

(BARKING AND DAGENHAM SCHOOLS FORUM)
18 October 2022

Title: Schools' Forum Report	
Open	For Decision / For Information
Wards Affected: All	Key Decision: No
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Accountable Operational Director: Jane Hargreaves – Commissioning Director for Education Youth and Childcare	
Accountable Strategic Director: Elaine Allegretti – Director for People and Resilience, Philip Gregory, Chief Financial Officer	
Summary: The purpose of this report is to update the Barking and Dagenham Schools Forum on:	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Update on Schools, Central, High Needs and EY DSG Blocks 2 Central Schools Services Block 3 2022/23 Projected DSG Outturn 4 Update on High Needs 5 ISP & One-off exceptional payments 6 National Funding Formula - Indicative Funding 2023/24 7 Schools Block Funding Formula for 2023/24 8 Growth Fund for 2022/23 9 Falling Rolls for 2022/23 10 Schools Facing Financial Difficulty 11 Trade Union facility time update 12 School improvement brokerage grant 13 AOB. 	

Recommendation(s)

The Schools' Forum is requested to:

1. Note the updated 2022/23 DSG funding
2. (a) Note the 2023/24 allocations for on-going and historic responsibilities
(b) Note the reduction for historic responsibilities and impact on services provided to schools.
3. Note the projected DSG outturn for 2022/23
4. Note and comment on the 2022/23 High Needs outturn position.
5. Note and comment on ISPs and One-off exceptional payments
6. Note changes to the allocation formula and provisional funding for 2023/24
7. (a) Note and comment on the funding models
(b) Approve Model C (Primary secondary ratio of 1:1:35) as the basis for 2023/24
8. (a) Note the expected (shortfall) in growth funding allocations for 2022/23
9. (a) Note the proposed distribution of falling rolls budget for 2022/23.
10. Note and comment on Schools facing financial difficulty fund
11. Note the update on proposed review of trade union facility time.
12. Comment and approve the use of reserves to mitigate the 50% reduction of SIBG
13. AOB

Reason(s)

The Schools Forum Regulations 2012 requires that the Schools' Forum meets regularly and is consulted by the local authority concerning the Dedicated Schools Budget and various related matters.

1. Update on Schools, Central, High Needs, and Early Years Block

1.1. The 2022/23 DSG allocation was first published in December 2021 with LBBD being granted the sum of £319.7m across the four blocks (before academy recoupment). There have been some changes in the latest allocation published in July 2022, with an increase of £1.83m and £257k on the High Needs and Early years block respectively. There will be further changes to these allocations due to the in-year academy conversion of St Vincent's Catholic Primary School, import and export adjustments and updates to the high needs' recoupment. The July 2022 updates are set out in the table below.

	2022/23 DSG Allocation as at December 2021			2022/23 DSG Allocation as at July 2022			
	Before recoup't £000s (a)	Less recoup't £000s (b)	Net £000s (c) =(a)-(b)	Before recoup't £000s (d)	Less recoup't £000s (e)	Net £000s (f) = (d)-('e)	Movement (g) = (f) - (c)
Schools Block	248,965	67,664	181,301	248,965	67,664	181,301	0
Central Block	2,224	0	2,224	2,224	-	2,224	-
High Needs	46,917	4,226	42,691	48,889	4,369	44,521	1,830
Early Years	21,619	0	21,619	21,877	-	21,877	257
Total	319,725	71,890	247,835	321,955	72,033	249,922	2,087

Table - Updated DSG Grant Allocation for 2022/23 (in £'000s)

1.2. The difference of £1.830m on High Needs relates to additional funding confirmed by DfE to support schools and special schools to mitigate against increased cost due to the introduction of Health & Social Care Levy NI and other cost pressures. Although the governments mini budget announced last week has reversed the National Insurance increases, we are yet to receive information from the department on how this will impact on schools the supplementary grant.

1.3 The increase of £257k in the early years block is due to an increase in the 3 and 4-year-old take up of the universal and additional 15 hours entitlements. This also resulting in a higher level of early years pupil premium funding.

Recommendation (i): Schools forum are requested to:
Note the updated DSG funding

2. Update on Central Schools Services Block 2022/23

2.1 The Central School Services Block allocates funding to LAs for “ongoing” and “Historic” responsibilities. Funding for on-going responsibilities is based on a pupil-led formula. The formula uses two factors: a basic per-pupil factor for all pupils through which LAs receive most of the funding (90%), and a deprivation per-pupil factor (10%). The pupil counts used to calculate CSSB allocations are LAs' schools block pupil counts – that is, pupils in mainstream schools in year groups

reception to year 11 inclusive, including pupils occupying places in special educational needs (SEN) units.

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
On-going responsibilities	1,439	1,620	1,631	1672
Historic responsibilities	925	740	592	474
Total	2,364	2,360	2,223	2,146

Table – 4 years CSSB Allocations

- 2.2 The CSSB on-going budget for 2022/23 is used to fund the following service/functions on behalf of schools:

Service	Budget
Admission Service	648,000
Schools Forum	60,000
Copy right Licences	180,000
Statutory responsibilities	743,000
Total budget for ongoing resp.	1,631,000

- 2.3 In 2022-23 as in previous years beginning from 2021/22, the budget for CSSB historic commitments funding is being reduced 20% year-on-year. The annual reductions are set out in the table below.

Services	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
	b	c	d	e	f
School Improvement	86	69	55	44	35.2
Schools Estates	120	96	77	61.6	49.28
School Games Organiser	40	32	26	20.8	16.64
Trewern outdoor education	167	133	106	84.8	67.84
Community Music Service	248	198	158	126.4	101.12
Advisory Teachers	264	212	170	136	108.8
Total (historic)	925	740	592	474	379

Table – Impact of CSSB Historic funding reductions on services

2.4 The summary below shows how the services funded from the historic element of the CSSG is being remodelled to mitigate the 20% annual reductions in this financial year and ongoing. :

- **School improvement** – the reductions are being offset by School Improvement contingency and reserves, the reductions will be absorbed by the school improvement service through rationalisation and service redesign.
- **Advisory Teachers** – this is part of BDSIP contract, and the savings have been passported as a reduction to the contract price.

- **Community Music Service** – the service has remodelled the delivery by entering into a service level agreement with schools.
- **Trewern outdoor education** – to mitigate the impact of the reductions, Trewern has been working on various service delivery options including remodelling of staff deployment, providing additional offers to schools to increase income and build-up of financial reserves.
- **School games organiser** – the reduction in DSG funding is being replaced by other grants such as the young Londoners Fund, Inspiring Futures, Sports England etc.
- **Schools' estates** – the reduction is being mitigated by capitalisation of eligible staffing costs that meets the criteria for capital funding, this is assign to the building of school assets.

Recommendation (ii): Schools Forum are requested to:

(a) Note the 2023/24 allocations for on-going and historic responsibilities

(b) Note the reduction to historic responsibilities funding and the steps taken to mitigate the impact on services provided to schools

3. 2022/23 Projected DSG Outturn

- 3.1 The table below sets out the projected DSG outturn for 2022/23. All 4 blocks are projecting a breakeven position at year end. DSG reserves brought forward from 2021/22 was £8,120k. Following confirmation by DfE of Early years funding in July 2022, there will be no clawback of the EY underspend of £1,118k, however an amount of £62k will be received in additional funding for 2021/22. Hence the total DSG reserve brought forward is estimated as £9,300k of which £554k and £255k are earmarked for SFFD and growth funding respectively.

	2022/23 Funding £'000	2022/23 Projected Outturn £'000	(Surplus) /Deficit £'000
Schools Block (ISB)	181,301	181,301	0
Central Services Block	2,224	2,224	0
High Needs Block	44,521	44,521	0
Early Years Block	21,877	21,877	0
	249,923	249,923	0
DSG reserves B/f			(8,120)
Add 21/22 EY underspend			(1,118)
Add EY Refund for 21/22			(62)
Revised DSG Carried forward			(9,300)
Of Which			
Growth fund B/F			255
SFFD retained centrally			554
Projected DSG Reserves 2022/23			(8,491)

Table – 2022/23 projected DSG outturn

Recommendation (iii): School Forum are asked to:

Note and comment on projected DSG outturn position for 2022/23

4. 22/23 Update on High Needs Projected Outturn

	2021/22 Outturn	2022/23 Budget	2022/23 Outturn Forecast	Variance +surplus / (deficit)
Alternative Provision	3,150,015	3,437,983	3,437,983	0
ARP Funding	7,679,447	9,168,118	9,168,118	0
DSG – Education Inclusion.	1,332,948	1,801,499	1,801,499	0
Out of Borough & Non Maintained Funding	6,820,436	7,829,579	7,829,579	0
HN Top Ups – Post 16	3,003,921	2,180,000	2,180,000	0
SEN Panel Top Ups	1,762,327	1,500,000	1,500,000	0
LACHES, Lang. Support	317,440	350,234	350,234	0
Initiatives	313,076	688,593	688,593	0
Special School Funding	11,396,094	13,200,725	13,200,725	0
EY Portage & Youth Service	412,798	578,362	578,362	0
Parent Support & Health	200,000	580,000	580,000	0
Total	36,188,502	41,315,093	41,315,093	0
Holding Cost & Gatekeep	2,525,565	3,081,739	3,081,739	0
Total High Needs Budget	38,714,076	44,396,832	44,396,832	0

Table – High Needs Outturn

- 4.1 The projected outturn position for the DSG is breakeven. An allocation of £519k and £253k has been set aside for central costs and independent out of borough special schools from the supplementary grant.

5. ISPs and One off exceptional payments

- 5.1 The High Needs working group met on 4th October 2022 and reviewed the current year outturn position and ongoing pressures for 2022/23. The following areas were discussed at the meeting:

- One- off exceptional payments to schools based upon previous historical data. This will be supported from DSG reserves and proposes to fund schools with more than 1% of banded children in mainstream schools
- The final model of Internal School Provision (ISP) schools from September 2022 and allocations
- One-off funding for historical band G and H children in schools as per recent audit of SEND children undertaken in Barking and Dagenham.

- Appendix C attached details the proposed individual school allocations of one-off exceptional funding, band G and H historical funding and ISP allocations.
- Please note the one-off exceptional payment shown on Appendix C is an indicative allocation pending completion of October census, the new census data will be used to refresh the calculation for one-off exceptional payment to be made to eligible schools.

6. National Funding Formula (NFF) - Indicative Funding 2023/24

- 6.1 The DFE has confirmed that it will move forward with the implementation of the NFF, whereby funding will be allocated directly to schools based on a single, national formula. 2023/24 is a transitional year and local authorities can continue to set a local schools funding formula. However, to ensure a smooth transition, LA's will be required to bring their formula closer to the NFF from 2023/24.
- 6.2 Provisional funding allocations announced in July 2022 indicates an increase in the total core school budget nationally by £7bn increasing to £56.8bn by 2024-25. Funding through the schools NFF is increasing by 1.9% overall in 2023-24, and 1.9% per pupil compared to 2022-23.
- 6.3 The main features in 2023-24 are:
- a) The schools supplementary grant which was introduced in 2022-23 to meet the cost of the Health and Social Care Levy will now be rolled into the schools NFF from 2023-24.
 - b) There will be additional support directed at disadvantaged pupils by the increase of the deprivation factors namely FSM6 and IDACI. These factors will increase by 4.3% compared to 2022-23 values. 9.8% of the schools NFF will be allocated via the deprivation factors in 2023-24.
 - c) The core factors in the schools NFF (basic entitlement & lump sum) will increase by 2.4%
 - d) The minimum per pupil funding levels is set so every primary school pupil will receive at least £4,405 and every secondary school pupil at least £5,715.
 - e) The funding floor is set at 0.5%. This is to ensure that all schools attract at least 0.5% more pupil led funding per pupil compared to 2022-23 NFF allocation. The funding floor baselines have also been increased to take account of the rolling in of the school's supplementary grant.
 - f) Local authorities must use all the NFF factors except the locally determined premises factors.

6.4 LBBB has mirrored the NFF funding for all but one of the mandatory factors. The LA does not mirror the NFF basic entitlement. The guidance for 2023-24 is however to tighten the formula and move 10% or more closer to the NFF values. This will impact on the primary secondary ratio which in 2022-23 was kept as 1 to 1.35

6.5 It should be noted that the National Funding Formula is not on the whole favourable to London Schools including Barking and Dagenham and the majority (38) of our schools would receive only the floor allocation (0.5% uplift) if the formula were applied directly with no modification.

6.5 The provisional NFF allocation for LBBB -Schools block is shown in the table below.

	2022-23	2023-24
Pupil Nos*	39,882	39,882
Primary Unit of Funding (PUF)	£5,314	£5,492
Secondary Unit of Funding (SUF)	£7,012	£7,402
LA Allocation excluding growth & premises factors	£238,080,426	£248,425,369
LA Allocation through premises funding	£9,461,893	£9,463,966
LA supplementary grant (pupils 5-16)	£6,972,638	-
Total SB baseline (excluding growth)	£254,514,957	£257,889,335
Baseline per pupil (excluding growth)	£6,382	£6,466
Provisional % change in 2023-24		1.33%

Table – DFE provisional NFF allocation

**2023-24 Pupil numbers will be updated in Dec- 22 following the autumn census*

7. Schools Block Funding Formula

7.1 LBBB will continue to use its local budget setting powers, albeit restricted to set the 2023-24 individual school's budget. The national funding factor rates have been adopted across all the mandatory factors except for the basic entitlement. The rates set for 2022-23 must be reduced by at least 10% in 2023-24 as mandated by the ESFA.

7.2 As mentioned in 6.4 above we have applied all the NFF rates for all funding factors except for AWPU. We have produced three models of the local funding formula for consideration:

(a) Model A – Replicates the NFF using the full rates for all mandatory factors

(b) Model B – Mirrors the NFF at 10% i.e., Removing 10% of the existing difference between local and NFF rates for the basic entitlement (AWPU).

(c) Model C – Adjusting AWPU rates so that the existing primary secondary ratio of 1.1:35 is maintained.

- 7.3 In the funding models, we have used the 2022.23 baseline pupil numbers as applied to the August Authority Proforma Tool (APT) which for LBBB is 39,893. All the NFF rates have been applied across the pupil led and lump sum. The varying element being the rates applied to the basic entitlement.
- 7.4 The 2023-24 NFF cash envelop for LBBB of £257,889,335 is based on 39,882 pupils. We have adjusted this for modelling purposes by uplifting the funding to match the baseline pupil numbers of 39,893.
- 7.5 The provisional allocation does not include growth funding. The DFE will provide for growth based on observed differences between primary and secondary numbers on roll between the October 2022 pupil census and the October 2021 census. LA's will be notified of the growth allocation by December 2022.
- 7.6 Under the NFF regulations, Local authorities are permitted to continue to set a pre-16 Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) in their local formulae, to protect schools from excessive year-on-year changes. However, the MFG per pupil must be between 0% and 0.5% for 2023-24. The MFG rate applied to the three models is set at 0% mainly due to affordability.
- 7.7 Variations in funding between 2022/23 and the three models presented are entirely driven by changes in unit rates. Numbers on Roll and pupil profiles are the same as in the 2022/23 model. However, there will be movement to the final funding due to changes in NOR, unit rates and changes in pupil profile data following updates from the October census.
- 7.8 Three optional factors have which we have included in the models are split sites, rates and PFI. The 2023/24 NFF provisional allocation for premises is £9.464m which is at the same level as the previous year's allocation. Split sites and PFI funding values have been kept at the same as in 2022/23, £1.400m and £3.365m respectively. The NNDR has been modelled based on indicative values totalling £4.739m.
- 7.9 The models do not include an estimate for growth or falling rolls for 2023/24. These will be determined when the October 2022 census data is published and when the DFE confirm the growth fund allocation. A decision will have to be made about meeting any potential shortfall in funding for these two elements.
- 7.10 The overview of the three funding models is set out in Appendix A to this report
- 7.11 The key points in relation to **Model A (Full NFF)** are as follows:
- Primary AWPU is higher than 2022/23 LBBB local schools' rate reflecting the increase in rates at national level.
 - Secondary AWPU is also higher

- Primary secondary ratio is 1:1.42 compared to the 1:1.35 for 2022/23 schools block allocation.
 - A significant number of primary schools fall below the 0% funding floor and hence supported through MFG to bring these up to the funding floor.
 - After applying the full NFF rates, there is a surplus cash of £151k in this modelling exercise. This could be put towards the growth /falling rolls fund as putting it back into AWPU will cause a deviation from the NFF set rates.
 - The MFG requirement for Model A is **£3.389m** (compared to £2.584m in 2022/23)
- 7.12 **Model B** is based on the DFE requirement for LA's to move their local formula factor values at least 10% towards the NFF rates, except where local formulae are already mirroring the NFF. The 10% mirroring is a requirement with LA's being required to apply for a disapplication if values applied are outside the DFE guidelines.
- The AWPU rates are higher than the 2022/23 rates as the 90% variance is measured against the uplifted NFF AWPU for 2023/24.
 - The higher AWPU rates means fewer schools are having to be supported through MFG. The MFG requirement is lower under this model at £2.313m
 - The funding model exceeds the grant allocation by £25k which can be mitigated by adjusting the AWPU rates, but the primary to secondary ratio under this model is 1:1.40
- 7.13 **Model C** is based on the maintaining the primary secondary ratio of 1:1.35 whereby secondary schools are funded 35% more than primaries. If the NFF is implemented in full (Model A) the ratio will be 1:1.42. The key points under this model are:
- Primary, KS3 & KS4 AWPU rates would increase by £180, £200 & £296 respectively compared to 2022-23 LFF rates.
 - The difference between the NFF rates and the local primary, KS3 & KS4 AWPU rates are 4%, -2% & -2% respectively.
 - MFG is lowest under this option at £1.041m
 - The budget requirement for this model sits within the 2023/24 cash envelop.
- 7.14 All the proposed 2023-24 AWPU rates are higher when compared to 2022-23. The summary of the variations of 3 models is set out in the table below.

Basic Entitlement	22-23 LFF	Model A NFF Rates (inc ACA)	Model B 10% Mirroring	Model C P:S 1:1.35
Primary	-0.30%	0.00%	2.56%	4.38%
KS3	-6.07%	0.00%	0.00%	-2.39%
KS4	-5.98%	0.00%	0.17%	-1.14%

Table - % difference between NFF and local AWPUs

7.15 The table below sets out the cost and affordability of each of the models

- The DFE allocation does not include growth.
- The models however have an estimated £500k growth (in line with 22/23 top up on DFE growth allocation).
- The models do not include no falling rolls fund. This will be factored in after confirmation of the October 2022 census data.

	Funding Model Cost	DSG Grant	Surplus / (shortfall)
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Model A - Full NFF	257,808	257,960	152
Model B - 10% mirroring	257,985	257,960	(25)
Model C - 1:1.35 P:S ratio	257,945	257,960	15

Table – cost of model options vs DSG grant

7.16 To demonstrate the school-level impact of the NFF the government has published notional school-level allocations for 2023-24 (subject to updated pupil numbers). The impact on LBBB schools has been modelled and the details can be seen in Appendix B. The figures set out here do not reflect the actual funding schools will receive in 2023-24 as LBBB will still set a local formula as far as the regulations allow. Also, subsequent changes to the LA data will be updated later in the year.

Recommendation (vii): School Forum are requested to:

Note and comment on the funding models

Approve Model C (Primary Secondary ratio of 1:1.35) as the basis for 2023/24.

8. Growth Fund for 2022/23 & 2023/24

8.1 Growth funding is allocated to Schools to manage an increase in pupil numbers in 2022-23 before the lagged funding catches up. The DFE allocate growth funding based on the differences between primary and secondary pupils at school within each Middle Layer Super Output Area (MSOA) between the October 2020 and October 2021 census figures. Only positive MSOA growth will be used in calculating the number of pupils to be funded. The criteria set by LBBB for the growth fund is as below:

- 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.

8.2 The 2022/23 DFE growth fund allocation is £1,423k and the revised growth required is £1,893k. The shortfall of £470k has been met from the school's block funding.

8.3 The table below sets out the revised growth allocation for 2022/23 based on admission numbers in September 2022. An allocation of £67,200 was previously agreed for the primary sector of Goresbrook all through school. The expected growth did not materialise so the allocation will be removed. Greatfields have an additional class of 30 over the anticipated growth, there by attracting additional growth fund of £89,250.

School	Prim. Growth	Sec. Growth	Prim. AWPU £3,840	Sec. AWPU £5,100	40% Uplift	Budget
Dagenham Park CofE		30	0	89,250		89,250
Greatfields		90	0	267,750		267,750
Riverside Primary	30		67,200	0		67,200
Riverside Secondary		150	0	446,250	178,500	624,750
Robert Clack	30	180	67,200	535,500	241,080	843,780
Total	60	450	134,400	1,338,750	419,580	1,892,730
GF Grant						1,423,064
Shortfall						469,666
Met from 2022/23 Sch.Block						-469,666

Table - 2022/23 Updated Expansions and Growth Fund Requirements

8.4 In 2023/24, the DFE will continue to provide growth funding to local authorities to manage increase in pupil numbers in addition to the core funding allocated through the NFF. The NFF operates on a lagged funding basis whereby schools receive funding each year based on pupil numbers from the year before. Local authorities can use the growth funding they are allocated to support schools to manage an increase in pupil numbers before the lagged funding system has caught up.

Recommendation (vii): School Forum are requested to:

- (a) note the expected shortfall in growth funding allocations for 2022/23 and agree to fund shortfall from reserves.

9. Falling Rolls Fund 2022/23

9.1 Details of the falling rolls was shared at the June Schools Forum. The budget allocated to the falling rolls fund is £500k and a total of £552k has been assigned to the schools that meet the qualifying criteria. The £52k overspend will be funded from reserves:

- It is a DfE mandatory requirement that the school must be good or outstanding.

Other requirements previously agreed by the Forum are:

- The school must have a reduction of 10 or more pupils after adjusting for impact of bulge classes.
- There must be a year-on-year reduction in delegated budget.
- The school's reserves do not exceed 8% of delegated budget.

9.2 Based on the numbers of pupils on roll at the October 2021 census when compared to the October 2020, the schools listed below met the set criteria.

School Name	Net Change	AWPU 1,077.56
Dorothy Barley Infants' School	-13	14,008.28
Dorothy Barley Junior Academy	-38	40,947.28
Eastbrook School	-10	10,775.60
Eastbury Primary School	-27	29,094.12
Gascoigne Primary School	-71	76,506.76
Manor Infants' School/Manor Longbridge	-29	31,249.24
Marsh Green Primary School	-17	18,318.52
Monteagle Primary School	-43	46,335.08
Ripple Primary School	-18	19,396.08
Roding Primary School	-35	37,714.60
Rose Lane Primary School	-21	22,628.76
St Joseph's Catholic Primary - Barking	-50	53,878.00
Thames View Junior	-47	50,645.32
Thomas Arnold Primary School	-12	12,930.72
Valence Primary School	-39	42,024.84
William Bellamy Primary School	-42	45,257.52
	-444	551,710.72

Table: Falling rolls allocation for 2022/23

Recommendation (ix): School Forum are requested to note:

(a) the proposed distribution of falling rolls budget of £552k for 2022/23.

10. Schools Facing Financial Difficulties (SFFD)

- 10.1 The purpose of SFFD fund is to provide temporary financial support for schools in financial difficulty to enable organisational / staffing changes to be implemented in order to place the schools on a financially sustainable basis. Funds have been built-up through de-delegation over several years, and contributions to the fund ceased in 2017/18 as it was intended to be self-financing from then onwards. Schools are charged interest rate of 1% above the Bank of England base rate. This is recycled back to the fund.
- 10.2 To access the loan facility schools are required to submit:
- A recovery / business plan setting out proposed savings and risks.
 - A three-year budget and demonstrate deficit clearance over a period not exceeding three years, - establishment list covering the period of recovery.
 - Repay the loan within three years (subject to individual school circumstances).
 - Submit cash flow statement.
 - Submit minutes of discussion by Finance Committee / Governing Body.
 - This is subject to approval by Commissioning Director of Education, following review by Finance Monitoring Group.
- 10.3 By the end of 2016/17, the total value of the de-delegated funds was £3,223k. However, in the early part of the scheme one off payments totalling £1,770k were provided to schools. From 2015/16, financial support is only available in the form of loans. Since the start of the schemes, interest payments of £90k have been added to the pool. The total available fund is £1,554k, of which £1,001k is outstanding loans (excludes interests), and the current amount retained centrally is at 31st March 2022 was £553k.
- 10.4 In 2022/23 financial year, a loan amount of £170k has been provided to William Ford Primary school, the school will pay-back £30k this year and the balance will be paid in two equal annual instalments of £70k.
- 10.5 The projected funding for the SFFD is estimated as follows:

Funding Available @ 1.04.2022	£553,517
Loans given in 2022/23	(£170,000)
Funds Available	£383,517
22/23 Projected loan repayments	£609,342
Projected funds available	£992,859

Recommendation (x): Schools Forum are requested to note and comment on:
Total SFFD funds, projected loans repayments and balance retained centrally.

11. Review of Trade Union Facility time

- 11.1 The local authority HR team have commissioned a review of trade union facility time, de-delegation rates, and contributions by academy schools. Consultation is currently underway as part of review. It's expected that the review will be completed by the end of autumn half-term. The draft report will therefore be shared with school's forum members at the next meeting.
- 11.2 We are therefore proposing to maintain the current arrangements for 2022/23 financial year.

Recommendation (xi): Schools forum are requested to:

- (a) Note the proposed review of trade union facility time.

12 School Improvement and Brokerage Funding

- 12.1 The government has reformed how Local Authority school improvement functions are funded. Councils receive an amount of funding annually to support School Improvement activity. The School Improvement Monitoring and Brokering Grant of £168K is mostly passported to BDSIP; the company is commissioned by the Council to carry out some School Improvement activity.
- 12.2 The government have:
- **Removed** the School Improvement Monitoring & Brokering Grant, which is currently allocated to local authorities to support school improvement activities; and
 - **Made provisions** within the School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations for the financial year (FY) 2022-23 to allow local authorities to fund all of their school improvement activity (including all core school improvement activities) **via de-delegation from schools' budget shares**.
 - As a result the grant has been reduced by 50% from April 2022 and the balance will be removed entirely by April 2023.
 - The annual school improvement grant is circa £168k, the 50% reduction estimated to be £84k. This will be equivalent to £2.81 per pupil rate of de-delegation.
 - We are proposing to fund the 50% reduction (£84k) from DSG reserves as a one-off for this year only, instead of de-delegation deduction from schools.

Recommendation (xii): Schools forum are requested to:

(b) Approve the use of reserves to fund the 50% reduction in School improvement brokerage grant for this year only. (One-off funding from reserves)

13. AOB

14 Financial implications

As presented in this document.

15 Legal implications

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.

16 Other implications

- a. **Risk management** - None
- b. **Contractual issues** - None
- c. **Staffing issues** – None
- d. **Customer impact** – None
- e. **Safeguarding children** - None
- f. **Health Issues** - None
- g. **Crime and Disorder Issues** – None
- h. **Property / Asset Issues** – None

Background papers used in the preparation of the report:

None.

List of appendices:

Appendix A _ Overview of 2023/24 Funding Models
Appendix B_ Impact of funding options on ISB
Appendix C_ ISP & One off Exceptional Payment for 2022/23
Appendix D_ Schools Facing Financial Difficulty