



DSG FINANCIAL MONITORING REPORT PERIOD 2 2023/24

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to provide the Early Years & Schools Forum (the Forum) with a summary of the Dedicated Schools Grants (DSG) financial position for the current financial year.

Information and Advice

2. The DSG is a ring-fenced grant that is paid to Local Authorities specifically to be used in support of the schools budget. For 2023/24 NCC's total DSG is £793.073m.
3. At period 2 the DSG is forecasting a balanced budget.
4. A summary of the DSG is set out in below.

Funding Block	Budget £m	Forecast Expenditure £m	Forecast Variance £m
Schools	619.149	619.149	-
High Needs	114.414	114.414	-
Early Years	54.011	54.011	-
Central Services	5.499	5.499	-
Total	793.073	793.073	-

5. High Needs Block - Balanced Budget as at P2

The table below provides a full breakdown of the budgets within the High Needs Block. As at P2 it is very early to provide any realistic forecast based on current actuals to May 2023.

- A significant part of the increase in the high needs funding (£6.4m) was allocated in 2022/23 to independent specialist provision budget. Despite there still being an increase in demand there continues to be a backlog of EHC assessments, and the overall market of independent settings is at saturation point so there are very few places available for those that have been assessed.

Service	Budget Allocation 2023/24	Forecast Expenditure 2023/24	Variance 2023/24
	£000	£000	£000
Special School Budgets (Including Academy place funding paid directly by ESFA)	35,214	35,214	0
Special School Equipment & Therapies	850	850	0
SEND Improvement	144	144	0
Place Funding for AP, CCP and FE providers	1,222	1,222	0
Mainstream Enhanced Provision + Special School Hubs	1,276	1,276	0
Inclusion Services	4,067	4,067	0
Devolved Partnership Funding	6,608	6,608	0
Partnership Team	1,157	1,157	0
SEN Home to School Transport	1,764	1,764	0
Post 16 High Needs (outside of special schools and academies)	8,900	8,900	0
Independent Specialist Provision (EHC Plan)	26,405	26,405	0
Independent Specialist Provision (Non EHC Plan)	3,247	3,247	0
Targeted High Level Needs (HLN)	5,867	5,867	0
Additional family needs (AFN)	12,500	12,500	0
Family Network Funding (FNF)	1,503	1,503	0
Health Related Education Team	1,191	1,191	0
Physical Disability Specialist Service	528	528	0
SEND Divisional Costs	1,067	1,067	0
Contribution to Non ISB Reserve	-	-	0
Import/ Export Adjustment	250	250	0
Contingency	653	653	0
Total	114,414	114,414	0

6. Early Years Block - Balanced Budget as at P2

Subject to final confirmation from ESFA and Forum approval, the redistribute of the underspend for 2, 3 & 4 year olds for 2022/23 to the Early Years sector.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Early years and Schools Forum:

- 1) Note the contents of this report.

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