(BARKING AND DAGENHAM SCHOOLS FORUM)

(Wednesday 22 October 2014)

Title: School Forum Report

Report of: CORPORATE DIRECTOR

Open

For Decision / For Information

Wards Affected: All

Report Author:

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Summary: The purpose of this report is to update the Barking and Dagenham Schools Forum on:

- 1. (Background)
- 2. The Dedicated Schools Grant 2014-15 budget allocation update
- 3. The Dedicated Schools Grant 2014-15 year end forecast position
- 4. School funding arrangements 2015-16
- 5. Centrally retained services
- 6. Growth Fund Criteria
- 7. Early Years funding requirements 2015-16
- 8. High needs funding requirements 2015-16
- 9. Schools block requirements 2015-16
- 10. Split site criteria
- 11. PFI schools funding Criteria
- 12. Schools Funding Formula 2015-16

Recommendation(s)

The Schools Forum is asked:

- (i) To agree each line of the centrally funded DSG for 2015-16 (ref. 5.1)
- (ii) To approve growth criteria (ref. 6)
- (iii) To agree the Low Cost high incidence high needs criteria (ref. 8.3)
- (iv) To agree, by phase, the per pupil de-delegated amounts for 2015-16 (ref. 9.1)
- (v) To agree the split site criteria (ref. 10)
- (vi) To consider and recommend schools funding model B, the retention of £1.3m and Primary/ Secondary Ratio of 1:1.31 (ref 12)

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Reason(s)
None	

1. Introduction and Background

1.1 The School Forum is a decision making and consultative body in relation to matters concerning schools' budgets as defined in the School Finance (England) Regulations 2012 and the Schools Forums (England) Regulations 2012. The Forum is required to meet at least four times a year.

2. <u>Dedicated Schools Grant 2014-15 Budget allocation update</u>

2.1 Table 1: Funding blocks revised 2014-15 following confirmation of growth - March 2014

	2014-15 DSG Allocation £'000	Growth / (Deductions) £'000	Retained carry forward £'000	Revised Block £'000
2 Year Old provision	£5,917		£1,135	£7,052
Early Years Block	£10,896	£93 ¹	£679	£11,668
High Needs Block Schools Block	£24,539 £181,917	(£201) ²	£2,430 £581	£26,768 £182,498
	£223,269	-£108	£4,825 a	£227,986
Remaining 2013-14 DSG High needs Block	£3,566 b			
Capitalisation of 2 Year old Provision			£850 _c	
Total 2013-14 DSG Carry	Forward		£9,241 _{a=}	:b=c

Notes

¹Early Years adjustment

2013-14 Early Years Block adjustment (January Census) £93k

² High Needs adjustments

Adjustments cover places, additional DfE allocation and deductions for places now funded directly by EFA an additional £106k has been deducted to reflect EFA direct funding for Dorothy Barley Junior ARP.

An additional adjustment for The Warren Academy ARP will occur in November 2014

3 The Dedicated Schools Grant 2014-15 year end forecast position

3.1 Table2 - Dedicated Schools Grant 2014-15 August 14 Monitor					
10	Funding Blocks	2014-15	2014-15	Year End	% Over/
Notes		Budget	Outturn	Variance	(under
Ž			Forecast		spend)
3.2	2 Year Old Funding	7,052	7,052	0	0.0%
3.3	Early Years block	11,668	11,252	(416)	(3.6%)
3.4	High Needs block	26,768	27,885	1,117	4.2%
3.5	Schools block	182,498	181,798	(700)	(0.4%)
3.6	TOTAL	227,986	227,987	1	0.0%
3.7	Remaining 2013-14 c/f	3,566		(3,566)	
3.8	Total 2014-15 DSG	231,552	227,987	(3,565)	(1.5%)

3.2 2 Year Old Funding forecast currently on budget

3.3 Early Years block under spend £416k

The underspend relates to previous years carry forward not applied.

3.4 High Needs Block over spend £1,117k

Appendix A attached provides the detailed reporting of the high needs block forecast.

3.5 Schools block under spend £700k

The forecast under spend relates to the Growth Fund which is currently funding approximately 37 classes, the budget under the current criteria could support approximately 50 growth classes.

3.6 Total DSG allocation for 2014/15 £227,986.

The budget includes £4,825k 2013-14 carry forward, see table 1.

3.7 Remaining 2013-14 c/f

£3,566k the residual 2013-14 carry forward parked in the high needs block, as per table 1, ref b.

3.8 Total 2014-15 DSG

£3,565 year end variance is carried forward to 2015-16 see table 4.

4 School Funding arrangements 2015-16

4.1 Following significant School Funding reforms for 2013-14 the Education Funding Agency published further reforms on 4th June 2013 for implementation from April 2014. The changes continue the move towards a national funding formula. Whilst Schools Forum can recommend changes to the funding formula, decisions on changes are made by the local authority.

4.2 Basis of Dedicated Schools Grant

- 4.2.1 **The schools block per pupil unit of funding**. The guaranteed unit of funding (GUF) for Barking and Dagenham has reduced by £7.51 as a result of the changes to carbon reduction commitment. 2015-16 amount **is** £5,575.36
- 4.2.2 The early years block per pupil unit of funding in 2015-16 will be confirmed shortly. The 2014-15 amount per pupil was £4,052.78. Funding for 2 year olds will be based on participation.
- 4.2.3 High Needs Funding DfE intend only small scale changes for 2015-16.

4.3 Dedicated Schools Grant indicative 2015-16 Block allocations

4.3.1 Table 3: Latest Funding blocks following July 2014 adjustments

	Funding Blocks as per January 2014 Forum £'000	Confirmed in 2014-15 Growth / (Deductions) £'000	August Adjustment s £'000	Revised Block £'000
High Needs Block	£24,539	(£201) ¹	(£164) ²	£24,174
Early Years Block	£10,896	£93 ³	£0	£10,989
Schools Block	£181,917		£1,527 ⁴	£183,444
2 Year Old provision	£5,917		03	£5,917
	£223,269	(£108)	£1,363	£224,524

Notes

¹ High Needs adjustments

Adjustments cover places, additional DfE allocation and deductions for places now funded directly by EFA an additional £106k has been deducted to reflect EFA direct funding for Dorothy Barley Junior ARP.

³ Early Years adjustment

2013-14 Early years Block adjustment (January Census) £93k

⁴ Schools Block

Non recoupment Academies are now directly part of our formula, £1,481k additional funding anticipated, matches the additional costs in the Schools Funding formula. Additional £45k due to changes in carbon reduction commitment scheme funding

4.4 **2015-16 DSG Budget requirements**

- 4.4.1 The table 4 below shows the block values against the estimated spend for 2015-16. The table 4 is followed by a detailed analysis of each funding block:
- 4.4.2 Table 4 below needs to be viewed in conjunction with table 5 DSG forecast position 2015-18.

² Deduction to reflect EFA direct funding for Dorothy Barley Junior ARP (full year effect) and Warren ARP

4.4.3 Forecast position assumes High needs block contains demographic pressures excluding the new special free school and delivers a 5% reduction in expenditure through to be identified Head sub group and LA officer actions. Anticipated growth in pupil numbers is assumed to give the LA an additional net £400k.

Table 4: 2015-16 anticipated DSG Block allocations

	High Needs Block £'000	Early Years Block £'000	2 Year Old	Schools Block £'000	Total £'000
	£ 000	£ 000	provision £'000	£ 000	2 000
DSG Block Value	£24,174	£10,989	£5,917	£183,444	£224,524
Estimated Expenditure:					
Non Delegated Top Slice				£1,820	
Growth Fund				£3,000	
High Needs threshold				£210	
School Funding Formula				£176,997	
Estimated Total Expenditure:	£28,464	£11,841	£5,917	£182,027	£228,249
Estimated (under) / over spend	£4,290	£852	£0	(£1,417)	£3,725
Anticipated (increase)/decrease in EFA funding for growth				(£400)	(£400) 1
Application of Estimated 2014- 15 earmarked retained Carry forward.	(£2,449)	(£416)		(£700)	(£3,565) 2
Reduction in High Needs through Forum actions (to be identified)	(£1,400)				(£1,400)
TOTAL Pressure/(contingency)	£441	£436	£0	(£2,517)	(£1,640)

Notes:

4.5 Future year's requirements

- 4.5.1 Based on the following assumptions the DSG blocks pressures/(contingency) have been forecast.
 - Only the net income from pupil growth has been factored into the figures based on the difference between the guaranteed unit of funding received and the average funding given to schools per pupil.
 - Expenditure and DSG income (except pupil growth, see above) will continue at current levels

^{1 -} anticipated growth in pupil numbers (Sept 14 growth classes) is anticipated to give us £400k additional funding over average MGF per pupil amounts. This figure has been reduced by 20% as all classes may not be full.

^{2 - 2014-15} Growth Fund is expected to under spend by £700k, this figure is anticipated to be rolled forward.

^{3 -}Head teachers sub-group and LA officers will work together to review the High Needs Block expenditure with the view of containing any demographic pressures (excluding new free special school) and reducing existing expenditure by 5% in future years.

- The new special free school will attract top up funding of £16k per place, with 30 places starting each September.
- No other demographic growth or pressures have been factored into estimated expenditure

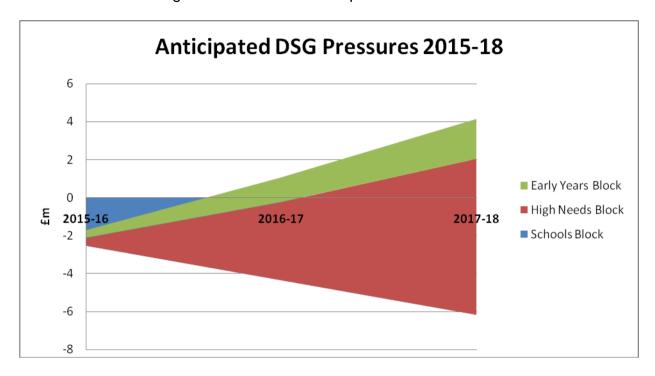
4.5.2 Table 5 showing 2015-18 DSG forecast position

	High Needs Block £'000	Early Years Block £'000	2 Year Old provision £'000	Schools Block £'000	Total £'000	Required savings / funding £'000	
Estimated (under) / over spend 2015-16	£4,290	£852	£0	(£1,417)	£3,725		
Reduction in High Needs through Forum actions (to be identified)	(£1,400)				(£1,400)		1
Anticipated(increase)/decrease in EFA funding for growth				(£400)	(£400)		
Application of Estimated 2014-15 earmarked retained Carry forward.	(£2,449)	(£416)		(£700)	(£3,565)		
TOTAL 2015-16 Pressure/(contingency) c/f to 2016-17	£441	£436	£0	(£2,517)	(£1,640)	(£1,640)	
Estimated (under) / over spend 2016-17 at 2015-16 levels	£4,290	£852	£0	(£1,417)	£3,725		
Reduction in High Needs through Forum actions (to be identified)	(£1,400)				(£1,400)		1
special Free school additional top	£760				£760		
Anticipated(increase)/decrease in EFA funding for growth				(£400)	(£400)		
TOTAL 2016-17 Pressure/(contingency) c/f to 2017-18	£4,091	£1,288	£0	(£4,334)	£1,045	£2,685	
Estimated (under) / over spend 2017-18 at 2015-16 levels	£4,290	£852	£0	(£1,417)	£3,725		
Reduction in High Needs through Forum actions (to be identified)	(£1,400)				(£1,400)		1
special Free school additional top	£1,240				£1,240		
Anticipated(increase)/decrease in EFA funding for growth				(£400)	(£400)		
TOTAL 2017-18 Pressure/(contingency)	£8,221	£2,140	£0	(£6,152)	£4,209	£3,165	

Note:

^{1 -} Head teachers sub-group and LA officers will work together to review the High Needs Block expenditure with the view of containing any demographic pressures (excluding new free special school) and reducing existing expenditure by 5% in future years.

4.5.3 Chart 1 showing 2015-18 DSG forecast position



5 <u>Centrally retained Services</u>

- Funding for some services can be centrally retained before allocating the formula, with the agreement of the schools forum. A number of these services are subject to a limitation of no new commitments or increases in expenditure from 2014-15 and schools forum approval is required each year to confirm the amounts on each line. Appendix B sets out which services can be retained and the proposed amounts for 2015-16.
- 5.2 It is proposed to reduce the 2015-16 centrally retained services budget by £100k, (9.3% reduction on 2014-15 levels excluding admissions and music service which was reduced in 2014-15)
 - (i) Decision required Schools Forum agree each line of the centrally retained services for 2015/16

6 Growth Fund

- £3,000,000 to fund additional classes opened from September 2015. The criteria for allocating this growth is to award AWPU (Primary AWPU or KS3) x 30 to each school reflecting the proportion of the year which is not funded within the school's budget share until the school receives funding through their funding formula. Additional classes must be part of the growth plan agreed and co-ordinated by the Schools Estates team. Where primary schools have expanded from 1.5 to 2 forms of entry, AWPU x 15 also reflects proportion of the year which is not funded within the school's budget share will be allocated.
- 6.2 Additional classes due to an influx of casual admissions over the summer or where parents delay their child's admission to school until they reach statutory age will receive an additional £3,000 for start up costs, if these classes are not within the growth plan.

- 6.3 Where a phase is added to an existing school in response to basic need for pupil places, for example a secondary school adding a primary class, funding will be made available in recognition of initial set up costs incurred. A one-off payment of £60,000 will be made.
- Where a school adds additional classes on a new split site a one off payment of £60,000 will be made. A split site school will be defined as one where there is a road between sites used for curriculum purposes
 - (ii) Decision required School forum are asked to approve growth criteria for 2015-16 but with the new phase set up (6.3) and new split site (6.4) payment £60k coming into effect for 2014-15.

7 Early Years funding requirements 2014-15

- 7.1 For PVI, Primary schools with Nursery classes the revised draft budgets are indicative and based a current funding levels, subject to consultation in the Autumn term.
- 7.2 The Early years Block is summarised below:

	£'000
Indicative Block Value (excluding use of	(£10,989)
retained carry forward)	
Estimated expenditure	£11,841
Application of retained carry forward	(£416)
Pressure	£436

- 7.3 The Early Years Block is based on the January 2014 numbers. The final block allocation will be calculated on January 2015 pupil count and will be confirmed in June/July. The block forecast currently does not have any estimated growth. After allocating the full anticipated 2014-15 contingency the Early years block is expected to have a pressure of £436k.
- 7.4 The estimated 2015-16 expenditure within the Early years Block is detailed below:

7.4.1 Table 6 Year on Year Early Years analysis

	2014-15	%	2015-16	%
Early Years Co-ordinators (6fte)	£308,700	2.61%	£308,700	2.61%
Home Portage Scheme (8.74fte)	£464,600	3.93%	£274,600	2.32%
Early Years Teachers (5.6fte)	£411,600	3.49%	£610,100	5.15%
Childminding Officers			£113,600	0.96%
Funding of maintained places	£6,350,000	53.77%	£6,546,400	55.28%
Early years high needs top ups			£333,300	2.81%
Funding of PVI places (incl commissioning)	£4,274,300	36.19%	£3,654,800	30.86%
	£11,809,200	100.00%	£11,841,500	100.00%

7.4.2 Home Portage – budget requirements have reduced as £190k contribution to costs from the clinical commissioning group has been received.

- 7.4.3 Early Year Teachers and Childminding Officers increase of £198.5k and £113.6k. These staff provide into settings to teach children basic skills. Previously these costs had been paid by the local authority incorrectly.
- 7.4.4 Funding of maintained places costs have increase due to changes to funding factors.
- 7.4.5 Early years High needs top ups previously these costs had been paid by the local authority incorrectly.
- 7.4.6 Funding of PVI places have increased due to changes to funding factors however this has been offset as the 2014-15 budget had included approx £700k of growth that did not materialise.

8 <u>High needs funding requirements 2015-16</u>

8.1 The High Needs Block for 2015-16 is summarised below:

Block Value (excluding use of retained	£'000 (£24,174)
carry forward) Estimated expenditure	£28,464
Estimated expenditure Estimated Growth funding	£20,404
Application of retained carry forward	(£2,449)
	£1,841

8.1.1 The detail of the High needs Block is shown in Appendix A.

8.2 Additional Resource Provision (ARP)

Funding of £5,994k has been allocated for ARP's in 2015/16, Budget and expenditure has been reduced by £270k for the place funding at Warren and Dorothy Barley Junior Schools which have become academies, these places are now funded directly by the EFA. This has resulted in a transfer of DSG to the EFA. An increase of £395k on 2014/15's equivalent budget is required due to the full year effect of additional places created in September 2014.

- 11.2.1 The number of places for the financial year 2015-16 is 319 an increase of 22 from 2014-15.
- 11.2.2 Details of ARP places are shown in Appendix C.

8.3 Low cost high incidence (LCHI) High needs

It is proposed to fund high numbers of low cost high incidence pupils in mainstream schools with the following criteria:

- 8.3.1 Schools & Academies will be expected to contribute the first £6,000 of the additional educational support provision for high needs pupils and students from their delegated budget this is over and above the cost of standard teaching and learning (which is funded by the age weighted pupil unit (AWPU). The number of high needs pupils for whom schools are expected to contribute will be restricted to one for every 100 pupils on roll, rounded to the nearest whole number. The £6,000 and 1 in 100 numbers will be adjusted for any pupils not present for the full year.
- 8.3.2 E.g. If NOR is 200 and the school have 3 high needs pupils who have each been assessed with additional high needs (above the AWPU) of £14,000, total costs per pupil £18,000. Then the responsibility for costs is:

- 8.3.3 For first 2 pupils (200 NOR ÷ 100 & rounded) the school pays £12,000 (2 X £6,000) and the LA pays the rest as a high needs top up £16,000 (2 X £8,000).
- 8.3.4 For the 3rd pupil the LA pays £14,000 (both the £6,000 element and the £8,000 element) as a high needs top up.
- 8.3.5 Currently we estimate funding requirement of £250k based on the criteria above.

(iii) Decision required – School forum are asked to approve the Low cost high incidence (LCHI) High needs criteria

9 Schools Block funding requirements 2015-16

9.1 De-delegated Services

9.1.1 Details of the de-delegated services are contained in Table 7. School forum are now asked to agree the provisional de-delegated per pupil amounts from the primary and/or secondary maintained. The delegated amounts will be finalised at January's forum meeting once October census pupil numbers have been confirmed. De-delegation is not an option for academies, special schools, nurseries or PRUs. Where de-delegation has been agreed for maintained primary and secondary schools, the local authority will no longer offer the service (Free school meals eligibility and Support for Trade Union Duties) on a buy-back basis to those schools and academies in the area which are not covered by the de-delegation.

Table 7: Indicative de-delegated amounts.

Description	2014-15	2014-15	2015-16	2015-16
	Per pupil	Total	Per pupil	Total
	(£)	(£)	(£)	(£)
Schools in Financial Difficulty	-£30.74	-£1,000,005	-£16.06	-£499,998
School Specific Contingency	-£9.93	-£323,034	-£6.42	-£199,874
Free school meals eligibility	-£1.54	-£50,098	-£1.61	-£50,124
Support for Trade Union duties	-£9.99	-£324,985	-£9.72	-£302,613
	-£52.20	-£1,698,122	-£33.81	-£1,052,609

- 9.1.2 Details for the current and future estimates for Schools in Financial Difficulty support are in Appendix D. Although a school has an unlicensed deficit of £300k discussions are currently taking place in order to put a loan agreement in place. Warren Comprehensive agreed to a loan of £200k.
- 9.1.3 Two requests were received for support at the last Schools in Financial Difficulty sub-group meeting in September. These requests are being considered.
- 9.1.4 Please note future allocations are indicative, all allocations will be considered and approved in the financial year to which the support relates.
- 9.1.5 It is proposed to reduce the de-delegated by £500k (schools in Financial Difficulty contingency), this will result in schools retaining an extra approximately £14 per pupil.
- 9.1.6 School specific contingency could be reduced by approximately £123k (38%)

- 9.1.7 Details for support for Trade Union duties are in Appendix E. A reduction of £22,400 is proposed (7%)
- (iv) Decision required: Schools Forum by phase (Primary, Secondary) to agree the reductions detailed above and per pupil de-delegated amounts

10 Split site criteria

- 10.1 The local authority's formula includes a factor to provide additional funding to schools which operate on and own more than one site. All schools and academies which meet the criteria (10.2 & 10.3) will be eligible for split site funding.
- 10.2 A split site school will be defined as one where there is a road between sites used for curriculum purposes. Secondary split site factor equates to current levels of support, Primary factor has been scaled against this. The secondary school amount is £216,000 and the Primary £100,000.
- 10.3 For a school which has a primary and secondary phase the split site factor paid will be at the Primary level £100k unless the school also has 2 or more split sites at Secondary phase in which case the factor will be £216,000. Only one split site factor will apply.
 - (v) Decision required School forum are asked to approve the split site criteria section 10.2 and 10.3

11 PFI schools funding criteria

- 11.1 The local authority's formula includes a factor to fund the additional costs to a school of being in a PFI contract. The criteria is set out below.
- 11.2 PFI factor to be applied to those schemes which were initiated to help fulfil the boroughs statutory responsibility to provide school places. The factor will be calculated as being equal to the portion of unitary charge due from schools with a qualifying PFI scheme.
- 11.3 The PFI Schools funding criteria was agreed at the 7th October Forum meeting.

12 Schools Funding Formula

12.1 The Local Authority's 2015-16 Dedicated Schools Grant will be published by the Education Funding Agency mid December 2014. The total for 2015/16 is estimated at £224,524k plus £800k net growth, this excludes pupil premium, EFA sixth form funding and High Needs growth.

12.2 Funding Factors.

We intend to use the same 10 factors as in previous years with the same level unit values as 2014-15, subject to the overall DSG commitments being affordable.

12.3 Funding Models.

- 12.3.1 All models use the October 2013 numbers on roll and have gains capped at 3.11% as per 2014-15 final model. All models also have the same funding levels for all factors except:
 - Model A: <u>no retention Ratio 1.31</u> (reduction of KS4 AWPU £25) see Appendix F
 - Model B: <u>retains £1.4m ratio 1.31</u> (reduction of Primary AWPU £25 and KS4 AWPU £300, lump sum £30k reduction) see Appendix G
 - Model C: <u>no retention ratio 1.29</u> (Primary AWPU increase of £10, reduction of KS4 AWPU £250), see Appendix H
 - Model D: £1.4m retention, ratio 1.29 (reduction of Primary AWPU £25, and KS4 AWPU £475, lump sum reduced by £30k) see Appendix I
- 12.4 These are indicative models, school funding levels will change once the funding model has been calculated using the October Census data.
- 12.5 Summary of the models key features is contained in Appendix J
- 12.6 Impact on schools individual funding allocations are contained in Appendices F I
 - (vi) Decision Schools Forum is requested to consider and recommend funding model B, the retention of £1.4m and Primary/ Secondary Ratio of 1:1.31
- 12.7 Appendix K contains Potential cumulative gains/losses 2012-16 based on model B.

13 Options Appraisal

13.1 Not applicable.

14 Consultation

14.1 Not applicable.

15 Financial Implications

15.1 The School Funding Formula is contained within the Dedicated Schools Grant

16 <u>Legal Implications</u>

16.1 The Schools Forums (England) Regulations 2012 govern the constitution and conduct of meetings of the Forum. The Schools Finance (England) Regulations 2012 determine those matters on which the Local Authority must or may consult the Schools Forum and those in respect of which the Schools Forum can make decisions. These Regulations make provision for the financial arrangements of local authorities in relation to the funding of maintained schools and providers of prescribed early years provision in England, for the financial year 2013/14.

- 17 Other Implications
- 17.1 Risk Management None
- 17.2 Contractual Issues None
- 17.3 **Staffing Issues** None
- 17.4 **Customer Impact** None
- 17.5 **Safeguarding Children-** None
- 17.6 Health Issues None
- 17.7 **Crime and Disorder Issues** None
- 17.8 **Property / Asset Issues** None

Background Papers Used in the Preparation of the Report:

None.

List of appendices:

Appendix A – High needs block

Appendix B – Centrally retained Services

Appendix C – Details of ARP places 2015-16

Appendix D – Schools facing financial difficulties

Appendix E- Trade union support

Appendix F - Model A: no retention Ratio 1.31

Appendix G - Model B: retains £1.4m ratio 1.31

Appendix H - Model C: no retention ratio 1.29

Appendix I – Model D: £1.4m retention, ratio 1.29

Appendix J - Summary of the models key features

Appendix K – Potential cumulative gains/losses 2012-16