

CENTRAL SCHOOL SERVICES BLOCK FUNDING 2021-22

Purpose of the Report

1. To seek Early Years & Schools Forum (the Forum) approval to centrally retain funding within the Central School Services Block of the 2021-22 Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG).

Information and Advice

2. The local authority is required to seek approval from the Forum to centrally retain funding within the Central School Services Block (CSSB) of the DSG. Attached at **Appendix A** to this report is a list of the central budgets the Authority is seeking approval to retain.
3. The funding allocation is a combination of historic spend and formula using a per pupil amount for ongoing responsibilities. Those budgets which form part of the historic commitments are restricted to their 2012-13 limit and no new commitments are allowed.
4. At the June 2020 meeting the Forum were informed that the ESFA had reduced the funding for historic commitments by 20% for 2020-21 and intended to do so for 2021-22 and that the local authority were undertaking further work to consider how this and future reductions could be addressed. This work has been undertaken and the budgets/services in scope reviewed to ensure that they can be contained within the reduced funding allocation. For 2021-22 the following adjustments have been made:
 - £575,000 recharged to the HNB for the education element of LAC placements in independent residential special schools which is eligible expenditure for that block.
 - £114,000 contribution from the local authority budget towards the Psychology Service which protects that service from any reduction.
5. There was a small balance of unallocated funding for ongoing responsibilities of £12,000 which has been added to the Admissions budget for inflationary pressures, this budget has not been increased since 2017-18.
6. There is a new commitment for 2021-22 for additional employers pension funding claimed by the local authority for centrally employed teachers which has been rolled into the ongoing responsibilities element of the CSSB.

RECOMMENDATION

That the 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**.

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2021-22 Centrally Held Funding

Service	Note	Schools Forum	2020/21 £000	2021/22 £000	Description of Services
Contribution to combined budgets	1	Agreement	1,891	1,202	1. Psychology service 2. Joint Use agreements in academies
Termination of Employment Costs	1	Agreement	1,000	1,000	Ongoing pension enhancement costs
Admissions		Agreement	1,106	1,118	Staffing and running costs
Schools Forum		Agreement	3	3	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	609	626	Copyright Licences
Teachers Pension Employer Contributions Centrally Employed Staff		For information		194	Early Years Specialist Teachers, Inclusion Service, Partnership Team & Clayfields Secure Children's Home
SEN Transport			1,764	1,764	Funded from the High Needs Block
Annual Budget			8,085	7,619	
Funded by:					
CSSB funding allocation			6,036	5,855	
HNB funding allocation			1,764	1,764	
Non ISB Reserve			285	-	
Total Funding			8,085	7,619	

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