

(BARKING AND DAGENHAM SCHOOLS FORUM)
27 June 2023

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 DSG Outturn for 2022/23 2 Local Management of Schools (LMS Reserves) 3 High Needs Block (HNB) Outturn for 2022/23 4 Early Years (EY) Outturn for 2022/23 5 2023/24 DSG Update 6 High Needs Budget 2023/24 7 Central Schools Services Block 2023/24 8 Growth Funding for 2023/24 9 Falling Rolls for 2023/24 10 Schools Facing Financial Difficulty fund (SFFD) 11 Mayor of London Free school meals 12 Trade Unions 13 AOB 	

Recommendation(s)

The Schools' Forum is requested to:

1. Note and comment on DSG outturn position for 2022/23
2. Note LMS Reserves balances for Schools
3. Note and comment on the 2022/23 High Needs outturn position.
4. Note and comment on the Early Years Outturn position for 2022/23
5. Note and comment on the DSG funding allocation and outturn forecast for 2023/24.
6. Note and comment on the High Needs budget for 2023/24
7. Note and comment on the Central Schools Services Block for 2023/24
8. Note, comment and approve the Growth Fund for 2023/24
9. Note, comment and approve the Falling Rolls for 2023/24
10. Note SFFD funds, loans outstanding and balance retained centrally
11. Note Mayor of London's Free School Meal grant
12. Note and comment on the proposed review of trade union facility time.

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. DSG Outturn for 2022/23

- 1.1. The Dedicated Schools Grant is reporting an overall in-year overspend of £591k (please refer to DSG table below). This consists of an overspend on High needs of £2,515k and a small overspend of £3k on the Central Services block. This combined overspend of £2,518k has been mitigated by underspends against the Early Years and Schools block of £1,307k and £620k, respectively.
- 1.2. The EY funding is based on prior year allocations and funding is only finalised using the previous spring census data. The underspend of £1,307k is made up of £154k for 2-year-old and £887k for 3- and 4-year-old (£1,041k). The central early years budget reported an underspend of £266k. As in previous years, we have assumed a full claw back of the in-year underspend of £1,041k being the sum of the underspend on the 2- and 3 and 4-year-old funding. Although there will be a retained element, this will not be known until July 2023.
- 1.3. The High Needs Overspend is £2,515k. This has been achieved despite making a one-off payment of £2.4m to schools to help alleviate the financial pressures schools are facing due to the ongoing demand and complex cases of children with SEN. The one-off payment supported pupils with band F/G/H and a review was undertaken by an independent SEN audit that validated pupils and bandings within each school in the borough. This also included early years SEN pupils at reception and Private Voluntary & Independent settings. Additional funding was provided as a 'one-off exceptional funding'.
- 1.4. The school's block is reporting an underspend of £621k. An underspend of £309k relates to growth fund and £312k represents the amount of loans repaid to the LA. This is the net effect of revised forecasts on growth fund requirements, based on the October 22 census, and the adjusted falling rolls allocations. There has been a reduced claim on the growth fund due to lower than anticipated September 2022 pupil number growth.
- 1.5. The total DSG reserves brought forward from 2021/22 is £10,664k. This amount is reduced by the in-year overspend of £591k to give the revised DSG reserve of £10,073k. We have assumed the full clawback of the early years underspend on the 2-year-old and 3- to 4-year-old funding of £1,041k, therefore adjusted reserve is £9,032k. £309k of this amount relates to the underspend of the growth fund allocation which is earmarked to support future growth proposals and schools facing falling rolls. And £963k is the year-end balance held against the Schools Facing Financial Difficulty fund.

	2022/23 Budget	2022/23 Outturn	Surplus / (Deficit) Outturn
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Schools Block – ISB	180,624	180,004	621
Central Block	2,224	2,227	(3)
High Needs Block	44,509	47,024	(2,515)
Early Years Block	21,877	20,570	1,307
Total	249,234	249,825	(591)
DSG Surplus B/F			10,664
Revised DSG Reserve			10,073
Less EY clawback			(1,041)
22/23 DSG Reserve			9,032
Of which:			
SFFD retained		963	
Growth & Falling Fund C/F		309	
Net DSG Reserve			7,760

Table: DSG 2022/23 Outturn

Recommendation (i): School Forum are asked to:

(a) Note and comment on DSG outturn position for 2022/23

2. Local Management of Schools (LMS Reserves)

- 2.1 The 2021/22 brought forward LMS balance for Schools reserves is £14,380k. This balance was revised to £13,511k due to schools adjusting opening balances. The in-year closing position across maintained schools for 2022/23 is an overspend of £1,661k, therefore a reduction to the LMS reserve which now stands at £11,850k.
- 2.2 The table below summarises the outturn position for maintained schools by phase. 26 schools had a combined deficit of £4,589k. 16 schools had a combined surplus of £2,928k. The full breakdown of the LMS reserve is on Appendix A
- 2.3 in 2023/24 the Financial Monitoring Group would be expecting schools that set a deficit budget to prepare a 3-year recovery plan, and schools with surplus exceeding 5% for Secondary schools & 8% for primary schools respectively will be expected to submit plan of usage for reserves with Ratified budget.

2022/23 Schools in-year surplus

Phase	Numbers	Total
Primary	10	£1,446,168
Secondary	3	£682,592
All through	1	£347,850
Special	1	£280,772
Alternative Provision	1	£170,892
Total Schools surplus	16	£2,928,275

2022/23 Schools in-year Deficit

Phase	Numbers	Total
Primary	23	£3,136,670
All through	2	£928,728
Secondary	1	£523,886
Total Schools deficit	26	£4,589,285

Combined Schools outturn position	42	£1,661,010
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*Please note there was one primary academy conversion in August 2022

Recommendation (ii): School Forum are asked to note:

- (a) LMS Reserves balances for Schools for 2022/23
- (b) Submission of 3-year recovery plans by schools in deficit & Plan of usage by schools whose reserves exceeds 5%(Secondary) & 8%(Primary) of annual budget.

3. High Needs Block (HNB) Outturn for 2022/23

- 3.1 The budget for 2022/23 was £44.509m (after recoupment). The table below shows the detailed position for High Needs for 2021/22 and 2022/23. The outturn position for the year is £2.515m overspend. This has been achieved despite making a one-off payment of £2.4m to schools to help alleviate the financial pressures schools are facing due to the ongoing demand and complex cases of children with SEN. The one-off payment supported pupils with band F/G/H in mainstream schools in support of the SEN government strategy of inclusion. This also includes early years SEN pupils at reception and Private Voluntary & Independent settings.

High Needs Budget 2022/2023	2021/22 Outturn	2022/23 Budget	2022/23 Outturn	Variance +surplus (-deficit)
Alternative Provision	3,150,015	3,437,983	3,435,882	2,101
ARP Funding	7,679,447	9,168,118	11,132,959	-1,964,841
DSG - Education Inclusion	1,332,948	1,801,499	1,406,563	394,936
Out of Borough & Non Maintained	6,820,436	7,829,579	8,448,443	-618,864
HN Top Ups - Post 16	3,003,921	2,180,000	1,859,996	320,004
SEN Panel Top Ups	1,762,327	1,500,000	3,516,738	-2,016,738
LACHES, Lang. support	317,440	350,234	439,602	-89,368
Initiatives	313,076	688,593	977,579	-288,986
Special School Funding	11,396,094	13,200,725	12,269,364	931,361
EY Portage & Youth Service	412,798	578,362	525,105	53,257
Total	36,188,502	40,735,093	44,012,231	-3,277,138
ISP, Supplement grant, Health & Gate Keeping	2,525,565	3,773,557	3,011,228	762,329
Total Budget	38,714,067	44,508,650	47,023,460	-2,514,810

Table – High Needs Outturn

3.2 Alternative Provision underspend of £2k relates to the net balance of funding earmarked for EAL students and Pilot Scheme & overspend on Erkenwald campus.

- Overspend on Out of Borough (OOB) budget is due to cases and catch-up with processing the related cost of invoices within the financial year for placement costs..
- Additional Resourced Provision (ARPs) overspend of £1.965m budget has been used to mitigate some of the one-off exceptional payments made to schools to alleviate the financial pressures schools were facing due to ongoing SEN demand and complex cases within mainstream schools. Although budget provision was made for increased number of places, schools faced an increase of SEN complex cases instead.
- Post16 top up payments in support of continued growth for 16-25 cohort reported an underspend of £326k primarily due to a budget increase based upon outturn and demand during 2021/22.
- Headteacher SEN Panel top ups budget reported an overspend of £2.107m due to the increase in SEN children requiring additional support and recognition of early years SEN in schools.

The High Needs working group met on 14th June and reviewed the year end outturn position and ongoing pressures for 2023/24. Other high needs areas discussed were:

- Headteachers panel top up payments to schools and changes in funding distribution.
 - An independent review of top up processes has been commissioned to begin this term and conclude in the Autumn term.
 - An update of ARP commissioned places for 2023/24 and take-up from 2022/23 was shared with members and linkage to out of borough pupils attending provisions in Barking and Dagenham. A reminder to schools with SEN children attending Barking and Dagenham schools, the high needs Import/Export of Out of Borough (OOB) children attending schools to receive the element 3 (top up) for those children from other local authorities.
- 3.3 The strategic work of forecasting the high needs block outturn in 3 to 5 years' time based upon a previous review that was undertaken approximately 8 years ago in anticipation of future pressures and ensuring the budget is 'fit for purpose' to support growth areas but within the overall financial envelope.

Recommendation (iv): Schools forum are requested to:

(a) Note and comment on the 2022/23 High Needs outturn position.

4. Early Years (EY) Outturn

- 4.1 The EY funding is based on prior year allocations and funding is only finalised using the previous two spring census data after year-end around July 2023. The underspend of £1,307k (refer to DSG table above). The underspend is made up of £154k for 2-year-old and £887k for 3- and 4-year-old (£1,041k). The central early years budget reported an underspend of £266k. As in previous years, we have assumed a full claw back of the in-year underspend of £1,041k being the sum of the underspend on the 2 and 3 and 4-year-old funding. Although there will be a retained element, this will not be known until July 2023.
- 4.2 The underspend is due to lower pupil numbers during the year compared to the census figures. Although the early years census now measures actual attendance on census day, fluctuations in take up over the academic year mean that not all funding was spent. In addition, settings continue to find it difficult to recruit staff and are therefore not operating at full capacity. However, attendance continues to rise from an all-time low during the pandemic and with actual 2-year-old and universal 3-and-4-year-old numbers now matching pre-pandemic figures. Take up of the extended entitlement has risen significantly from 2022 also.
- 4.3 Some of the early years predicted underspend was allocated to all early year's providers delivering free entitlements based on the number of children on roll. This included schools, childminders and PVI settings. Each setting received 2 payments of between £500 and £2,000 to support children with SEND and to enhance outdoor play.

Recommendation (vi): Schools forum are requested to:

(a) Note Early Years outturn position

5. DSG block allocations for 2023/24 (Update)

- 5.1 The 2023/24 DSG allocations were published in December 2022. The Primary and Secondary Units of Funding (PUF and SUF) of £5,492 and £7,402 have been applied respectively to the October 2022 census to determine the final allocations for the year.
- 5.2 The final funding allocations for 2023/24 are set out in tables below. There are no changes to the overall structure of the formula used to calculate the funding distribution. The premises funding consists of business rates, PFI and split sites. The 2023/24 allocations are based on historic spend from the previous year except for PFI which has been uplifted for RPIX data.

Block	2022/23 Final Allocations £000s	2023/24 Allocations	Movement Fav / (unfav) £000s
Schools Block	238,080	251,418	13,338
Premises (historic)	9,462	9,464	2
Growth Fund	1,423	1,566	143
Total Schools Block	248,965	262,447	13,482
<i>Pupil No</i>	39,882	40,261	379

Table: 2023/24 Schools Block Allocations

Block	2022/23 Allocations	2023/24 Allocations	Movement + Fav / (unfav)	% Change
Schools Block*	248,965	262,447	13,482	5%
High Needs	46,917	55,380	8,463	18%
CSSB - On-going	1,632	1,688	56	3%
CSSB - Historic	592	474	-118	-20%
Early Years (Prov.)	21,619	22,704	1,085	5%
Total DSG Funding	319,725	342,693	22,968	0

*2023/24 Schools block allocation is inclusive of £8.5m Mainstream Schools Additional Grant

Table: 2023/24 DSG Allocations for all Blocks

Recommendation (iii): School Forum are asked to note:

(a) The updated 2023/24 DSG allocations.

6. High Needs Budget 2023/24

- 6.1 The High Needs block is increasing by £8,463m (prior to recoupment). The new allocation, now based on formula, goes some way to address gap created by funding allocated on a historic basis. LBBD had one of the largest existing funding gaps and is receiving maximum uplift of 10% (measured against rebased baseline). However, a growing population and other demographic changes mean continuing increase in demand for services.
- 6.2 **Appendix B** provides the 2023/24 detailed budget analysis for High needs, this has been revised to reflect known costs and pressures. Key changes to note includes:
- Our HN allocation for 2023/24 has been increased by £8.463m
 - Budget allocations have increased at least 5% to 8%
 - ARP top-ups (element 3) have increased by 5%
 - Special school budgets have increased by 3.4% place plus 10% top up this compensates special schools for MSAG and historic less than inflation increases.
 - £3m earmarked for targeted SEN support in schools.
 - Headteachers SEN panel budget increase over £1m to £2.5m
 - New ARPs starting in Sept 2023 increase in budget of £891k.
 - Contingency budget over £700k in support of HN changes and academic year SEN changes in schools.
- 6.3 There continues to be significant growth and demand for SEN places especially in early years and primary schools and the monthly budget monitoring and HN working group will continue to review demands.

Recommendation (v): Schools forum are requested to:

- (a) Note and comment on the High Needs budgets for 2023/24

7 Central Schools Service Block Funding for 2023/24

- 7.1 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. In accordance with previous DfE announcement, the historic element is seeing year on year reductions of 20% that started in 2020/21.

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
On-going responsibilities	1,439	1,620	1,632	1688
Historic responsibilities	925	740	592	474
Total	2,364	2,360	2,224	2,162

Table – 4 years CSSB Allocations

- 7.2 The CSSB on-going budget for 2023/24 is used to fund the following service on behalf of schools:

Service	Budget
Admission Service	671,000
Schools Forum	62,000
Copy right Licences	186,000
Statutory responsibilities	769,000
Total budget for ongoing resp.	1,688,000

- 7.3 In 2023-24, the budget for CSSB historical responsibilities will be reduced again by 20%. The annual reductions are set out in the table below.

Services	2020/21 a	2021/22 b	2022/23 c	2023/24 d	2024/25 e
School Improvement	86,000	68,800	55,040	44,032	35,226
Schools Estates	120,000	96,000	76,800	61,440	49,152
School Games Organiser	40,000	32,000	25,600	20,480	16,384
Trewern outdoor education	167,000	133,600	106,880	85,504	68,403
Community Music Service	248,000	198,400	158,720	126,976	101,581
Advisory Teachers	264,000	211,200	168,960	135,168	108,134
Total (historic)	925,000	740,000	592,000	473,600	378,880

Table – Impact of CSSB Historic funding reductions

Recommendation (ii): Schools Forum are requested to:

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

8. Growth Funding for 2023/24

- 8.1 Growth funding is allocated to Schools to manage an increase in pupil numbers in 2023/24 before the lagged funding catches up. The allocation is based on differences between the primary and secondary numbers on roll in each LA between the October 2021 and October 2022 school censuses. The methodology captures growth at the level of Middle Layer Super Output Areas (MSOAs). Only positive MSOA growth is used to calculate the number of pupils to be funded.

- 8.2 The 2023/24 DFE growth fund allocation is **£1.576m** and the revised growth required is **£1.417m**. The surplus allocation of £148,493 was agreed by Schools Forum to be used towards the falling rolls fund for 2023/24.
- 8.3 The table below shows the provisional growth allocation for 2023/24 based on forecasts of pupil numbers that will be admitted to the Boroughs schools in September 2023.

School	Prim. Growth	Sec. Growth	Prim. AWPU	Sec. AWPU	40% Uplift	Budget
			£4,015	£5,307		
Beam Primary	9		£21,079			£21,079
Greatfields (Free School)		90	£0	£278,617		£278,617
Riverside Primary (Free School)	60		£140,525	-		£140,525
Robert Clack School of Science	60	180	£140,525	£557,234	£279,104	£976,863
Total	129	270	£302,128	£841,158	£279,104	£1,417,083
Surplus growth fund						£148,493
Growth Fund Allocation (DFE)						£1,565,576

Table: Growth Fund allocation based on planned Sept. 23 Expansions and Growth Fund Requirements

- 8.4 The existing local policy is that growth more than 4 classes should receive an uplift. DfE guidance states that significant growth should be funded through the formula in order that these attract not just the pro-rata AWPU, but also other pupil led factors. These equate to on average 40% uplift on AWPU. This is in recognition of diseconomies of scale associated with large scale growth. This can be funded by varying the pupil number on APT so that these are included in the overall ISB allocation for the year. However, this can create difficulties where the full planned classes fail to materialise due to lack of pupil number which will then have to be clawed back the following year. Therefore, the preferred option is to fund it through centrally retained growth.

Recommendation (vii): School Forum are requested to:

- (a) note the expected shortfall in growth funding allocations for 2023/24

9 Falling Rolls Fund for 2023/24

- 9.1 Details of the falling rolls was shared at the January Schools Forum. The table below is a summary of changes in numbers on roll (NOR) (with pupil numbers adjustment for new and growing schools) used for funding purposes. Overall, pupil numbers have increased by just 376 between October 21 and October 22 census.

All-Through schools have a net increase of 278 and secondaries have a net increase of 245 pupils. The primary phase is reporting a net reduction 147.

	Oct 21 NOR (Primary)	Oct 22 NOR (Primary)	Oct 21 NOR (Secondary)	Oct 22 NOR (Secondary)	Primary movement	Secondary Movement	Movement
All Through	1,663	6,701	1,738	6,904	75	203	278
Secondary		8,728		8,973	-	245	245
Primary	22,801		22,654		(147)	-	147
	24,464	15,429	24,392	15,877	(72)	448	376

Table change in pupil numbers between October 21 October 22 census.

9.2 To be eligible for falling rolls, schools must meet several qualifying criteria. It is a DfE mandatory requirement that the school must be good or outstanding. Other requirements previously agreed by the Forum are;

- (a) reductions of 10 or more pupils after adjusting for impact of bulge classes.
- (b) year on year reduction in delegated budget.
- (c) school's reserves do not exceed 10% of delegated budget.

9.3 The calculations to derive the falling rolls fund has been updated with the 2022/23 LMS reserves for financial year end 2022/23. This has changed the total required for use to support schools with falling rolls. It also affects Marsh Green Primary School who no longer qualify for the falling rolls fund due to an increase in the number of pupils on roll. Schools' forum is requested to decide on schools that fall into this category where the drop in numbers improve in the course of the year.

9.4 The DSG has not provided a budget for falling rolls for 2023/24. The budget requirement is £482,061. This will be partly offset by the under allocation of growth fund of £148,493, the remainder of £333,568 will be met by the brought forward reserves.

9.5 The table below shows the schools that will get the budget allocation to cover the reduction in pupil numbers.

School	Fall in NOR	Falling Rolls 2023-24 - qualifying schools
Valence Primary School	-49	90,498
Marsh Green Primary School	-45	82,966
Richard Alibon Primary School	-31	57,254
Roding Primary School	-27	49,866
Northbury Primary School	-18	33,244
William Ford CofE Junior School	-18	33,244
William Bellamy Primary School	-16	29,550
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School	-15	27,703
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School	-15	27,703
Gascoigne Primary School	-13	24,010
Jo Richardson Community School	-10	26,022
		482,061

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

(a) the proposed distribution of falling rolls budget of £482,061 for 2023/24

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 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. Please see **Appendix C**. 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 scheme, interest payments of £121k have been added to the pool. The total projected fund available is £1,502k, of which £558k is outstanding loans (excludes interests), and the

current amount retained centrally is £963k to support future loan requests. The balance available changes as loans are made or re-paid.

Recommendation (x): Schools Forum are requested to note:

(a) total SFFD funds, loans outstanding and balance retained centrally.

11. Mayor of London Free School Meals Grant

11.1 The Mayor of London has proposed a one-off grant of £130m London wide to mitigate the cost-of-living crisis. This grant will ensure all primary school children in state funded schools get free school meals for the academic year 2023/24. The mayor's team have indicated this funding offer may be extended beyond the first year.

11.2 The GLA has replicated the ESFA funding methodology by allocating the level of funding required for FSM for primary pupils. In 2023-24 the funding will be calculated based on the average of primary pupils taken on census days in October 2022, January 2023 and June 2023 extrapolated across the year multiplied by £2.65 per day.

11.3 Payment would be made termly in advance. To allow for upfront costs it is proposed that half of the funding would be paid in July 2023, with a further 20% in December and a further 20% in March. A balance of 10% would be held back for the final payment as set out in below:

- A balancing payment or clawback would be made before the end of the summer term 2024 based on the census day returns in October 2023 and January 2024.
- Any additional process for clawback or top up will be based on actual differences in uptake of free school meals, except where an LEA chooses not to implement the scheme after having received the advances. This is because currently the ESFA does not operate such a clawback or top-up mechanism beyond the reconciliation payment described above.

11.4 The LA will have the responsibility to passport this funding stream to maintained and primary academies. The allocation does not cover any provision for capital expenditure that may be necessary for LA's or Academy Trusts to provide this service. An assessment of the potential need for such capital investment will be made by each school to ensure the Mayor's commitment can be implemented.

Recommendation (xii): Schools forum are requested to:

(a) Note the Mayor of London's Free School Meal grant.

12. Review of Trade Union Facility time.

- 12.1 The local authority HR team have commissioned a review of trade union facility time, de-delegation rates, and contributions by academy schools. The proposal is currently being consulted with all parties.
- 12.2 The annual TU de-delegated budget were agreed by school's forum in January 2023, the table below is therefore provided for information.

Description	23/24	22/23
TU Facility Time - De-delegation	249,228	249,267
Academies Invoicing	89,032	84,637
Total Budget Available	338,260	333,904
Number on Roll	40,264	39,893
Unit Cost	8.40	8.37

Table: Annual De-delegated amount for Trade Union Facility time.

- 12.3 An amount of £273k is distributed to schools that releases staff for trade union activities across the borough. The affordability of this funding is dependent on contributions from academy schools via invoicing. The historical allocation to the 4 main trade unions is shown on the table below.

Current Trade Union Funding Distribution	
NEU	162,900.00
NASUWT	70,000.00
ASCL	20,000.00
NAHT	20,000.00
Annual Funding Required	272,900.00

Table: Annual distribution of funding for Trade Unions

- 12.4 The following table shows the proposed savings being consulted for adoption and implementation. **The preferred savings option is 15%**, which will reduce the unit rate down from £8.40 to £7.14. This will have no impact on the current funding paid to the 4 trade unions, however further savings may have to be considered in future years to reduce the unit rate below £7 and closer to the London average. This will require the trade union organisations to reduce their annual cost accordingly.

Proposed Savings						
% of Savings	Budget	Savings	Budget Available	Budget Required	+ Surplus -Deficit	Unit Rate
10% Savings	338,260	33,826	304,434	272,900	31,534	7.56
15% Savings	338,260	50,739	287,521	272,900	14,621	7.14
20% Savings	338,260	67,652	270,608	272,900	-2,292	6.72
25% Savings	338,260	84,565	253,695	272,900	-19,205	6.30
28% Savings	338,260	94,713	243,547	272,900	-29,353	6.05

Table: Proposed Savings Options of Trade Unions funding

- 12.5 Please refer to **Appendix D** for the amount each school is contributing towards facility time in LBB. All academy schools have agreed to sign an SLA agreement to contribute towards facility time, except St Vincent Primary & St Theresa Primary.
- 12.6 It is proposed that any academy school that do not wish to participate in the facility time SLA agreement will be charged a spot purchase amount equivalent of their annual contribution per case if they require the services of a trade union representative.

Recommendation (xii): Schools forum are requested to comment and:

(a) approve 15% proposed savings for 2023/24 for FT contributions.

(b) agree a spot purchase amount equivalent to the annual contribution for the academy school if they require the services of a trade union representative but has not agreed to an SLA.

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 school's 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 - LMS Reserves 2022/23

Appendix B - HN Budget for 2023/24

Appendix C - Schools Facing Financial Difficulty Fund (SFFD)

Appendix D - Trade Unions Facility Time contributions per school