

## LOCAL FUNDING FORMULA FOR SCHOOLS AND EARLY YEARS PROVIDERS – SUMMARY REPORT

**Question 5: Do you agree that Nottinghamshire should transition the local funding formula to mirror the national funding formula as far as possible for 2018-19?**

*Agree with transition*



| Option       | Total | Percent |
|--------------|-------|---------|
| Yes          | 34    | 77.27%  |
| No           | 4     | 9.09%   |
| Not sure     | 2     | 4.55%   |
| Not Answered | 4     | 9.09%   |

### Comments

- I am worried about the impact on small school budgets. We have no models as to show the impact.
- As a large Primary with increasing costs and steady pupil numbers, we need the extra funding to avoid redundancies.
- I think that we should have an interim year where we retain the LFF.
- Our opinion is that this would be a fairer distribution
- There will be too bigger jump for some schools so let them have one more year on LA formal with an understanding that it will start moving next year.
- Given the government are signalling this move it is important that the LA move to this position as soon as possible.  
This is said through gritted teeth as Kimberley School would have been better off under the LFF!
- As NFF is the governments proposed vehicle for future funding then in my opinion the LA should move to the NFF in 2018/19.
- If the NCC continue with the application of the LFF (rather than moving to NFF) then the potential is that some schools in the County will get a short term 'windfall' of additional funding which will be lost again when the full roll out of NFF comes into place. As NFF is the governments proposed vehicle for future funding then in my opinion we should be moving to this mechanism now.
- I would suggest that moving to the NFF in 2018/19 is the way forwards. If the NCC continue with the application of the LFF (rather than moving to NFF) then the potential is that some schools in the County will get a short term 'windfall' of additional funding which will be lost again when the full roll out of NFF comes into place. As NFF is the government's proposed vehicle for future funding then in my opinion we should be moving to this mechanism now. What does 'as far as possible' suggest please?
- Whilst we support the alignment of the LFF and NFF in principle, we believe the existence of minor differences between the two, for example in relation to the deprivation factor and reception uplift, make limited sense and may even serve to

complicate the allocation of funds across Nottinghamshire. For this reason, we believe the Local Authority should consider fully aligning the LFF and the NFF

**Question 6: In order to transition to the NFF the local authority may need to make a number of technical adjustments to the Education Skills and Funding Agency (ESFA) funding tool (APT). Do you agree that a disapplication request can be made to the Secretary of State to allow the local authority to make the necessary adjustments to the ESFA funding tool to enable the transition to the NFF?**

*Disapplication*



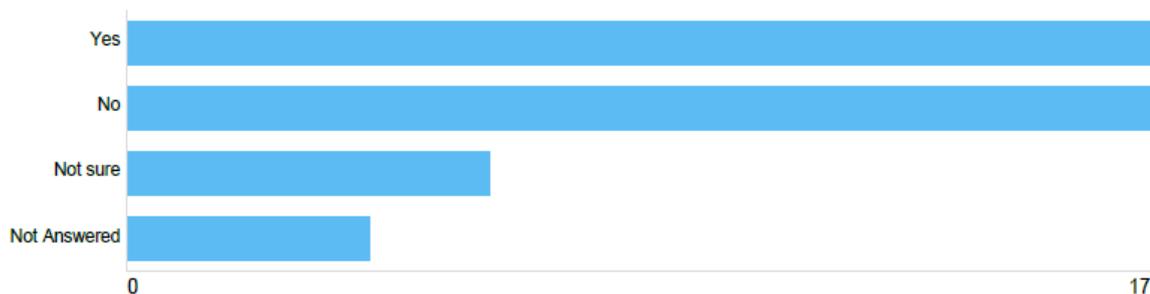
| Option       | Total | Percent |
|--------------|-------|---------|
| Yes          | 33    | 75.00%  |
| No           | 4     | 9.09%   |
| Not sure     | 3     | 6.82%   |
| Not Answered | 4     | 9.09%   |

**Comments**

- Although some transparency about what adjustments would be appreciated.
- Our opinion is that this question is too open: there is insufficient detail about what the disapplication request would comprise and what the implications would be.

**Question 7: Do you agree with the proposal to transfer 0.5% from the total schools block funding to the high needs block?**

**Transfer 0.5%**



| Option       | Total | Percent |
|--------------|-------|---------|
| Yes          | 17    | 38.64%  |
| No           | 17    | 38.64%  |
| Not sure     | 6     | 13.64%  |
| Not Answered | 4     | 9.09%   |

**Comments**

- This will be funding removed from budgets in schools and along with any other reductions could have major implications for small schools.
- The areas of funding affected should be reduced proportionately to the overall budget reduction.
- The high needs block already has a sizeable uplift in the NFF. Our opinion is that the NFF should be implemented in full. It is unclear why the high needs block in Nottinghamshire has such an apparent deficit in the new arrangement.
- We should be prioritising our most vulnerable children.
- This will give schools more known and certain funds and enable them to plan proactively.
- Schools should not be top sliced for this.
- I agree if the money will come to schools and not just pvi settings as dcatch currently does. If just to pvi then I don't agree...notes are unclear
- The transfer of 0.5% from the total schools block to the high needs block is not a long-term, sustainable solution to the identified funding issues caused by an increase for EOTAS and INM provision; therefore, the transfer is only supported for 2018/19. Alternative, sustainable and cost effective proposals should be implemented following the current review.

**Question 8: In order to transition the LFF to the NFF as far as possible, the local authority will need to set an MFG between 0% and 0.5%. If an MFG is adopted which is higher than 0% this will need to approved by the Secretary of State. Are you in agreement with this proposal?**

**MFG**



| Option       | Total | Percent |
|--------------|-------|---------|
| Yes          | 30    | 68.18%  |
| No           | 6     | 13.64%  |
| Not sure     | 4     | 9.09%   |
| Not Answered | 4     | 9.09%   |

**Comments**

- This cannot impact on schools funding.
- The NFF/ESFA recommendation is for MFG between 0 and -1.5%. If the MFG were to be set at a universal positive value, then this would severely affect implementation of the NFF. There would be too much scope for local 'tinkering' with the NFF.

Question 9: In order to transition the LFF to the NFF as far as possible, the local authority will need to adopt a gains cap of between 2.5% and 3%. Are you in agreement with this proposal?

Gains cap



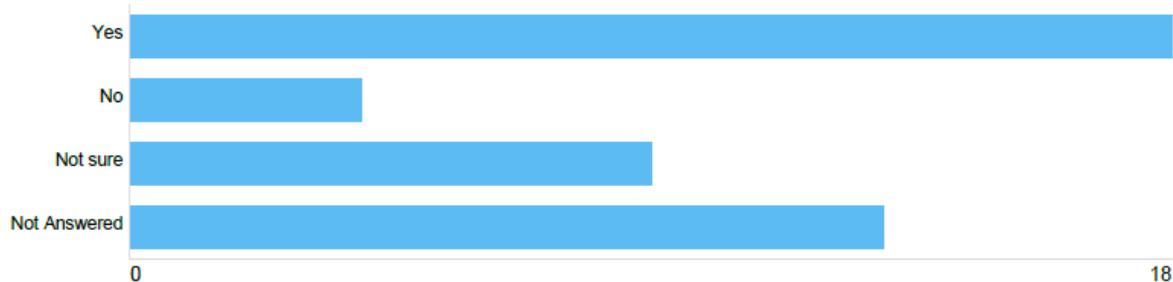
| Option       | Total | Percent |
|--------------|-------|---------|
| Yes          | 30    | 68.18%  |
| No           | 8     | 18.18%  |
| Not sure     | 2     | 4.55%   |
| Not Answered | 4     | 9.09%   |

Comments

- We should keep the gains cap as low as possible in the interim period
- The gains cap should be set at 3% as proposed by the NFF.
- I want NFF implemented as soon as possible without any gains cap because some schools have been so poorly funding for years NFF addresses this and should be implemented in full.

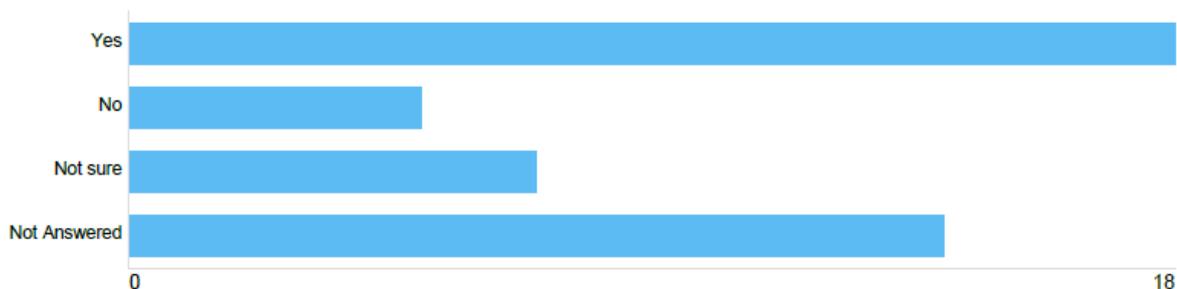
**Question 10: As a representative of either a maintained primary or secondary school, do you agree to the de-delegation of the following in 2018-19:**

**De-delegation - Free school meals eligibility assessment?**



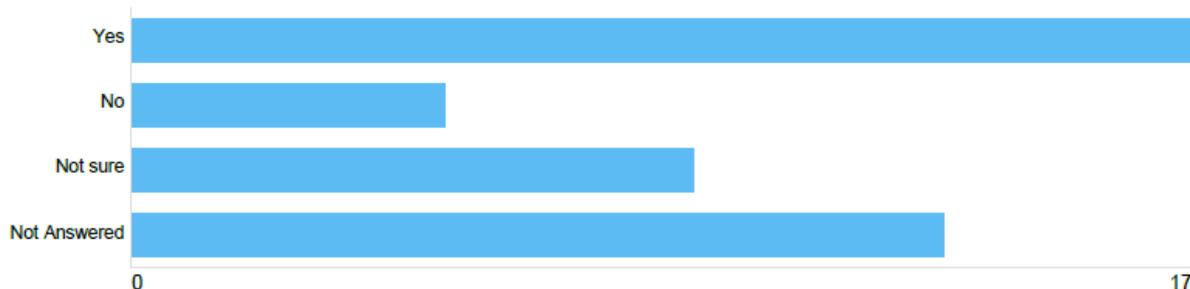
| Option       | Total | Percent |
|--------------|-------|---------|
| Yes          | 18    | 40.91%  |
| No           | 4     | 9.09%   |
| Not sure     | 9     | 20.45%  |
| Not Answered | 13    | 29.55%  |

**De-delegation - Support to underperforming ethnic minority groups and bilingual learners?**



| Option       | Total | Percent |
|--------------|-------|---------|
| Yes          | 18    | 40.91%  |
| No           | 5     | 11.36%  |
| Not sure     | 7     | 15.91%  |
| Not Answered | 14    | 31.82%  |

**De-delegation - Contingency for crisis communications?**



| Option       | Total | Percent |
|--------------|-------|---------|
| Yes          | 17    | 38.64%  |
| No           | 5     | 11.36%  |
| Not sure     | 9     | 20.45%  |
| Not Answered | 13    | 29.55%  |

**Comments -**

- It is unclear what the justification and 'value' is of de-delegating these functions.

**Question 11: Do you agree with the proposal to change the deprivation funding criteria from FSM eligibility to an allowance which would enable providers to attend monthly multi-agency meetings for a maximum of 4 hours per month?**

*Allowance*



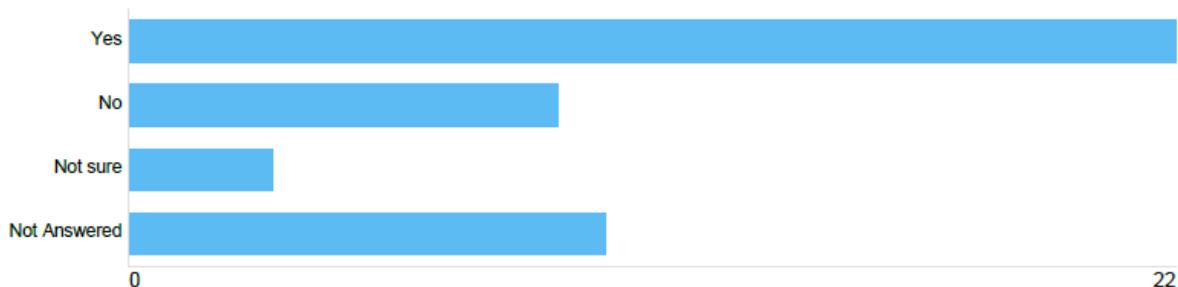
| Option       | Total | Percent |
|--------------|-------|---------|
| Yes          | 13    | 29.55%  |
| No           | 11    | 25.00%  |
| Not sure     | 10    | 22.73%  |
| Not Answered | 10    | 22.73%  |

**Comments**

- Only if this could be achieved without a cut in the current funded rates paid to providers.
- Really !! Spend the money on the children not on allowances for meetings .
- The proposed multi-agency meetings have not been justified; centralising them seems to be not cost-effective of staff time for travel.
- This extra helps the children who fall under the deprivation funding criteria have extra support and experiences. Not all of these children fall in the category of social care and attend child protection meetings. However these children/ parents need additional support, may have meetings with agencies etc but not social care. So by taking this extra away from children that are in need in some way to give to settings to attend child protection meetings will not apply to all settings. This can spoil the work that is being done by some settings with this extra if their child does not fit this criteria. settings will loose funds and then more children/parents may not be supported which could mean these families may fall into the social care criteria. this extra funding helps settings support the children in need to keep them supported working with the family.
- I understand there is many nurseries out there this will benefit due to amount of children in the setting they may be attending meetings for, however all nurseries attend meetings for children that do not fit the social care criteria and we are expected to cover the cost for these?
- Only if schools received this as well as pvi settings...do feel the money better spent on meeting needs of child in school rather than attending meetings

**Question 12: Do you agree with the proposal to reduce the hourly rate by 1p for 2, 3 and 4 year olds to create an Early Years SEN Inclusion Fund?**

*Reduce hourly rate*



| Option       | Total | Percent |
|--------------|-------|---------|
| Yes          | 22    | 50.00%  |
| No           | 9     | 20.45%  |
| Not sure     | 3     | 6.82%   |
| Not Answered | 10    | 22.73%  |

- There is not enough funding for the 15 & 30 hours funding as it is and any kind of reduction would be harmful for the future of early years providers.
- Providers are currently struggling to provide universal and extended entitlement to parents as the rate paid by the LA does not cover costs. To take a cut in the present rate would be hard for providers particularly as inflation is rising and likely to continue to do so.
- The NFF should cover this.
- This should have happened a long time ago.
- More money needed in the SEN as clearly there is a greater need and more children are being identified with SEN in early years. The solution is not to deduct/takeaway money from funding the setting already needs - the government should be supply more funding for this as there is an increase in this and with the 30hrs increase more support may be needed.

The funding we get for the delivery of the 15/30hrs does not cover costs to deliver the sessions and with the increase of wage rises set by NMW it is becoming for of a financial strain on nursery's. So we need to keep the rate we have had as this is what we are used to and we was expecting an increase per year till 2020.

All our time planning to deliver the 15/30hr funding to make sure the setting is not financially impacted due to the coasts not being covered by funding we may be having to re think the delivery of this again if funding is going to be reduced.

**Question 13: Please add any additional comments you have regarding the consultation below:**

- I am not sure that the background information provided by the LA would be easily understood by some providers - I would probably not have completed this survey had I not attended a LA Network Meeting where it was explained. I would question too whether the consultation should be emailed directly to all early years providers whether they are currently in receipt of funding or not as it may affect them in the future.
- None
- As a Headteacher I am fully in support of any changes that will directly relate to the welfare of children - I do not feel able to support issues that relate to administrative roles - these are not for schools to do.
- Consultation completed
- Regrettably due to the lack of a full understanding of the NFF, it is difficult to offer fully informed responses to the consultation as there is not enough information to ascertain the impact. Clearly all schools will wish to protect and improve their level of funding to offset the previously unfunded impacts to school budgets. NI and Pension increases.
- Thank you for this opportunity to give our opinion as a Governing Board.
- None
- The main concern here is that the 2017/18 funding will not equal our GAG allocation. This will have serious implications.
- The 2017/18 funding values for the academies within our Trust are not accurate.
- As budgets are so tight I feel that the NFF would stand our school in a better position financially.
- We are the only school in our locality that is set to lose funding if the LFF is introduced. We have a high number of pupils who have individual education needs that are managed by our school staff without SEN funding being received.  
I strongly object to the introduction of the LFF as the NFF is more favourable to us
- It would have been helpful to have attended briefings on this to further clarify some headings