.0.1	3 and 4 y/o provision - Universal	6,760,254	(116,680)	6,643,574	6,508,170	(135,404)
	1.0.1	3 and 4 y/o provision - Additional	1,628,900	131,921	1,760,821	1,951,868	191,047
	1.0.1	Disability Access Fund	44,895	-	44,895	31,980	(12,915)
	1.0.1	Early Years Pupil Premium	125,667	1,819	127,486	146,514	19,028
	1.3.1	Central Expenditure (CE) on Children under 5	135,000	15,951	150,951	85,127	(65,824)
	1.3.1	CE EB Agreed one off investment funded from Reserves	-	-	-	-	-
Early Years Block Total			9,955,046	220,397	10,175,443	10,122,970	(52,473)
High Needs	1.0.2	Place Funding - Special Schools	50,000	-	50,000	75,231	25,231
	1.0.2	Place Funding - Special Schools Recouped	5,506,648	-	5,506,648	5,506,648	-
	1.0.2	Place Funding - PRU	-	-	-	-	-
	1.0.2	Place Funding - PRU Recouped	775,002	-	775,002	775,002	-
	1.0.2	Place Funding - Special Units	110,000	(9,500)	100,500	120,500	20,000
	1.0.2	Place Funding - Special Units Recouped	228,000	-	228,000	228,000	-
	1.10.2	Place Funding - Free School Recouped	-	-	-	-	-
	1.0.2	Place Funding - CCP and FE Recouped	612,000	-	612,000	612,000	-
	Subtotal Place funding		7,281,650	(9,500)	7,272,150	7,317,381	45,231
	1.2.2	Special School - flexible place funding	61,000	-	61,000	41,666	(19,334)
1.2.1 / 1.2.2	Special School Top ups	4,600,000	-	4,600,000	4,596,647	(3,353)	
1.2.1 / 1.2.2	Special Units Top ups	227,000	27,500	254,500	248,668	(5,832)	
1.2.2	PRU Top ups	320,000	67,500	387,500	334,970	(52,530)	
1.2.2	Preventative Pathway AP top ups	172,000	(67,500)	104,500	88,167	(16,333)	
Subtotal Special School and PRU / AP provision top up funding			5,380,000	27,500	5,407,500	5,310,118	(97,382)
1.2.1 / 1.2.2	EHCP Early years Top ups	100,000	-	100,000	86,292	(13,708)	
1.2.1 / 1.2.2	EHCP Inborough Mainstream - Primary Top ups	1,540,000	-	1,540,000	1,601,176	61,176	
1.2.1 / 1.2.2	EHCP Inborough Mainstream - Secondary Top ups	510,000	-	510,000	570,579	60,579	
1.2.1 / 1.2.2	EHCP Top ups - out of Borough	640,000	102,000	742,000	708,959	(33,041)	
1.2.2	EHCP Top ups - post 16 providers	750,000	-	750,000	473,913	(276,087)	
EHCP top up provision schools and post-16			3,540,000	102,000	3,642,000	3,440,919	(201,081)
1.2.3	EHCP funding for Independent providers (IP)	1,506,500	-	1,506,500	1,282,343	(224,157)	
1.2.7	Alternative Provision (non EHCP and LAC Residential Care*) for IP	-	-	-	75,924	75,924	
Independent providers			1,506,500	-	1,506,500	1,358,267	(148,233)
1.2.4	HN targeted LCHI funding	10,000	-	10,000	-	(10,000)	
1.2.6	Hospital Education provision	100,000	-	100,000	66,125	(33,875)	
1.2.7	Individual Tuition service	185,100	-	185,100	185,100	-	
1.2.5	SEND Team - DSG Contribution	422,480	-	422,480	422,480	-	
1.2.7	Alternative Provision Inclusion Management	-	-	-	-	-	
1.2.5	SEN Support Services	211,500	-	211,500	203,281	(8,219)	
1.2.8	Behaviour & Reintegration Support (outreach)	242,000	-	242,000	242,000	-	
1.2.8	Outreach Harbour Development Centre / Primary Inclusion	161,000	-	161,000	161,000	-	
1.2.5	Elective Home Education Costs (EHCP)	8,000	-	8,000	-	(8,000)	
1.2.5	Elective Home Education Costs (Alternative Provision)	-	-	-	-	-	
1.2.11	Direct payments	20,000	-	20,000	71,768	51,768	
Other High Need funding provision including SLA's			1,360,080	-	1,360,080	1,351,754	(8,326)
Total High Need Non-Place funding			11,786,580	129,500	11,916,080	11,461,058	(455,022)
High Needs block service lines total			19,068,230	120,000	19,188,230	18,778,439	(409,791)
Targeted to High Need DSG reserve balances to support future years funding pressures			347,733	-	347,733	-	(347,733)
High Needs Block total*			19,415,963	120,000	19,535,963	18,778,439	(757,524)
Central block	1.4.1	Contribution to combined budgets	936,568	(31,680)	904,888	904,885	(3)
	1.4.14	Copyright Licenses	127,017	-	127,017	130,919	3,902
	1.4.2	School Admissions	236,300	31,680	267,980	236,213	(31,767)
	1.4.3	Servicing of School Forums	18,700	-	18,700	12,240	(6,460)
1.5.1/1.5.2/1.5.3	Retained duties*	429,143	-	429,143	429,143	-	
Central Block total			1,747,728	-	1,747,728	1,713,400	(34,328)
Grand Total			150,208,305	340,397	150,548,702	149,646,051	(902,651)
DSG - Funding Income (In year)							
		Schools Block - ISB Retained	(21,706,906)	-	(21,706,906)	(21,706,906)	-
		Schools Block - ISB Academy Recoupment	(96,437,527)	-	(96,437,527)	(96,437,527)	-
		Schools Block - ISB subtotal	(118,144,433)	-	(118,144,433)	(118,144,433)	-
		Growth fund	(945,135)		(945,135)	(945,610)	(475)
		Schools Block subtotal	(119,089,568)	-	(119,089,568)	(119,090,043)	(475)
		Central Block	(1,747,728)		(1,747,728)	(1,747,728)	-
		Early Years Block (2 year olds)	(1,260,330)	(198,523)	(1,458,853)	(1,458,853)	-
		Early Years Block (3&4 yr olds - Universal)	(6,869,041)	114,945	(6,754,096)	(6,754,096)	-
		Early Years Block (3&4 yr olds - Additional)	(1,655,113)	(135,000)	(1,790,113)	(1,790,113)	-
		Early Years Disability Access Fund	(44,895)		(44,895)	(44,895)	-
		Early Years Pupil Premium	(125,667)	(1,819)	(127,486)	(127,486)	-
		Early Years DSG funding adjustment 18/19	-	-	-	(129,540)	(129,540)
		Early years subtotal	(9,955,046)	(220,397)	(10,175,443)	(10,304,983)	(129,540)
		High Needs Funding Block	(12,294,313)	(120,000)	(12,414,313)	(12,414,313)	-
		High Needs Recoupment	(7,121,650)	-	(7,121,650)	(7,121,650)	-
		High Needs total	(19,415,963)	(120,000)	(19,535,963)	(19,535,963)	-
DSG Funding Total			(150,208,305)	(340,397)	(150,548,702)	(150,678,717)	(130,015)
DSG Reserves Funding - EB Agreed (Planned Issue from - Early Years)*							
Total Net DSG Budget			-	-	-	(1,032,666)	(1,032,666)
DSG Reserves in totality	DSG B/FWD Surplus / (Deficit)		215,804	-	215,804	215,804	
	(Issued to Above) / Drawn from above		-	-	-	1,032,666	
	DSG C/Fwd Surplus / (Deficit)		215,804	-	215,804	1,248,470	

Retained Duties * - ongoing funding (former ESG) to support LA Statutory duties - Child and Educational Leadership, Planning and Budget planning, monitoring, Education Welfare and Asset Management

DSG Reserves Funding - EB Agreed (Planned Issue from - Early Years)* - £112,000 is half of the 2 year approved Early Years Reserve draw down agreed at the December 2019 Education Board

Alternative Provision (non EHCP and LAC Residential Care*) for IP - educational contribution to children who are looked after by the Authority but who do not have an Educational Health and Care Plan

This page is intentionally left blank

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Executive Director of Finance and Resources
Executive Director of Children and Public Health

to

Education Board

On

24th June 2020

Agenda
Item No.

7

Report prepared by:

Paul Grout, Senior Finance Business Partner – Financial Management

In consultation with:

Gary Bloom, Head of Special Educational Needs (SEND)

Cathy Braun, Head of Access and Inclusion

High Needs Block detailed budget allocation 2020/21

1 Purpose of Report

To present the High Need's Block detailed budget allocations for 2020/21.

2 Recommendations

Education board (EB) are asked to agree:

- 2.1 To continue with the flexible place fund allocation. (As referenced in section 7.2)
- 2.2 That the high needs top funding rates awarded to special schools are uplifted by 4% from September 2020. (As referenced in section 7.3)
- 2.3 That the high needs top funding rates awarded to enhanced provisions within mainstream schools are uplifted by 4% from September 2020. (As referenced in section 7.4)
- 2.4 That the EHCP hourly top up funding rate passed over to support pupils within in borough mainstream schools are uplifted by 4% from September 2020. (As referenced in section 8.2)
- 2.5 And in consideration of recommendations 2.1 to 2.4, combined with the budget requirements as presented in this paper, agree and adopt the detailed High need budget allocations for 2020/21.

3 Background

- 3.1 The Department for Education (DfE) announced the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) funding allocations for 2020/21 on the 19th December 2019. The Final “Dedicated Schools Grant 2020/21 budget paper” was presented to the Education Board on the 21st January 2020, providing the totality of funding for each of the 2020/21 DSG funding blocks including High Needs.
- 3.2 The following points should remain both noted and minded:
- 3.2.1 That whilst Southend had considerable overspend pressures on its high need block for the two financial years 2016/17 and 2017/18. It is welcome to re-confirm that through the joint work of Southend’s Local Authority, Education Board, Applicable Special Schools and Schools (where efficiency savings have been made and agreed over the last 3 years 2017/18, 2018/19 rolling into 2019/20), which is evidenced in both EB papers the “2018/19 High need budget allocations” and the “2017/18 High need budget allocations”, combined with the Government recognition of high need funding levels needing to increase and applied in 2018/19 and 2019/20. Southend’s High Needs block itself has now financially recovered including a modest positive DSG High Need reserve balances rolling into 2020/21 of £0.410M
- 3.2.2 And despite the funding increases applied from the Government in 2018/19 and 2019/20, Southend’s own high need DfE DSG funding allocation had still remained considerably under an uncapped National Funding Formulae (NFF) since the NFF introduction in 2018/19. Which therefore further strongly demonstrates why Southend had been historically struggling to contain high need funding pressures within its allocation.
- 3.3 Risk on funding pressures within the High Needs Block will always remain and this is due to a combination of increased demand and therefore award of funding for Education Health and Care Plans (EHCP), as well as, complexity of cases requiring more places in special schools and independent provider placements which includes Alternative Provision (Non-EHCP support) as well. This is also a picture that is being experienced in the majority of other local authorities. Therefore, we need to continue to sensibly and prudently plan the distribution of available High Needs funding to now continue and remain affordable within the funding received.

4 2020/21 High Needs DfE funding allocation

- 4.1 The detailed and proposed high needs budget allocation for 2020/21 is presented in Appendix 1.
- 4.2 As first presented in the October 2019 EB DSG paper, the following were the key headline announcement released by the DfE in relation to High Needs funding allocation for 2020/21.
 - 4.2.1 The funding floor will be set at 8% so each local authority can plan for an increase of at least that percentage, after taking into account changes in their 2 to 18 population estimated through the office of national statistics. Which is based on the Local Authorities high needs allocation in 2019 to 2020, including the additional funding announced in December 2018.
 - 4.2.2 The gains cap will be set at 17% (from 2019/20), on the basis of per head of population, allowing authorities to see up to this percentage increase under that part of the funding the formula.
 - 4.2.3 The national funding increase in total for 2020/21 from 2019/20 is £735M.
- 4.3 Therefore, to remind, for our own local 2020/21 DSG high need funding allocation this has set an allocation of £22.560M, an additional £3.024M from 2019/20, applying the full gains cap at 17%, which as previously stated, is because Southend has historically remained below an uncapped formulae. It must still be noted that the full indicative allocation before any gains cap would have been £22.927M, so the allocation does still remain (£367,000) below a fully uncapped formulae. However, an additional £3.024M is still welcome to support our required local children and young adults considering the extensive financial pressures both nationally and locally that has been experienced.
- 4.4 The high needs block funding allocation does still remain provisional until July 2020, where by the DfE will then be updating the final funding allocation in recognition that the authority meets all the high need place funding costs in their home area regardless of the pupil's own home authority residence (excluding free special schools). And this is known by DfE terminology as the "high need import and export funding adjustment". Therefore the home authority will be compensated (at £6000 per pupil) in relation to high need place funding, where that authority supports more pupils (than the previous year) who live outside of the home resident authority area than pupils they have been required to place in another local authority area, or on the contrary, a reduction in the local import and export funding adjustment will be applied if the opposite event occurs. Currently Southend's funding allocation is based on a net import of 84 pupils (based on the July 2019 applied Import and Export adjustment).

5 Summary table of proposed budget allocations between 2019/20 to 2020/21 as illustrated in Appendix 1

Summary Heading	2019/20 Final Budget (A)	2019/20 Final Spend	2020/21 Opening Budget (B)	Budget movement Increase / (decrease) (B – A)
Place funding	£7.272m	£7.317m	£8.064m	+£0.792m
Special and PRU/AP top up funding	£5.408m	£5.310m	£6.072m	+£0.664m
Subtotal	£12.680m	£12.627m	£14.136m	+£1.456m
Schools, early years, post-16 top up funding	£3.642m	£3.441m	£4.112m	+£0.470m
Independent Providers	£1.506m	£1.358m	£1.950m	+£0.444m
Other Provisions including SLA's	£1.360m	£1.352m	£1.830m	+£0.470m
Total services line total	£19.188m	£18.778m	£22.028m	+£2.840m
Targeted to High Need DSG reserve balances to support future years funding pressures	£0.348m	-	£0.532m	+£0.184m
Total	£19.536m	£18.778m	£22.560m	+£3.024m

6 Place Funding

- 6.1 Appendix 2 – provides the place funding allocations and funded pupil numbers for each school/college from September 2020 within Southend, including the commissioned place funded number movement from 2019/20, which is now a confirmed total place number allocation of 936 for 2020/21 (a growth of 75 places from 2019/20).
- 6.2 In accordance with statutory DfE guidance, the place funded numbers from September 2020 to August 2021 have been agreed and revised by the Head of SEND in consultation with the respective special schools and enhanced mainstream bases and the Head of Access and Inclusion with the pupil referral unit. The DfE require that the place numbers are confirmed by November 2019 for the start of the 2020/21 academic year. Therefore, the place funded numbers are listed as those that have been updated directly with the DfE i.e. where confirmed with the schools in time for the November 2019 submission, and additional place fund allocations that will be funded outside of the DfE submission that have subsequently been agreed with those schools.
- 6.3 With particular reference to the enhanced mainstream bases, it should be noted, that the additional arrangement agreed to honour compensation funding of £4,000 per place per annum where that provision was not full at the time of the School's October 2019 census and therefore to safeguard the funding for that provision will continue in 2020/21. And this was, as first agreed in the EB DSG High Need Budget paper for 2019/20. Providing an additional allowance of £20,000 in the place funded budget to administer this funding where expected and applicable.

- 6.4 As result of both the revised and increased place funded numbers as shown in Appendix 2 and requested further £20,000 provision (referenced in 6.3), this derives the additional 2020/21 place funding allocation to be awarded of £792,000 compared to 2019/20. And note - the actual place funded amounts per pupil are defined by the DfE and set at £10,000 per annum per place for Southend's special schools, pupil referral unit and alternative provision free school. And Further Education post 16 providers are set at £6,000 per place per annum.
- 6.5 The final budget allocation awarded to place funding in 2020/21 is therefore £8.064M, which as stated is an increase of £792,000 across Special Schools / Pupil referral unit and Further Education providers from 2019/20. Whilst this increase will not come into effect until Sept-20 (7/12ths of the 2020/21 financial year), to aid long term planning the budget has been set on a full year allocation.

7 Top up funding for Special Provisions and Pupil Referral Unit

- 7.1 All top up funding budget allocations have been updated in accordance and inconsideration of the additional place funded numbers for September 2020.
- 7.2 Flexible place funding top up - A budgeted funding provision of £40,000 has been set aside which will continue to honour the annual and historic agreement of £20,000 for every 7 additional pupils above a special schools commissioned funded place number allocation, which of course will now cease where the applicable schools will be below the additional 7 from Sept-2020 due to the revised commissioned place funded allocation. However, in recognition that a school may still be required to go over the additional 7 place funded numbers, this paper is requesting to continue with this arrangement where required and applicable.
- 7.3 The current number of Southend pupils expected to attend a special school in 2019/20, and their associated top up banded amount has been formulated to calculate the overall annual expected amount for distribution. The workings of this calculation are shown in Appendix 3. Whilst it has not been possible to set the top up rates on a revised banded top up model at this time, it is pleasing to confirm that for the first time in 4 years the high needs block can afford a 4% uplift to the existing banded top up rates from September 2020. And this % uplift must be recognised in the context of increased teacher salaries (cost of living increases), pension strain and inflationary pressures within schools. The cost of the top ups are of course a best estimate for the year at this time as a school will be highly likely to admit additional pupils during the year.

- 7.4 Appendix 4 displays the top up costs of the Enhanced Provisions within Mainstream Schools and account for approximately 3.6% of the total available High Needs funding in 2020/21, they are therefore a small but another key part of the current provision available. Therefore, to further assist with the sustainability of that provision it is proposed that the top up funded amounts from September 2020 are increased by 4%, this again, will therefore contribute to inflationary pressures within the enhanced provision units. It is also welcome to confirm the addition of a new enhanced unit within a primary school (from September 2020) and it is recommended to set the top up rate for that setting consistent with band 1.
- 7.5 The final budget allocation awarded Special School / Enhanced Provision and PRU top up provision in 2020/21 is £6.072M, this is an increase of £664,000 from the 2019/20 allocation, the majority of which is the revised funded budget allocation for Special School top ups to meet the 2020/21 spend projection. There is again some head room within this budget allocation should more pupils be placed during the year and to aid long term planning.
- 8 Top up funding for early years provider, mainstream schools and post 16 providers**
- 8.1 The budget allocation attached to Early Years ages 2 to 5 SEND top ups has been increased to £130,000. This therefore awards additional funding in 2020/21 of £30,000 to support further growth.
- 8.2 In 2019/20 the hourly top up rate for in borough mainstream schools was returned to £11.98 per hour (which was the previous rate in 2016/17 before savings were applied). It is now welcome to recommend a further increase (due to the affordability within the high needs block) of a 4% uplift to support inflationary pressures within Schools from September 2020. The top up rate from September 2020 will therefore now become £12.46 per hour. It remains a long term intention of the Head of SEND that top up funding will be transitioned to a revised banded rate according to level of need. The 2020/21 budget allocation for this provision has therefore been increased by £360,000 (to now £2.410M) to both reflect this uplift and allow some head room for further growth.
- 8.3 Out of borough Mainstream or Special Schools. Where Southend children are placed in schools in another authority, guidance by the DfE expects the top up funding rate of that authority where the child is placed to be honoured. Therefore there is no control in terms of price's to be paid for that child where this occurs. The 2020/21 funding allocation has therefore been slightly increased by £30,000 to afford a small level of growth in 2020/21 to now a revised allocation of £772,000.
- 8.4 Top ups for post 16 providers, although a large one off underspend occurred in 2019/20 (due to credits from previous years), this is an area of required growth to support the educational need of children as they become young adults. The funding allocation for this provision has therefore been increased by a further £50,000 to a now £800,000 2020/12 budget allocation.

- 8.5 The final budget allocation awarded to this top up funding provision in 2020/21 is £4.112M, this is therefore an increase of £470,000 from the 2019/20 budget allocation.

9 Independent providers

- 9.1 School age children whose educational needs are unable to be met through a mainstream school, special school, PRU or the AP free school have to be met through the use of Independent providers. Although, it also needs to be remain noted that Southend has significantly fewer independent school placements than most other local authorities.
- 9.2 Independent provider provision is only used where there is no viable alternative available within Southend or where directed by SEND Tribunal and therefore these costs are largely unavoidable. Southend has also been experiencing a rise in the required numbers of looked after children (which is also being experienced in other authorities nationally). The educational cost of independent provider placements tend to be more expensive than children educated through either a mainstream or special school provision and particularly when they are required to be placed in a residential school. It is therefore a requirement that this funded allocation is increased to both fund the current levels of expenditure and allow some head room within the funding allocation for likely further growth.
- 9.3 The final budget allocation awarded to this funding provision in 2020/21 is £1.950M, this is an increase of £0.444M from the 2019/20 budget allocation and will again also aid long term planning.

10 Other funding provision including SLA's

- 10.1 As statutorily required, a budget to support low cost high incidence SEND placements within mainstream school will continue to be set, any required allocation of this funding will continue to be determined by the Head of SEND. This budget allocation will therefore remain at £10,000.
- 10.2 The budgeted allocation for education services provided to Southend children in hospitals will remain at £100,000. This continues to provide some head room within this provision compared to 2018/19 and 2019/20 spend allocations.
- 10.3 **SEND team contribution:**
- 10.3.1 The annual £422,480 contribution to the SEND team budget has been held at the same rate since 2016/17 (4 years ago). And this was as declared in the School Forum High Need 2016/17 Budget paper adopting a principle of 50% of the SEND team costs at that time.

- 10.3.2 As publicly reported in October 2018 there was a Joint local area Ofsted SEND inspection that identified a required number of improvements and a written statement of action (WSOA) produced. Following this in 2019/20, both the Council and Southend Clinical Commissioning Group have agreed temporary (time limited) additional investment funding to support the required actions up until the end of 31st March 2021 (at which point a further assessment will be made on the longer term requirements). This temporary investment included additional commissioning capacity, SEND team capacity, and data analysis capacity.
- 10.3.3 The current £423,000 high need contribution compared to the SEND team budget in 2020/21 (excluding the additional capacity for WSOA) now represents a 39% contribution towards that team. The 11% drop in contribution compared to 50% in 2016/17, is due to both annual staff inflationary increases and additional permanent investment applied by the Council to support the Team during those years. It is now a requirement to increase the DSG SEND team contribution by £212,500 to a revised annual £635,000. This will then permanently fund the required WSOA investment for the SEND team and bring the High Need DSG contribution back up to 50% of the total team cost for 2020/21.
- 10.3.4 In view and in fairness of the other funding increase applied with this report, it is proposed to adopt this new permanent contribution from the 1st September 2020.
- 10.3.5 Any remaining required permanent investment into increased commissioning and data analysis capacity, will therefore currently remain a funding matter for both the Council General Fund and Southend Clinical Commissioning group.
- 10.3.6 Given recognised national pressures on funding within Local Authorities, it is not uncommon practise for High Needs block funds to support the running and sustainability of SEND teams by a way of a financial contribution towards that team budget itself. The revised total 20/21 contribution rate towards the SEND team represents a relatively small 2.8% of total high need block funds available.
- 10.3.7 Whilst there is also not a direct public available benchmark for this specific contribution alone within the LA statutory Section 251 annual budget return for Children and Education. These contributions where made will be recorded under the heading line 1.2.5 SEN support alongside other support of SEN services that are not direct place, top up, alternative provision funding, hospital education funding etc... Also benchmarking must come with the caveat that it should help to inform decision making and not be the deciding factor. The reason being is that each Authority will still have differences within its historic local context and set up of provision available and therefore this judgement has to be considered with that balance. Appendix 5 for information only, provides the publicly available Sec251 2019/20 budget comparator for Southend's high needs block funding compared to its closest statistical neighbours including the 1.2.5 SEN support line within. This information is based on the 2019/20 budget per child population head (the most straight forward way to compare budget

allocations between authorities), but does demonstrates that Southend was below the statistical average in 2019/20 for the 1.2.5 SEN Support.

- 10.1 Inclusion Manager £65,000 (including on costs) from 1st Sept 2020. This is a new DSG high need block investment requirement to now permanently fund an Inclusion Manager within the Council. The role of this officer will be to lead on the design and implementation of local strategy and policy for inclusion across the Borough, including Children at risk of Missing Education; Elective Home Education; and the direct commissioning for placements of alternative arrangements for those children and young people unable to access education through mainstream provision to ensure a suitable education and improved outcomes
- 10.2 Interim tuition service – for local children who because of illness or other reasons would not receive a suitable education. It is a requirement to increase provision of this service from the 1st September 2020 from £185,000 to £250,000. This will then enable the service to meet increase in demands, and includes provision for the introduction and support of 15 avatar robots. An innovative scheme that provides pupils with direct interactive learning from the classroom to their home.
- 10.3 Elective Home Education (EHE), this is again an increase in requirements due to rising number of children with EHE. It is proposed to increase both the existing funding provision from the 1st September 2020 that support children with EHCP's from the historic £8,000 to £20,000, as well as including a further and new funded provision of £35,000 from the high need block to support EHE pupils who do not have EHCP's. It remains a statutory local authority duty to establish the identities of all local children that are home educated and monitor to ensure they are accessing a suitable, full time education. This £35,000 (including staff on costs) will therefore support capacity and the further work of a dedicated part time officer with those children / parents and carers.
- 10.4 Again, an area that is expected to grow further is the provision of direct payments to the parents/carers of children, or to young adults who make an informed choice to receive their EHCP funded supported by direct payment. It is therefore a requirement to increase this budget provision to £100,000, which again allows some head room for further growth.
- 10.5 Remaining funding allocations to support service level agreements for Behaviour Support / Primary inclusion will remain at the 2019/20 funded levels.
- 10.6 The final budget allocation awarded to this funding provision is £1.830M, and this is a net increase of £469,000 from the 2019/20 budget allocation. Again, it is recognised to aid long term planning this budget provision has been set on a full year basis, although much of the applied growth will not apply until the 1st September 2020.

11 High Need budget allocation targeted to support future years funding pressures

- 11.1 Whilst this paper sets out a mechanism to allocate a balanced High Needs budget for 2020/21 included much needed but modest and fair growth applied throughout. It is welcome to confirm there remains £532,000 (equivalent 2.4% of the total 2020/21 high need budget allocation) that can be targeted to support future years growth in view of long term planning. So whilst, this allocation is now not expected to spent in 2020/21, it will therefore fall to increase High Need DSG reserve balances and therefore continue to provide further and much needed reserve balance buffet should funding pressures re-appear as they did in 2016/17, 2017/18.

12 2020/21 Opening Forecast Outturn

- 12.1 As stated in this paper, the budget allocation has been set on permanent full year effect which therefore supports long term planning. The opening forecast outturn reflects that in the 2020/21 there will be expected underspends as much of the growth does not apply until September 2020. Therefore, again this expected opening and one off underspend will be attributable to increase the high need DSG reserve balance adding further to reserve balances.

13 Conclusion

- 13.1 After recent years of significant funding pressures, it is very welcome that the High Needs Budget allocation for 2020/21 presents a paper of growth in funding allocation to support our local children and young adults.
- 13.2 However, it must continue to be acknowledged that high needs pupils are those whose educational needs cannot be met by resources delegated via the schools block. Any further reduction in inclusive practice, increased requests for EHCPs, pupil exclusions, parents of SEN pupils electively home educating and placements in special schools all put further funding pressure on the high needs block. Therefore, current and future High Needs budget will continue to the need the support of the wider schools community to remain sustainability.

14 Appendices

Appendix 1 – DSG High Need Budget detail allocation 2020/21

Appendix 2 – Place funded pupil numbers per school or college from Sept-20

Appendix 3 – Special school top up funding for 2020/21 est. schedule

Appendix 4 – Enhanced mainstream unit top up funding 2020/21 est. schedule

Appendix 5 – Statistical Neighbour 1920 Budget per child population head

DSG - Funding Income									
High Needs Funding Block	(12,294,313)	(120,000)	(12,414,313)	(12,414,313)	-	(14,949,212)	(2,534,899)	(14,949,212)	-
High Needs Recoupment	(7,121,650)	-	(7,121,650)	(7,121,650)	-	(7,610,834)	(489,184)	(7,610,834)	-
High Needs total	(19,415,963)	(120,000)	(19,535,963)	(19,535,963)	-	(22,560,046)	(3,024,083)	(22,560,046)	-

Appendix 2 - Place funded pupil numbers per School or College from Sept-20
For 2020/21 Academic year

ESFA Registered*	To be paid by	Category	School name	No. of Places funded		Annual amount per place £'s	Total Annual Amount £'s
				incr / (dec) from 2019/20	Total No. funded		
Yes	ESFA	Special School	St Christophers (pre 16)	5	228	10,000	2,280,000
Yes	ESFA	Special School	St Christophers (post16)	-	7	10,000	70,000
Yes	ESFA	Special School	St Nicholas (pre16)	-	92	10,000	920,000
Yes	ESFA	Special School	Lancaster (pre 16)	-	28	10,000	280,000
Yes	ESFA	Special School	Lancaster (post 16)	8	62	10,000	620,000
Yes	ESFA	Special School	Kingsdown (pre16)	-	120	10,000	1,200,000
Yes	ESFA	Special School	Sutton House (pre16)	10	60	10,000	600,000
			subtotal	23	597		5,970,000
Yes	ESFA	PRU	Victory Park	-	75	10,000	750,000
No	LA	PRU	Victory Park	10	10	10,000	100,000
			subtotal	10	85		850,000
Yes	ESFA	AP Free School*	YMCA	-	50	10,000	0
Yes	ESFA	Special base Unit - Secondary	Chase	-	12	6,000	72,000
Yes	ESFA	Special base Unit - Secondary	Shoeburyness	-	18	6,000	108,000
			subtotal	-	30		180,000
Yes	ESFA	Special base Unit - Primary	Temple Sutton	-	5	6,000	30,000
No	LA	Special base Unit - Primary	Temple Sutton	7	7	6,000	42,000
Yes	LA	Special base Unit - Primary	Fairways	-	15	6,000	90,000
Yes	ESFA	Special base Unit - Primary	Hamstel	-	3	6,000	18,000
No	LA	Special base Unit - Primary	Hamstel	-	3	6,000	18,000
No	LA	Special base Unit - Primary	Blenheim	6	6	6,000	36,000
			subtotal	13	39		234,000
Yes	ESFA	Further Education	South Essex College	15	92	6,000	552,000
Yes	ESFA	Further Education	Adult College / Westcliff Centre	14	43	6,000	258,000
			subtotal	29	135		810,000
Grand Total				75	936		8,044,000

* AP Free School YMCA is funded at 50 places paid directly by the DfE outside of Southend's High Need block allocation

* ESFA Registered - To be formally registered with the ESFA the place change notification for 2020/21 would have to be confirmed to the ESFA by November 2019. Therefore those not registered were in planning stage at that time and not formally confirmed

Appendix 3 - Special School top up funding for 2020/21 est. schedule

If printed, recommend to print in A3 Landscape

Data set updated April 2020

Months funding applicable in each term:

	Band 1				Band 2				Band 3			
	summer	autumn	spring	summer	summer	autumn	spring	summer	summer	autumn	spring	summer
	5	4	3	5	5	4	3	5	5	4	3	5
Southend home resident pupil numbers only	Apr-20 to Mar-21			2021/22	Apr-20 to Mar-21			2021/22	Apr-20 to Mar-21			2021/22
	Term3	Term1	Term2	Term3	Term3	Term1	Term2	Term3	Term3	Term1	Term2	Term3
Top up Funding - SP - St Christopher's Academy (Pre 16)	156	151	151	151	37	32	32	32	-	-	-	-
Top up Funding - SP - St Nicholas Special School	19	28	28	28	49	40	40	40	9	5	5	5
Top up Funding - SP - Kingsdown Special School	70	69	69	69	40	36	36	36	-	-	-	-
Top up Funding - SP - Lancaster Special School (Pre 16)	10	13	13	13	12	9	9	9	-	-	-	-
Top up Funding - SP - St Christopher's Academy (Post 16)	7	7	7	7	-	2	2	2	-	-	-	-
Top up Funding - SP - Lancaster Special School (Post 16)	26	26	26	26	22	30	30	30	-	-	-	-
Top up Funding - SP - Sutton house - Special School	11	15	15	15	35	31	31	31	1	1	1	1

summer	autumn	spring	summer
5	4	3	5
Apr-20 to Mar-21			2021/22
Term3	Term1	Term2	Term3
193	183	183	183
77	73	73	73
110	105	105	105
22	22	22	22
7	9	9	9
48	56	56	56
47	47	47	47
Total	504	495	495

Annual Top up rates £'s

	Apr-20 to Mar-21			2021/22	Apr-20 to Mar-21			2021/22	Apr-20 to Mar-21			2021/22
	Term3	Term1	Term2	Term3	Term3	Term1	Term2	Term3	Term3	Term1	Term2	Term3
Top up Funding - SP - St Christopher's Academy (Pre 16)	9,746	10,136	10,136	10,136	6,337	6,590	6,590	6,590	1,590	1,654	1,654	1,654
Top up Funding - SP - St Nicholas Special School	10,870	11,305	11,305	11,305	7,072	7,355	7,355	7,355	1,774	1,845	1,845	1,845
Top up Funding - SP - Kingsdown Special School	10,966	11,405	11,405	11,405	7,133	7,418	7,418	7,418	-	-	-	-
Top up Funding - SP - Lancaster Special School (Pre 16)	10,890	11,326	11,326	11,326	7,086	7,369	7,369	7,369	-	-	-	-
Top up Funding - SP - St Christopher's Academy (Post 16)	9,670	10,057	10,057	10,057	6,553	6,815	6,815	6,815	-	-	-	-
Top up Funding - SP - Lancaster Special School (Post 16)	10,921	11,358	11,358	11,358	7,105	7,389	7,389	7,389	-	-	-	-
Top up Funding - SP - Sutton house - Special School	14,695	15,283	15,283	15,283	9,548	9,930	9,930	9,930	2,461	2,559	2,559	2,559

Total Top up funding £'s

	Apr-20 to Mar-21			2021/22	Apr-20 to Mar-21			2021/22	Apr-20 to Mar-21			2021/22
	Term3	Term1	Term2	Term3	Term3	Term1	Term2	Term3	Term3	Term1	Term2	Term3
Top up Funding - SP - St Christopher's Academy (Pre 16)	633,490	510,171	382,628	637,713	97,695	70,298	52,724	87,873	-	-	-	-
Top up Funding - SP - St Nicholas Special School	86,054	105,511	79,134	131,889	144,387	98,065	73,549	122,581	6,653	3,075	2,306	3,844
Top up Funding - SP - Kingsdown Special School	319,842	262,307	196,730	327,883	118,883	89,020	66,765	111,275	-	-	-	-
Top up Funding - SP - Lancaster Special School (Pre 16)	45,375	49,078	36,808	61,347	35,430	22,108	16,581	27,635	-	-	-	-
Top up Funding - SP - St Christopher's Academy (Post 16)	28,204	23,466	17,599	29,332	-	4,543	3,408	5,679	-	-	-	-
Top up Funding - SP - Lancaster Special School (Post 16)	118,311	98,435	73,826	123,043	65,129	73,892	55,419	92,365	-	-	-	-
Top up Funding - SP - Sutton house - Special School	67,352	76,414	57,311	95,518	139,242	102,609	76,957	128,261	1,025	853	640	1,066

a	b	c	= a + b + c	
Apr-20 to Mar-21			2021/22	
Term3	Term1	Term2	Term3	Apr-20 to Mar-21 Total
731,185	580,469	435,352	725,586	1,747,006
237,093	206,651	154,989	258,314	598,733
438,725	351,327	263,495	439,158	1,053,546
80,805	71,186	53,389	88,982	205,380
28,204	28,009	21,007	35,012	77,220
183,440	172,327	129,245	215,408	485,012
207,619	179,876	134,907	224,845	522,403
Total	1,907,072	1,589,845	1,192,384	1,987,307

	4,689,301	4,769,536
--	-----------	-----------

Appendix 4 - Enhanced main stream units top up funding 2020/21 schedule

2020/21 Academic Year

Assuming full occupancy

ing full occupancy		A					B					B - A
School	2019/20 - FYI only					2020/21					Total Gain / loss £'s	
	Band1 Profile*	Band2 Profile*	Annual Band1 rate £'s	Annual Band2 rate £'s	Total Annual cost £'s	Band1 Profile*	Band2 Profile*	% increase / (Decrease)	Annual Band1 rate £'s	Annual Band2 rate £'s		Total Annual cost £'s
Chase	6	6	6,837	1,891	52,369	6	6	4.0%	7,111	1,966	54,464	2,095
Shoeburyness	9	9	6,837	1,891	78,553	9	9	4.0%	7,111	1,966	81,696	3,142
Subtotal - Secondary Schools					130,922						136,159	5,237
Temple Sutton	5		7,707	-	38,537	12		4.0%	8,016	-	96,189	57,652
Fairways		15	-	2,532	37,986		15	4.0%	-	2,634	39,505	1,519
Blenheim	-		-	-	-	6			8,050		48,302	48,302
Hamstel	6		7,741	-	46,444	6		4.0%	8,050	-	48,302	1,858
Subtotal - Primary Schools					122,968						232,298	109,331
Grand Total					253,890						368,458	114,568

* based on assumed full occupancy

Appendix 5 - Sec251 201920 High Need budget per captia head (of child population)

	1.0.2 High needs place funding within Individual Schools Budget (i.e. within school budget shares, before Academy recoupment), including all pre- and post-16 place funding for maintained schools and academies (E)	1.2.1 Top-up funding – maintained schools (E)	1.2.2 Top-up funding – academies, free schools and colleges (E)	1.2.3 Top-up and other funding – non-maintained and independent providers (E)	1.2.4 Additional high needs targeted funding for mainstream schools and academies (E)	1.2.5 SEN support service (E)	1.2.6 Hospital education services (E)	1.2.7 Other alternative provision services (E)	1.2.8 Support for inclusion (E)	1.2.11 Direct payments (SEN and disability) (E)	HN TOTAL (E)
ENGLAND - Average (mean)	£127	£123	£85	£91	£4	£34	£4	£11	£12	£1	£368
ENGLAND - Average (median)	£125	£119	£76	£83	£1	£33	£2	£8	£7	£0	£357
ENGLAND - Maximum	£239	£356	£225	£204	£81	£94	£35	£59	£96	£10	£638
ENGLAND - Minimum	£46	£10	£3	£3	£0	£2	£0	£0	£0	£0	£197
Average (median)	£134	£91	£84	£74	£0	£30	£2	£3	£5	£0	£329
Maximum	£176	£206	£206	£161	£4	£66	£18	£25	£18	£8	£453
Minimum	£81	£14	£3	£38	£0	£9	£0	£0	£0	£0	£263
882 Southend-on-Sea	£168	£14	£192	£41	£0	£15	£2	£4	£9	£2	£280
839 Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole	£134	£91	£72	£161	£1	£17	£1	£17	£9	£0	£370
801 Bristol, City of	£128	£108	£120	£69	£0	£9	£18	£25	£17	£3	£370
841 Darlington	£158	£23	£206	£68	£0	£10	£10	£3	£0	£0	£329
879 Plymouth	£176	£122	£111	£38	£0	£40	£0	£2	£1	£0	£314
851 Portsmouth	£138	£50	£84	£72	£0	£37	£13	£0	£5	£0	£263
846 Brighton and Hove	£94	£138	£3	£74	£3	£66	£1	£12	£18	£5	£321
921 Isle of Wight	£129	£174	£55	£88	£0	£37	£0	£3	£4	£8	£370
831 Derby	£139	£206	£69	£153	£0	£18	£4	£0	£2	£0	£453
802 North Somerset	£81	£82	£152	£113	£0	£30	£0	£7	£1	£0	£385
816 York	£110	£90	£63	£76	£4	£47	£6	£0	£10	£0	£297
Average	£132	£100	£102	£87	£1	£30	£5	£7	£7	£2	£341

This page is intentionally left blank

Southend Education Board (EB), Resources Sub Group (RSG)

9th June 2020, 4.15-6.00, (held virtually on-line through MS teams)

DRAFT Minutes of the meeting

8

Membership of the sub group for Resources	(nominations received) representation
3 nominations from the Education Board (Headteacher/governor)	Robin Bevan (secondary) CHAIR Maurice Sweeting (SECAT, governor) Stuart Reynolds (secondary, head teacher)
4 other members nominated from the four associations	Nick Booth (primary) Vacancy Jackie Mullan (special) Anthony McGarel (governor)
1 school business manager nominated from the RSG	Simon Oxenham (SHSB)
Council Officer representation as required for the papers	Paul Grout (Senior Finance Business Partner) Gary Bloom (Head of SEND) Christine Hickey (School Finance Service Manager) Cathy Braun (Head of Access and Inclusion) cc. Elaine Hammans (Head of Early Years) Brin Martin (Director of Learning)

Time	Agenda item	Decision? Action
4.15	<p>Membership Apologies</p> <p>And council officer representation as required for papers</p> <p>Officers present:</p> <p>Paul Grout Gary Bloom Cathy Braun Christine Hickey</p>	<p>Nick Booth and Maurice Sweeting were not present at the meeting.</p> <p>Action: Robin to write to both members to confirm their intended absence. (Subsequent action note – this action has been completed)</p>
	Membership Vacancies	<p>1 current vacancy</p> <p>Anthony informed the group this is his last meeting as a governor chair representative but would be happy to continue in his capacity as a Post 16 representative if allowable.</p> <p>Action: Robin to confirm with the Education Board clerk allowable</p>

		<p>membership of the RSG group.</p> <p>(subsequent action note) – above action complete and the EB clerk responded, “that aside from the 3 RSG Education Board nominated representatives, the RSG is free to elect its own members as it sees fit to best serve the required composition of this group”.</p> <p>Action: Therefore any remaining vacancies on the RSG group and required representation will be discussed as an Agenda item at the next RSG in October.</p>
4.20	Minutes of the last meeting 03.12.19	No amendments. Minutes agreed and now Final
4.25	<p>DSG final outturn 2019/20</p> <p>DRAFT EB Paper and Appendices supplied ahead of the meeting</p> <p>Officer Lead: Paul Grout</p>	<p>Revised paper actions agreed following group discussion:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Para 4.10, remove the first sentence “it therefore continues to remain minded”. 2. Para 4.12, make clear that special school top up rates have also been frozen over the last 3 years. 3. Para 4.14, articulate the actual value of the 2018/19 late credits received in 2019/20. 4. Para 5.1, add a % representation of the total DSG reserve balances compared to the total 2019/20 DSG grant allocation. <p>The paper was acknowledged as a clear and straight forward paper to take through to the Education board.</p> <p>Key discussion items only for noting:</p> <p>A question / clarification point was raised as to whether DSG early years funding would be reduced in relation to the impacts of Covid-19 and any furloughed staff.</p>

		<p>Paul responded that at this time, the Department for Education have continued to agree to honour the full and original expected amount of DSG funds for early years providers. And the correct and right approach by the Local Authority was to continue to honour and agree that funding passported through to providers at the expected rates. The DfE have however provided flexibility to re-distribute DSG child care funding between settings due to key worker / vulnerable children etc., i.e., if there usual setting has closed and are therefore receiving child care from another setting. This is therefore the risk for a particular setting that there DSG funding may be reduced if that funding has been transferred to another setting to support that particular child.</p> <p>A further point was raised by the group, that indeed Early Years providers in general are financially vulnerable at this time due to loss of private income. There are also only allowed to furlough staff where the majority (a particular threshold) of their income is from private payers.</p>
4.45	<p>DSG High Need detailed budget allocations 2020/21</p> <p>DRAFT EB Paper and Appendices supplied ahead of the meeting</p> <p>Officer Lead: Paul Grout</p> <p>In consultation with: Gary Bloom Cathy Braun</p>	<p>Revised paper actions agreed following group discussion:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Section 10.3, to include a Para. in relation to other comparable local authority approaches to supporting the SEND team with financial contributions from high needs. <p>The paper was acknowledged as a clear proposal paper to take through to the Education board.</p> <p>Key discussion items only for noting:</p> <p>What was the basis for the proposed 4% uplifts and does that allow head room within the allocations.</p>

		<p>Paul responded that the 4% was based on a balanced modelling view of the following: considering no uplifts have been awarded on special school / enhanced mainstream unit top up rates for last 3 years (due to the needs to contain spend levels), affordability to the now high needs block in 2020/21, and head room for the full year effect of those increases alongside any further placements.</p>
5.35	<p>2018/19 Southend Academy School year end balances and 2019/20 Maintained School year end balances. (RSG discussion item only)</p> <p>Tables supplied ahead of the meeting</p> <p>Officer Lead: Christine Hickey</p>	<p>Points for noting through to Education Board seeking agreement to raise through to the ESFA:</p> <p>And for noting Academy and Maintained schools balances are publicly available information. the supplied RSG table simply pulls the information to a very helpful summary overview.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2 multi academy trusts “Learning in Harmony” and “Partnership Learning” have shown all individual schools balances within those trust as £1,000 only. It is a legal accounting requirement to show individual balances for each school. 2. The deficit balances were noted in relation to “Challenger Multi Academy Trust” and “Parallel Learning Trust”. <p>It is therefore a recommendation that the Education Board agree to write to the ESFA to seek clarification regarding the balances held on behalf of these Southend schools, and that these trusts are being worked with and supported to ensure the continuity and quality of provision for our Southend children.</p> <p>Key discussion items only for noting:</p> <p>Pleasing that Maintained school balances overall are now in a more comfortable position than the previous year, although some still remain with small level of reserve balances.</p>

5.50	<p>Early Consideration to DfE central block funding reduction for 2021/22 (RSG discussion item only)</p> <p>Part 2 – Appendix supplied ahead of the meeting</p> <p>Officer Lead: Paul Grout</p>	<p>Paul advised that at this time there are no further proposals to bring to the attention of the EB in relation to this matter. (a part 2 confidential matter)</p> <p>And that we await confirmation from the DfE that this funding provision will be further decreased by the anticipated 20% from 21/22. (bringing the total reduction to 40%). This will then also allow further informed planning too commence. It remains expected this information will be released by the DfE in July 20, alongside considerations to DSG budget planning for 2021/22 and will therefore will be brought back to the attention of the RSG and EB in October.</p> <p>And it remains minded, the Education board agreed the 20/21 top slice from the schools block to central block to protect these services at the current funded level in 20/21 on the basis a long term plan was produced to mitigate further funding requirements from a school block transfer.</p>
6.00	<p>AOB:</p> <p>Date of next meetings and forward plan</p> <p>Future RSG meeting dates – Southend High School for boys 4:15 pm to 5.30/6.00 pm current planned papers ahead of Education Board (EB):</p> <p>October 2020 (Date tbc ahead of EB date tbc)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DSG 2021/22 Indicative budget allocations including 2021/22 Individual School Block (ISB) allocations. 	None

	<p>December 2020 (Date tbc ahead of EB date tbc)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DSG 2021/22 Final Budget planning including ISB allocations and Forecast Outturn 2020/21 <p>June 2021 (Date tbc ahead of EB date tbc)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DSG Final Outturn 2020/21 • DSG High Need detailed budget allocations 2021/22 • 2020/21 Year End School Balance tables <p>Meeting close</p>	
--	--	--

DRAFT

12

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank

By virtue of paragraph(s) 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank

By virtue of paragraph(s) 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank