

MEETING OF THE SCHOOLS FORUM

**Tuesday 11th September 2018, 1pm to 3pm
at Whitmore High School**

AGENDA

Item	Title	Attachments
1	Apologies & Order of Agenda	
2	Minutes of the Last Meeting – 3 July 2018	Attached
3	Matters Arising	
4	2019-20 Budget Setting & Funding Formula	Report by Jo Frost attached
5	School Place Planning & Admissions	Report by Rajeshree Parmar attached
6	AOB	

Date of Next Meeting: 16th October 2018

Voting Members Circulation:

Mike Baumring (Headteacher-Kenmore Park Junior School)	Patrick O'Dwyer (Special Needs Service)
Jo Daswani (Headteacher-Whitchurch Primary School)	Anna Smakowska (Headteacher-Woodlands School)
David O'Farrell (Headteacher-St Bernadette's Primary School)	Anne Monahan (Headteacher-St Anselm's Primary School)
Sue Hammond (Chair) (Headteacher-Whitmore High School)	Edwin Solomon (Governor-Hatch End High School)
Nigel Hewett (AHGB Representative)	Jonathan Watson (Associate Headteacher – Whitefriars)
Rebecca Hastings (Headteacher-Cedars Manor School)	Pam Virdee (Headteacher-Longfield Primary School)
Sue Maguire (Headteacher-Hatch End High School)	16-19 Representative (Principals Harrow/Stanmore/St Dominic's)
Rutinder Mahil-Pooni (Headteacher-Kenmore Park Inf Sch)	Claudia Calogero (Governor-Hillview Nursery School)
Paa-King Maselino (Headteacher-The Helix Education Centre)	Keven Bartle (Headteacher– Canons High School)
Paul Gamble (Headteacher-Harrow High School)	Louise Browning (Headteacher – Norbury School)
Vacant (PVI representative)	Geraldine Higgins (Headteacher-Sacred Heart Lang College)
Ian Nutch (Academy High School Finance Manager)	Vacant (Governor)

Non-Voting Members Circulation:

Cllr Christine Robson (Portfolio Holder)	Paul Hewitt (Director of Children's Services)
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Copies to:

Johanna Morgan (Divisional Director, People Services)	Atifa Sayani (Harrow School Improvement Partnership)
Barbara Worrall (Schools Finance Manager)	Jo Frost (Finance Business Partner)

SCHOOLS FORUM

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 3 July 2018 **at 1.00 pm at Whitmore High School**

Members Present: Sue Hammond – Headteacher, Whitmore High School (CHAIR)
Ian Noutch – Academy High School Finance Manager
Anna Smakowska – Headteacher, Woodlands School
Pam Virdee – Headteacher, Longfield School (VICE CHAIR)
Geraldine Higgins – Headteacher, Sacred Heart Language College
Patrick O'Dwyer – Div. Director Education Services (Special Needs Services)
Rebecca Hastings – Headteacher, Cedars Manor School
Louise Browning – Headteacher, Norbury Primary School
Paul Gamble – Headteacher, Harrow High School
Christine Robson – Portfolio Holder, Young People & Schools
Mike Baumring - Headteacher, Kenmore Park Junior School

Officers in Attendance: Jo Frost - Finance Business Partner
Brian Netto – Head of Early Years (Item 4 only)

SH opened the meeting.

1. Apologies and Order of the Agenda

Apologies were received and accepted from:

Sarbdip Noonan – Principal, Stanmore College
Paul Hewitt – Director of Children's Services
Rutinder Mahil-Pooni – Headteacher, Kenmore Park Infant School
Sue Maguire – Headteacher, Hatch End High School
Claudia Calogero – Governor, Hillview Nursery School
Keven Bartle – Headteacher, Canons High School
David O'Farrell – Headteacher, St Bernadette's Primary School
Anne Monahan – Headteacher, St Anselm's Primary School
PK Maselino – Headteacher, The Helix
Nigel Hewett - AHGB Representative

The order of the agenda was agreed.

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting held on 15 May 2018

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 May 2018 were agreed as an accurate record

3. Matters Arising

None

4. Early Years SEND Inclusion Fund

BN introduced the report which set out proposals for the use of the Early Years SEND Inclusion Fund from the previous year.

BN confirmed that the proposals ensured that 100% would be passed to providers. It is anticipated that the use of the Inclusion Fund will lead to better feedback from schools that pupils coming through are better prepared.

BN explained that from 2018-19 the funding per child has been increased as feedback from schools and other providers is that funding was too low in 2017-18. There were a number of settings not accessing the fund even though there was data that indicated they had eligible children.

SH queried whether PVI's and schools are required to have a SEND register

BN explained that it is not mandatory but that the Early Years Service are working with settings to ensure they all keep a register and submit it to the LA quarterly.

SH queried why not all settings are applying – is it that settings are overstretched and don't have the capacity or capability of applying? SH asked if the process could be made easier so that all settings get the funding they are due

BN explained that in future EY Service is planning to attach the SEND register to the form so that settings are told which children are eligible

LB stated that it needs to be made more clear that more than one child can be claimed for on one application

BN clarified that this does need to be made clearer and that as long as the children are named individually this is acceptable. BN explained that it is not possible to fully quality assure what providers say they spend the funding on and SEND training and practice is not necessarily embedded in the culture of settings but EY Service will quality assure a sample from a number of settings.

IN suggested that it is more important that the money gets out to providers rather than having an in depth oversight as to how they are spending it.

Schools Forum agreed to earmark the underspend from 2017-18 to fund the proposals as set out in the paper.

PG stated that the report was well put together

Schools Forum thanked BN for his report.

5. DSG Budget Monitoring Month 2 2018-19

JF introduced the report which set out the DSG budget monitoring position for month 2. Overall there is a projected net overspend of £1.2m as a result of pressures on the High Needs Block. JF explained that the final allocation for the HNB is £2.9m lower than the 2017-18 budget through the HN National Funding Formula.

JF proposed that the overspend is funded from the schools brought forward contingency. RH asked what happens if Schools Forum does not agree to this. JF explained that the deficit would fall to the Local Authority. JF stated that the LA possibly has a right to appeal to the Secretary of State if it did not agree with the Schools Forum decision.

POD explained that demand locally is not reducing and the number of EHCPs have increased from 1640 in January 2018 to 1700 by mid June 2018 and there have been 243 new requests for

assessments, not including movers in, since September 2017. POD explained that the strategy is to bring young people back to Harrow but it is challenging if families don't want this and there is a capacity issue with local provision. AS added that there is an increase in medical complex needs that hasn't been seen before.

POD referred to the SEND Strategy which Schools Forum had received a paper in the previous meeting which will seek to reduce demand and pressures on the HNB.

IN asked about the LA's progression in relation to the costed plans banding work and timescales for rolling out.

POD explained that approx. 50 plans have been mapped onto the proposed matrix. In the main existing plans transferred well into the matrix. The behaviour strand needs to be better described and it hasn't proved suitable for those young people with hearing and visual impairments so this would need to be reviewed. POD stated that a paper would be brought to Schools Forum in the Autumn term. SH requested an action plan with a timetable so that schools are properly consulted.

ACTION POD

It was agreed that Schools Forum would review the position on the HNB in the Autumn term and seek to make a decision on the use of the contingency to support the HNB at that point. PG suggested that Schools Forum might consult with all schools before making this decision.

IN queried the level of funding for expansion classes in the Growth Fund. JF explained that this was the lump sum funding schools in the expansion programme receive and that each school would receive this funding every year for 7 years until the expansion had moved through the whole school. JF explained that schools which take bulge classes also receive this funding but only in the year the bulge class opens. JF also explained that schools which were part of the expansion programme but which did not have the extra pupils and did not therefore open an extra class, do not receive the funding. However, due to infant class size regulations and parental preference, if a school has capacity in its PAN to take pupils if parents choose, then the LA/school cannot refuse to accept them. This could mean that schools are having to open classes for a small number of pupils which can cause funding problems in future years.

SH stated that the LA can direct a maintained school to reduce its PAN. SH queried what the LA is doing to ensure that there are not lots of half empty reception classes across the borough.

SH requested a report on the strategy to manage down the number of reception vacancies through managing PANS and the numbers of reception vacancies and PANs in September 2018.

ACTION POD

6. Schools Forum Dates 2018-19

Schools Forum agreed the proposed dates for the 2018-19 academic year as set out on the agenda with the exception of May 2019 which primary reps requested be brought forward one week to 7th May 2019 so it did not clash with SATs.

Any Other Business

- a) IN raised a query about the Pupil Premium Grant for Looked After Children which has increased from £1900 to £2300 but that the extra £400 won't be passed to schools. POD explained that schools can still bid for this funding. SH said that there is a need to further communicate where this funding is being spent.

POD suggested that Mellina Williamson-Taylor, Head teacher of the Virtual School talk to primary and secondary heads. This was agreed.

ACTION POD

Next Meeting and Agenda Items

The next meeting will take place on 11 September 2018 at 1.00 pm at Whitmore High School.

The meeting closed at 2.30pm

Meeting:	Schools Forum
Date:	11 September 2018
Subject:	Item 4: 2019-20 Budget Setting and Funding Formula Review
Responsible Officer:	Jo Frost, Finance Business Partner – Children’s Services

Section 1 – summary

1. This report is to update Schools Forum on the Education Skills & Funding Agency (ESFA) arrangements for Schools Revenue Funding for 2019-20.
2. Schools Forum is asked to:
 - note the changes to the funding arrangements for 2018-19 as set out in the report
 - note the indicative school budgets set out at Appendix A
 - consider the proposed consultation document set out at Appendix B

Section 2 - report

1. In 2018-19 the government introduced a new National Funding Formula for Schools, High Needs and the Central Schools Services Block. For the schools block this means that LAs will be funded on the basis of the aggregate of the national funding formula for all schools, academies and free schools in its area but the final formula for distribution will be determined by each Council following consultation with schools and Schools Forums. The ESFA has published a guidance report with regards to the funding arrangements for 2019-20.

Summary of proposals for 2019-20

- 2019-20 is the second year of the national funding formula for schools, high needs and central school services.
- Local authorities will continue to set a local schools’ formula in consultation with schools

- In light of the national progress of moving towards the national funding formula in the first year, local authorities will continue to determine local formulas in 2020-21
- The minimum funding guarantee (MFG) for schools will continue and LAs will continue to have the flexibility to set a local MFG between minus 1.5% and plus 0.5% per pupil
- Within the High Needs Block the government has provided for at least a 0.5% increase adjusted for population changes in 2019-20
- High Needs Blocks will be protected against 2017-18 baselines
- The Schools Block will again be ring-fenced in 2019-20. LAs are able to transfer up to 0.5% of schools block funding out with the agreement of schools forums.

Summary of Changes 2019-20

- Within the Schools Block the government will provide for at least a 1% per pupil increase for each school in 2019-20 through the national funding formula compared with the 2017-18 baseline (cumulative increase from 0.5% in 2018-19)
- The minimum per pupil funding levels have increased to £3,500 for all primary schools and £4,800 for all secondary schools that have pupils in years 10 and 11
- The gains cap in the national funding formula has increased so that schools can attract gains of up to 6.09% against the 2017-18 baseline
- Funding for growth will be allocated on a formulaic basis. However, there will be no changes to the ways in which LAs can distribute growth funding
- KS3 minimum level used for middle schools is increased to £4,600
- Primary low prior attainment factor value is reduced to £1,022 to balance the increase in the cohort

Current Position

2. The LA carried out a consultation in Autumn 2017 which sought views on whether the LA should continue to use the Harrow Schools Funding Formula or introduce the National Funding Formula from 2018-19.
3. 76% of schools responded to the consultation and 89% voted in favour of introducing the National Funding Formula from 2018-19.

Schools Block Baseline Funding 2019-20

4. Table 1 shows the 2019-20 Primary and Secondary Units of Funding (P/SUF) and the total allocation based on the October 2017 schools census.

Table 1 – baseline funding

Factors	PUF	Pupils	SUF	Pupils	Total
Per pupil	£4,138	21,343	£5,638	11,263	£151,807,286
Premises & mobility					£3,508,503
Growth Fund					£4,045,019
Grand Total indicative Schools Block 2019-20					£159,360,807

Per Pupil Funding

5. The National Funding Formula has generated a primary and secondary unit of funding. This is the per pupil funding of all Harrow schools based on the aggregate of the funding which the NFF has generated for each school. The per pupil factor values are shown below at Table 2

Table 2 – funding formula factor values

Factor	Primary	Secondary
Primary AWPU	£3,016.28	
KS3 AWPU		£4,241.31
KS4 AWPU		£4,815.75
FSM	£483.13	£483.13
Ever6	£592.94	£861.95
IDACIF	£219.61	£318.43
IDACIE	£263.53	£428.23
IDACID	£395.29	£565.49
IDACIC	£428.23	£614.90
IDACIB	£461.17	£658.82
IDACIA	£631.37	£889.40
LPA	£1,122.19	£1,701.95
EAL	£565.49	£1,520.77
Lump Sum	£120,783.30	£120,783.30
Mobility	Historic	Historic

Low Prior Attainment (primary schools)

6. The only change to the factor values is to the primary low prior attainment which has reduced from £1,152.93 per pupil to £1,122.19. In the primary

sector this applies to pupils identified as not achieving the expected level of development in the early years foundation stage profile (EYFSP).

7. The EYFSP changed in 2013 and since then the cohort measured in primary schools has increased year on year. This increase comes from changes to the assessment rather than changes to the underlying level of need. Therefore, the total proportion of spend on primary LPA through the formula will remain but in order to balance the increase in the eligible cohort, the factor value will reduce.
8. The final allocation of the schools block will be announced in December 2018 and will be based on the October 2018 schools census. The P/SUF will remain the same.

Premises & Mobility

9. These continue to be allocated on an historic basis. Premises factors relate to business rates. This could potentially be a risk if business rates increase between years and funding is not allocated to reflect this.
10. Schools eligible for the mobility factor are those which have more than 10% of pupils starting outside the normal school entry dates. At present it is proposed to retain the per pupil factor value at 2018-19 funding levels. However, this will depend on the overall affordability of the formula when the final allocation is announced in December 2018.

Growth Fund

11. There are significant changes proposed by the government for the calculation of the growth fund in 2019-20. In the current year the allocation of growth funding has been based on historic allocations. The growth fund is set aside for growing pupil numbers in permanent expansions, new schools and bulge classes to enable sufficient school places. In addition the current growth fund includes capacity for in-year business rates increases and 'trigger' funding.
12. From 2019-20 growth funding will be allocated to LAs using a new formulaic method based on lagged growth data.
13. Growth funding can only be used to:
 - Support growth in pre-16 pupil numbers to meet basic need
 - Support additional classes needed to meet the infant class size regulation
 - Meet the costs of new schools

14. Growth funding may not be used to support:
- Schools in financial difficulty
 - General growth due to popularity; which is managed through lagged funding
15. The growth fund may not be the most appropriate source of funding for growing schools and LAs should vary pupil numbers where there is growth in growing schools which do not have pupils in every year group.
16. Despite the change to the allocation of growth funding, LAs are not expected to change the method of allocating funding locally.
17. LAs are required to produce criteria on which any growth funding is to be allocated and this must be agreed by Schools Forum. The ESFA will check the criteria for compliance with the regulations.
18. The current growth fund for primary expansions and bulge classes allocates £63k lump sum to each school in the September which expand/take a bulge class. This figure is approximately based on the 2017-18 primary school AWPU of £3,268 plus a small sum for resources & equipment, pro-rated for September to March when the pupils will be included in the following financial year's schools budget.
19. In the new funding formula the growth fund will be based on pupil data from the October 2018 census. Therefore the allocations included in Table 1 are based on the 2018-19 allocation and not a true reflection of the growth funding the LA will receive in 2019-20.
20. Funding will be allocated to LAs based on the actual growth in pupil numbers in the previous year. This will ensure that over time LAs are funded on the basis of actual growth rather than historic spending decisions.
21. Growth will be measured at middle layer super output area (MSOA) levels as these are small enough geographical areas to detect 'pockets' of growth within LAs. Growth will be measured by counting the increase in pupil numbers in each MSOA between the two most recent October censuses. Only positive increases in pupil numbers will be included, so an LA with positive growth in one area and negative growth in another will not be denied growth funding.
22. For each LA the growth factor will allocate:

- £1,370 for each primary growth pupil
- £2,050 for each secondary growth pupil
- £65,000 for each brand new school that opened in the previous year
- Each sum will be subject to an Area Cost Adjustment (ACA)
- Protection will be applied so that no LA will see a reduction of more than -0.5% of the overall 2018-19 schools block funding

23. The ESFA does not expect LAs to use these rates in their local arrangements for funding growth and LAs should continue to make decisions about growth funding locally. The ESFA does not anticipate that LAs spending on growth will necessarily match precisely the sum allocated to them for growth and in which case the overall schools block can continue to be top-sliced to create the level of growth funding required.

24. Table 2 shows the current growth funding allocated to schools and the growth funding to be allocated to LAs in 2019-20

Table 2 – growth funding

	Per pupil	ACA	2019-20 per pupil	2018-19 per pupil	Reduction
Primary	£1,370	1.09803	£1,504	£2,100	-£596
Secondary	£2,050		£2,251	na	

25. Potentially there could be a shortfall in the growth funding allocated to the LA for primary pupils since the per-pupil funding is lower than currently allocated to schools. However, as the LA does not currently fund growth in the secondary sector this funding could be used to offset any shortfall.

26. As the final allocation will not be known until December, there are two options that need to be considered should the funding provided be insufficient and these will be consulted on with all schools

- Option 1 – maintain the current growth fund allocation of £63,000 per primary pupil. This may require a top slice to the remainder of the schools block
- Option 2 – scale back allocations to match those received through the growth fund. This could mean a reduction of up to £18k per additional primary class, depending on the overall affordability level.

Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG)

27. LAs will continue to set an MFG within the allowable range of -1.5% and +0.5%. This will mean that schools which are currently protected at the MFG will not lose more than -1.5% per pupil than that received in 2018-19.
28. In 2018-19 there are 14 schools protected at MFG receiving anywhere between £2k and £209k protection.
29. In 2019-20, based on the October 2017 census and using the NFF factor values, this could reduce to just 7 of 55 schools in the Harrow funding formula receiving protection. This means that over 87% of schools will be receiving funding that matches that which is generated through the NFF by 2019-20. This is dependent though on any changes to demographics in the October 2018 census.
30. In addition in 2018-19 the LA was able to lift the cap on gains so that any school that was due to gain in the funding formula could gain up to 100%. In previous years gainers had to be capped in order to fund those being protected at MFG. However, there is more funding in the new funding formula overall meaning that capping was not required in 2018-19.
31. For 2019-20 the LA needs to consult on the level of MFG protection as part of setting the funding formula. The proposal would be to continue to apply MFG at -1.5% so that the remaining schools move to (or as close to) the NFF as possible during the 'soft' NFF years.
32. It is estimated, based on the October 2017 census, that continuing to set MFG at -1.5% will enable 2 more schools to be at NFF by April 2020 and a further 2 the following year.
33. Indicative school budgets based on the October 2017 census are shown at Appendix A. As these calculations are using the October 2017 census and the factor values in the NFF have remained the same, the majority of schools budgets are the same as those in 2018-19. Only those schools on the MFG will see a change as a further reduction of -1.5% MFG has been applied. It should be noted that these budgets are subject to changes in relation to the October 2018 schools census. These include:
 - Fluctuations in pupil numbers
 - Changes in demographics resulting in changes to per pupil levels of funding
 - Reduction in the factor value for low prior attainment in primary schools due to being spread over a larger cohort of pupils. Whilst the

government has continued to distribute the same level of funding overall, individual schools may see disproportionate gains or losses.

Central Schools Services Block (CSSB)

34. This block is to fund statutory duties that LAs hold for both maintained schools and academies.

Table 3 – Central Schools Services Block Indicative Allocation 2019-20

Activity	£
Retained Duties in relation to all schools and academies	£523,865
Admissions	£645,490
Servicing of Schools Forum	£2,340
Total Central Schools Block	£1,171,695

De-delegated services

35. These are for maintained schools only. Funding for de-delegated services must be allocated through the formula but can be passed back with Schools Forum approval. De-delegation isn't an option for special schools, nursery schools and PRUs.

36. Schools Forum members for primary and secondary maintained schools must decide separately for each phase whether the service should be provide centrally and the decision will apply to all maintained mainstream schools in that phase. The funding can then be removed from the formula before schools budgets are issued.

37. Services which may be de-delegated are:

- school improvement
- contingencies (including schools in financial difficulties and deficits)
- behaviour support
- support to underperforming ethnic groups and bilingual learners
- free school meals eligibility
- insurance
- museum and library services
- licences and subscriptions (other than those paid for by DfE)
- staff costs supply cover (for example long term sickness, maternity, trade union and public duties)

38. In Harrow, staff costs for supply cover in relation to trade union duties is currently de-delegated. It is proposed to continue this in 2019-20. The proposed per pupil delegation amounts will be reported at a future Schools Forum for approval.

High Needs Funding

39. The funding is driven by:

- Basic entitlement factor for each pupil in a special school or special post 16 institution as recorded on the January Alternative Provision census
- Historic lump sum equal to 50% of each LAs historical high needs blocks
- Proxy factors for population, deprivation, health and disability, and low attainment.

40. High Needs funding is managed by the LA and is designed to support a continuum of provision for pupils and students with special educational needs (SEN), learning difficulties and disabilities, from their early years to age 25.

Budget and demand pressures

41. The new funding formula for High Needs Funding has reduced the overall level of funding available. This is in part as a result of 50% of the funding being based on previous years' allocations (prior to any growth agreed by Schools Forum) and so the baseline budget is lower than the actual spend in previous years.

42. There has also been a significant growth in demand for Education Health and Care Plans and the cost of SEN provision across the whole age range. However, since the SEND Reforms in 2014 there has been an exponential growth in Under 5, Post 16 and post 19 provision.

43. It should also be noted that historical HNB allocations (of which current and future allocations will be based) was only estimated based on pupils aged 5-16 years old and has not taken account, in the entirety, of those pupils under 5 and post 16 years old. There is also a growth in complexity of need and a lack of capacity within mainstream settings to provide a graduated response to additional needs before turning to a statutory process.

44. In 2018-19 the High Needs Block budget is £29.980m after recoupment of place funding for academies/free schools and post 16 institutions and including the 0.5% transfer from the Schools Block (£0.8m) agreed for 2018-19. As at Q1 it is forecasting to overspend by £1.280m.

45. The High Needs Block National Funding Formula has generated funding which is £2.9m lower than the actual budget allocated to High Needs in 2017-18. This is partially due to the fact that the 50% of the overall allocation is

based on previous years' HNB allocations, rather than the actual spending on HNB.

46. It is therefore anticipated that there will continue to be a pressure in the HNB in 2019-20.

SEND Strategy

47. The SEND Strategy is underway and work within the four priorities will contribute to increasing capacity but also focus on early intervention and prevention. The four strategic priority areas are:

- **Strategic Priority 1:**
Review in-borough specialist provision in the context of a changing demographic profile, pre-school, school and college organisational changes and other developments.
- **Strategic Priority 2:**
Review current provision and need for children, young people and young adults with social, behaviour and mental health needs to ensure continuum of provision and support. (Previously SEBD)
- **Strategic Priority 3:**
Improve local education and social care opportunities for post-16 and post 18 provision working in partnership with other agencies including colleges and voluntary sector.
- **Strategic Priority 4:**
Improve outcomes for children and young people (0-25) with SEND and ensure appropriate staff skilled and qualified in all provision.

Progress to date

48. To date the LA has increased the provision for special education needs and continues to seek such opportunities.

- Additional places were created at Shaftesbury, Kingsley and Woodlands, and Additionally Resourced Mainstream Provision was opened at Bentley Wood, Pinner High, West Lodge, Earlsmead and Priestmead in September 2015 as part of the school expansion programme.

- Early Years ARMs places were opened at Hillview Nursery School in September 2016, initially as a pilot, creating nursery ARMs provision and adopting the place and top-up model for funding.
- Additional places are planned at Woodlands from September 2018 and statutory processes are underway.
- An expression of interest for a special free school submitted by the LA was unsuccessful but a new bidding round has been announced and a bid will be submitted in October 2018 – this route continues to be considered as a key contribution to increasing local provision.

49. Collectively this contributes to increasing provision in-borough thus reducing out-borough placements and the use of Independent and Non Maintained Special School (INMSS) provision. However, there is further work to do and this needs to be considered within funding opportunities.

50. The challenge identifying additional school options is the availability of sites and so other creative options including satellite models will need to be considered. However, this is only one aspect of meeting demand. A strategic approach is required that reviews specialist provision and support in mainstream settings from early years to 25.

Next Steps

51. The LA is seeking to redesign responsibilities for SEN in order to:

- Continue to address pressures in the High Needs Block
- Facilitate the creation of more Additional Resourced Mainstream provision locally
- Continue to negotiate costs of provision with providers, including academies and colleges
- Facilitate the creation of a new local special school for 150 aged 4-19
- Work with partners to make most efficient use of early support and intervention to make settings more effective in making provision for SEN support
- Prepare for the SEN Area review with CCG and NHS

52. Whilst there are a number of positive actions in place and planned for the next academic year the ability for these to have an immediate impact on the budget is limited and therefore there is anticipated to continue to be a pressure in 2019-20. The LA is therefore seeking a transfer of 0.5% of the schools block into the High Needs Block in order to mitigate some of the pressure.

High Needs Costed Statements/Education Health & Care Plans

53. The current Harrow Schools Funding Formula uses the lump sum value in the National Funding Formula but in addition Element 2 place funding of £12,000 for the first two costed statements/EHCPs in each mainstream school and academy. Each additional statement on the October census is then funded through the High Needs Block. Technically therefore there is High Needs funding currently within the School Block. The High Needs Block cannot take on this additional liability without having the funding that is currently within the schools block baseline. The total of this is approximately £660k based on 55 schools in the funding formula. There are two options to take this forward:

- **Option 1**

Remove the £12,000 from the lump sum in the NFF and schools will not be funded for Element 2 place funding for the first 2 statements/EHCPs on the October Census.

- **Option 2**

Apply to the ESFA to transfer this funding out of the Schools Block into the High Needs Block to the equivalent of £660k which will allow the first two statements/EHCPs to be funded from the HNB on an on-going basis. This would be in addition to the LA's request to transfer 0.5% of the schools block into the HNB to support growth in demand.

Movements between blocks

54. From 2018-19 the DSG consists of 4 blocks – Schools, Early Years, High Needs and Central School Services Block. The Schools Block is ring-fenced from 2018-19 but LAs retain limited flexibility to transfer up to 0.5% of the Schools Block funding into another block with the approval of schools forum.

55. To make such a transfer LAs are required to carry out a consultation with all local maintained schools and academies and the Schools Forum should take into account the views of the schools responding before giving their approval.

56. The LA may make an application to the Secretary of State where

- It wishes to move more than 0.5% of the Schools Block; or
- The Schools Forum has turned down a proposal for the authority to move funding out of the schools block but the LA nevertheless wishes to proceed with the transfer

57. The evidence to be presented to Schools Forum to support a transfer should include the following:

- Details of any previous movements between blocks and why they have not been adequate
- A full breakdown of the specific budget pressures that have led to the requirement for a transfer
- A strategic financial plan setting out how the LA intends to bring HNB expenditure to sustainable levels
- The extent to which collaborative working is being developed as a means of securing suitable HN provision
- How any additional HN funding will be targeted to good and outstanding schools that provide an excellent education for larger than average number of pupils with high needs
- Impact of the proposed transfer on individual schools budgets

DSG Balances

58. The ESFA has identified an increasing number of LAs incurring deficits on the overall DSG account, largely because of overspends on the High Needs Block. With effect from 2019-20 the ESFA intends to tighten up the rules under which LAs have to explain their plans for bringing the DSG account back into balance.

59. The ESFA will require a report from any LA that has a DSG deficit of more than 1% as at 31st March 2019. A consultation will be undertaken during Autumn 2018 about the detailed implementation of these new rules.

Consultation

60. LAs are expected to demonstrate to Schools Forum that they have consulted locally with all maintained schools and academies when seeking agreement to transfer any funding out of the Schools Block

61. There will be an exceptions process, which will require Secretary of State approval, for considering transfers above the 0.5% limit and for transfers opposed by Schools Forum

62. LAs must engage in open and transparent consultation with all maintained schools and academies in their area as well as will schools forums about any proposed changes to the local funding formula, including the method, principles and rules adopted

63. Any consultation should include a demonstration of the effect of modelling such changes on individual maintained schools and academies

64. LAs are responsible for making the final decisions on the formula and must ensure that there is sufficient time to gain political approval before the deadline in January 2019

65. Political ratification means approval in line with the LAs local scheme of delegation. This may be decisions made by the council cabinet, cabinet member or full council; schools forum does not decide on the formula

66. A copy of the proposed consultation document is attached at Appendix B

Timetable

Date	DfE or ESFA activity	Local authority activity
July 2018	Operational guidance published setting out arrangements for 5 to 16 year olds in mainstream schools implementation for 2019 to 2020. NFF arrangements for 2019 to 2020 for schools, central school services and high needs published Draft APT issued to local authorities.	
September 2018	High Needs funding operational guide for 2019 to 2020 issued to local authorities. Further information to illustrate 2019 to 2020 growth allocations will be provided to local authorities.	
28 September 2018		Deadline for submitting requests (for response by December) for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MFG exclusions • exceptional premises factors • sparsity factors • lump sum variations for amalgamating schools • pupil number reductions
4 October 2018	School census day.	School census day.

Date	DfE or ESFA activity	Local authority activity
October to November 2018	Check and validate school census.	Check and validate school census.
20 November 2018		<p>Deadline for submitting requests (for response by the APT deadline) for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MFG exclusions • exceptional premises factors • sparsity factors • lump sum variations for amalgamating schools • pupil number reductions
28 November 2018	School census database closed.	
30 November 2018		<p>Deadline for submitting requests for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • movement of funding out of the schools block which is above the limit of 0.5%, or which the schools forum has not approved, or both
Mid-December 2018	<p>Final APT issued to local authorities, containing October 2018 census-based pupil data and factors.</p> <p>Publication of 2019 to 2020 DSG Schools Block (prior to academies recoupment), central school services block and revised high needs block allocations for 2019 to 2020.</p>	
Late 2018	Publication of initial Early Years Block allocations.	
Mid-January 2019		Schools Forum consultation and political approval required for final 2019 to 2020 funding

Date	DfE or ESFA activity	Local authority activity
		formula.
21 January 2019		Deadline for submission of final 2019 to 2020 APT to ESFA.
28 February 2019		Deadline for confirmation of schools budget shares to mainstream maintained schools.
February to March 2019	2019 to 2020 allocation statements issued to post-16 institutions, academies, and NMSS.	
February 2019	Publication of 2019 to 2020 high needs place numbers at institution level.	
29 March 2019	Confirmation of 2019 to 2020 general annual grant for academies open by 9 January 2019.	
April 2019	First DSG payments to local authorities based on 2019 to 2020 allocations, including academies recoupment (DSG allocations updated termly for in-year academy conversions), FE high needs place funding deductions, and other adjustments.	
Summer 2019	Early years block updated for January 2019 early years' pupil numbers.	
Summer 2020	Early Years Block updated for January 2020 early years pupil numbers (pro rata seven twelfths, as this relates only to the period September 2019 to March 2020)	

Contact

Jo Frost, Finance Business Partner – People Services, Children's Services

020 8424 1978

jo.frost@harrow.gov.uk

APPENDIX A - INDICATIVE SCHOOL BUDGETS 2019-20

URN	LAESTAB	School Name	2019-20 indicative	2018-19	change
102181	3102045	Newton Farm Nursery, Infant and Junior School	£1,383,368	£1,383,368	£0
102185	3102050	Roxeth Primary School	£1,860,007	£1,860,007	£0
102186	3102051	Marlborough Primary School	£2,951,068	£2,951,068	£0
102187	3102052	Grimsdyke School	£2,161,350	£2,172,068	-£10,719
102188	3102053	Camrose Primary With Nursery	£2,032,306	£2,060,466	-£28,160
102189	3102055	Belmont School	£2,575,766	£2,575,766	£0
102193	3102059	Kenmore Park Junior School	£1,780,776	£1,780,776	£0
102194	3102060	Pinner Park Junior School	£1,910,738	£1,910,738	£0
102195	3102061	Priestmead Primary School and Nursery	£3,033,959	£3,033,959	£0
102197	3102063	Stag Lane Junior School	£1,658,950	£1,658,950	£0
102199	3102066	Longfield Primary School	£2,814,257	£2,814,257	£0
102202	3102071	Grange Primary School	£2,670,581	£2,670,581	£0
102204	3102073	Cannon Lane Primary School	£2,832,207	£2,832,207	£0
102207	3102076	Pinner Park Infant and Nursery School	£1,460,230	£1,472,660	-£12,430
102209	3102079	Stag Lane Infant and Nursery School	£1,463,965	£1,483,575	-£19,609
102211	3102082	Elmgrove Primary School & Nursery	£3,248,459	£3,295,091	-£46,632
102212	3102083	Kenmore Park Infant and Nursery School	£1,433,516	£1,433,516	£0
102213	3102084	Roxbourne Primary School	£2,011,687	£2,011,687	£0
102214	3102085	Stanburn Primary School	£3,236,122	£3,236,122	£0
102215	3102086	Weald Rise Primary School	£2,429,284	£2,445,228	-£15,943
102216	3102087	West Lodge Primary School	£2,530,878	£2,530,878	£0
102220	3102093	Welldon Park Primary School	£2,128,360	£2,128,360	£0
102222	3102096	Norbury School	£2,591,963	£2,591,963	£0
102223	3102097	Vaughan Primary School	£2,413,254	£2,413,254	£0
102224	3102098	Glebe Primary School	£2,630,313	£2,642,742	-£12,429
131316	3102101	Whitchurch Primary School & Nursery	£3,057,415	£3,070,942	-£13,528
102230	3103501	St Anselm's Catholic Primary School	£1,610,418	£1,610,418	£0
102231	3103504	St Teresa's Catholic Primary School and Nursery	£1,684,457	£1,684,457	£0
102232	3103505	St John Fisher Catholic Primary School	£2,029,104	£2,029,104	£0
102233	3103507	St Joseph's Catholic Primary School	£1,699,552	£1,699,552	£0
102234	3103508	St George's Primary School	£1,656,455	£1,656,455	£0
131229	3103509	The Moriah Jewish Day School	£827,573	£829,243	-£1,670
134929	3103511	St John's CofE School Stanmore	£1,718,602	£1,718,602	£0
131577	3103512	Pinner Wood School	£2,253,270	£2,284,663	-£31,393
135211	3103514	Cedars Manor School	£2,543,294	£2,549,596	-£6,301
102239	3104026	Whitmore High School	£8,099,398	£8,099,398	£0
102243	3104700	The Sacred Heart Language College	£3,967,450	£3,967,450	£0
140657	3102001	Aylward Primary School	£2,077,463	£2,077,463	£0
142904	3102002	Saint Jerome Church of England Bilingual School	£688,936	£692,496	-£3,560
144883	3102005	Earlsmead Primary School	£1,554,142	£1,554,142	£0
141054	3102072	Heathland School	£2,613,729	£2,651,371	-£37,641
142558	3103500	St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School	£1,671,009	£1,671,009	£0
138688	3103513	Krishna Avanti Primary School	£1,429,778	£1,449,295	-£19,517
142864	3104001	Pinner High School	not comparable due to growth in pupil numbers		
137204	3104020	Hatch End High School	£5,991,883	£5,991,883	£0
137075	3104021	Park High School	£6,923,414	£6,923,414	£0
137199	3104022	Canons High School	£5,476,779	£5,557,758	-£80,978
137028	3104024	Nower Hill High School	£7,808,630	£7,808,630	£0
137198	3104027	Rooks Heath College	£5,345,451	£5,422,714	-£77,263
137178	3104032	Bentley Wood High School	£5,724,018	£5,724,018	£0
137177	3104033	Harrow High School	£4,778,301	£4,778,301	£0
138458	3105400	Salvatorian Roman Catholic College	£2,464,814	£2,464,814	£0
145142	3102006	Avanti House Primary School	not comparable due to growth in pupil numbers		
141071	3102049	Whitefriars School	not comparable due to growth in pupil numbers		
138227	3104000	Avanti House School	£3,800,958	£3,800,958	£0

Disclaimer

This is an indicative budget based on using the same funding formula in 2019-20 as in 2018-19 however the above figures are based on the October 2017 census. Actual budget figures will be based on October 2018 census. Therefore the above figures are subject change based on fluctuations in pupil numbers and changes to pupil characteristics which will impact on the per pupil funding a school will receive

Harrow Schools Funding Formula 2019-20

Proposed Consultation Document

**(For review by Schools Forum
11th September 2018)**

People Services, Children's Services

September 2018

Consultation Process

This document is concerned with proposed changes to the Harrow Schools Funding affecting maintained schools, academies and free schools in Harrow.

Local authorities must engage in open and transparent consultation with all maintained schools and academies in the area, as well as schools forums, about any proposed changes to the local funding formula including the method, principles and rules adopted.

Any consultation should include a demonstration of the effect of modelling such changes on individual maintained schools and academies.

Responsibility for approving the local funding formula

The Local Authority (LA) is responsible for making the final decisions on the formula and must ensure that there is sufficient time to gain political approval before the submission deadline in January 2018. The LA is required to consult Schools Forum prior to making this decision.

Political ratification means approval in line with the Authority's local scheme of delegation, so this may be decisions by the council cabinet, cabinet member or full council.

Responsibility for agreeing transfers between blocks

Schools Forum is responsible for making the final decision on any transfer of funding between DSG blocks in consultation with all schools.

Disclaimer

Any figures contained in this document are for illustrative purposes only to demonstrate the continuation of the National Funding Formula based on the October 2017 schools census. These figures are subject to changes as a result of the October 2018 schools census in relation to fluctuations in pupil numbers and changes in pupil characteristics which impact on per pupil funding.

This consultation opened on DATE. The deadline for the response to this consultation is DATE.

How to respond:

We can only accept one response per school/academy

The consultation questions are on **page 12** of this document. Responses to the consultation must be made in writing by the above date and sent to:

Email: Jo.Frost@Harrow.gov.uk.

or;

Post: FAO: Jo Frost, Finance Business Partner
Harrow Council
Civic Centre 3rd Floor, West Wing
Station Road
Harrow
HA1 2XF

For queries, please contact:

Jo Frost, Finance Business Partner - Children's Services
Jo.Frost@Harrow.gov.uk
020 8424 1978

Background

1. In 2018-19 the government introduced a new National Funding Formula (NFF) for Schools, High Needs and the Central Schools Services Block. For the Schools Block this meant that LAs are funded on the basis of the aggregate of the national funding formula for all schools, academies and free schools in its area but the final formula for distribution is determined by each Council following consultation with schools and Schools Forums.
2. The LA carried out a consultation in Autumn 2017 which sought views on whether the LA should continue to use the Harrow Schools Funding Formula or introduce the National Funding Formula from 2018-19. 76% of schools responded to the consultation and 89% voted in favour of introducing the National Funding Formula from 2018-19. Therefore there are no proposed changes to the structure of the formula for 2019-20.
3. However, there are a number of other areas which require consultation and these are set out in detail in this document but in summary are:
 - The value of the minimum funding guarantee
 - Possible changes to the growth fund
 - Maintaining a transfer from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block of 0.5%
 - Transferring EHCP funding from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block

Schools Block

4. In 2019-20 and 2020-21 a 'soft' national funding formula will continue to operate. This is a year longer than previously announced. This means that the LA will continue to determine the schools funding formula locally for an additional year. In 2021 the government intends to implement the NFF as a "hard" formula which means that school allocations will be determined by the DfE rather than local authorities in consultation with Schools Forums.
5. The expectation is that the Schools Block will be fully delegated to schools, academies and free schools. The exception is that with the agreement of Schools Forum the LA may transfer up to 0.5% of the schools block into the High Needs Block.

Funding Formula

6. The structure of the National Funding Formula (NFF) is set out at Table 1.

Table 1 – schools national funding formula factors

A	Basic per pupil funding	Age weighted pupil unit						
B	Additional Needs Funding	Deprivation		Low prior attainment		English as an additional language		Mobility
C	School led funding	Lump sum	Sparsity	Premises				Growth
				Rates	PFI	Split sites	Exceptional circs	
D	Geographi c Funding	Area Cost Adjustment						

7. The factor values including the Area Cost Adjustment is shown at Table 2

Table 2 – funding formula factor values

Factor	Primary Value £	Secondary Value £
Primary AWPU	£3,016.28	
KS3 AWPU		£4,241.31
KS4 AWPU		£4,815.75
FSM	£483.13	£483.13
Ever6	£592.94	£861.95
IDACIF	£219.61	£318.43
IDACIE	£263.53	£428.23
IDACID	£395.29	£565.49
IDACIC	£428.23	£614.90
IDACIB	£461.17	£658.82
IDACIA	£631.37	£889.40
LPA	£1,122.19	£1,701.95
EAL	£565.49	£1,520.77
Lump Sum	£120,783.30	£120,783.30

Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG)

- LAs will continue to set an MFG within the allowable range of -1.5% and +0.5%. This will mean that schools which are currently protected at the MFG will not lose more than -1.5% per pupil than that received in 2018-19.
 - In 2018-19 there are 14 schools protected at MFG receiving anywhere between £2k and £209k lump sum protection.
 - In 2019-20, based on the October 2017 census and using the NFF factor values, this could reduce to just 7 of 55 schools in the Harrow funding formula receiving protection. This means that over 87% of schools will be receiving funding that matches that which is generated through the NFF by 2019-20. This is dependent though in any changes to demographics in the October 2018 census.
 - In addition in 2018-19 the LA was able to lift the cap on gains so that any school that was due to gain in the funding formula could gain up to 100%. In previous years gainers had to be capped in order to fund those being protected at MFG. However, there is more funding in the new funding formula overall meaning that capping was not required in 2018-19.
 - For 2019-20 the LA needs to consult on the level of MFG protection as part of setting the funding formula. The proposal would be to continue to apply MFG at -1.5% so that the remaining schools move to (or as close to) the NFF as possible during the 'soft' NFF years.
 - It is estimated, based on the October 2017 census, that continuing to set MFG at -1.5% will enable 2 more schools to be at NFF by April 2020 and a further 2 the following year.
8. **Whilst the LA is consulting on the Minimum Funding Guarantee to seek schools' views, the level of MFG may have to be determined by the affordability of the overall formula.**

Growth Fund

9. Growth funding can only be used to:
- Support growth in pre-16 pupil numbers to meet basic need
 - Support additional classes needed to meet the infant class size regulation
 - Meet the costs of new schools
10. There are significant changes proposed by the government for the calculation of the growth fund in 2019-20. In the current year the allocation of growth

funding has been based on historic allocations. The growth fund is set aside for growing pupil numbers in permanent expansions, new schools and bulge classes to enable sufficient school places.

11. From 2019-20 growth funding will be allocated to LAs using a new formulaic method based on lagged growth data.
12. The current growth fund for primary expansions and bulge classes allocates £63k lump sum to each school in the September which they expand/take a bulge class. This figure is approximately based on the 2017-18 primary school AWPUP of £3,268 plus a small sum for resources & equipment, pro-rated for September to March when the pupils will be included in the following financial year's schools budget.
13. Potentially there could be a shortfall in the growth funding allocated to the LA for primary pupils equivalent to £18k per class, since the per-pupil funding is lower than currently allocated to schools.
14. The ESFA does not expect LAs to use these rates in their local arrangements for funding growth and LAs should continue to make decisions about growth funding locally. The ESFA does not anticipate that LAs spending on growth will necessarily match precisely the sum allocated to them for growth and in which case the overall Schools Block can continue to be top-sliced to create the level of growth funding required.
15. However, as the final allocation will not be known until December, there are two options that need to be considered should the funding provided be insufficient and these will be consulted on with all schools
 - **Option 1**
Maintain the current growth fund allocation of £63,000 per primary pupil. This may require a top slice to the remainder of the Schools Block
 - **Option 2**
Scale back allocations to match those received through the growth fund. This could mean a reduction of up to £18k per additional primary class, depending on the overall affordability level.

Indicative School Budgets 2019-20

16. Indicative school budgets based on the October 2017 census are shown at Appendix A. As these calculations are using the October 2017 census and the

factor values in the NFF have remained the same, the majority of schools budgets are the same as those in 2018-19. Only those schools on the MFG will see a change as a further reduction of -1.5% MFG has been applied. **It should be noted that these budgets are subject to changes in relation to the October 2018 schools census.** These include:

- Fluctuations in pupil numbers
- Changes in demographics resulting in changes to per pupil levels of funding
- Reduction in the factor value for low prior attainment in primary schools due to being spread over a larger cohort of pupils. Whilst the government has continued to distribute the same level of funding overall, individual schools may see disproportionate gains or losses

High Needs Funding

17. The funding is driven by:

- Basic entitlement factor for each pupil in a special school or special post 16 institution as recorded on the January Alternative Provision census
- Historic lump sum equal to 50% of each LAs historical high needs blocks
- Proxy factors for population, deprivation, health and disability, and low attainment.

18. High Needs funding is managed by the LA and is designed to support a continuum of provision for pupils and students with special educational needs (SEN), learning difficulties and disabilities, from their early years to age 25.

Budget and demand pressures

19. The new funding formula for High Needs Funding has reduced the overall level of funding available. This is in part as a result of 50% of the funding being based on previous years' allocations (prior to any growth agreed by Schools Forum) and so the baseline budget is lower than the actual spend in previous years.

20. There has also been a significant growth in demand for Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) and the cost of SEN provision across the whole age range. However, since the SEND Reforms in 2014 there has been an exponential growth in under 5, Post 16 and post 19 provision.

21. It should also be noted that historical HNB allocations (of which current and future allocations will be based) was only estimated based on pupils aged 5-16 years old and has not taken account, in the entirety, of those pupils under 5 and post 16 years old. There is also a growth in complexity of need and a lack of capacity within mainstream settings to provide a graduated response to additional needs before turning to a statutory process.
22. In 2018-19 the High Needs Block budget is £29.980m after recoupment of place funding for academies/free schools and post 16 institutions and including the 0.5% transfer from the Schools Block (£0.8m) agreed for 2018-19. As at Q1 it is forecasting to overspend by £1.280m.
23. The High Needs Block National Funding Formula has generated funding which is £2.9m lower than the actual budget allocated to High Needs in 2017-18. This is partially due to the fact that the 50% of the overall allocation is based on previous years' HNB allocations, rather than the actual spending on HNB.

SEND Strategy

24. The SEND Strategy is underway and work within the four priorities will contribute to increasing capacity but also focus on early intervention and prevention. The four strategic priority areas are:
- **Strategic Priority 1:**
Review in-borough specialist provision in the context of a changing demographic profile, pre-school, school and college organisational changes and other developments.
 - **Strategic Priority 2:**
Review current provision and need for children, young people and young adults with social, behaviour and mental health needs to ensure continuum of provision and support. (Previously SEBD)
 - **Strategic Priority 3:**
Improve local education and social care opportunities for post-16 and post 18 provision working in partnership with other agencies including colleges and voluntary sector.

- **Strategic Priority 4:**

Improve outcomes for children and young people (0-25) with SEND and ensure appropriate staff skilled and qualified in all provision.

Progress to date

25. To date the LA has increased the provision for special education needs and continues to seek such opportunities.

- Additional places were created at Shaftesbury, Kingsley and Woodlands, and Additionally Resourced Mainstream Provision was opened at Bentley Wood, Pinner High, West Lodge, Earlsmead and Priestmead in September 2015 as part of the school expansion programme.
- Early Years ARMs places were opened at Hillview Nursery School in September 2016, initially as a pilot, creating nursery ARMs provision and adopting the place and top-up model for funding.
- Additional places are planned at Woodlands from September 2018 and statutory processes are underway.
- An expression of interest for a special free school submitted by the LA was unsuccessful but a new bidding round has been announced and a bid will be submitted in October 2018 – this route continues to be considered as a key contribution to increasing local provision.

26. Collectively this contributes to increasing provision in-borough thus reducing out-borough placements and the use of Independent and Non Maintained Special School (INMSS) provision. However, there is further work to do and this needs to be considered within funding opportunities.

27. The challenge identifying additional school options is the availability of sites and so other creative options including satellite models will need to be considered. However, this is only one aspect of meeting demand. A strategic approach is required that reviews specialist provision and support in mainstream settings from early years to 25.

Next Steps

28. The LA is seeking to redesign responsibilities for SEN in order to:

- Continue to address pressures in the High Needs Block
- Facilitate the creation of more Additional Resourced Mainstream provision locally
- Continue to negotiate costs of provision with providers, including academies and colleges
- Facilitate the creation of a new local special school for 150 aged 4-19
- Work with partners to make most efficient use of early support and intervention to make settings more effective in making provision for SEN support
- Prepare for the SEN Area review with CCG and NHS

29. Whilst there are a number of positive actions in place and planned for the next academic year the ability for these to have an immediate impact on the budget is limited and therefore there is anticipated to continue to be a pressure in 2019-20. The LA is therefore seeking a transfer of 0.5% of the schools block into the High Needs Block in order to mitigate some of the pressure.

High Needs Costed Statements/Education Health & Care Plans

30. The current Harrow Schools Funding Formula uses the lump sum value in the National Funding Formula but in addition Element 2 place funding of £12,000 for the first two costed statements/EHCPs in each mainstream school and academy. Each additional statement on the October census is then funded through the High Needs Block. Technically therefore there is High Needs funding currently within the School Block. The High Needs Block cannot take on this additional liability without having the funding that is currently within the schools block baseline. The total of this is approximately £660k based on 55 schools in the funding formula. There are two options to take this forward:

- **Option 1**
Remove the £12,000 from the lump sum in the NFF and schools will not be funded for Element 2 place funding for the first 2 statements/EHCPs on the October Census.
- **Option 2**
Apply to the ESFA to transfer this funding out of the Schools Block into the High Needs Block to the equivalent of £660k which will allow the first two statements/EHCPs to be funded from the HNB on an on-going basis. This would be in addition to the LA's request to transfer 0.5% of the schools block into the HNB to support growth in demand.

Movements between blocks

31. From 2018-19 the DSG consists of 4 blocks – Schools, Early Years, High Needs and Central School Services Block. The schools block is ring-fenced from 2018-19 but LAs retain limited flexibility to transfer up to 0.5% of the Schools Block funding into another block with the approval of Schools Forum.
32. To make such a transfer LAs are required to carry out a consultation with all local maintained schools and academies and the Schools Forum should take into account the views of the schools responding before giving their approval.
33. The LA may make an application to the Secretary of State where
 - It wishes to move more than 0.5% of the Schools Block; or
 - The Schools Forum has turned down a proposal for the authority to move funding out of the schools block but the LA nevertheless wishes to proceed with the transfer
34. The evidence to be presented to Schools Forum to support a transfer should include the following:
 - Details of any previous movements between blocks and why they have not been adequate
 - A full breakdown of the specific budget pressures that have led to the requirement for a transfer
 - A strategic financial plan setting out how the LA intends to bring HNB expenditure to sustainable levels
 - The extent to which collaborative working is being developed as a means of securing suitable HN provision
 - How any additional HN funding will be targeted to good and outstanding schools that provide an excellent education for larger than average number of pupils with high needs
 - Impact of the proposed transfer on individual schools budgets

CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

Question 1: Minimum Funding Guarantee

The LA is able to set a minimum funding guarantee of between -1.5% and +0.5%, subject to affordability of the overall formula. Please indicate the value of MFG you would support

Comments

Question 2: Growth Fund

The growth fund allocation for 2019-20 will be based on a new formula. It is likely that this formula may provide funding lower than the LA currently allocates per class. Please select your preferred option.
(Please mark one box only)

Option 1

Maintain the current growth fund allocation of £63k per primary pupil. This may require a top slice to the remainder of the schools block

☐

Option 2

Scale back allocations to match those received through the growth fund. This could mean a reduction of up to £18k per additional primary class, depending on the overall affordability level.

☐

Comments

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Question 3: High Needs Block Transfer

Do you support transferring 0.5% of the schools budget into High Needs in 2019-20 to support the LA in managing the projected shortfall in funding?

YES_____

NO_____

Comments

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Question 4: Education Health & Care Plans Funding

The current Harrow Schools Funding Formula uses the lump sum value in the National Funding Formula but in addition Element 2 place funding of £12,000 for the first two costed statements/EHCPs in each mainstream school and academy. Under the 'hard' National Funding Formula this will not be allowable. Please select your preferred option(Please mark one box only)

Option 1

Remove the £12,000 from the lump sum in the NFF and schools will not be funded for Element 2 place funding for the first 2 statements/EHCPs on the October Census.

--

Option 2

Apply to the ESFA to transfer this funding out of the Schools Block into the High Needs Block to the equivalent of £660k which will allow the first two statements/EHCPs to be funded from the HNB on an on-going basis. This would be in addition to the LA's request to transfer 0.5% of the Schools Block into the HNB to support the growth in demand.

Comments

SCHOOL NAME _____

This consultation opened on DATE. The deadline for the response to this consultation is DATE.

How to respond:

We can only accept one response per school/academy

The consultation questions are on **page 12** of this document. Responses to the consultation must be made in writing by the above date and sent to:

Email: Jo.Frost@Harrow.gov.uk.

or;

Post: FAO: Jo Frost, Finance Business Partner - Children's Services
Harrow Council
Civic Centre West Wing
Station Road
Harrow
HA1 2XF

For queries, please contact:

Jo Frost, Finance Business Partner - Children's Services
Jo.Frost@Harrow.gov.uk
020 8424 1978

Meeting:	Schools Forum
Date:	11 September 2018
Subject:	Item 5: School Place Planning and Admissions
Responsible Officer:	Rajeshree Parmar - Head of School Organisation, Admissions and Attendance

Section 1 – summary

1. This report is to update Schools Forum on the position for reception place planning as at September 2018.
2. Schools Forum is asked to:
 - Note the position and action in relation to managing reception places.

Section 2 - report

3. Schools Forum requested a report on the strategy to manage the number of reception places and vacancies in September 2018.
4. The Local Authority has a statutory responsibility to provide sufficient school places for its area. Like many boroughs, Harrow has experienced significant growth in the pupil population and has implemented strategies to increase the number of school places. Initially this rise in population was experienced in the primary sector, where now the numbers are declining and projected to continue this trend. However the increase in pupil numbers are now starting to emerge at secondary level as the pupils move from primary phase to secondary. This trend is line with the overall trend in London.

School Expansion Programme Overview

5. Additional school places have been created in Harrow in phases to meet increased demand as it arises. The local authority has planned three phases of primary expansions, one phase of secondary expansions and an initial phase of additional special educational needs places have been implemented. The increase in school places has been delivered through the expansion of existing schools and the opening of new places through the government's free school programme. The final project in Phase 3 will be completed by the end of this year and no further expansions are planned.

Admission to Reception September 2018

6. The position with applications and pupils is not static. There is movement in the number of applications from the closing date to offer day, further changes recorded in the October census and then again in January.
7. The data in the Table 1 below shows the number of on time applications, the pupils on roll in January 2018 and the number of school places from 2011-12 to 2018.

Table 1

Year	On time apps	Reception Number on Roll at Jan Census	Number of places
2011-12	2,727	2,759	2,800
2012-13	2,796	2,879	2,910
2013-14	2,991	3,030	3,060
2014-15	3,210	3,251	3,300
2015-16	3,126	3,198	3,300
2016-17	3,175	3,152	3,450
2017-18	3,144	3,191	3,450
2018-19	2,968		3,450

8. Following an increase in applications from 2011-12 to 2014-15 there is a downward trend. The transition from application to pupils on roll shows a slight increase in the January census figures.
9. Since the closing date, the total number of applications for September 2018 from Harrow residents has increased from 2,968 to 3,174. Although, there is still movement in the system as some families opt to send their child to a school outside of Harrow or an Independent School.
10. For September 2018 3,094 places were offered and there were 387 vacancies at 5 September 2018.
11. After the closing date for September 2018, officers contacted 6 schools to consider options to manage the number of places. The proposal and outcome of these discussions by Planning Area are summarised below:

Table 2

Planning Area	Option	Outcome
North East	Work to a PAN of 60	School requested to stay at current PAN
Central	Monitor situation if numbers fall below 90 to consider informal agreement	Numbers have not fallen below 90
Central	Monitor situation if numbers fall below 90 to consider informal agreement	Numbers have not fallen below 90
South East	Work to a PAN of 90	Informal agreement in place
South West	Work to a PAN of 60	Informal agreement in place
North East	Work to a PAN of 60	Informal agreement in place
North East	Work to a PAN of 60	Informal agreement in place

12. This action has resulted in a 237 vacancies across all schools. It should be noted that if applications are received for school with informal agreements, then a place will be offered in accordance with the PAN. Officers will continue to monitor the situation and bring forward proposals to manage the number of places within the context of school roll projections as published in July 2018, demand within planning areas and other strategic opportunities for example options to utilise surplus capacity in the borough to create additional SEND places.

Current In-Year situation

13. The position in other year groups and planning areas varies. There are currently no available places in the Central planning area for Year 1. In Year 5 and 6 there are no vacancies in schools across Harrow. Pupils will be placed via the Fair Access Protocol (FAP) and they will be above PAN. In Year 3 there are currently only a small number of places and FAP may have to be used to place pupils.
14. School Admissions will always aim to place siblings in one school local to their home address. Although there are places in some year groups it is not always possible to offer these places for multiple sibling families.
15. To ensure that as many pupils as possible are placed on roll for the October 2018 census there is a FAP meeting every week in September 2018. There were over 90 cases considered at the first meeting of this academic year.

Future Demand

16. Overall there are sufficient places available compared with the projections for the next few years. Projected future demand for places will be met through the Government's free school programme and officers are in discussion with the ESFA about the timing of the opening of Harrow View Primary School. The plans for the regeneration of Harrow and the substantial increase in housing are a key issue that will impact on school place planning. For September 2020, proposals will be discussed with schools and will be included in the admission arrangements consultation that will take place in October.

Contact

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