

Report To:	SCHOOLS FORUM
Date:	18 October 2016
Reporting Officer:	Ian Duncan – Assistant Executive Director - Finance Bob Berry – Assistant Executive Director - Learning
Subject:	COUNCIL MANAGED DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT MONITORING UPDATE 2016/17
Report Summary:	A report on the centrally managed Dedicated Schools Grant for 2016/17.
Recommendations:	Members of the Schools Forum are requested to note the contents of the report.
Links to Community Strategy:	Effectively calculated and targeted resources will improve access to a high quality education experience for all our children.
Policy Implications:	In line with current policy
Financial Implications: (Authorised by the section 151 officer)	The Dedicated Schools Grant is a ring fenced grant solely for the purposes of schools and pupil related expenditure.
Legal Implications: (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)	There is a statutory duty to use resources efficiently and effectively against priorities.
Risk Management:	The correct accounting treatment of the Dedicated Schools Grant is a condition of the grant and procedures exist in budget monitoring and the closure of accounts to ensure that this is achieved. These will be subject to regular review.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

NON-CONFIDENTIAL

This report does not contain information which warrants its consideration in the absence of the Press or members of the public.

Background Papers

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting Stephen Wilde – Head of Resource Management, Resource Management, Governance and Resources by :



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1. BACKGROUND AND INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 For 2015/16 the Secondary sector chose not to de-delegate any funding for central services, whereas the Primary Sector voted to continue de-delegation for the same services as in 2013/14 and 2014/15. For 2016/17 the Secondary sector chose to only de-delegate funding for the Trade Union Support service, whereas the Primary Sector voted to continue de-delegation for both the Trade Union Support and Contingency services. For De-delegated Services the Council is able to automatically recover the funding from Maintained Schools, but invoices have to be issued to recover the equivalent funding from Academies. For Buy Back services the Council internally recharges Maintained Schools, but invoices have to be issued to recover the equivalent funding from Academies.

De-delegated Services Maintained Primary Sector 2015/16

- Behaviour for Learning and Inclusion Service (BLIS)
- Equality, Multiculturalism and Access Team (EMAT)
- Trade Union Support
- Primary Schools Contingency

De-delegated Services Maintained Secondary Sector 2015/16

- None

De-delegated Services Maintained Primary Sector 2016/17

- Trade Union Support
- Primary Schools Contingency

De-delegated Services Maintained Secondary Sector 2016/17

- Trade Union Support

- 1.2 The Council also manages DSG funding to support the following

- Schools Admissions service
- Schools Forum support costs
- BSF Affordability contributions – until the affordability review is completed
- High Needs services other than Special Schools and Primary MLD Units
- Early Years funding being delegated to Private, Voluntary and Independent Providers

- 1.3 This report provides details of the financial monitoring position for the 2016/17 financial year for these services at the end of September 2016 in Section 2 and **Appendix A**.

2. COUNCIL MANAGED DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT BUDGET MONITORING 2016/17 AT THE END OF SEPTEMBER 2016

- 2.1 **Appendix A** provides the financial monitoring position for 2016/17 at the end of September 2016 for the Council services described in Section 1, the Centrally Managed High Needs services and the Early Years funding that is delegated to Private, Voluntary and Independent Providers.

- 2.2 The services are split into 5 sections on **Appendix A** and the first group is De-delegated Services. The projected under recovery of income in relation to the Behaviour for Learning and Inclusion Service, (BLIS), has reduced to £33,433 compared to £184,002 on the last

report to Schools Forum. This is due to a combination of staff from the service being redeployed to other teams, a slight increase in buy back from Schools and the use of the unspent budget from 2015/16. The Equality, Multiculturalism and Access Team (EMAT) is projected to have increased costs of £45,510 compared to the funding available to the service. This projection has changed from the last report to Forum due to staff being redeployed from other services to support the team.

- 2.3 The second group of service - Previously Centrally Retained - on Appendix A includes an under spend of £98,049 against School Improvement Fund (formerly Schools Causing Concern) brought forward from 2015/16 which has been added to the budget. The only significant variation in projected costs here is that the contribution towards the Local Safeguarding Childrens Board has been reduced by £4,446 to reflect updated confirmed School contributions. Only one Tameside School has objected to making the contribution requested.
- 2.4 The services on the third section of **Appendix A** called Centrally Retained Services are all projected to spend at the budgeted level.
- 2.5 The fourth section of **Appendix A** provides a summary of the Centrally Retained High Needs Services. The Pupil Referral Service (PRS) has current projected costs of £141,773 in excess of the budget. It should be noted that this is based on a conservative estimate of income from permanent exclusions that would increase from the current budgeted value if exclusions increase to the same level as in 2015/16 during the Autumn and Spring terms. From 2016/17 onwards as with other Schools across Tameside the Pupil Referral Service will be required to produce a deficit recovery plan if they do operate at a deficit this year. There are variations in the projected outturn financial position of a number of the other services, but when the Pupil Referral Service is removed from this calculation (for the reasons described above) the overall costs are expected to reduce by £35,917.
- 2.6 The final section of **Appendix A** relates to Early Years funding for Private, Voluntary and Independent Nurseries. The DFE have increased the budgets for these areas since the June report to Schools Forum and this is reflected in the **Appendix A** values. The budget for 2 year old places is based on the DFE allocation of funding, but the Council expects to spend £433,894 more than this budget based on local projections of cost. This shortfall in current DSG will be retrospectively funded once the actual take up of places is confirmed. Similarly the projected increase in costs of £275,683 compared to the DFE allocation of funding for 3 and 4 year old places is also expected to be retrospectively funded once the actual take up of places is confirmed.

3. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 As stated on the report cover.