



**Nottinghamshire
County Council**

***SCHOOL & EARLY YEARS
FUNDING 2017-18:***

**CONSULTATION ON THE
LOCAL FUNDING FORMULA
FOR SCHOOLS & EARLY YEARS
PROVIDERS**

OCTOBER 2016

**Consultation period:
Half term to 18 November 2016**

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 In determining the local funding formula a local authority must engage in open and transparent consultation with all maintained schools and academies in the area as well as its schools forum including the method, principles and rules adopted. Where any proposed changes affect early years providers they too must be consulted. The local authority must submit a pro-forma detailing the new formula to the Education Funding Agency (EFA) by 20th January 2017.
- 1.2 This consultation concerns the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) – Schools and Early Years Block funding for 2017-18 and the distribution of this through the local funding formula. It is relevant to all primary and secondary maintained schools, academies and early years providers in Nottinghamshire.
- 1.3 There is widespread recognition that the current schools funding system is unfair and out of date. Whilst the DfE remain committed to addressing this, the introduction of a national funding formula - where pupils attract the same level of funding no matter where they go to school in the country - will not be addressed in the 2017-18 financial year – the start has been deferred for an additional year. The changes required to local funding arrangements from 2017-18 can, therefore, be viewed as a further period of transition to support the move to a new national formula in the future.
- 1.4 This consultation is influenced by work undertaken by the Schools Forum over the last year. Following the consultation for 2016-17 the Schools Forum created a working group to examine the Nottinghamshire formula and better understand all the elements of this. The impact of the changes to the IDACI dataset was discussed in March by the full Forum and it was understood that as the allocation to IDACI had remained constant there are Schools/ Academies in the authority have gained as well as those who had lost. The Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) gives schools protection to ensure that they cannot lose more than 1.5% on their per pupil baseline of the previous year. The ‘funding’ working group discussed possible models, and brought back their comments to the June meeting, and met again in July. As a result of the work done by this group to consider the consultation process and the 2017-18 budgets their recommendation is that no changes are made to the formula for 2017-18. Over the summer it was announced that the IDACI dataset would be changing once again, and the impact of this was modelled and shared with the Schools Forum in September. However the Forum felt that if the formula was not changed as a result of last year’s data changes, it should not be changed for 2017-18. Members are aware that we are in a period of transition and feel that stability is an important consideration as far as this is possible. The recommendation to leave the formula unchanged has been reflected in the consultation.
- 1.5 The early years block was previously funded on a per pupil basis with a varying amount for each local authority across the country. The government has acknowledged that the child care funding rates need to be increased and are in the process of reviewing the current system and a national funding formula for early years is currently out for consultation. The results of this are not yet known, but it is likely that the 2017-18 early years funding will be distributed to local authorities according to a national funding formula. The indicative figures are that Nottinghamshire will receive increased funding, but it is not clear whether this will be sufficient to maintain hourly funding at the same rates as 2016-17.
- 1.6 The consultation therefore proposes that Nottinghamshire continues to fund at 2016-17 levels with the additional amount funded from the DSG non ISB reserve if required. If there is a subsequent increase to the per pupil unit of funding through the national

funding formula, as indicated by the national consultation, this will be passed on to child care providers according to our previous agreed formula.

2. Approach to the Consultation

- 2.1 In 2016-17 the annual per pupil amount paid to early years providers was increased to £2,280 which was above the amount funded from the early years block. This increase over and above the grant funding was met from the Non ISB reserve. If the early years block is not sufficient to fund these rates it is proposed to repeat this. As the funding from the Early Years Single Funding Formula (EYSFF) is unknown, in order to keep the affordability of this arrangement under review, this will form part of the annual consultation process again.
- 2.2 Pupil Premium and funding from the High Needs block will continue to be distributed by the methods prescribed or agreed outside of the local funding formula.
- 2.3 Paragraph 3.3 outlines the requirement set by the DfE for each of the factors used in determining the early years funding formula.
- 2.4 Paragraph 4.3 outlines the requirements set by the DfE for each of the factors that may be used in determining the local schools funding formula in 2017-18. There are no changes to those requirements so the proposals set out are in-line with last year's formula though, of course, this is the opportunity for schools to voice any concerns they have about existing arrangements and to suggest further modification to the formula, within the DfE requirements.
- 2.5 **At this stage, the local authority would be unable to show exactly how making any changes would affect budgets for 2017-18 as data on changes in pupil numbers, demographics and the DSG settlement are not yet available. No changes are proposed to individual factors so the attached figures are to reflect the change in the IDACI bands based on current year data (Appendix A & B).**
- 2.6 **The figures in Appendix A & B are based on October 2015 pupil numbers and datasets provided by the DfE and 2016-17 funding levels. They therefore do not reflect the funding that will be received by a school in 2017-18 and have been provided for indicative purposes only.**
- 2.7 The consultation on these proposals will be launched during half term and be open until 18 November 2016.
- 2.8 Responses to the proposals in this consultation should be submitted by no later than Friday 18 November 2016 through Survey Monkey on the following link: [to be provided on publication](#). They will be considered at an extraordinary meeting of the Schools Forum on 8 December 2016. The formula will be recommended to the County Council's Policy Committee for approval in January 2017.
- 2.9 The local funding formula for 2017-18 will be finalised based on affordability of the 2017-18 DSG settlement and issued pupil data sets in late December 2016, for final submission to the EFA by 20 January 2017. Individual school budget allocations will be confirmed to local authority maintained schools by 20 February 2017. The EFA will confirm academy budgets during February 2017.

3. Early Years Funding Formula Consultation for 2017-18

- 3.1 The total funding for 2017-18 is likely to be affected by changes in the Early Years National Funding Formula (EYNFF) currently out for consultation. The proposal is to maintain the rates from 2016-17 (funding from the DSG non-ISB reserve if required) unless the funding allocated to Nottinghamshire allows the hourly rate to be increased, in which case the higher amount will be paid.
- 3.2 The Nottinghamshire EYSFF currently has four factors which are listed in the table below together with the criteria for each. The proposed figures in the Local Early Years Funding Formula for 2017-18 are indicated in the third column for reference.

| Factor | | 2016-17 Nottinghamshire Criteria | Proposed 2017-18 |
|--------------------------|---|--|---|
| Pupil led factors | | | |
| 1 | Base hourly rate for 2 year olds (Compulsory factor) | £5.09 per hour (includes a temporary increase of 21p agreed by the Schools Forum) | Maintain at a minimum of £5.09 per hour funded from the DSG non-ISB reserve if necessary, or more if funding allows |
| 2 | Base hourly rate for 3 - 4 year olds (Compulsory factor) | £4.00 for PVI (38 weeks per annum) £3.90 Maintained schools (39 weeks per annum) (Equivalent to £2,280 per annum for 15 hours) | Maintain at the same rates, supplemented from the DSG non-ISB reserve if necessary, or increase if funding allows |
| 3 | Deprivation (Compulsory factor) | FSM indicator £0.05 per hour | FSM indicator £0.05 per hour |
| 4 | Meal Allowance (Discretionary local factor) | £1.53 per meal for children attracting the deprivation supplement PVI providers only | Currently the EYNFF consultation document clearly states that consumables may not be funded from the Early Years block funding. If required this factor will need to be removed. Otherwise it will be unchanged |

3.3 Overview of Proposals for 2017/18

- 3.3.1 Changes will only be made to the extent that the EYNFF requires or where increased funding enables an increased hourly rate. The proposal is that (if required) the base hourly rates are supplemented in 2017-18 from the reserve to ensure a minimum rate of those paid in 2016-17. (page 5, question 3)

Question 1

Do you agree that if the government increases the per pupil funding, over and above the levels paid in 2016-17 that this is passed on to child care providers?

3.4 Base Hourly Rate for 2 Year Olds

- 3.4.1 With the agreement of Schools Forum, two year olds have been paid at £5.09 per hour up to and including this financial year but using funding from the DSG non-ISB reserve. The EYNFF consultation gives an indicative figure that funding may increase for two year olds in Nottinghamshire. However if the final rate is below £5.09, the proposal is to continue to supplement this hourly rate to £5.09 in 2017-18.**

Question 2

Do you agree that the base hourly rate for 2 year olds child care should maintained at at least £5.09 in 2017-18?

3.5 Base Hourly Rate for 3-4 Year Olds

- 3.5.1 The 2016-17 Nottinghamshire hourly rate equates to £4.00 for PVI's and £3.90 for maintained primary schools. This was funded on a temporary basis in 2016-17 only from the Schools (Non ISB) reserve. The Non ISB reserve cannot be viewed as a long term source of funding. Any increase over and above the grant funding will have to be met from the Schools Block at some point in the future. In order to keep the affordability of this arrangement under review the EYSFF will form part of the annual consultation process while this continues.**
- 3.5.2 The EYNFF consultation gives an indication that funding may increase for 3-4 year olds in Nottinghamshire.**

Question 3

Do you agree that the per pupil unit of funding for 3-4 year olds should be maintained at at least £2,280 per annum for children who do not receive a deprivation adjustment. This equates to an hourly rate of £4.00 for PVI's and £3.90 for maintained primary schools?

Question 4

If you answered yes to question 2 or 3 do you agree that any shortfall in grant funding should be funded on a temporary basis from the Schools (Non ISB) Reserve?

3.6 Deprivation

- 3.6.1 The deprivation factor is currently £0.05 per hour for those children eligible for FSM. The proposal is to continue this for 2017-18.

3.7 Meal Allowance

- 3.7.1 For children whose families met the free school meals criteria an additional £1.53 is paid if the child attended a session that spanned a lunch period to provide a meal. This is linked to the deprivation factor. This factor is not reflected in the National Funding Formula and may need to be removed for 2017-18. Otherwise the proposal is**

to leave this unchanged. This payment has been received by PVI's only.

Question 5

Do you agree with leaving the meal allowance unchanged if this is still a permitted factor within the Early Needs funding block?

3.8 Sustainability Supplement

3.8.1 Until 2016-17, this supplement was a lump sum payment for schools whose nursery/foundation unit was historically less than 20 places. A payment of £10,360 was paid to the same 19 schools with no review of their continued eligibility for this payment. This factor was removed for 2016-17 and the 19 schools affected will receive a phased reduction in 2016-17 and 2017-18. This will be the last year of payment and reflects the decision made last year.

4. Schools Block Consultation 2017-18

- 4.1 Funding within the Schools Block must be delegated to schools with the exception of any approved de-delegation for maintained schools (exception 1) or where the authority continues to provide for historic commitments or statutory functions (exceptions 2 and 3). Where funding is retained under exceptions 2 and 3, the authority is not allowed to retain more than the 2013-14 budget without the permission of the Secretary of State. Where funding was previously retained through de-delegation (exception 1), this must again be agreed with the Schools Forum for 2017-18.
- 4.2 The schools local funding formula for 2017-18 will operate with a maximum of thirteen allowable factors, as it did in 2016-17. Of the thirteen factors, three remain not applicable in Nottinghamshire – Private Finance Initiative (PFI) contracts, London Fringe and Post-16 funded through the DSG.
- 4.3 In addition to the remaining factors, it will be permitted to apply to use exceptional premises factors in the local funding formula. In 2013-14 Nottinghamshire was successful in the application to use exceptional factors for joint use arrangements and rental of premises. These approved factors can continue to be used in 2017-18 provided that the same criteria are applied. Permission for any new exceptional premises factors to be used must be applied for from the Education Funding Agency (EFA).
- 4.4 For 2017-18, of the total funding delegated to schools through the local funding formula, a minimum of 80% of this must be distributed through the locally determined combination of pupil led factors (numbered 1 to 6 in the table below). In Nottinghamshire, a total of 91.26% was allocated through the pupil led funding in 2016-17.
- 4.5 The DfE have not prescribed any constraints on the primary to secondary funding ratio for 2017-18. However, local authorities are advised to identify how they compare nationally. The national average for the primary to secondary ratio in 2016-17 was 1:1.28; in Nottinghamshire the ratio was 1:1.265.

- 4.6 The minimum funding guarantee (MFG) will continue to operate in 2017-18 at minus 1.5% per pupil. The MFG only applies to the funding received for statutory school age children and therefore excludes any early years or post 16 funding. As the protection provided by the MFG is based on per pupil funding, the MFG calculation will not include the lump sum, sparsity funding or rates.
- 4.7 The opportunity to seek approval to disapply the MFG for individual schools remains for 2017-18, but requests will only be considered if there is a significant change in a school's circumstances or pupil numbers and where inclusion of the MFG would lead to significant & inappropriate levels of protection.
- 4.8 The ability to apply a local gains cap will remain for 2017-18 to make the implications of the MFG affordable. There is no gains cap applied for 2016-17 and beyond as the cumulative gains cap of 10% over the three year period 2013-14 to 2015-16 has been achieved.
- 4.9 Following the recommendation of the Schools Forum to leave the funding formula unchanged, the proposal is that the agreed 2016-17 formula is applied. The table below shows the ten possible factors together with the guidance of how each factor must be operated and how it is applied in Nottinghamshire in the 2016-17 formula.

| 2016-17 Schools Block Funding Formula | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| Factor | | Guidance | Nottinghamshire application of the factor |
| Pupil Led Factors | | | |
| 1 | Basic per pupil entitlement - age weighted pupil unit (AWPU) (Compulsory factor) | Single unit value for primary – the value of the primary AWPU must be greater than £2,000 Single unit value for each of KS3 and KS4 – the value of the KS3 and KS4 AWPU must be greater than £3,000 | That the AWPU rates be proportionally adjusted in order to maintain the overall primary to secondary funding ratio of 1:1.265 |
| 2 | Deprivation (Compulsory factor) | Continues to be measured by free school meals (either single year or Ever6 indicators) and/or Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI). Separate unit values for primary and secondary phase are still permitted. Local authorities and Schools Forums are requested to determine an appropriate proportion of schools block funding to allocate through this factor. | That the same percentage of total funding, deprivation indicators, and weightings should be used to allocate deprivation funding as previously. |
| 3 | Prior attainment (Low Cost, High Incidence SEN) (An optional factor that Nottinghamshire chose to adopt for | Primary pupils continue to be identified by Early Years Foundation Stage Profile (EYFSP). Pupils in Years 2 to 5 will be identified by a score of less than 78 or 73 points on the old EYFSP. Pupils in Year 1 will be identified as those not achieving | That the factor continues to be included, and that we retain the current proportion of funding, and method for distributing that funding as previously |

2016-17 Schools Block Funding Formula

| Factor | | Guidance | Nottinghamshire application of the factor |
|--------|--|--|---|
| | 2015-16) | <p>a 'good' level of development.</p> <p>Secondary pupils continue to be identified by Key Stage 2 assessments, but will now be identified as achieving Level 3 or below in English OR mathematics.</p> <p>Separate unit values for primary and secondary phase are still permitted.</p> | |
| 4 | <p>Looked after children</p> <p>(An optional factor that Nottinghamshire chose to adopt for 2015-16)</p> | <p>A single unit value for both phases will remain.</p> <p>A single indicator will now be provided, covering all pupils who have been looked after for one day or more on 31 March 2015.</p> | That the factor continues to be included, and that a fixed unit value of £3,000 should continue to be used to allocate this funding |
| 5 | <p>English as an additional language (EAL)</p> <p>(An optional factor that Nottinghamshire chose to adopt for 2015-16)</p> | <p>Pupils will continue to attract funding for a maximum of three years after the pupil enters the statutory age school system.</p> <p>Separate unit values for primary and secondary phase are still permitted.</p> | That the factor is retained, and that the same percentage of total funding should be allocated through the EAL factor with a single unit value |
| 6 | <p>Pupil mobility</p> <p>(An optional factor that Nottinghamshire chose to adopt for 2015-16)</p> | <p>Pupils starting school at non-standard start dates (i.e. not August, September or January for Year R) in the last three academic years. A 10% threshold will apply to attract funding.</p> <p>Separate unit values for primary and secondary phase are still permitted.</p> | That the factor is retained and that the same percentage of total funding should be allocated through the Pupil Mobility factor as previously, with a single unit value |

| Schools Block Funding Formula | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|---|
| Factor | | Guidance | Nottinghamshire application of the factor |
| Non Pupil Led Factors | | | |
| 7 | Sparsity (an optional factor that Nottinghamshire chose not to adopt for 2015-16) | A fixed or variable amount to a maximum of £100,000 may be applied to small schools where the average distance (as the crow flies) to pupils' second nearest school is >2 miles primary >3 miles secondary To be classed as a small school, primary schools must have a maximum of 150 pupils on roll and secondary schools must have a maximum of 600 pupils on roll to qualify. | That Nottinghamshire does not adopt this factor |
| 8 | Lump sum (an optional factor that Nottinghamshire chose to adopt for 2015-16) | Lump sum value may be different for primary and secondary phase, with an upper limit of £175,000. The value used for <u>each phase</u> must be applied to all schools in that phase. Merging schools will be permitted to keep 85% of the two lump sums for the next financial year in which they merge. Local Authorities may apply for an exceptional factor to pay a further allowance in the second year after amalgamation. | That the factor is retained, with both Primary and Secondary phases receiving £100,000 per school, as previously and that Nottinghamshire does not apply for an exceptional factor for amalgamating schools |
| 9 | Split sites (an optional factor that Nottinghamshire chose to adopt for 2015-16) | The criteria used for this factor can continue to be determined locally but must clearly define what constitutes a split site and how much is paid. | That the factor be retained and that the current methodology and funding for split site schools continues subject to an annual review |
| 10 | Rates (an optional factor that Nottinghamshire chose to adopt for 2015-16) | Rates will continue to be funded at the latest estimate of cost. | That the current arrangement to pay rates centrally continues |

| Schools Block Funding Formula | | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|---|--|
| Factor | | Guidance | Nottinghamshire application of the factor |
| Exceptional Factors | | | |
| 11 | Joint Use and Rental | In 2013-14 Nottinghamshire was successful in its application to use exceptional factors for joint use arrangements and rental of premises. Approved factors can continue to be applied but any new ones must be approved by the Education Funding Agency. | That the exceptional factors for joint use and rental continue to be applied |

4.10 Overview of Proposals for 2017-18

- To use the same formula for allocating funding as in 2016-17 as recommended by the Schools Forum
- To consult on de-delegating funding in 2017-18 for maintained primary and secondary schools (page 12, question 9)

4.11 Deprivation and the treatment of the Pupil Premium

4.11.1 The DfE is clear that deprived pupils should attract additional funding and, as such, local authorities are required to have a mandatory deprivation factor within their formula to do this. There will continue to be an investment in support for deprived pupils over and above the amounts distributed through local formulae in the form of the Pupil Premium, which was expanded for 2015-16. In order to ensure that the Pupil Premium remains an additional allocation to school budget shares to support deprived pupils, the Deprivation factor remains mandatory in the local funding formula.

4.11.2 Local authorities can continue to use free school meals (FSM) data, Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) data or a combination of the two. Where FSM data is used it can either be through eligible pupils or the Ever 6 model (which counts pupils who have been entitled to a free school meal at the January census point in the last 6 years).

4.11.3 It is proposed to continue to use a combined factor with funding at the same level (3.24% of total funding) and in the same proportion as in 2016-17, being 50% of the total funding distributed through Ever-6 FSM data and 50% through IDACI data.

4.11.4 The bandings for IDACI data are set by the DfE and have been changed for 2017-18 to return the IDACI bands to a roughly similar size (in terms of the proportion of pupils in each band) as in 2015-16.

| Bands used in 2015-16 and 2016-17 | IDACI score | % pupils in each band (2015-16) | % pupils in each band (2016-17) | New bands for 2017-18 | IDACI score | % pupils in each new band (2015 October census) |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---|
| T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z |
| 6 | Between 0.60 and 1.00 | 3% | 1% | A | Between 0.50 and 1.00 | 3% |
| 5 | Between 0.50 and 0.60 | 6% | 3% | B | Between 0.40 and 0.50 | 8% |
| 4 | Between 0.40 and 0.50 | 10% | 8% | C | Between 0.35 and 0.40 | 7% |
| 3 | Between 0.30 and 0.40 | 12% | 14% | D | Between 0.30 and 0.35 | 8% |
| 2 | Between 0.25 and 0.30 | 7% | 9% | E | Between 0.25 and 0.30 | 9% |
| 1 | Between 0.20 and 0.25 | 8% | 10% | F | Between 0.20 and 0.25 | 10% |
| 0 | Less than 0.20 | 53% | 56% | G | Less than 0.20 | 56% |

4.11.5 Despite the changes to the IDACI data, as recommended by the Schools Forum we propose to apply the same weighting to the new bands as to the previous equivalent band based on the table above i.e.

| Band in 15-16 and 16-17 | New band for 17-18 |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 | F |
| 2 | E |
| 3 | D |
| 4 | C |
| 5 | B |
| 6 | A |

4.11.6 Our formula then applies deprivation as follows:-

| Percentage of Total Funding Allocated | Deprivation Indicator | Split Equally | IDACI Band | Split | 2017-18 No. of Pupils | 2017-18 Per Pupil Funding £ | 2016-17 No. of Pupils | 2016-17 Per Pupil Funding £ | 2015-16 No. of Pupils | 2015-16 Per Pupil Funding £ |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|------------|---------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 3.24% | FSM | 50% | | | | 291.85 | | 291.57 | | 290.15 |
| | IDACI | 50% | C-F | $\frac{1}{3}$ | 32,062 | 74.07 | 37,803 | 62.77 | 33,668 | 67.35 |
| | | | A-B | $\frac{2}{3}$ | 7,475 | 635.26 | 1,717 | 2,763.36 | 3,731 | 1,271.75 |

4.11.7 All other factors would also be unchanged and applied exactly as for 2016-17.

Question 6

Do you agree that the same formula should be used to allocate funding in 2017-18 as was used in 2016-17?

If you do not agree with this proposal which is recommended by the Schools Forum, please state which factor you wish to change and in what way you propose it should be changed.

4.12 Growth Fund

4.12.1 The growth fund must be agreed by the Schools Forum and is deducted from the Schools Block before calculating budget shares. In 2015-16, and 2016-17 the growth fund was set at £1.0m. This is a primary growth fund.

4.12.2 It is proposed that the primary growth fund is maintained at its 2016-17 level of £1.0m.

Question 7

Do you agree that the growth fund should continue?

Question 8

Do you agree with the proposal to maintain the growth fund at £1.0m?

4.13 De-delegation

4.13.1 The DfE continues to require that any funding that was subject to de-delegation in 2016-17 should be re-approved by schools forum if the de-delegation is to continue in 2017-18. Maintained schools in each phase will need to agree collectively, through the Schools Forum, whether to de-delegate funding to the local authority to meet certain permitted categories of expenditure centrally. The rationale for de-delegation is to achieve economies of scale and to pool risk across schools for these costs.

4.13.2 De-delegation will be an option for maintained primary and secondary schools for the following allocations in line with 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 delegation. Following the withdrawal of the ESG for 2017-18 a new de-delegation is required to fund the Moderation of teacher assessments in Primary schools if no other funding becomes available. The indicative rates for de-delegation in 2017-18 are shown in the table below with the 2016-17 rates (shown in brackets) for comparison where changed.

| | Primary per pupil de-delegation | Secondary per pupil de-delegation |
|--|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Free school meal eligibility assessment | £0.87 | £0.91 |
| Supply cover (for trade union facility time) | £1.51 | £1.64 |
| Support to underperforming ethnic minority groups and bilingual learners | £5.03 | £5.03 |
| Contingency for crisis communications | £0.90 (£0.75) | Nil |
| Moderation of teacher assessments* | £3.20 (Nil) | Nil |

*This funding will only be retained if no alternative funding is announced.

Question 9

As a representative of either a maintained primary or secondary school, do you agree to the de-delegation of the following in 2017-18:

- *Free school meals eligibility assessment?*
- *Staff costs / supply cover (trade union facility time)?*
- *Support to underperforming ethnic minority groups and bilingual learners?*
- *Contingency for crisis communications?*
- *Moderation of teacher assessments?*

4.14 Minimum Funding Guarantee

4.14.1 To minimise the impact of changes to school budgets and to allow schools time to plan for any changes in the level of funding they receive, the national minimum funding guarantee (MFG) will continue to operate at minus 1.5% per pupil in 2017-18. This is to ensure that no school loses more than 1.5% per pupil in delegated funding in comparison to the previous financial year's budget.

4.14.2 Certain items will be automatically excluded from the calculation of the MFG, as including any which could result in excessive or insufficient protection for schools. The automatic exclusions are:-

- High Needs funding for pupils with SEN
- 2016-17 lump sum
- Early years funding
- Rates
- Sparsity factor if adopted by Nottinghamshire

The cost of the MFG protection has to be funded from the overall funding available within the Schools block. As there could be significant amounts of protection required in some areas as a result of formula changes, local authorities will be able to apply a gains cap so that schools cannot gain more than a certain amount per pupil as a result of the new formula. There is no proposal to create a new gains cap for 2017-18.

4.15 High Needs Funding

4.15.1 Schools will continue to be required to fund the first £6,000 of high needs pupils. The £6,000 has been mandatory since 2014-15.

4.16 Reserve allocation

4.16.1 It is proposed that £1million of the non-*ISB* reserve is allocated to schools in 2017-18 but not via the funding formula. The current regulations state that any previous year *DSG* underspend may be allocated to schools via the funding formula but if allocated in this way it will not benefit all schools where the MFG is applicable. In order, therefore, for all schools to benefit from this allocation, it is proposed that a disapplication request is made to the Secretary of

State to allow the additional funding to be allocated on a per pupil basis outside of the funding formula.

Question 10

Do you agree that £1million of the non-ISB reserve is allocated to schools in 2017/18?

Question 11

Do you agree that a disapplication request is made to the Secretary of State to allow the additional funding to be allocated on a per pupil basis outside of the funding formula to enable all schools to benefit from this allocation?