

<b>Report To:</b>	<b>SCHOOLS FORUM</b>
<b>Date:</b>	11 July 2017
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Bob Berry – Assistant Executive Director - Learning.  Ian Duncan – Assistant Executive Director - Finance.
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>COUNCIL MANAGED DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT MONITORING UPDATE 2016/17</b>
<b>Report Summary:</b>	A report on the centrally managed Dedicated Schools Grant for 2016/17.
<b>Recommendations:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Members of the Schools Forum are requested to note the contents of the report.</li> <li>2. Primary School members are required to vote on the proposal to allocate the unspent Contingency budget for 2016/17 totalling £124,852 pro rata the original contribution made by each School.</li> <li>3. Primary &amp; Secondary School members are required to vote on the proposal to allocate the unspent 2016/17 funding totalling £12,873 pro rata the original contribution made by each School for the Trade Union Support service.</li> <li>4. Members of the Schools Forum are requested to vote on the proposal to use the unspent 2016/17 funding from centrally retained Services of £4,860 to support the equivalent budget in 2017/18.</li> </ol>
<b>Links to Community Strategy:</b>	Effectively calculated and targeted resources will improve access to a high quality education experience for all our children.
<b>Policy Implications:</b>	In line with financial and policy framework.
<b>Financial Implications:</b> (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.
<b>Legal Implications:</b> (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)	There is a statutory duty to use resources efficiently and effectively against priorities.
<b>Risk Management:</b>	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 – Finance Business Partner, Financial Management, Governance, Resources and Pensions by :



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## 1. BACKGROUND AND INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The decision made by the Primary and Secondary sectors on de-delegation of services is set out below. For de-delegated Services the Council is able to recover the funding from Maintained Schools automatically, whereas 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 March 2017 in Section 2 and **Appendix A**.

## 2. COUNCIL MANAGED DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT BUDGET MONITORING 2016/17 AT THE END OF MARCH 2017

- 2.1 **Appendix A** provides the financial monitoring position for 2016/17 at the end of March 2017 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. **Appendix B** provides a brief description of the services supported by these budgets.

- 2.2 The services are split into 5 sections on **Appendix A**, the first group being De-delegated Services. The Contingency and Trade Union Support Services have a collective unspent budget total of £137,725 at year end. Schools Forum must determine how the unspent budget against each of these de-delegated budget areas is used in the next financial year. **Appendix A** contains recommendations to allocate the unspent funding pro rata the

original contribution made by each School for the Contingency and Trade Union Support services. The Schools Forum vote on the Contingency unspent budget will need to be taken only by the Primary sector as they de-delegated these service costs. **Appendix A** also shows a shortfall in income in relation to the Behaviour for Learning and Inclusion Service (BLIS) and the Equality, Multiculturalism and Access Team. These services are in the process of being reviewed and the shortfall in income will be addressed in 2017/18.

- 2.3 The second group of services, shown as Previously Centrally Retained on **Appendix A**, has £77,848 of unspent budget at the year end which relates to the School Improvement Fund (formerly Schools Causing Concern). This funding will be carried forward to 2017/18 as colleagues in the School Performance & Standards Unit have identified commitments for this funding.
- 2.4 The third section of **Appendix A** called Centrally Retained Services has unspent funding of £4,860 which relates to the Schools Forum budget. It is recommended that this funding is used to support the equivalent budget in 2017/18.
- 2.5 The fourth section of **Appendix A** provides a summary of the Centrally Retained High Needs Services. This is the group of services with the greater level of variation in costs which has resulted in a net reduction of costs of £267,839 (excluding the Pupil Referral Service outturn position). The unspent funding will be carried forward to 2017/18 whilst a final review of the 2016/17 academic year costs for Post 16 Provision is completed. As explained in **Appendix A**, the Pupil Referral Service is required to produce a deficit recovery plan for the reported deficit of £88,332.
- 2.6 The final section of **Appendix A** relates to Early Years funding for Private, Voluntary and Independent Nurseries. The budget for 2 year old places reflects the DFE funding provided to the Council, but the Council expects to spend £91,899 more than this budget based on local projections of cost. This shortfall in current DSG will be retrospectively funded by the DFE once the actual take up of places is confirmed. The projected reduction in costs of £228,572 compared to the latest DFE allocation of funding for 3 and 4 year old places is also expected to be retrospectively adjusted by the DFE once the actual take up of places is confirmed.

### **3. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 As stated on the report cover.