

Proposal for the funding of the Sustainability Supplement to enable this commitment for 17-18 to be paid.

1. Purpose of the Report

To propose to the Schools Forum an approach to fund the last payment of the sustainability factor.

2. Background

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 from the Early Years block to the same 19 schools with no review of their continued eligibility for this payment. This factor was removed for 2016/17 and it was agreed that the 19 schools affected would receive a phased reduction in 2016-17 and 2017-18.

With the introduction of the Early Years National Funding Formula comes new rules about allowable factors within the formula. As sustainability is no longer an allowable factor, the final year's payment cannot be made from the 17-18 Early Years block.

As these payments were committed to in a previous year, and this is the final payment, the proposal is that this should be funded from the DSG (non ISB) reserve. Payments from the DSG reserve, other than amounts funded through the formula, require the permission of the Secretary of State.

3. Impact of changes

The total payment amounts to £65,607. The impact of this payment on the reserve is much less than would have been required under the old funding block and guidance when it was anticipated that a top up to the basic hourly rate would be required from the Schools DSG (non ISB) Reserve.

4. Recommendation

That the Schools Forum:

- note the contents of the report
- support the payment of this amount from the Schools DSG (non ISB) Reserve, subject to Secretary of State approval.

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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