

CENTRAL SCHOOL SERVICES BLOCK FUNDING 2019-20

Purpose of the Report

1. To seek Schools Forum approval to centrally retain funding within the Central School Services Block and High Needs Block of the 2019-20 Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG).
2. To transfer £244,000 of unallocated funding to the High Needs Block.

Information and Advice

3. The local authority is required to seek approval from the Schools Forum to centrally retain funding within the Central School Services Block of the DSG. Attached at **Appendix A** to this report is a list of the central budgets the Authority is seeking approval to retain.
4. These centrally retained budgets are contained within the Central School Services block and total £6.768m with £1.764m from the High Needs Block.
5. The funding allocation is a combination of historic spend and formula using a per pupil amount. The formula element has resulted in an additional £114,000 being received for 2019-20.
6. The value of some of the budgets are restricted to their 2012-13 limit and no new commitments are allowed. The CSSB funding allocation for these is £3.7m and it is the intention of the Education Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) to start to reduce this funding from 2020-21. No further details have been provided on this yet.
7. The total unallocated funding is £244,000 and it is proposed that this is transferred to the High Needs Block in view of its significant budget pressures. Transfers between the Central School Services Block and the High Needs block are not subject to any limit and can be made in consultation with the Schools Forum.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Schools Forum:

- 1) Approve the Authority's application to centrally retain funding within the Central School Services Block for the services set out at **Appendix A**.
- 2) Approve the transfer of £244k to the High Needs Block.

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2019-20 Central School Services Block

Service	Note	Schools Forum	2018/19 £000	2019/20 £000	Description of Services
Contribution to combined budgets	1	Agreement	2,101	2,101	1. Psychology service 2. Boarding element of LAC placements in INMSS 3. Joint use agreements in academies
Termination of Employment Costs	1	Agreement	1,000	1,000	Ongoing pension enhancement costs
Capital expenditure from revenue	1	Agreement	-	-	
Admissions		Agreement	1,106	1,106	Staffing and running costs
Schools Forum		Agreement	12	12	Direct costs and Clerk
Responsibilities of LA for all schools	2	Agreement	1,712	1,712	1. Asset Management 2. Education Welfare 3. Strategy, Finance and Information
Central licences negotiated by the Secretary of State		For information	570	593	Copyright Licences
SEN Transport	1	Agreement	1,764	1,764	Funded from the High Needs Block
Transfer to the Schools Block	3	Agreement	153		Unallocated funding
Transfer to the High Needs Block				244	
Total Funding Allocation			8,418	8,532	

Note

1. The budget cannot exceed the value agreed in the previous funding period and no new commitments can be entered into.
2. Former retained element of the Education Services Grant
3. Movements from the central school services block to the schools block, or from the high needs block to any other block are not subject to any limit, and can be made in consultation with the schools forum.