

Public Document Pack
SOUTHEND-ON-SEA CITY COUNCIL

Southend-on-Sea Education Board
Tuesday 18th October 2022

I confirm that a meeting of the Education Board (formerly the Schools Forum) will be held on **Tuesday 18th October 2022 at 8.15am.**

The meeting will be held at the Tickfield Centre, in the Evolution Room.

Robert Harris
Clerk to the Forum

AGENDA

Agenda	Item	Lead	Time
1.	Apologies for absence	RH	5mins
2.	Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 21st June 2022 Minutes attached	Chair	5mins
3.	Matters arising (not covered elsewhere on the agenda)	Chair	10mins
4.	Education Board Membership and Vacancies Verbal report (no papers)	RH	10mins
	<u>Schools Forum Matters</u>		
5.	Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) 2023/24 Indicative Budget Allocations (including 2023/24 Individual School Block (ISB) Allocations) Report for decision attached	PG	30mins
	<u>Education Board Matters</u>		
6.	SEND Strategy Report for noting / discussion to follow	GB	20mins

7.	Update from Inclusion Task and Finish Group Report for noting/discussion to follow	SG/BW	20mins
8.	Appointment of Director of Education, Inclusion and Early Years Verbal report from Executive Director (Children and Public Health) (no papers)	MM	10mins
9.	Report back from Sub-Groups a) Resources Sub-Group held on 4 October 2022 – Draft Minutes attached	Chairs RB	15mins
10.	Any other business (to be notified to the Chair/Clerk prior to the start of the meeting)	ALL	10mins
11.	Date, time and Venue of future meetings 20th December 2022 at 8.15am 17th January 2023 at 8.15am 21st March 2023 at 8.15am 20th June 2023 at 8.15am	RH	5mins

Public Document Pack
SOUTHEND-ON-SEA BOROUGH COUNCIL

Meeting of Education Board

Date: Tuesday, 21st June, 2022

Place: Johnson oom - Tickfield

2

Present: J Ladner (Chair) – Southend HS for Girls
Dr R Bevan (Vice-Chair) - Southend HS for Boys
Mr L Thorne - YMCA
Mr J Johnson - Edwards Hall Primary School High School
Mr S Reynolds - Southchurch High School
Mr S Tollworthy - Shoeburyness High School
Mr D Woollard - Blenheim Primary School
Ms J Mullan - St Christophers (SEN Trust Southend)
Ms L Yelland - Essex Pre-School Learning Alliance

In Attendance: Councillor Burton
B Martin, P Grout and R Harris

Start/End Time: 8.15 am - 9.55 am

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from A McGarel, D Taylor, D Allen, J Jones, L Clark, B Williams and M Jordan.

2 Minutes of the meeting held on 18th January 2022

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 18th January 2022 be confirmed as a correct record, subject to the correction to Shireen Ayub's name in the list of those present.

3 Matters arising (not covered elsewhere on the agenda)

There were no matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

4 Education Board Membership and Vacancies

The Board received a verbal update from the Principal Democratic Services Officer covering the current membership and vacancies. The Board was informed that a review of the membership would take place over the summer period and a report would be presented to the next meeting of the Board.

Resolved:

That the current membership and vacancies be noted and that the Director of Education and the Principal Democratic Services Officer review the membership and report back to the Board in October 2022.

5 Dedicated Schools Grant 2021-2022 Final Outturn

The Board considered a report of the Senior Finance Business Partner providing an update on the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) final outturn for the 2021/22 schools budget, high needs, early years and centrally retained.

The Board discussed the report and commented on areas of concern which included the cost of living rises, pressure on special schools to take children from outside the city, the capacity and demand for high needs provision, recruitment issues and inadequate funding given the potential pay rises for teachers, support staff, etc and the current high rate of inflation.

Resolved:

1. That the final Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) 2021/22 outturn, be noted.
2. That the subsequent DSG reserve balances shown for each individual funding block to be carried forward into 2022/23, be approved.

6 Access to Suitable Education

The Board considered a report of the Head of Access and Inclusion providing an update on the increased pressures and need for expanded provision of suitable education and oversight for children and young people of compulsory age electively home educated or unable to access education at school due to health needs or otherwise.

The Board discussed the report and commented that the true levels of need, financial implications and staffing at a quantitative level will need to be reviewed by the Resources Sub Group and oversight of the provision / access to suitable education undertaken by the Vulnerable learners Sub Group.

Resolved:

1. That the increased number of children electively home educated, be noted and that additional DSG High Need funding of £174,000 to increase staffing capacity to provide oversight of the quality of suitable education from September 2022, be approved.
2. That the increased volume of referrals for children unable to access education at school, be noted and that additional DSG High Need funding of £168,000 to increase staffing capacity to provide additional tutors and educational provision, oversight and support with schools from September 2022, be approved.

7 Inclusion - Implications from the Green Paper and Directors Briefing

The Board considered a report of the Director of Education and Early Years setting out proposals for a bid for funds to support better inclusion in the city.

The Board discussed the report and commented that it was important to identify what the individual needs of the child are and the wider areas of need and that in

real terms there has been significant reduction in resources resulting in fewer support staff.

Resolved:

1. That the proposals set out in the report regarding early implementation of the ambitions set out in the Green Paper, in particular, to support the intention to establish capacity in the city to enable schools to better meet the needs of all learners within a mainstream setting if at all possible, be approved.
2. That in principle the allocation of DSG High Needs funding, as set out in the High Needs Budget Allocation report 2022-23 (Agenda Item 11 below), namely the ringfencing of up to £1 million to provide additional capacity, services and support for schools and academies, at no cost to schools, to enable them to better meet the needs of all learners alongside their peers, be approved.
3. That a small task and finish group be established made up of members of the Education Board and Senior Officers to oversee and commission support, reporting back through the Resources Sub Group on a meeting by meeting basis.
4. That the task and finish group be required to propose a series of impact measures that will track the effectiveness of any new provision over time.

8 DSG High Needs Budget Allocation Report 2022-2023

The Board considered a report of the Senior Finance Business Partner presenting the High Needs Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Block detailed budget allocations for 2022/23.

Resolved:

1. That the revised special school flexible place fund allocation scheme be continued from September 2022.
2. That the in city high need Educational Health and Care Plan (EHCP) top up funding rates awarded to special schools, enhanced mainstream units and mainstream schools receive a 5.0% uplift applied to the current banded rates from September 2022.
3. That the compensation place funding scheme for the Enhanced Mainstream units be continued from September 2022, where that unit was not full at the point of the October 2021 school census.
4. That the Pupil Referral unit top up rates be uplifted by 5.0% from September 2022.
5. That the detailed High Need budget allocations for 2022/23, be adopted and approved.

9 Matters of the Moment

The Director of Education and Early Years provided a verbal update on the following matters:

- The importance of the SEND Green and White Papers and its implications for schools, etc (i.e.
- Recognised the pressures on schools – i.e. Essex has 150 maintained schools;
- Council has appointed a new Leader – Cllr George;
- Number of Inspections taken place and the outcomes are in the public domain (Victory Park, Lancaster, Kingsdown, St Nicholas, Chase, Leigh North Street, West Leigh and Southchurch);
- Expectation that there will be a full inspection of children’s services towards the end of the year;
- New director in post – Children’s Social Work, Early Help and Youth Support.

10 Report back from Sub Groups

The Board received and noted the following Sub Group minutes:

- (a) Resources Sub Group held on 7th June 2022;
- (b) Vulnerable Learners Sub Group held on 28th April 2022; and
- (c) School Performance Sub Group held on 9th March 2022.

It was noted that there was a vacancy on both the VLSG and SPSG which would be filled by Lee Thorne.

11 Any other business

No other business was conducted at this meeting.

12 Date and time of future meetings

18th October 2022 at 8.15am
20th December 2022 at 8.15am
17th January 2023 at 8.15am
21st March 2023 at 8.15am

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

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

To
Education Board

On
18th October 2022

Agenda
Item No.

5

Report prepared by:
Paul Grout, Senior Finance Business Partner
In consultation with:
Resources Sub Group

Dedicated School Grant (DSG) 2023/24 budget planning and 2022/23 budget update

1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To update the Education Board (EB) on DSG budget planning for 2023/24 following the Department for Education (DfE) July 2022 School funding announcements.
- 1.2 To seek to agree a decision in principle with regard to the setting of our local 2023/24 Individual School Block funding allocations per pupil but also in view of restricted revisions of any such changes to the formulae as now administered through the National Funding Formulae (NFF).
- 1.3 To update the EB on the latest DSG budget for 2021/22 following the applied annual DfE July 2022 funding update changes.

2 Recommendations

Education Board are asked to agree:

- 2.1 With regard to individual school's budget (ISB) planning for 2023/24, to continue on the trajectory of adopting the principles of the National Funding Formulae (NFF). (As referenced in 5.1 through to 5.5). And therefore;
 - 2.1.1 Any mainstream school that attracts their core NFF pupil led funding factors (i.e. with no need for Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) funding floor protections to be applied), to receive the full NFF applied rates as laid out in 5.2.2.
 - 2.1.2 And all remaining mainstream schools whose per 2023/24 per pupil led funding rates are either above the revised NFF mandatory 2023/24

minimum funding amounts per pupil or core NFF funding rate per pupil as referenced in 2.1.1, will receive the same maximum NFF built in allowance of 0.5% uplift per pupil.

- 2.2 Raise at a national level, that a maximum 2023/24 0.5% uplift per pupil for those schools not attracting their core underlying NFF allocations is a very low uplift from 2022/23, and with particular consideration to significant inflationary pressures for all Schools.
- 2.3 And the Education Board are asked to simply note, the remaining considerations of this paper at this stage of planning the DSG for 2023/24.

3 Background

2022/23

- 3.1 The updated DSG budget for 2022/23 follows the annual July 2022 release from the DfE of the latest 2022/23 DSG funding block allocations at a Local Authority (LA) level, where funding changes have been applied to both the High Needs block and Early Years.

2023/24

- 3.2 The DSG budget planning for 2023/24 follows the DfE's July 2022 release of the "Schools revenue funding 2023 to 2024 operational guide" and indicative 2023/24 national funding allocations for the Schools Block, High Needs Block and Central Block. All of which are used to help guide LA's and their Schools Forums/Education Boards to plan local implementation of Dedicated School Grant funds.
- 3.3 The Government have continued to re-affirm their position of intention to move to a Hard NFF, whereby individual school budgets would be set through one single national formula rather than local funding formulae. In July 2021, the DfE published a consultation on proposals for completing these funding reforms, which also proposes that from 2023 to 2024 all local authorities will be required to bring their own formulae closer to the single national formula to smooth the transition. In June 2022, the DfE published a further consultation on implementing the Direct NFF with view to more technical aspects of School Block funds, including split site criteria, growth funding, notional SEND budgets in mainstream schools and transfer to High Needs blocks.
- 3.4 In terms of the NFF funding formulae itself, it must be noted and continually commended that our own LA and Education Board has positioned itself well over the last six years to align our School DSG resources to the principles of the NFF (which started in 2017/18) and support those principles, it therefore would now simply make no sense and dispute school budget planning to move away from these principles. 2023 to 2024 is therefore now the sixth year of the NFF reforms and is the funding basis for setting individual school block allocations. It does however still remain a local decision with the agreement of School Forum on the final school per pupil rates set at an individual school level (within minimum guarantee protections) with the exception now of the minimum per

pupil funding rates which is a mandatory funding factor, there is also however, now very limited options to be able to deviate away from those principles and given the built in NFF Minimum funding guarantee protections. The DfE have also stated the intention is the NFF for mainstream schools is fully implemented across all Local Authorities by the 2027-28 funding year, and it is hoped it is moved to sooner than that, not later.

3.5 In July 2022, The DfE also published a separate consultation on the Early Years Funding Formulae including proposing changes to some of the underlying data capturing additional needs using more recent data sets.

3.6 And as agreed under delegated authority of the Education Board to the Resource Sub Group (RSG), the RSG has responded to all recent DfE funding consultations, with the respective representation for each of the funding matters through DSG.

3.7 In relation to the Central Block and Historic Commitments, the DfE for 2023/24 have reaffirmed the position of unwinding 20% of funding from the previous years base line.

4 Dedicated Schools Grant 2023/24 budget planning and 2022/23 budget update

Foreword

4.1 In July 2022, as part of the indicative 2023/24 release the DfE released a statement at a national level, "Overall, core schools funding (including funding for mainstream schools and high needs) is increased by £1.5 billion in 2023 to 2024 compared with the previous year, on top of the £4 billion increase in 2022 to 20223". but we must remain minded on a national basis this is on the back drop of significant national pressures on high needs funding, schools that have been struggling financially alongside further and inflationary pressures effecting all schools including staff pay award increases.

4.2 The 2023/24 indicative DSG funding allocations at a total local level are presented alongside the detail of the latest 2022/23 Budget allocations as shown in "Appendix 1 – DSG Latest 2022/23 budget and Indicative budget 2023/24". The DfE total funding allocation for 2022/23 DSG resources is now £178.471M and the total indicative 2023/24 allocation is £186.254M. This represents a total indicative increase of £7.784M* from 2022/23 applied across the Schools Block of £5.960M, of which £4.079M is the previous 2022/23 supplementary grant paid outside of the DSG now included in the DSG, High Needs block of £1.896M and a net reduction of (£0.072M) to the Central Block.

£7.784M* – note for the purpose of illustration both the 2023/24 Schools block Growth Fund and Early Years block funding are considered to remain at the current 2022/23 allocation, as neither are updated under July 2022 indicative allocations. Both, are expected to be updated in December 2022.

4.3 All the applicable changes to the updated 2022/23 DSG budget, and basis of the indicative 2023/24 budget allocations are explained within each DSG block of this paper.

5 Schools Block – Individual School Block (ISB) allocations 2023/24

- 5.1 The 2023/24 indicative DfE allocations published contain the actual 2023/24 primary unit of funding (PUF) and secondary unit of funding (SUF) that the DfE will use to calculate each LA's final school block allocation. And as repeated annually, they will then also issue the updated and final total 2023/24 school block funding allocations in December 2022 based on the latest pupils numbers and adjusted funding factors recorded through the October 2022 school census.
- 5.2 The following are the key headlines related to mainstream school funding for 2023/24 released by the DfE in July 2022:
- 5.2.1 The minimum per pupil levels will be set at £4,405 for primary schools (£4,265 in 2022/23) and for secondary schools £5,715 (£5,525 in 2022/23), both with an equivalent circa 0.5% increase from 2022/23, as the 2022/23 supplementary grant paid outside of the DSG has now been built directly into the DSG minimum amounts per pupil for 2023/24. And to simply remind from 2020/21 the minimum amounts per pupil are also now a mandatory funding factor, and these are set as a fixed amount.
 - 5.2.2 Where schools are attracting their underlying core NFF allocations, the NFF has built in an increase of circa 2.4% from the 2022/23 Pupil led funding factors: basic entitlement, and lump sum. Funding for disadvantaged pupils will see greater increases, with funding for two deprivation factors in the NFF increasing by a greater amount than other factors. These two factors (the FSM6 factor and the IDACI factor) will increase by 4.3% compared with their 2022 to 2023 values.
 - 5.2.3 And for those Schools whose per pupil led funding rate is already above both 5.2.1 and 5.2.2, the NFF funding floor per pupil led rate has been set at a maximum 0.5% increase from their 2022/23 per pupil led base line.
 - 5.2.4 And for further clarity, the 2022 to 2023 schools supplementary grant has now been rolled in the schools DSG NFF for 2023 to 2024, so the % increases quoted above are adjusted for this and therefore reflect the % increase amount on top of that grant continuing.
 - 5.2.5 The per pupil led Minimum MFG (Minimum Funding Guarantee) protection from 2022/23, can be set between a +0.0% and + 0.5% per pupil.
 - 5.2.6 LAs continue to be able to propose a transfer up to 0.5% from their schools block to other DSG blocks with school forum approval. And a disapplication request to the DfE continues to be required for any transfer request above 0.5% or any amount without school forum approval.
 - 5.2.7 There are now significant restrictions in place to be able to move away from any of the principles above. Local Authorities under local formulae who have not been following NFF Core funding factors (excluding the mandatory minimum amount per pupil), in 2023 to 2024 must now move their factors 10% closer to the NFF Values. To now move away from any of these principles above, would also require a disapplication request to

the DfE (to be approved by the secretary of state). It does therefore make it very unlikely any proposed changes would now be approved.

- 5.3 From a local perspective, given that our local Education Board has been a strong adopter from the start of the NFF reforms (from 2017/18, 6 years ago) and effectively we are Local Authority that has mirrored the NFF for mainstream schools, and that the government's strong intention remains to move to a single 'hard' national funding formula to determine every school's budget, there is therefore no foreseeable reason why our EB on a technical and strategic reason would now choose to try and move away from these NFF principles. Whilst, it has to be recognised a minimum 0.5% increase per pupil from the 2022/23 base line is unfortunately a low % uplift considering current inflationary pressures, and we remain minded it is for those schools that are above the minimum amounts per pupil or their core NFF funded amount (where greater funding increases can be gained) that receive the 0.5%, limitations are also very restrictive to now be able to deviate away from these principles and without impacting funding for another school to remain affordable within the overall School block funding allocation. Any deviation will also require disapplication approval.
- 5.4 It is therefore recommended (excluding the minimum funding amounts per pupil which is a compulsory factor regardless), that for 2023/24 the Education Board continue to fully adopt the principles of the NFF as listed in 5.2.1 to 5.2.3.
- 5.5 In view of the recommendation of 5.4, using the 2022/23 School block data set, the illustrative 2023/24 school level per pupil led rates are shown in Appendix 2 including a % increase comparison to their 2022/23 base line. It must remain caveated that with regard to the applied 2023/24 increases on the core underlying NFF funding rates and in accordance with the annual funding cycle, it will only be possible to know the actual final per pupil led rate for those applicable schools once the DfE have released in late December 2022 the updated School Block data set for 2023/24 (which is based on the October 2022 school census). **And please note** - the then actual final 2023/24 individual school allocations will be subsequently shown in the January 2023 EB DSG paper which will include the updated numbers of pupils on roll at each school (based on the DfE's October 2022 census) multiplied by these now proposed 2023/24 per pupil led funding rates to form the final 2023/24 funding allocations.

6 Schools Block – Centrally retained 2023/24

- 6.1 The following is the key headline, released by the DfE in relation to the growth fund for 2023/24;
- 6.1.1 For 2023 to 2024, growth funding will be calculated using the same methodology as in 2022 to 2023, based on the growth in pupil numbers between the October 2021 and October 2022 censuses.
- 6.2 The 2023 to 2024 actual DfE DSG growth funding amount won't be known until December 2022 once the DfE have processed the differences between the two October censuses.
- 6.3 For Southend, in 2023/24 we can therefore continue on our approved principles administering Growth funding locally, whilst we await the outcome of the recent NFF consultation which include any potential changes to the administration of growth funding locally. And therefore to remind our local principles currently follow:
- 6.3.1 The March 2019 EB DSG Growth paper. Where Southend has an affordable funding plan to support growth to schools over the life of the expected growth within the funding available and includes declared minimum funding rates which can be set as necessary.
- 6.3.2 And as per the timings of announcements as agreed in the December 2019 EB DSG budget planning paper, final growth rates for 2023/24 will be declared in the January 2023 EB DSG budget paper (so once the final funding DfE allocations are known for 2023/24), alongside any potential and affordable increase adjustment for the rates currently applied in 2022/23.

7 Schools Block – De-delegated 2023/24

- 7.1 In accordance with the annual funding cycle, any proposed amounts for 2023/24 de-delegation consideration (Voting rights maintained schools only), will be presented to the EB in the December 2022 EB DSG paper. And it remains minded, the only current approved funding item for delegation in 2022/23 is staff cost public duties claims allowing further buy in from Academy schools to support and therefore also be eligible for those claims.

8 Early Years Block

2022/23 Budget Update (and 2021/22 Final Budget allocation)

- 8.1 The DfE have now returned to the traditional annual cycle updating funding allocation relating to Early Years, following a change in process during 2021/22 due to Covid-19.
- 8.2 Therefore, as repeated on a traditional annual basis, the DfE announced in July 2022 the results of the Early Years January 2022 census, which not only adjusts and updated the funding applied to the early years DSG resource for the last financial year 2021/22 to a now final 2021/22 funding allocation, but also forms the basis of a revised indicated allocation for the current 2022/23 financial year and 2023/24.
- 8.3 The 2022/23 updated budget for Early Years is displayed in Appendix 3, the results of 2022/23 updated budget (following the January 2022 census), have displayed a very small (0.9%) reduction in the current take up of 3&4 year old universal offer, but with higher increases of both the 3&4 additional extended entitlement offer with an 8.6% increase and Early Years pupil premium of a 25.6% increase. The take up of 2 year old eligibility offer, has also increased by 9.1%. Whilst, it is positive to see increases in both the 3&4 year old additional extended entitlement offer and 2 year old eligibility take up, it obviously highlights that more families are falling eligible for pupil premium support.
- 8.4 The final DfE funding adjustment to the Early Years budget for 2021/22 reflecting the movements as shared in Appendix 3 has resulted in a further total £61,000 attributable to our Local Early Years DSG funding for 2021/22. This one off sum will naturally fall to further support the Early Year DSG reserve balance and can be used with the agreed conditional use of DSG reserve balances for Early Years.

2023/24 Budget Planning

- 8.5 In view of the recent DfE Early Years funding formula consultation, the DfE did include indicative hourly rates which does show some modest funding increases in view of their proposals. However, in view that this was a consultation document it is not advised to share these currently until formally announced, which is expected over the Autumn term and from which Local Authorities and through our Education Board can model and recommend effective funding rates for 2023/24. It is hoped, the DfE will release this information in time for the December 2022 Education Board, if not, it will need to be deferred to the January 2023 Education Board.

9 High Needs Block

2022/23 Budget Update

- 9.1 The High Needs Block DSG budget has now been adjusted following the DfE's annual 'import and export adjustment*' announced in July 2022, and it is has confirmed this has increased our High Needs Blocks funds by a further £66,000 to now £28.831M as there has been a net increase of 11 pupils from other local authorities home based pupils from 2021/22.
- 9.2 In July 2022, the DfE also announced a further increased recoupment funding adjustment now deducting 6 places (of the 50) for 6 Southend pupils placed at the YMCA AP free school (was 5). Equivalent £60,000 per academic year (£10,000 per annum per place fund). This, in turn means a very small reduction of (£5,834) in our locally High Need block funds held.
- 9.3 In terms of overall funding allocations neither of these adjustments are financially material compared to the total funding of the high needs block, and there is therefore no impact on overall current service allocations as displayed in the June 2022 EB DSG High Needs paper for 2022/23. These funding adjustments will therefore by default simply fall to "balance held aside from service provision to support any in year high need funding pressures", increasing that balance by £60,166.

'import and export adjustment*' - relates to a DfE defined in year High Need funding adjustment compiled from the latest January school census and RO6 Individualised learner record. Whereby a local authority's high needs block funding allocation is compensated if there is a net import increase from the previous year due to more other local authority home based pupils placed in their area, or alternatively reduced if there is a net export increase from the previous year if more local authority home based pupils are placed in another local authority area. Southend's 2022/23 High Need block allocation has therefore increased by a further £66k (£6,000 per pupil for 11 pupils), due to a now overall revised net import of 70 pupils, compared to a net import of 59 pupils for the previous year.

2023/24 Budget Planning

- 9.4 The following is the key headlines, released by the DfE in relation to High needs funding for 2023/24:
- 9.4.1 The funding floor – this ensures that all local authorities' allocations per head of child population will increase by a minimum percentage compare to the baseline. For 2023-24 we are setting the funding floor at 5%, having adjusted the baseline to include the supplementary high needs funding that was allocated to DSG funds in December 2021.
- 9.4.2 The gains cap – the limit on gains per head of the population compared to the baseline. For 2023-24 we are setting the gains cap at 7% which means that local authorities can see an increase of up to 7% before their gains are capped.
- 9.5 Therefore, for our own local 2023/24 DSG high need funding allocation this has now been indicatively been set at £30.726M, an additional £1.896M from 2022/23, applying a gain increase of 6.7%, so above the funding floor protection of 5%, but slightly below the gains cap of 7%.

- 9.6 This therefore is a further encouraging increase once again for Southend's children and young adults who require special educational needs related support and children who require alternative education.
- 9.7 And again, as per our local DSG annual funding cycle, the actual full detailed application of this additional 2023/24 funding will be considered as part of the EB June 2023/24 High Need detailed allocation budget paper. June was agreed through the EB to allow enough time for the SEND team in consultation with respective special schools and mainstream schools to allocate the expected in borough EHCP banded funding rates for the following academic year 2023/24. Following the completion of EHCP banded levels consultation this can then subsequently support any required wider funding allocation considerations for the High Needs block in that Academic Year to come.

10 Central Block

2023/24 Budget Planning

- 10.1 The following is the key July 2022 headlines released by the DfE in relation to central block funding for 2023/24:
- 10.1.1 As stated previously, the department are continuing to reduce the element of funding within central block that some local authorities receive for historic commitments made prior to 2013 to 2014.
 - 10.1.2 In 2023/24 for those local authorities that receive it, historic commitments will be reduced by a further 20% from the 2022/23 baseline.
 - 10.1.3 The funding for ongoing responsibilities (LA statutory duties) to deliver for all pupils in maintained schools and academies, will continue to be protected for any losses below -2.5% from the 2022/23 allocation for any reduction in changes between per pupil numbers (between October censuses), but reversely any gains gapped at 5.86% where pupil numbers increase.
- 10.2 The reduction in funding for historic commitments is no surprise, although ofcourse disappointing and was first shared in both the October 2019 and December 2019 EB DSG papers, including a position statement at that time that our own LA should now continue to plan on further funding losses in 2021/22 and beyond.
- 10.3 To remind, In December 2020, EB agreed the plan to manage these continued expected funding losses for both the 2022/23 and 2023/24 financial year by drawing on any remaining Central Block DSG reserves to continue to fund the remaining historic commitment funded services at their current funded levels for these 2 years. There is therefore no need to re-consider this position for 2023/24 but it will need to be considered for 2025/26 subject to no further increase acceleration of this funding unwinding by the DfE. Further central block funding planning will therefore need to commence in 2025/26 by the latest. At the same time we also need to await any further funding announcement from the DfE.

10.4 The table below simply illustrates the now confirmed DSG funding losses for our LA central block historic commitment allocation from the start of 2019/20 through to 2023/24 with a further current suggested trajectory to 2026/27 at the current continued rate of a 20% loss from the previous years base line. This is then also mapped alongside the now current funded commitment for historic services (following the EB December 2020 DSG paper), giving an indicative suggestion of how long those commitments can remain funded at their current levels until a Central block DSG reserve deficit balance would now occur in 2026/27. Again, this table is heavily caveated that the DfE may choose to accelerate these losses further so we must continue to await and review further details as they are announced:

	Financial Year	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
A	DSG Funding remaining	£905,000	£724,000	£579,000	£463,000	£371,000	£297,000	£237,000	£190,000
	% unwound*		20%	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%
	Funding loss*		(£181,000)	(£145,000)	(£116,000)	(£92,000)	(£74,000)	(£60,000)	(£47,000)
B	Current spend commitment*				£430,000	£430,000	£430,000	£430,000	£430,000
A - B	Variance Underspend or (Overspend)				£33,000	(£59,000)	(£133,000)	(£193,000)	(£240,000)
	Central Block forecast reserve balance at 31 st March (Deficit)			£473,000	£506,000	£447,000	£313,000	£121,000	(£119,000)

* % and funding loss unwound from the previous year. – forecast 2023/24 to 2025/26, can only assume until the DfE make further announcements in relation to the Hard NFF it will continue at the rate of 20% each year from the previous years base line.

* Current spend commitment following December 2020 Education Board

11 Latest forecast DSG reserve balances and Use of Reserve strategy

11.1 The latest position on DSG reserve balances remains as presented in the EB June 2022 DSG Final Outturn 2021 22 paper. All agreed conditional use of Reserve balances remain in place, and as per our local annual reporting cycle, an updated position of all reserve balances will be supplied in the December 2022 EB paper, alongside updated 2022/23 forecast spend positions for all blocks at that time.

12 Conclusion

- 12.1 Overall, it is clear from the indicative 2023/24 funding announcements, the DfE is directing greater funding increases towards deprivation factors and High Needs funding allocations nationally. It is however, surprising that a low and maximum 0.5% minimum funding guarantee protection uplift per pupil has been built into the 2023/24 NFF for Mainstream schools, considering significant inflationary pressures facing all schools.
- 12.2 It also of course, must remain noted, it is disappointing that the DfE intention for Dedicated School Grant funding allocations to support “historic commitments” under the Central Block in 2023/24 has continued to unwind further, despite our now local strategy to mitigate these losses up until 2026/27.
- 12.3 It again, must be highlighted with praise for the collaborative working approach of the Local Authority with the Education Board and respective sub groups representing all sectors, including high needs and early years. That the DSG funding continues to be maintained and sustained on an affordable basis.

13 Appendices

Appendix 1 - DSG Updated budget allocation 2022/23 and Indicative budget allocation for 2023/24

Appendix 2 - DSG Illustrative Individual Mainstream School Budget per pupil led funding rates 2023/24

Appendix 3 - Early Years 2022/23 Updated Budget Allocation

This page is intentionally left blank

Appendix 2 - DSG Illustrative Individual Schools Budget per pupil led funding rates 2023/24

Recommend, if printed, to print in A3 Landscape

URN*	Primary / Secondary	Maintained / Academy	School Name	A	B	B1	B2	B3 = IF(B > ((B1 * B2) + B1), "B", (B1 * B2) + B1)	C	D = ((A * B3) + C) / A
				22/23 NOR *	£ 23/24 Illustrative Core NFF Pupil led Rate *	£ 22/23 MFG pupil led rate *	23/24 uplift % from the 22/23 per pupil led rate	£ 23/24 pupil led rate per pupil	£ 23/24 NFF Lump Sum	£ 23/24 pupil led rate (including lump sum)
114718	Primary	Maintained	Chalkwell Hall Junior School	478	£3,876.41	£4,113.29	0.56%	£4,136.27	£128,454	£4,405.00
114719	Primary	Maintained	Chalkwell Hall Infant School	357	£3,885.64	£4,021.47	0.59%	£4,045.18	£128,454	£4,405.00
114720	Primary	Maintained	Earls Hall Primary School	630	£3,962.79	£4,173.79	0.65%	£4,201.10	£128,454	£4,405.00
114774	Primary	Maintained	Leigh North Street Primary School	612	£3,807.73	£4,168.66	0.63%	£4,195.11	£128,454	£4,405.00
114780	Primary	Maintained	West Leigh Infant School	356	£3,774.07	£4,015.72	0.71%	£4,044.17	£128,454	£4,405.00
114787	Primary	Maintained	Barons Court Primary School and Nursery	245	£4,266.72	£4,145.01	2.94%	£4,266.72	£128,454	£4,791.02
114789	Primary	Maintained	Heycroft Primary School	398	£3,835.46	£4,058.30	0.59%	£4,082.25	£128,454	£4,405.00
114841	Primary	Maintained	Fairways Primary School	416	£3,895.85	£4,076.79	0.50%	£4,097.17	£128,454	£4,405.96
115145	Primary	Maintained	St Mary's, Prittlewell, CofE Primary School	658	£4,387.01	£4,294.63	2.15%	£4,387.01	£128,454	£4,582.23
134860	Primary	Maintained	Eastwood Primary School & Nursery	403	£4,305.19	£4,771.68	0.50%	£4,795.54	£128,454	£5,114.28
134861	Primary	Academy	Edwards Hall Primary School	382	£3,919.20	£4,050.70	0.50%	£4,070.96	£128,454	£4,407.23
115313	Primary	Maintained	Milton Hall Primary School and Nursery	614	£4,711.62	£4,911.06	0.50%	£4,935.52	£128,454	£5,144.83
140672	Primary	Academy	Prince Avenue Academy and Nursery	398	£4,605.56	£4,480.85	2.78%	£4,605.56	£128,454	£4,928.31
142683	Primary	Academy	Porters Grange Primary School and Nursery	352	£5,055.38	£4,979.24	1.53%	£5,055.38	£128,454	£5,420.31
144987	Primary	Academy	Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School	415	£3,758.22	£4,065.41	0.74%	£4,095.47	£128,454	£4,405.00
145010	Primary	Academy	Westborough Academy	408	£4,554.69	£4,432.80	2.75%	£4,554.69	£128,454	£4,869.53
143335	Primary	Academy	Hamstel Junior School	567	£4,511.26	£4,389.33	2.78%	£4,511.26	£128,454	£4,737.81
143340	Primary	Academy	Hamstel Infant School and Nursery	420	£4,434.60	£4,328.46	2.45%	£4,434.60	£128,454	£4,740.44
143333	Primary	Academy	Hinguar Community Primary School	210	£4,125.30	£4,112.24	0.50%	£4,132.80	£128,454	£4,744.48
143338	Primary	Academy	Greenways Primary School	947	£4,349.67	£4,258.49	2.14%	£4,349.67	£128,454	£4,485.31
142753	Primary	Academy	West Leigh Junior School	515	£3,720.45	£4,126.05	0.72%	£4,155.57	£128,454	£4,405.00
144877	Primary	Academy	Bournes Green Junior School	262	£3,784.65	£3,891.69	0.59%	£3,914.72	£128,454	£4,405.00
140536	Primary	Academy	Darlinghurst Academy	482	£4,206.48	£4,155.45	1.23%	£4,206.48	£128,454	£4,472.98
143339	Primary	Academy	Bournes Green Infant School	180	£3,891.29	£3,902.58	0.50%	£3,922.10	£128,454	£4,635.73
144694	Primary	Academy	Temple Sutton Primary School	643	£4,664.99	£4,539.37	2.77%	£4,664.99	£128,454	£4,864.77
143337	Primary	Academy	Blenheim Primary School	619	£4,026.64	£4,177.05	0.50%	£4,197.94	£128,454	£4,405.46
145678	Primary	Academy	Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School	417	£4,528.50	£4,404.24	2.82%	£4,528.50	£128,454	£4,836.55
146015	Primary	Academy	St Helen's Catholic Primary School	411	£4,375.46	£4,257.61	2.77%	£4,375.46	£128,454	£4,688.00
146016	Primary	Academy	St George's Catholic Primary School	210	£4,213.92	£4,093.66	2.94%	£4,213.92	£128,454	£4,825.61
143966	Primary	Academy	Bournemouth Park Academy	542	£4,772.62	£4,764.86	0.50%	£4,788.69	£128,454	£5,025.69
144878	Primary	Academy	Richmond Avenue Primary and Nursery School	404	£4,349.41	£4,350.77	0.50%	£4,372.52	£128,454	£4,690.48
143334	Primary	Academy	Friars Primary School and Nursery	410	£4,561.30	£4,511.21	1.11%	£4,561.30	£128,454	£4,874.60
143336	Primary	Academy	Thorpedene Primary School	489	£4,798.54	£4,728.09	1.49%	£4,798.54	£128,454	£5,061.22
141741	Secondary	Academy	Chase High School	936	£6,672.79	£6,590.10	1.25%	£6,672.79	£128,454	£6,810.03
143144	Secondary	Academy	Southchurch High School	825	£6,692.21	£7,251.42	0.50%	£7,287.68	£128,454	£7,443.38
147185	Secondary	Academy	Cecil Jones Academy	706	£6,927.84	£6,823.19	1.53%	£6,927.84	£128,454	£7,109.79
137733	Secondary	Academy	Shoeburyness High School	1,520	£6,256.77	£6,160.10	1.57%	£6,256.77	£128,454	£6,341.28
136272	Secondary	Academy	Westcliff High School for Boys Academy	908	£5,286.11	£5,541.25	0.58%	£5,573.53	£128,454	£5,715.00
137284	Secondary	Academy	The Eastwood Academy	1,111	£5,841.23	£5,695.71	2.55%	£5,841.23	£128,454	£5,956.85
136490	Secondary	Academy	Westcliff High School for Girls	909	£5,302.11	£5,540.50	0.60%	£5,573.69	£128,454	£5,715.00
136444	Secondary	Academy	Southend High School for Girls	898	£5,318.05	£5,540.59	0.57%	£5,571.96	£128,454	£5,715.00
138174	Secondary	Academy	Belfairs Academy	1,393	£5,746.68	£5,605.41	2.52%	£5,746.68	£128,454	£5,838.89
136443	Secondary	Academy	Southend High School for Boys	890	£5,286.69	£5,537.72	0.60%	£5,570.67	£128,454	£5,715.00
137310	Secondary	Academy	St Thomas More High School	872	£5,859.63	£5,711.42	2.59%	£5,859.63	£128,454	£6,006.94
137312	Secondary	Academy	St Bernard's High School	806	£5,744.10	£5,643.63	1.78%	£5,744.10	£128,454	£5,903.48
				26,624						

* URN = DfE's defined Schools "Unique Reference Number"

* NOR = Numbers on roll. 22/23 as per the October 2021 school census

* 22/23 MFG pupil led rate - as defined by the DfE under NFF, has been baselined to the 22/23 individual schools per pupil led rate less the 23/24 change in the NFF lump sum rate and updated to include the 22/23 supplementary grant funding

NOTE - All Academy Schools 22/23 funding changes are applicable from Sept 2022 (start of the 2022/23 academic year), Maintained School 22/23 funding changes are applicable from Apr 2022 (The local authority financial year)

Appendix 3 - Early Years 2022/23 Updated Budget Allocation

	C							D							D - C		F - E	
	2022/23 Original Budget							2022/23 Updated Budget										
	Funded rate in per hour	Indicative		Funded rate out per hour	% expected take up of core allocation	Indicative		Funded rate in per hour	Indicative		Funded rate out per hour	% expected take up of core allocation	Indicative		PTE Change (decrease) / Increase	And as a %	Change in DfE Funding allocated (decrease) / Increase £'000	
3 & 4 year old universal core	4.71	2,507	6,732	4.53	100%	2,507	6,474	4.71	2,485	6,671	4.53	100%	2,485	6,416	(22)	(0.9%)	(58)	
3 & 4 year old deprivation attached to universal				0.44	20%	501	126				0.44	20%	497	125			(1)	
3 & 4 year old centrally retained to support universal				0.09	100%	2,507	131				0.09	100%	2,485	130			(1)	
Subtotal			6,732				6,732			6,671				6,671			(60)	
3 & 4 year old extended entitlement core	4.71	720	1,932	4.53	100%	720	1,859	4.71	782	2,098	4.53	100%	782	2,018	62	8.6%	159	
3 & 4 year old deprivation attached to extended entitlement				0.44	20%	144	36				0.44	20%	156	39			3	
3 & 4 year old centrally retained to support extended entitlement				0.09	100%	720	38				0.09	100%	782	41			3	
Subtotal			1,932				1,932			2,098				2,098			166	
3 & 4 year old Early years pupil premium	0.60	448	153	0.60	100%	448	153	0.60	562	192.344	0.60	100%	562	192	115	25.6%	39	
2 year old core	5.61	388	1,240	5.57	100%	388	1,231	5.61	423	1,353	5.57	100%	423	1,343	35	9.1%	112	
2 year old centrally retained to support 2 year olds				0.04	100%	388	9				0.04	100%	423	10			1	
Subtotal			1,240				1,240			1,353				1,353			113	
Grand Total			10,057				10,057			10,315				10,315			257	
3&4 year old Disability Access Fund (DAF) - Paid in and out at £615 per child, expecting 93 children eligible			68				68			68				68			-	
			10,125				10,125			10,383				10,383			257	
Local Passport % directly through for 3& 4 year old funding (excludes centrally retained)							98.0%							98.0%				
Department for Education minimum requirement for direct passport rate through to Providers 3 & 4 year old funding							95.0%							95.0%				

This page is intentionally left blank

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

4th October 2022, 4.15-5.45, (held virtually on-line through MS teams)

DRAFT Minutes of the meeting

9

Membership of the sub group for Resources	(nominations received) representation
<p>3 nominations from the Education Board (Headteacher/Governor)</p> <p>4 other members nominated from the four associations</p> <p>1 school business manager nominated from the RSG</p> <p>Council Officer representation as required for the papers</p>	<p>Robin Bevan (secondary) CHAIR Jane Ladner (secondary, governor) Stuart Reynolds (secondary)</p> <p>Andy Douglas (primary) Vicky Wright (early years) Jackie Mullan (special) Anthony McGarel (post 16)</p> <p>Simon Oxenham (SHSB)</p> <p>Paul Grout (Senior Finance Business Partner)</p> <p>cc. Gary Bloom (Head of SEND) Cathy Braun (Head of Access and Inclusion) Elaine Hammans (Head of Early Years) Michael Marks (Executive Director of Children and Public Health)</p>

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</p>	<p>Apologies from Vicky Wright (post meeting)</p>
	Membership Vacancies	No vacancies – and welcome to Andy for his first RSG meeting.
4.20	Minutes of the last meeting 07.06.22	No amendments. Minutes agreed, all actions complete and now Final.
4.25	Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) 2023/24 Indicative budget allocations including	Discussion / Debate:

<p>2023/24 Individual School Block (ISB) allocations.</p> <p>(DRAFT Paper supplied)</p> <p>Officer Lead: Paul Grout</p>	<p>A discussion was held on what options / flexibilities does Southend now have when setting Per Pupil rates in Mainstream Schools.</p> <p>Paul re-confirmed these options are now very limited and would require disapplication request, when going outside of NFF Minimum Funding Guarantee factors, and would also be highly unlikely to be approved as it would also involve reducing funding for other schools attracting their Core NFF allocations to remain affordable within overall funding allocation.</p> <p>A post action note (by Paul) – has also confirmed the DfE have made an error in their indicative 23/24 Authority Proforma Tool (APT) suggesting Minimum Funding Guarantees can be set between 0.5 – 2 %. This is not true, the guidance published only allows MFG to be set between 0 – 0.5% (without disapplication request). Whilst, this makes no difference to the indicative rates modelled through the NFF (and appendix 2 shared) it does highlight the further restrictions to be able to flex the model.</p> <p>Paper amendments agreed:</p> <p>5.2.5 – For ISB, now highlight the MFG restrictions between 0.0% – 0.5%</p> <p>9.6 – For High Needs 23 24, amend wording to reflect “encouraging increase” of funding.</p> <p>In both - Conclusions and Recommendations, re-highlight the fact that a MFG uplift per pupil of 0.5%, is very low, considering the inflationary pressures on all Schools.</p>
---	---

5.30	<p>AOB</p> <p>FYI only:</p> <p>Date of next meetings and current forward plan</p> <p>Future RSG meeting dates – MS Teams or Southend High School for boys 4:15 pm to 5.30/6.00 pm current planned papers ahead of Education Board (EB):</p> <p>6th December 2022 (Ahead of EB date 20th Dec)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DSG 2023/24 Final Budget planning including ISB allocations and Forecast Outturn 2022/23 <p>June 2023 (Date tbc ahead of EB date 20th June)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DSG Final Outturn 2022/23 • DSG High Need detailed budget allocations 2023/24 <p>Meeting close</p>	5 mins

This page is intentionally left blank