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SCHOOLS' FORUM

Day: Tuesday
Date: 12 February 2019
Time: 10.00 am
Place: Discovery Academy, Porlock Avenue, Hyde

Item No.	AGENDA	Page No
1.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
2.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST To receive any declarations of interest from Members of the Board.	
3.	MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING To consider the minutes of the meeting of the Schools' Forum held on 18 December 2018.	1 - 4
4.	DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT BUDGET UPDATE 2018/19 To consider the attached report of the Director of Finance.	5 - 10
5.	DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT (DSG) FUNDING FORMULA 2019/20 To consider the attached report of the Assistant Director (Finance) and the Assistant Director (Education).	11 - 28
6.	SCHOOLS FORUM FORWARD PLAN 2019/20 To consider the attached report of the Assistant Director (Finance) and the Assistant Director (Education).	29 - 32
7.	DATE OF NEXT MEETING To note that the next meeting of the Forum be held on 25 June 2019.	

From: Democratic Services Unit – any further information may be obtained from the reporting officer or from Carolyn Eaton, Senior Democratic Services Officer, 0161 342 3050 or carolyn.eaton@tameside.gov.uk, to whom any apologies for absence should be notified.

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SCHOOLS FORUM

18 December 2018

Commenced: 10.00am

Terminated: 11.35am

Present:	Karen Burns (Chair)	Primary Schools – Academies
	Maire Wright	Primary Schools – L/A Maintained
	Lisa Lockett	Primary Schools – L/A Maintained
	Lisa Gallagher	Primary Schools – L/A Maintained
	Andy Card	Primary Schools – LA/ Maintained
	Simon Wright	Primary Schools - Academies
	Heather Farrell	Primary Schools - Academies
	Susan Marsh	Governor, Primary Schools – L/A Maintained
	Anthony McDermott	Governor, Primary Schools – LA Maintained
	Donal Townson	Governor, Primary Schools – L/A Maintained
	Elizabeth Jones	Governor, Secondary Schools – L/A Maintained
	Richard O'Regan	Secondary Schools – L/A Maintained
	Gill McFadden	Secondary Schools - Academies
	Elaine Horridge	Diocesan Representative
	Alison Hampson	TCC
	Councillor Feeley	Executive Member, Lifelong Learning
	Tim Bowman	Assistant Director, Learning
	Christine Mullins	Finance Business Partner
	Louisa Siddall	Senior Accountant
	Wendy Lees	Senior Finance Officer

Apologies for absence: Councillor Fairfoull

Executive Member, Performance and Finance

10. CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, in particular, new Governor representative; Donal Townson.

11. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Forum held on 23 October 2018, having been circulated, were approved as a correct record:

12. SCHOOLS FORUM TERMS OF REFERENCE, PRINCIPLES AND CONSTITUTION

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Governance and Pensions, giving details of the updated Terms of Reference for Schools' Forum, which included the guiding principles and constitution of the Forum. It was explained that these documents had been updated to reflect the Department for Education guidance for Schools' Forum published in September 2018.

RESOLVED

That the Terms of Reference for Schools' Forum, including the guiding principles and constitution of the Forum with the following amendments:

- (i) **That the first sentence of the 'Schools Members' section read: 'Members should be Heads, Governors or Bursars'; and**

- (ii) That the fourth paragraph under '*Meetings and Proceedings of the Schools Forum*' read as follows: 'A Chair and Vice Chair shall be elected annually from those members present at the first meeting of the academic year; the term of office being one year. Any elected member of officer of the authority cannot stand as Chair'.

13. SCHOOLS BLOCK 2019/2020 FUNDING FORMULA

The Assistant Director Finance submitted a report giving details of the outcome of the School funding 2019/2020 Consultation and the principles to be applied for the allocation of the schools block for 2019/2020.

It was explained that, throughout November 2018, consultation had taken place in a number of ways with schools and schools leaders.

Local Authority Officers met with the School Funding Group to discuss in detail proposals for the 2019/2020 funding formula. This included a review of the impact for primary schools on a move to National Funding Formula and the introduction of an Area Cost Adjustment for secondary schools, as this would form the basis of the 2019/2020 consultation. The Group requested that a presentation would be beneficial to all Head teachers, a secondary sector representative fed back to TASH and Local Authority officers presented an overview of the impact at the Primary Head teachers briefing and separately to the Special Sector with the opportunity for questions on both occasions. The consultation documents provided opportunity for schools to contact the finance team for any queries or further clarification as required. A very small number of schools had contacted officers for further information.

The overall response rate to the consultation was low, with only 12 schools responding (12%). The consultation questions, outcome and conclusions were included in an appendix to the report.

Further to the response received and the conclusions drawn, the Local Authority was planning to move to the National Funding Formula rates as detailed in the report. It was further explained that two sets of rates had been included as the funding formula must be affordable within the final allocation issued by the DfE in late December 2018. Therefore, the implementation of the Area Cost Adjustment would need to be assessed to ensure affordability.

In moving to the National Funding Formula rates, the Local Authority also planned to remove the reception difference and move to using the EAL data set when calculating the funding. The funding factor for IDACI F and FSM6 would also be included in the funding formula for the Primary sector.

The Local Authority would seek to implement a 0% MFG and a 2.5% Gains Cap in line with the modelling information released in the consultation, dependent on affordability. The Local Authority would need to assess this to ensure the overall budget balances within the final allocation from DfE and would look to balance the overall budget in a way that provided maximum benefit to all schools.

As a result of the consultation outcome, the Local Authority were seeking agreement to continue with the existing criteria for growth funding for 2019/2020, details of which were appended to the report. Further consideration needed to be given to the most appropriate way to fund growth going forward and the Local Authority planned to continue consultation on this area of funding.

Forum members commented on the consultation process and officers answered specific points in relation to this.

In response to queries with regard to the existing criteria for the growth fund, officers clarified that agreement was sought for points 1, 2 and 3 of Tameside's Existing Growth Fund criteria 2018/19. as detailed at Appendix B to the report. It was further noted that the two paragraphs in Appendix B

under 'Suggested New Growth Criteria from 2019/2020' had been added in error and should be ignored.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the content of the report be noted and the consultation process, as detailed in the report, be supported; and**
- (ii) That the criteria for the growth fund, as set out in Points 1, 2, and 3 of Appendix B to the report, be agreed.**

14. COMMISSIONED PLACES 2019/2020

A report was submitted by the Assistant Director of Education, informing Forum members on the Local Authorities Commissioning intentions for High Needs Places for 2019/2020 in Special Schools and Resourced Units.

It was explained that initial meetings had taken place with special schools leaders and a number of proposals around funding in year growth and addressing under and overcapacity in year. Feedback on the proposals and any subsequent changes to funding would be implemented in September 2019.

There were no changes since the October Forum meeting on budget position with current projected overspend of £1.072 million by the end of 2018/19. A further update would be made following real time movement exercise which was due to be completed by end of December 2018.

The school funding consultation proposes that no block transfer movements to the High Needs block be made in 2019/2020.

Commissioning discussions regarding the number of places to be commissioned in special schools, resourced units and Further Education Institutions from September 2019 were taking place with the relevant providers.

For academies and colleges, the places commissioned were submitted to the DfE on the 16 November 2018 and final places with other providers would be confirmed by the end of December 2018 in preparation for release of 2019/20 budgets in February 2019.

Further details on commissioned places by individual school was provided in the report.

It was further explained that a review of the places commissioned at Schools Based Resource Units had also been carried out and further details of commissioned places for 2018/19 alongside the proposed commissioned places was also provided in the report.

It was reported that, overall, the commissioning of Resourced Units at September 2019 would see a reduction in place funding allocated of £60,000 on a full financial year.

In respect of Further Education Institutions, there was no suggested change to the place numbers to these institutions in Tameside.

The next area under review in the High Needs block was the funding for in-year growth of places in the Special School Sector.

It was acknowledged that commissioning places in October/November for the following September was often a difficult task and good planning and early commissioning discussions were essential. There would be situations where not all growth had been commissioned, and conversely, there may be occasions where places were unfilled.

Whilst there should be processes in place to support schools seeing growth beyond commissioned numbers there should also be acknowledgement that not all growth would warrant additional funding but resources should target need.

Discussions had started in respect of a number of potential growth models with the Special School Heads and Business Managers. This was to consider which was the most appropriate model to be adopted going forward, to achieve a balanced approach of funding as described in the report. The outcome of any of these decisions would be fed back to Schools Forum at a later date.

Discussion ensued with regard to the content of the report and in particular the unprecedented growth of pupil numbers in Tameside schools and the increased level of specialist provision required in the Borough.

RESOLVED



That the content of the report be noted, including the review of the funding of overcapacity of places in the Special School sector and the outcome of the review, be reported to a future meeting of the Schools' Forum.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED

To note the date of the next meeting of the Schools Forum as Tuesday 12 February 2019 at 10.00am, Discovery Academy, Porlock Avenue, Hyde.

Agenda Item 4

Report To:	SCHOOLS' FORUM
Date:	12 February 2019
Reporting Officer:	Tom Wilkinson, Assistant Director Finance Tim Bowman, Assistant Director, Education
Subject:	DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT BUDGET UPDATE 2018/19
Report Summary:	A report on the Dedicated Schools Grant budget position for the 2018/19 financial year.
Recommendations:	Members of the Schools Forum are requested to note the contents of the report.
Corporate Plan:	Effectively calculated and targeted resources will improve access to a high quality education experience for all our children.
Policy Implications:	In line with financial and policy framework.
Financial Implications: (Authorised by the statutory Section 151 Officer & Chief Finance 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 Information:	The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting  Telephone: 0161 345 3216  e-mail: christine.mullins@tameside.gov.uk

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 This report is presented to provide an update on the DSG budget for 2018/19. The report sets out:

- A budget update for the DSG for 2018/19 (Section 2)
- A high needs funding update for 2018/19 (Section 3)
- An early years funding update for 2018/19 (Section 4)
- Known pressures and commitments for 2018/19 and beyond (Section 5)

2. DSG BUDGET SUMMARY UPDATE FOR 2018/19

2.1 The updated DSG settlement for 2018/19 was received in December 2018. The updated allocations include Additional Pressures funding of £0.517m for High Needs as announced by Secretary of State, Damien Hinds on 16 December 2018. The updated DSG settlement for 2018/19 and projected distribution/spend is included in table 1.

TABLE 1

DSG Funding Blocks	Current DSG Settlement 2018/19 £000	Projected Distribution / Spend 2018/19 £000	Variation Surplus / (Deficit) £000
Schools Block	159,018	159,089	(70)
Central School Services Block	897	897	0
High Needs Block (Pre/Post 16)	19,841	21,002	(1,161)
Early Years Block	16,267	15,861	407
Total	196,024	196,848	(824)

2.2 The projected deficit on the schools block relates to diseconomies funding of £0.153m (this will be funded from the reserve as previously agreed) and £0.056m of business rates adjustments due to the actual charges being higher than estimated. This is partly offset by a small surplus on growth funding of £0.013m and business rate relief from academy conversions and prior year adjustments of £0.125m.

2.3 The central school services block (CSSB) allocation includes the funding for the Admissions Service, Schools Forum and Licences as well as the centrally retained services (formerly supported by the Education Services Grant).

2.4 The centrally retained service allocation is supporting a proportion of the statutory costs of: the Director of Children's Services; the Assistant Director of Education; Planning for Schools; Asset Management; Health and Safety; SACRE; Education Welfare, Appeals and statutory functions carried out by Finance and Internal Audit.

2.5 The projected deficit on the high needs block is £1.161m. An update for High Needs is included in Section 3 of this report.

2.6 The projected surplus on the early years block is £0.407m. An update for early years is included in section 4 of this report.

2.7 As agreed in February 2018, maintained schools in the primary and secondary sectors agreed to de-delegation for the Trade Union Support Service. The de-delegation amount from maintained schools is £0.150m. Income from academies is £0.052m. At present the

projected actual spend against this income is £0.205m. The spend will continue to be monitored and the outturn position reported at Schools Forum in June 2019.

3. HIGH NEEDS FUNDING UPDATE FOR 2018/19

- 3.1 On 16 December 2018, the Secretary of State for Education, Damian Hinds announced £250m of funding across 2 financial years 2018/19 and 2019/20 to address the national pressure on High Needs spending and in response to representations made by Local Government and Schools. Tameside have been allocated an additional £0.517m both in 2018/19 and 2019/20 which will partly offset the projected deficit on this budget.
- 3.2 The budget has been updated to include the additional funding and the revised forecast for year-end is an approximate deficit of £1.161m (original deficit was £1.072m in December 18) the breakdown of which is shown in table 2 below. However there is still some work ongoing to verify the Independent and Post 16 spend, as well as completing the real time exercise for the Spring Term which could impact on the final outturn figure.

TABLE 2

High Needs Block 2018/19	Expenditure/ (Income) £000
DSG Settlement 2018/19	(19,841)
Special Schools & Pupil Referral Unit	12,328
Resourced Provision	371
EHCP's in Mainstream	1,451
SEN Support Services (Council Run Services)	1,806
Independent, Non Maintained Special Schools (NMSS) & Out of Borough Placements	2,181
Post 16	3,074
Hospital Education Placements	57
Less Income from Out Of Borough Placements	(266)
Budget Requirement	21,002
Projected Deficit at end of 2018/19	1,161

- 3.3 As previously reported the forum the High Needs block is under significant pressure arising from a number of areas;
- the increasing high needs population such as special school places and resourced provision and
 - Increase Education Health Care Plans being issued...
 - Increases in the number of Post 16 placements requiring top up funding and
 - Increased spending in supporting Tameside children in the Independent Sector or Out of Borough placements.
- 3.4 The funding pressures we are facing in Tameside are being replicated in local authorities across the country. As discussed previously we will be looking at ways to manage these pressures whilst continuing to support those children most in need, this will require us to think differently about our practice, provision and places we commission.
- 3.5 Our commissioning intentions review is underway. The LA has commissioned dedicated resource to deliver this work. We will engage the School Funding Group fully in its development. Timescales for the report are on track and a draft will be with partners for discussion early in Summer Term. The self-evaluation of SEND services is completed and

has reported to the SEND Strategic Board and was discussed with Ofsted in the LA's Annual Conversation.

4. EARLY YEARS

- 4.1 Table 3 provides an update on the Early Years allocations of the funding compared with projected distribution / spend against the grant. The projections are based on estimates for uptake and will continue to be updated throughout the financial year.

TABLE 3

Early Years Funding Block	Early Years DSG Allocation 2018/19 £000	Projected Distribution / Spend 2018/19 at Jan 2019 £000	Projected Outturn Surplus / (Deficit) £000
Early Years for 3 and 4 Year Olds Universal and Extended Entitlement (including contingency)	12,899	12,385	514
Early Years for 2 Year Olds	2,714	2,817	(103)
Early Years Pupil Premium	124	156	(32)
Early Years Disability Access Fund	51	23	28
Early Years Centrally Retained Expenditure (3 & 4 Year Olds)	271	271	0
Early Years Centrally Retained Expenditure (2 Year Olds)	58	58	0
SEN Inclusion Fund	150	150	0
Total	16,267	15,861	407

- 4.2 As in previous years, the final allocation of Early Years funding will not be announced until June 2019. Therefore, any projected surplus may be recouped by the DfE.
- 4.3 The DfE expect authorities to spend any DAF funding not paid to providers in 2018/19 on services that are in line with the principles and aims of DAF. Local authority officers will discuss how this can be spent in line with the DfE statement, across the early year's sector.
- 4.4 Local authority officers plan to discuss the remaining surplus for 2017/18 which was detailed in the October 2018 Schools Forum at the Schools Funding Group as to what the approach for the surplus will be.

5. KNOWN PRESSURES AND COMMITMENTS FOR 2018/19 AND BEYOND

- 5.1 The known commitments and projected pressures on the DSG are included in table 4 below. Ongoing monitoring will continue to review the position of the reserve.

TABLE 4

	Surplus / (Deficit) £000
DSG Reserve Brought Forward from 2017/18	3,881
Current Reserve Commitments from Schools Block 2018/19	
Diseconomies Funding 2018/19	(153)
Projected in year surplus on business rates	69
Projected in year surplus on growth fund	13
Schools Block 2018/19 - Subtotal	(70)
High Needs Block 2018/19 - Projected in year deficit	(1,161)
Early Years Block - 2017/18 Surplus	653
Refunds for De-delegated items from 2017/18	(96)
DSG Reserve after Commitments	3,207

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 As stated on the report cover.

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Agenda Item 5

Report to:	SCHOOLS' FORUM
Date:	12 February 2019
Reporting Officer:	Tim Bowman – Assistant Director Education Tom Wilkinson – Assistant Director Finance
Subject:	DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT FUNDING (DSG) FORMULA 2019/20
Report Summary:	A report on the arrangements concerning the Dedicated Schools Grant funding for 2019/20
Recommendations:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Members of the Schools Forum are requested to note and support the contents of the report.2. Members of the Schools Forum approve the funding formula for mainstream schools.3. Members of the Schools Forum approve the growth fund.4. Members of the Primary and Secondary sectors are required to vote separately on the De-delegation of funding for each of the following services:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Trade Union Supportb. Schools Contingency5. Members of Forum approve the Split Site criteria.6. Members are requested to support schools continued contribution to Tameside Safeguarding Board for 2019/20.7. Members of the Schools Forum approve the central retention of early years funding.8. Members of the Forum approve the allocation of the Central Services Schools Block.
Corporate Plan:	Effectively calculated and targeted resources will improve access to a high quality education experience for all our children.
Policy Implications:	In line with financial and policy framework.
Financial Implications: (Authorised by the statutory Section 151 Officer & Chief Finance Officer)	The Dedicated Schools Grant is a ring fenced grant solely for the purposes of schools and pupil related expenditure. There has been an increase in the Dedicated Schools Grant for 2019/20. This report sets out the allocation basis for all Tameside schools.
Legal Implications: (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)	There is a statutory duty to use resources efficiently and effectively against priorities.
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 Information: The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting



Telephone: 0161 342 3216



e-mail: christine.mullins@tameside.gov.uk

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report sets out information on the allocation of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) for 2019/20.
- 1.2 Section 2 is a summary of the DSG settlement from the DfE/ESFA.
- 1.3 Section 3 provides details of the Schools Block and proposed funding formula for Mainstream Schools in Tameside in 2019/20.
- 1.4 Section 4 provides details of the High Needs Block.
- 1.5 Section 5 provides details of the Early Years Block.
- 1.6 Section 6 provides details of the Central School Services Block.
- 1.7 Section 7 contains a request to vote on the issues discussed in sections 3 to 5
- the de-delegation of central Council services,
 - the Council retaining funding for Early Years
 - the Council retaining funding for Central Schools Services Block

2. PROVISIONAL DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT SETTLEMENT FOR 2019/20

- 2.1 The provisional DSG Grant settlement for 2019/20 of £200.418m was received on 17 December 2018. All DSG funding must be deployed to schools and / or pupils in accordance with the School and Early Years Finance (England) (No 2) Regulations 2018.
- 2.2 The table below provides the breakdown of the provisional settlement for the four blocks within the DSG plus the High Needs additional pressures allocations announced in December 2018, compared with the 2018/19 updated settlement figures.

Table 1 – Dedicated Schools Grant Settlements as at December 2018

	2018/19 £000	2019/20 £000	Increase £000
Schools Block (includes Academies)*	159,018	162,369	3,351
High Needs Block	19,324	20,337	1,013
High Needs Additional Pressures**	517	517	0
Early Years Block	16,268	16,270	2
Central Schools Services Block	897	925	28
Total	196,024	200,418	4,394

* It should be noted Academy funding is recouped by the ESFA. The amount recouped by ESFA is calculated using the formula set out in Section 3.

** The table above refers to 'Additional Pressures Funding'. On 16 December 2018, the Secretary of State for Education, Damian Hinds announced £250m of funding across 2 financial years 2018/19 and 2019/20 to address the national pressure on High Needs spending and in response to representations made by Local Government and Schools. Tameside have been allocated an additional £0.517m both in 2018/19 and 2019/20. This allocation results in a cash increase of £1.034m for the Local Authority over the two years.

- 2.3 The Schools block increase relates to an increase in pupil numbers, uplift for RPIX on PFI, and an increase in DfE funding rates (further to the Secretary of States announcement in July 2017).
- 2.4 The High Needs block increase relates to an increase in pupil numbers and the per head gain Tameside is seeing as a result of the National Funding Formula. The gain is set at 6.09% for 2019/20 and based on 2017/18 baselines.

3. SCHOOLS BLOCK 2019/20

3.1 The Schools Block is the largest element of DSG funding which provides the majority of funding for Mainstream Schools and Academies, with additional elements potentially being allocated through the Early Years and High Needs blocks. The schools block settlement from the DfE is made up of the following funding:

- A primary unit of funding (PUF) of £4,141.62;
- A secondary unit of funding (SUF) of £5,274.27;

These units of funding are based on 2018/19 pupil numbers and characteristics and make up the vast majority of the schools block. This core school funding covers funding for all pupil and school led factors in the funding formula. The PUF and SUF are multiplied by the pupil numbers in reception to year group 6 plus pupils aged 4 to 10 not assigned to a year group for primary and pupils in year group 7 to 11, plus pupils aged 11 to 15, not assigned to a year group for secondary.

- Premises – this includes PFI and business rates which are based on historical spend;
- Growth – this is calculated using the difference between the primary and secondary numbers on roll on the October 2017 and October 2018 school censuses.

Table 2 – Schools Block Settlement from DfE

Element of Funding	School Block £000
Primary Funding (20,908 Pupils)	86,591
Secondary Funding (13,376 Pupils)	70,546
Premises	4,278
Growth	954
Total	162,369

Proposed Funding Formula for Mainstream Schools

- 3.2 As agreed at Schools Forum in December 2018, the funding formula for 2019/20 moves the Primary sector to the National Funding Formula in line with the Secondary sector.
- 3.3 The rates used for each sector to allocate the funding to each individual school are included at **Appendix A**.
- 3.4 The PFI funding continues to be delegated to the relevant schools. As a result of the ongoing review of PFI there is a reduction in the amount required from the PFI factor in 2019/20. The delegated figures have been adjusted to reflect this reduction. This element of funding will be recovered by the local authority in 2019/20 as in previous years.
- 3.5 Business Rates are funded to the equivalent value of the Business Rates charge for 2019/20.

- 3.6 As in 2018/19 local authorities are able to set the Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) between minus 1.5% and plus 0.5% per pupil. The Schools Forum paper in December 2018 included the proposal (based on estimates) to include a 0% MFG. The updated settlement and data set from DfE allows the local authority to include a 0.5% MFG.

This increase can be afforded in the main due to changes in the growth funding and commitments and the reduced PFI commitment explained in 3.4. The MFG is calculated as follows as we are adopting the National Funding Formula.

'Total Schools Block' minus 'Business Rates' minus 'Lump Sum' minus 'PF' = MFG Value

It should be noted that MFG does not protect a reduction in pupil numbers.

- 3.7 The Gains Cap is a limiting factor, it limits the gain in pupil led funding per pupil that a School receives, this is a necessary factor to enable the Council to meet its statutory duty to set a balanced DSG budget.

For 2019/20 the gains cap required is 2.9%. This means that a gaining school will receive up to a 3.4% gain (0.5% as MFG plus 2.9% cap) on pupil led funding. Any gain above this is used to partly offset the MFG and allow a balanced DSG budget to be set.

Growth

- 3.8 As agreed at Schools Forum in December 2018, the existing policy for the growth fund will continue to be used (see **Appendix B**). Schools Forum is requested to note and approve the inclusion of Diseconomies Funding to the Growth Fund Policy again detailed in **Appendix B**. DfE guidance outlines that diseconomies funding should be funded from Growth fund, the inclusion of this in our policy means we will now be in line with DfE recommendations.

This will only apply to any new schools opening from 2019/20 onwards. There is an existing funding agreement in place for diseconomies, which Schools Forum has previously agreed to the council is not looking to change this historic agreement.

- 3.9 There are 2 types of growth that are funded from the growth fund. Explicit Growth and Implicit Growth
- Explicit growth relates to the specific growth fund and is allocated based on the growth criteria agreed by Schools Forum.
 - Implicit growth relates to adjustments to pupil numbers when calculating the funding; in this case for new and growing schools

The Growth Fund required in 2019/20 is £0.494m and detail of this growth is included in table 3 below. This relates to the explicit growth only.

Table 3 – Explicit Growth

School	£000
Aldwyn Primary School	41
Holden Clough Community Primary School	41
Oasis Academy Broadoak	41
St John's CofE Primary School, Dukinfield	41
Milton St John's CofE Primary School	32
St Paul's Catholic Primary School	32
Alder Community High School	41
Mossley Hollins High School	41
Hyde Community College	41
Denton Community College	82
Discovery Academy - Diseconomies	59
Total	494

- 3.10 There are currently three new and growing schools in Tameside. Growth is required for these schools as the intake increases each year. The growth for these schools is allocated by adjusting pupil numbers to reflect the estimated intake in September. This is implicit growth and the breakdown of allocations is included in table 4.

Table 4 – Implicit Growth

School	£000
Inspire Academy	137
Discovery Academy	67
Laurus Ryecroft	430
Total	634

- 3.10 The growth policy is to be reviewed in 2019/20 in consultation schools with a view to updating the policy for the 2020/21 financial year.

Split Site

- 3.11 During a review of the formula for 2019/20 schools have asked for a split site criterion to be established. The purpose of this factor is to support schools that have unavoidable extra costs because the school buildings are on separate sites.

The proposed criteria

- The school is recognised as one school by the DfE, and has only one school number.
- The school sites must be at least one mile apart as the crow flies.
- The school sites must be separated by an A road.

- 3.12 The proposed funding allocation in table 5 would be provided to recognise that operating sites at such a distance would require additional leadership costs, the need for separate reception points and a nominal contribution to additional resources to support this.

Table 5 – Split Site Allocation

Split Site Costs	£
Additional Leader - Leadership point 10 plus on costs	£61,658
Reception - Grade D TTO plus on-costs	£19,556
Additional Resources	£2,000
Total Split Site Allocation	£83,214

- 3.13 There are no schools funded from the Schools block. However, this factor would apply to the Tameside Pupil Referral Service, which is funded by the High Needs Block.

De-Delegation

- 3.14 De-delegation is the terminology employed by the DfE in relation to Schools Forum representatives of Council Maintained Schools voting on whether to support mandatory charging to all Council Maintained Schools for certain Council services. The Primary and Secondary sector vote separately in relation to each of the services, following discussion with their wider stakeholder colleagues.
- 3.15 Academies do not have the option of de-delegating but may wish to procure the service as a traded service. The charge would be on the same basis as de-delegation.
- 3.16 Schools Forum is asked to approve the de-delegation of the following budgets for 2019/20 as shown in table 5.
- 3.17 Trade Union Support – this provides schools with a centrally coordinated Trade Union service to support a school’s statutory obligations as contained within the Employment Relations Act 1999, the Trade Union Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 and the Safety Representatives and Safety Committees Regulations 1997.

Trade Union representatives provide schools and school leaders with support and expertise in employment related matters, helping to resolve workplace issues before they become too serious and providing a significant and positive contribution to the management of change; large scale reorganisation; and the implementation of policies and procedures, enabling governing bodies to adopt these policies and procedures.

- 3.18 Contingency – currently there is no funding available to support schools facing a deficit budget position or to support the DSG against any future pressures where schools convert to academy leaving a deficit balance. Therefore there is a proposal to re-instate the previously de-delegated contingency budget.

Whilst it’s acknowledged many schools are facing financial pressures it does seem prudent to establish a contingency budget to protect future pressures against the DSG which will affect all schools. Deficit balances in schools currently total approximately £2m and the proposal longer term it to establish a contingency fund of 10% of this. The initial proposal is to de-delegate £5.81 per pupil. This would create a contingency fund of approx. £0.106m. Schools are seeing a positive 0.5% MFG as opposed to the original 0% MFG. This could be used to offset this request to create a contingency fund.

This de-delegation would then be reviewed annually. The School Funding Group will be consulted on agreeing the policy for accessing the contingency fund and this will be presented to Schools Forum for approval.

Table 6 – De-delegation Per Pupil Rates

Service	Rate per Pupil All Pupils £
Trade Union Support	6.21
Contingency	5.81

Safeguarding

- 3.19 As in previous financial years Schools are asked to support safeguarding in the borough, by agreeing to make a contribution of £0.096m towards the cost of the TSCB (Tameside Safeguarding Children Board). All schools are asked support the continuation of this arrangement in 2019/20. This equates to approximately £2.76 per child

4. HIGH NEEDS 2019/20

- 4.1 In December 2018 the government released the provisional 2019/20 High Needs Block Allocation of £20.854m. This is an increase in funding of £1.013m compared to 2018/19 current settlements. In addition to this the LA received Additional Pressures funding of £0.517m both in 2018/19 and 2019/20. Table 7 below illustrates the changes compared to 2018/19:

Table 7 – Changes in settlement compared to 2018/19

	£000
2018/19 High Needs Allocation	19,324
Additional Pressures Funding	517
2018/19 High Needs Allocation (Inc. Additional Pressures)	19,841
Growth in Actual Numbers in special schools	305
Additional Formula Funding through NFF	708
Provisional High Needs Funding 2019/20	20,854

- 4.2 Table 8 breaks down the settlement into the various factors.

Table 8 – High Needs Settlement

	No's	£	Allocation £'000
Tameside Population (Mid 2018 aged 2-18 population)	47,002		
Per Head Rate (includes gains capped at 6.09%)		396	18,602
Plus Hospital Education 2019/20			76
Actual 2019-20 high needs NFF allocations, excluding basic entitlement factor and import/export adjustments			18,678
Actual 2019-20 number of pupils in special schools/academies & Independent schools with SEN	513		
Basic Entitlement per pupil (ACA weighted)		4,033	2,067
Less Import / Export Adjustment			(408)
Plus Additional Pressures Funding			517
Provisional High Needs Funding 2019/20		4,033	20,854

4.3 The allocation above is based on the January 2018 Alternative Provision (AP) and October 2018 school censuses data but is currently provisional as it will be subject to the following further changes during the 2019/20 financial year:

1. Import/export adjustments based on January 2019 school census data for Pre 16 pupils and February 2019 R06 individualised Learner Record (ILR data) for Post 16.
2. Any adjustments to hospital education funding as a result of data collections from LA's.

High Needs Funding Allocations to Schools

4.4 The number of commissioned places has been agreed with special schools and resourced units as part of the change request process in November 2018. These were presented to Schools Forum in December 2018.

4.5 There is no planned change to the 'Top Up' rates for 2019/20 and these are attached at **Appendix C** for Special Schools and **Appendix D** for Mainstream Schools.

4.6 As part of the High Needs review discussions are still taking place regarding any proposed changes to how growth and over/under capacity in year is managed and funded with the Special Schools and Resourced Units. Any planned changes will take place from September 2019 and confirmation of any change will be reported at the next Schools Forum.

5. EARLY YEARS BLOCK

5.1 The early years block provisional settlement from the DfE is shown in table 9 below. These allocations are currently based on Schools, Early Years and Alternative Provision censuses data from January 2018 and will be updated based on January 2019 and January 2020 census data.

Table 9 – Provisional Early Years Allocations

Early Years Funding Block	DfE Rate £	Provisional 2019/20 Settlement £000
3 and 4 Year Olds Universal Entitlement	4.51	9,633
Early Years for 3 and 4 Year Olds Extended Entitlement	4.51	3,688
Early Years for 2 Year Olds	5.30	2,772
Early Years Pupil Premium		124
Early Years Disability Access Fund		54
Total		16,271

3 and 4 Year Olds

5.2 The amount per pupil for 3 and 4 year olds paid by the DfE to Tameside for universal and extended entitlement remains £4.51. The LA plans to continue to fund providers on the following rates:

- Base Rate - £4.16
- Deprivation Band A - £0.05
- Deprivation Band B - £0.10
- Deprivation Band C - £0.15

- 5.3 The guidance states there must be a SEN Inclusion Fund for 3 and 4 year olds and the proposed allocation for 2019/20 is £150,000 from the 3 and 4 year old settlement.
- 5.4 Funding at these rates satisfies the statutory requirement to “pass through” 95% of funding for 3 and 4 year olds to providers. Holding the provider rate as detailed in 5.2 gives a pass through rate of 96% (£12.287m) retaining £0.5m for centrally retained services. This allocation enables additional resources to be made available to central support services. As previously discussed and agreed at School Forum this will enable the offer to schools and settings to be increased, in support of our priorities (communication and language, SEN). Discussions will take place at the School Funding Group to determine how this will be targeted..
- 2 Year Olds**
- 5.5 The hourly rate used by the DfE to calculate the grant allocation for Tameside remains at 5.30 per hour. The LA has retained £0.10 of the hourly rate in previous financial years to support the costs of the Early Education Funding Team and it is proposed to continue the same level of retention expected to be £0.052m.
- Early Years Pupil Premium**
- 5.6 The DfE have not proposed any changes to the Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) funding and the total estimated value for 2019/20 is £123,454 which is based on the part time equivalent child counts from the January 2018 schools, early years and alternative provision censuses. The allocations to individual providers will continue to be based on a maximum eligibility of 38 weeks per year, 15 hours per week and an hourly rate of £0.53. Providers will need to continue to submit claims for each child in every term that they are in attendance and funding will be allocated for a combination of:
- Current and former Looked After Children (LAC) are automatically eligible
 - Children whose parents or guardians financial circumstances mean that they are eligible, which requires the written consent of the parents/guardians before the Council can check the Department for Work and Pensions database
- Disability Access Fund**
- 5.7 The Disability Access Fund is aimed at supporting providers to offer places to children with disabilities or Special Educational Needs (SEN). The funding allocation for 2019/20 is an illustrative allocation based on an estimate of the number of 3 and 4 year olds who are not in Reception that are claiming Disability Living Allowance (DLA). Tameside’s illustrative allocation is £0.054m which is based on a DfE estimate of the number of eligible children and an allocation rate of £615 per child.
- 6. CENTRAL SCHOOL SERVICES BLOCK (CSSB)**
- 6.1 This block was introduced in 2018/19 to fund statutory duties the LA undertakes for both maintained schools and academies. The CSSB brings together:
- Funding previously allocated through the retained duties element of the Education Services Grant (ESG)
 - Funding for ongoing central function such as admissions which were previously top sliced from the schools block
 - Residual funding for historic commitments of which there are none for Tameside MBC
- 6.2 The allocation to the Council is based on a per pupil element of £26.99 for ongoing duties (i.e. Admissions, Schools Forum, Copyright Licenses, former ESG duties) totaling £0.925m.

- 6.3 The DSG operational guidance for 2019/20 requires the Council to formally request Schools Forum approval for the central retention of the following:
- £0.226m to support the School Admissions service
 - £0.005m to support the costs of the Schools Forum
 - £0.523m to support elements of the Councils Centrally retained duties (formally the retained duties element of the ESG)
- 6.4 National Copyright School Licenses are also funded from this block and the amount for 2019/20 is £0.171m.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 Members of the Schools Forum are requested to note the contents of the report.
- 7.2 Members of the Schools Forum approve the proposed Dedicated Schools Grant 2019/20 proposed funding formula for mainstream schools.
- 7.3 Members of the School Forum approve the growth fund for 2019/20.
- 7.4 Members of the Primary and Secondary Maintained sectors respectively are recommended to approve for each sector the de-delegation of service costs in relation to the following services that were referenced in section 3.11 to 3.16 of this report:
- a) Trade Union Support
 - b) Schools Contingency
- 7.5 Members of the School Forum approve the split site criteria.
- 7.6 Members of the Schools Forum requested to support schools continued contribution to Tameside Safeguarding Board for 2019/20
- 7.7 Members of the Schools Forum approve the central retention of early years funding.
- 7.8 Members of the Forum approve:
- a) The retention of £0.226m to support the cost of the Admissions service
 - b) The retention of £5,000 to support the cost of the Schools Forum
 - c) The retention of £0.523m to support elements of the Councils Centrally retained duties (formally the retained duties element of the ESG)

APPENDIX A

Rates for the Mainstream Funding Formula

	Proposed Rates for Primary Sector with ACA 2019-20 (£)	Proposed Rates for Secondary Sector with ACA 2019-20 (£)
Basic Entitlement (AWPU)		
Primary	2,761.70	
Secondary - KS3		3,883.67
Secondary - KS4		4,409.47
Deprivation		
FSM	442.35	442.35
FSM6	542.89	789.20
IDACI band F	201.07	291.55
IDACI band E	241.28	392.09
IDACI band D	361.93	517.76
IDACI band C	392.09	563.00
IDACI band B	422.25	603.21
IDACI band A	578.08	814.33
English as an Additional Language (EAL)	517.76	1,392.41
Low Prior Attainment	1,027.47	1,558.29
Lump Sum	110,588.50	110,588.50

APPENDIX B

Growth Fund Criteria

1. Schools who are being asked by the local authority to admit additional classes of children from September will be allocated a Growth allocation. The value of the allocation is a lump sum allocation of £41,045. This figure is based on:
 - The salary costs including on-costs of a Teacher on point 1 of the UPS grade for 7 months;
 - The salary costs including on-costs of a Level 3 Teaching Assistant for 7 months; and
 - £2,000 for resources.
2. Schools that have been built within the last 7 years which have taken over 30 additional pupils in year groups, other than the Reception bulge classes they initially formally agreed to. This would only apply to Schools that agreed the additional intake with the Local Authority in advance. This would not apply where Schools have chosen to admit those children without agreement with the Local Authority. The rationale for this is that the Schools concerned are helping to address an area wide demand for places coordinated through the Council. The value of this growth allocation is £66,935 which is intended to cover the same staffing costs as detailed in criteria 1 above, but for a full year.
3. Schools that agreed to take a one year only Bulge class of 30 children within the last 7 years, where the Bulge class concerned has less than 20 children on roll. This would only apply to Schools that agreed to take the bulge class with the Council in advance and where there is only one Bulge class in the School meaning it was not possible to combine classes across year groups. This would not apply where Schools have chosen to admit additional children without agreement with the Council. The rationale for this is that the Schools concerned are helping to address an area wide demand for places coordinated through the Council. The value of this is £32,640 which is intended to replace the AWPU funding for 10 children.

Diseconomies Funding

This funding is for newly established schools whose costs cannot be met through the normal schools block funding due to not having every year group open. The diseconomies funding provides funding in two elements as the school grows: non-staffing resources, paid on a per-pupil basis; and a leadership grant. These titles reflect the basis on which the funding is calculated, but the grant can be spent on any legitimate purpose of the school.

The first element (resources) is paid each year that the school builds up to capacity for each new pupil *expected* to be on roll and is not revisited to reflect actual pupil numbers and is taken from the admissions data. It is paid at the following rates:

- £250 for each new mainstream pupil in the primary phase (years R - 6)
- £500 for each new mainstream pupil in the secondary & 16 to 19 phases (years 7 - 13)

The second element (leadership) is paid annually based on the number of year groups that the school will ultimately have that do not yet have pupils. The amount paid to mainstream schools with pupils aged 5 to 15 each year depends on how many year groups (cohorts) are empty, and is set out in the table below.

Empty Years	6+	5	4	3	2	1	Max
Primary	£80,500	£67,500	£54,000	£40,500	£27,000	£13,500	£283,000
Secondary			£125,000	£93,500	£62,500	£31,000	£312,000
All through	£125,000	£93,500	£62,500	£54,000	£40,500	£27,000	£402,500

APPENDIX C

Special School Top Up Rates

Banding	Description	Severity	Allocation £
PMLD-1	Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties Level 1	1	12,754
PMLD-2	Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties Level 2	2	19,131
PMLD-3	Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties Level 3	3	32,753
ASC-1	Autism Spectrum Condition Level 1	1	11,479
ASC-2	Autism Spectrum Condition Level 2	2	17,218
ASC-3	Autism Spectrum Condition Level 3	3	31,477
SLD-1	Severe Learning Difficulties Level 1	1	10,203
SLD-2	Severe Learning Difficulties Level 2	2	15,305
BESD-1	Behavioural, Emotional and Social Difficulties Level 1	1	9,566
BESD-2	Behavioural, Emotional and Social Difficulties Level 2	2	14,348
MLD-1	Moderate Learning Difficulties Level 1	1	5,102
MLD-2	Moderate Learning Difficulties Level 2	1	7,652

Summarised Banding Descriptions

PMLD- Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties

Level 1

The pupil has PMLD and requires 1-1 support for their personal care and support for accessing learning. A multi-disciplinary plan is required to ensure all the pupils needs are met.

Level 2

Due to complexity of needs e.g. blind, deaf, severe epilepsy, personal care needs the pupil may require 2-1 support for some of the day.

Level 3

Needs greater than Level 2

ASC- Autism Spectrum Condition

Level 1

The pupil has been diagnosed with ASC. The environment is resourced to meet need. A plan around the child is used to ensure strategies and approaches are consistent at school and at home. External agencies offer guidance on strategies to be implemented.

Level 2

The pupil has additional needs that may warrant individual support for some of the day e.g. challenging/high risk behaviour, medical needs.

Level 3

Needs greater than Level 2

SLD- Severe Learning Difficulties

Level 1

The pupil has been identified as having SLD. The environment is resourced to facilitate effective communication. There is also support to develop the pupils attention and concentration skills throughout the school day. External agencies offer advice and frequent input to the teacher, teaching assistance and parents.

Level2

The pupil has additional needs that may warrant individual support for some of the day e.g. specific care needs- tube feeding, medical needs- epilepsy and challenging/ high risk behaviour.

BESD- Behavioural, Emotional and Social Difficulties

Level1:

The pupil has been identified as having BESD that are impacting on their ability to learn. They may also have an additional need e.g. MLD, speech and language needs.

Level 2:

The pupil has been identified as having BESD. There is evidence that the need is long term and that a multi-agency approach is required.

MLD - Moderate Learning Difficulties

Level 1:

The pupil has been identified as having MLD and may require support from an external agency eg speech and language therapist.

Level 2:

The pupil has been identified as having MLD, a secondary category has also been recognised e.g. Specific language difficulty, behavioural difficulties, hearing impairment, visual impairment, physical difficulties or motor impairment.

APPENDIX D



High Needs Top Rates - Mainstream

Band	Equivalent TA Hours from Assessment	Funding Allocation £	Equivalent TA Hours Being Funded @ £439.12
##	1-14	0	0.0
1	14.1-17	1,317	3.0
2	17.1-20	2,635	6.0
3	20.1-24	4,391	10.0
4	24 +	6,587	15.0

- Assessments of equivalent Teaching Assistant Hours of less than 14 hours do not attract top up funding as these should be funded from schools Notional SEN.

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Agenda Item 6

Report to:	SCHOOLS' FORUM
Date:	12 February 2019
Reporting Officer:	Tom Wilkinson – Assistant Director Finance Tim Bowman – Assistant Director Education.
Subject:	SCHOOLS FORUM FORWARD PLAN 2019/20
Report Summary:	Provide members of Schools Forum the Forward Plan of reports 2019/20.
Recommendations:	Members of the Schools Forum are requested to note the meeting dates set out for 2019/20 and the reports to be tabled at each meeting.
Corporate Plan:	Effectively used resources will improve planning for high quality education experience for all our children.
Policy Implications:	Overall effective use of resources across Tameside schools is a key component in the Authority's Annual Use of Resources Statement.
Financial Implications: (Authorised by the statutory Section 151 Officer & Chief Finance Officer)	There are no direct financial implications as a result of this report.
Legal Implications: (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)	There are no direct legal issues arising from this report.
Risk Management:	There are no direct risk management implications as a result of this report.
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 Information:	The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting Christine Mullins, Financial Management:  Telephone: 0161 342 3216  e-mail: christine.mullins@tameside.gov.uk

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report outlines the timetable and schedule of meetings and reports to be presented for the upcoming year, forming a forward plan. The plan will enable forum members to be kept informed of items to be tabled for consideration.

2. TIMETABLE

- 2.1 The meeting dates for the remainder of 2019/20 financial year for forum have now been set and are outlined below. Setting the annual schedule of dates in advance assists forum members with diary planning.

Date	Venue
Tuesday 25 June 2019	Discovery Academy
Tuesday 22 October 2019	Discovery Academy
Tuesday 10 December 2019	Discovery Academy
Tuesday 11 February 2020	Discovery Academy

3. FORWARD PLAN

- 3.1 The table below summarises the forward plan of reports to be considered at each meeting by Schools Forum

Forum Meeting	Report	Purpose
June	DSG Outturn 18/19 and 19/20 Update	Noting
	Schools Financial Values Standard Returns	Noting
October	Forum Membership	Approval
	Schools Balances Reports 2018/19	Noting
	School Funding Update on NFF and Summer Announcements from DFE	Noting
	DSG Monitoring 19/20 Update	Noting
	PFI Update	Noting
December	DSG Monitoring 19/20 Update	Noting
	Outcome of consultation of Funding Formula (Schools Block)	Noting
February	DSG Monitoring 19/20 Update	Noting
	Formula Funding 2020/21	Approval
	Forward Plan 2020/21	Noting

- 3.2 Further reports may be added to the agenda where schools forum involvement is necessary throughout the year.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 As set out at the front of the report.

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