

Schools Forum

Agenda

Tuesday 14 March 2023 at 2.00 pm

This meeting will be held remotely. If you'd like to observe the meeting please contact: David.Abbott@lbhf.gov.uk

<u>Item</u>	<u>Pages</u>
1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING	3 - 6
3. SCHOOLS BLOCK BUDGET 2023-24 - UPDATE	7 - 14
4. FINAL EARLY YEARS BUDGET 2023-24	15 - 21
5. HIGH NEEDS BLOCK FUNDING 2023-24 - SPECIAL PROVISION <i>This item was updated on 8 March 2023.</i>	22 - 25
6. HIGH NEEDS BLOCK 2022-23	26 - 33
7. DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT MONITORING QUARTER 3 2022-23	34 - 40
8. LBHF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE FINANCIAL SCHEME	41 - 43
9. DRAFT WORK PROGRAMME	
10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS	

Contact

david.abbott@lbhf.gov.uk
www.lbhf.gov.uk/committees

London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham

Schools Forum Minutes

Tuesday 17 January 2023

PRESENT

Voting members	Non-voting members
Schools Members Claire Fletcher (St Paul's CE Primary) Sam Naismith (Flora Gardens Primary) Kathleen Williams (Holy Cross Primary) Joe Brown (Old Oak Primary) Alan Campbell (Cambridge Special School)	Union Representatives David Anderson (H&F NEU)
Academies Members Gary Kynaston (Hammersmith Academy) Sally Brooks (Fulham Cross Academy / Fulham College) Daniel Upfield (Ark Swift Primary Academy)	Observers Alex Parker (Lady Margaret) Aiden Smith (Jack Tizard) Jacqueline Munroe

Officers

Jacqui McShannon (Strategic Director of Children's Services)
 Peter Haylock (Director of Education and SEND)
 Tony Burton (Head of Finance for Children's Services and Education)
 Valerie Irolla (Principal Accountant)
 Daryle Mathurin (Strategic Lead - Education, Assets and Operations)
 Phil Tomsett (Head of Early Years)
 David Abbott (Head of Governance)

Officer Observers

Urmilla Dattani (Accountant, Schools and Education)
 Ozioma Onwochei (Principal Accountant)
 Adele Patriciello (Senior Finance Officer)

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Wendy Aldridge and Karen Cunningham.

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 17 November 2022 were agreed as an accurate record.

3. 2023-24 SCHOOLS FUNDING FORMULA

Tony Burton (Head of Finance for Children's Services and Education) presented the item that covered the final Schools Block allocation of the Dedicated Schools Grant for 2023/24, following the receipt of final funding allocations and the Authority Proforma Tool in December 2022. He highlighted that core funding from the Department for Education (DfE) was due to increase by 1.9% nationally in 2023/24 and further funding had been announced in the Autumn Budget Statement. This additional funding would come as a separate Mainstream Schools Additional Grant in 2023-24.

Claire Fletcher noted the deadline for falling rolls funding applications was approaching and asked when schools would be invited to make submissions. Tony Burton said officers were intending to write to 10 schools this side of half term and a decision would be made towards the end of this term.

Alex Parker asked if the £200k set aside each year for falling rolls was capped or proscribed. Tony Burton said the money wasn't capped or proscribed. The intention was to provide short term transitional support for schools with falling rolls, rather than replacement funding.

Kathleen Williams asked if the process for the contingency for schools in financial difficulty within the de-delegated budgets in Table 3 would be dealt with in the same way as the £200k falling rolls fund. Tony Burton said the de-delegation related to mainstream primary schools only. The Schools Block Falling rolls was for all mainstream schools reception to year 11.

Claire Fletcher said it was important that there was similar transparency and accountability for the schools in financial difficulty support. She also felt it was important that decision makers knew the previous support schools had received.

Kathleen Williams said it would be helpful to see how support money was used in previous years. The Chair agreed there should be transparency and accountability and asked for a 5-year view.

ACTION: Tony Burton

The Chair asked how schools could access support funding and the timeline for applications. Tony Burton said the schools finance team were notified of schools in financial difficulty and would make recommendations to Schools Forum for support from the contingency fund. That had been communicated to maintained schools before Christmas. Peter Haylock said officers were working with two schools about support related to redundancy costs and deficit budgets. The Chair asked officers to ensure this was communicated formally to schools and to Chairs of Governors.

Kathleen Williams asked about the definition of financial hardship and said it should be consistent between schools and consider previous actions taken.

Tony Burton discussed the Mainstream Schools Additional Grant and noted that while officers had published indicative figures, the final amount would be paid by the Education and Skills Funding Agency from their own calculation based on the latest Free School Meals figures.

The Chair discussed the falling rolls group membership, noting it shouldn't include schools that were requesting money. He suggested members declare any conflicts of interest.

Tony Burton proposed a 3% trigger point for qualification for falling rolls support funding. Members unanimously agreed the proposal.

RESOLVED

1. That the January 2023 APT for the recommended model be submitted to the ESFA for the 2023 to 2024 school budget share. This is with the revised NFF rates in appendix 1 and an MFG value of positive 0.5% per pupil. There are two versions of this model to be agreed pending the DfE decision on the 1% disapplication of grant regulations request.
2. That Schools Forum agreed to the proposal to transfer 0.5% of the total Schools Block to the High Needs Block in 2023 to 2024 pending the outcome of the disapplication request to transfer 1% of the Schools Block to the High Needs Block. This equates to £0.577m. Should the DfE provide a positive response to the disapplication request, the 1% transfer has been approved at £1.154m.
3. That Schools Forum agreed a proposal to top slice the 2023 to 2024 Schools Block to the value of £0.200m for the Falling Rolls protection fund in 2023 to 2024.
4. That maintained school representatives at Schools Forum agreed to the proposed de-delegated budgets proposed for 2023 to 2024 in Table 3 totalling £0.691m.
5. That maintained school representatives at Schools Forum agreed to the proposed Education Functions budgets proposed for 2023 to 2024 in Table 4 totalling £0.262m.
6. That Schools Forum agreed to the Central Services Schools Block budget allocations proposed for 2023/24 financial year as detailed in Table 5.

4. EARLY YEARS BUDGET 2023-24

Tony Burton (Head of Finance for Children's Services and Education) presented the update on the initial allocation of Early Years Block funding for 2023/24 based on January 2022 census numbers.

Phil Tomsett (Head of Early Years) said the Council had commissioned a childcare sufficiency assessment to understand the childcare sector in the borough and ensure it was sustainable going forward. The report had found the sector was able to offer sufficient places in all but 2 wards, due to a surge in new housing in those areas. The main concern in the sector was around rising costs (i.e. energy costs, staffing costs, accommodation costs).

Members thanked officers for the clarity in the budget papers.


RESOLVED

1. Schools Forum noted draft 2023/24 Early Year budget for consultation including an increase to the base to £6.59 (1% like for like increase in funding) and proposed hourly rates for deprivation detailed in Appendix 1 subject to consultation.

Meeting started: 2.00 pm
Meeting ended: 3.22 pm

Chair

Contact officer: David Abbott
Governance and Scrutiny
E-mail: david.abbott@lbhf.gov.uk

	<p>London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham</p> <p>SCHOOLS FORUM</p> <p>Tuesday 14th March 2023</p>
<p>Update: Schools Block Budget 2023/24</p>	
<p>Open</p>	
<p>Classification - For Scrutiny Review & Comment</p> <p>Key Decision: No</p>	
<p>Wards Affected: (All Wards); All</p>	

Agenda Item 2

Accountable Director: Jacqui McShannon, Strategic Director of Children's Services

Report Authors:

Tony Burton

Head of Finance for Children's Services and Education

Purpose of the report

This report confirms the funding allocations proposed for individual schools' budget shares for the April 2023 to March 2024 period and agreed by Schools Forum in January 2023 have now been confirmed by the ESFA (28 February 2023) and formally approved by local authority cabinet decision on 6th March 2023.

This report proposes the indicative allocations of the available falling rolls funding agreed by Schools Forum for all mainstream schools (maintained and academy/free schools) the 2023/24 budget of £200,000 in line with funding regulations following October 2022 census and expressions of interest for funding support.

1. Introduction

- 1.1. Following Schools Forum approval of the 2023/24 Authority Proforma Tool (APT) in January 2023, the budget proposals were agreed by Hammersmith and Fulham and for formal approval by Cabinet on 6th March 2023. The ESFA confirmed their approval of the APT with Ministerial agreement of the 1% block transfer to support the High Needs Block on 28th February 2023.
- 1.2. All mainstream schools had their delegated budgets for 2022/23 (April to March) financial year confirmed by email on 28th February 2023 in line with statutory guidance.
- 1.3. Academies and Free Schools were also informed of their APT budget shares for the April 2022 to March 2023 period which is subject to recoupment by the ESFA.
- 1.4. Section 2 of this paper sets out the proposed indicative allocations of falling rolls funding yet to be distributed to mainstream schools from the agreed 2022/23 £200,000 fund.

2. Falling Rolls Allocations Proposed

- 2.1. There is a fund of £0.200m from the 2023/24 budget with respect to roll falls between October 2021 and 2022 census dates approved at the January 2023 Schools Forum.

- 2.2. ESFA guidance states that the local authority may set aside schools block funding to create a small fund to support good schools with falling rolls where local planning data shows that surplus places will be needed within the next three years.
- 2.3. The ESFA advise that the allocation of falling rolls funding should contain clear objective trigger points for qualification and a clear formula for calculating allocations.
- 2.4. The criteria agreed at January 2023 Schools Forum for the 2023/24 falling rolls funds are detailed below:
- The fund is available to all mainstream schools (maintained, Academy and Free Schools) subject to the points below.
 - Key trigger point is reached for falling rolls support. The fall in roll is more than 3% year on year between October 2021 and October 2022 census points.
 - An Ofsted category of Good or Outstanding (Mandatory per the regulations).
- 2.5. Eligible schools must evidence the impact of the roll fall on the school and the actions taken to adjust to a lower role or clear plan to recover the roll based on clear planning data agreed by the LA:
- surplus capacity exceeds a minimum number of pupils, or a percentage of the published admission number
 - local planning data shows a requirement for a minimum percentage of the surplus places within the next three years
 - formula funding available to the school will not support provision of an appropriate curriculum for the existing cohort
 - the school will need to make redundancies in order to contain spending within its formula budget
- 2.6. Schools were asked for expressions of interest for falling rolls funding as part of the Autumn 2022 schools budget consultation. Responses suggested there was a demand for financial support for falling rolls in line with the criteria agreed and outlined in paragraphs 2.3 and 2.4 above.
- 2.7. There are 9 schools with year-on-year roll falls over the 3% trigger point who are eligible to apply for falling rolls support. Education Finance have written to these schools asking for applications for financial support from the fund up to the value of the indicative allocations detailed in Table 1, and per the calculations detailed in Appendix 1.
- 2.8. The table below details the maximum level of funding expected to be available to any individual school. Indicative allocations are calculated on unit value of

- 2.9. **Schools Forum are asked to agree payments up to the indicative allocations subject to approval by the Schools' Forum subgroup following review of requests for support.**

Table 1 – Proposed Indicative Allocations by School for Roll Falls over 3%

School Name	Indicative Allocation 2023/24 £
Addison Primary School	30,233
Kenmont Primary School	4,651
Old Oak Primary School	16,279
Sir John Lillie Primary School	41,860
St Mary's Catholic Primary School	20,930
St Paul's CofE Primary School	2,326
St Thomas of Canterbury RC Primary School	30,233
Fulham Primary School	30,233
Sullivan Primary School	23,256
Total	200,000

- 1.1. For context and as requested by Schools Forum, a summary of Falling Rolls payments agreed since 2019/20 are detailed in Appendix 2, alongside the indicative allocations for 2023/24.
- 1.2. Schools interested in putting forward a case for financial support should understand that submissions will be reviewed by a subgroup of the Schools Forum who may also take into consideration:
- Evidence of a sustainable budget plan over the medium term
 - Availability of retained school or trust balances to support the roll fall
 - The receipt of previous support from Falling Rolls since 2019/20
- 1.3. The timeline for process:
- 15th March 2023 – Final requests for Falling Rolls support requested from 9 Schools with 31st March deadline.
 - Late April 2023 – Convene Falling Rolls subgroup for review of requests and decision to approve or decline.
 - May 2023 – payments for approved funding made
 - June 2023 Schools Forum - Report back to Schools Forum on funding agreed or unallocated.

Report End


Appendix 1 - Basis for Calculation of Indicative Funding Available – Subject to Application

School Name	Final NOR October 2021	Final NOR October 2022	Change in Roll	Percentage reduction in roll Oct 22 - Oct 21	Reduction over 3%	Roll Fall Over 3%	Indicative Allocation £ (£2,226 per pupil over 3%)
Addison Primary School	244	224	-20	-8.20%	-5.20%	-13	30,233
Kenmont Primary School	178	171	-7	-3.93%	-0.93%	-2	4,651
Old Oak Primary School	198	185	-13	-6.57%	-3.57%	-7	16,279
Sir John Lillie Primary School	253	227	-26	-10.28%	-7.28%	-18	41,860
St Mary's Catholic Primary School	168	154	-14	-8.33%	-5.33%	-9	20,930
St Paul's CofE Primary School	187	180	-7	-3.74%	-0.74%	-1	2,326
St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School	149	132	-17	-11.41%	-8.41%	-13	30,233
Fulham Primary School	254	233	-21	-8.27%	-5.27%	-13	30,233
Sullivan Primary School	188	172	-16	-8.51%	-5.51%	-10	23,256
Total							200,000

Appendix 2 – Falling Roll Payments Since 2019/20 (including 2023/24 Indicative)

	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24 Indicative	Total
School	£	£	£	£	£	£
Addison Primary School			19,494	21,362	30,233	71,089
All Saints C Of E Primary School				10,818		10,818
Ark Bentworth Primary Academy		9,643		1,540		11,183
Ark Swift Primary Academy	25,458	36,810	24,902	12,927		100,097
Brackenbury Primary School			11,472	19,341		30,813
Flora Gardens Primary School			5,199	11,289		16,488
Fulham College Boys' School	22,890	11,454				34,344
Fulham Primary Academy	16,227	453			30,233	46,912
Holy Cross Primary School				8,111		8,111
John Betts Primary School		30,943				30,943
Kenmont Primary School			3,305	6,179	4,651	14,135
Miles Coverdale Primary School			5,792			5,792
Normand Croft Community School			674			674
Old Oak Primary School	8,858	56,222	40,722	16,056	16,279	138,137
Phoenix Academy	25,000					25,000
Queens Manor Primary Academy	1,191	9,690				10,881
Sir John Lillie Primary School			10,638	3,021	41,860	55,519
St Mary's Catholic Primary School		281	2,182	7,425	20,930	30,818
St Paul's CofE Primary School		47	17,986		2,326	20,359
St Thomas Of Canterbury Catholic Primary		36,764	31,271	35,575	30,233	133,842
St Johns Ce Primary School			5,134	2,570		7,704
Sullivan Primary Academy		2,091		12,515	23,256	37,862
Wendell Park Primary School				23,474		23,474
Wormholt Park Primary School		28,603	21,227	7,798		57,627
Total Paid	99,624	223,000	199,999	200,000	200,000	922,623

Agenda Item 3

	<p align="center">London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham</p> <p align="center">SCHOOLS FORUM</p> <p align="center">Tuesday, 14th March 2023</p>
<p align="center">FINAL EARLY YEARS FUNDING 2023/24</p>	
<p>Open</p>	
<p>Wards Affected: (All Wards); All</p>	
<p>Accountable Director: Jacqui Mc Shannon, Strategic Director of Children's Services</p>	
<p>Report Authors: Peter Haylock Operational Director of Education and SEND</p> <p>Tony Burton Head of Finance for Children's and Education</p>	<p>Contact Details: E-mail: Peter.Haylock@lbhf.gov.uk Tony.burton@lbhf.gov.uk</p>
<p>Purpose of the report</p> <p>This report updates forum on the Final proposed allocation of Early Years Block funding for 2023/24 based on January 2022 census numbers and following consultation with the Sector in February.</p>	

1. Introduction

- 1.1. Schools Forum on 17th January 2022 noted the draft 2023/24 budget for the Early Years Block of the Dedicated Schools Grant for 3 and 4 year olds subject to the required consultation with Early Years providers in the borough.
- 1.2. The proposals were presented at an Early Years workshop held on 8th February. There was good attendance at the workshop with representatives from Schools and the private, voluntary and independent sector.
- 1.3. The consultation questions were sent out to all early years' providers in the borough after the February workshop. Responses were anonymous.
 - A total of 9 responses were received with the majority of responses agreeing with the proposals.
 - 6 out of the 9 respondents had not attended the workshop
 - The majority of respondents were PVI providers (6) with one respondent from a child minder, one school and one 'other'

- A majority of respondents agreed the key recommendations for the 2023/24 budget.
- The results of the consultation can be seen by following this link <https://forms.office.com/Pages/AnalysisPage.aspx?AnalyzerToken=Mr9Ec40Q1WfkU6oecXIUkj1Tkf6GYKQV&id=FcHYUH-3IUOjujtAfK8NiHWNwzbY5nJEvSKUbPfGCLZUQVRYs004VzVKRE9TQTk0VjJORjRVWEpTSi4u>
- Feedback and comments on the proposals are included in Appendix 2 with Local Authority response.

2. **Early Years Funding Allocations 2023/24**

- 2.1. Table 1 below shows the initial Early Years allocations for the 2023/24 financial year, based on January 2022 census figures and updated funding rates for 2023/24.

Table 1: Breakdown of Initial Early Years Funding Allocations 2023/24 (January 2022 headcount)

Element	Amount £m
3 and 4 Year Old universal offer	11.101
3 and 4 Year Old extended offer	2.257
Sub-total 3 and 4 Year Old Offer	13.358
2 Year Old Disadvantaged offer	1.153
EY Pupil Premium	0.095
Disability Access Fund	0.051
MNS supplementary funding	0.814
TOTAL	15.471

3. **3 & 4 Year Old Offer 2023/24 final budget model**

- 3.1. The 2023/24 final budget model is detailed in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Draft 2023/24 Early Years Budget – 3 & 4 Year Olds and extended offer

	22/23 Budget	23/24 Budget	Change year on year
	£m	£m	£m
A. Participation based on estimated hours - base rate	11.784	10.280	-1.504
B. i. Supplement for Deprivation - Participation based on estimated hours	1.329	1.142	-0.187
B. ii. Supplement for Quality - mainstreaming of teachers' pay grant and the teachers' pension employer contribution grant	0	174.5	174.5
C. SEN Inclusion Fund	0.629	0.548	-0.081
D. Help and Support for Families in Need via Maintained Nursery Schools	0.562	0.543	-0.019

E. Contingency	0.050	0.020	-0.030
F. Central services expenditure - 5% maximum allowed	0.759	0.650	-0.109
G. Best Practice, Training and Network Building	0.060	0	-0.060
TOTAL Planned Expenditure	15.173	13.357	-1.816

2.2. The proposed breakdown of the use of the new hourly funding rate of £8.42 is shown in the Table 3 below. The full £0.08 per hour funding increase in 2023/24 is proposed to be added to the Basic Hourly rate paid to all providers.

Table 3: Factors and Hourly Rates Applied (see paragraph 3.1 for full detail)

Factors	22/23 Rate per hour £	23/24 Rate per hour £	Change in Rate per hour £
A. Basic hourly rate per child	£6.40	£6.48	£0.08
B.i. Supplement for Deprivation - Participation based on estimated hours	£0.72	£0.72	£0
B.ii. Supplement for Quality - mainstreaming of teachers' pay & pension grants	£0	£0.11	£0.11
C. SEN Inclusion Fund	£0.34	£0.34	£0
D. Help and Support for Families in Need	£0.31	£0.34	£0.03
E. Contingency	£0.03	£0.02	-£0.01
F. Central Support Expenditure	£0.41	£0.41	£0
G. Best Practice Training and Networks	£0.02	£0	-£0.2
Total	£8.23	£8.42	£0.19

2.3. The deprivation rates proposed on a sliding IDACI deprivation index scale remain unchanged from 2022/23 financial year, with the average supplement expected to remain at £0.72 per hour in 2023/24. Proposed rates for 2023/24 are shown below in Table 4.

Table 4: Propose 2023/24 Deprivation rates

IDACI banding	Hourly rate 2022/23	Hourly rate 2023/24 Proposed
1	£1.33	£1.33
2	£1.23	£1.23
3	£1.12	£1.12
4	£1.02	£1.02
5	£0.92	£0.92
6	£0.71	£0.71
7	£0.51	£0.51
8	£0.31	£0.31
9	£0.10	£0.10
10	£0.00	£0.00

3. Details of Proposed Early Years Central Budget 2023/24

- 3.1. Planned central expenditure incurred by the LA must reduce in line with 5% limit following reduction in activity on the 3 & 4 year old offer.
- 3.2. Savings are expected in the Finance Service following restructure in 2022/23 and through identification of efficiencies in Early Years and Children's Centres via the development and council investment in the family hub model.

Table 5: Proposed Central Services Budget 2023/24

Item of Central Expenditure	Budget 2022/23 £m	Budget 2023/24 £m	Change on year £m
i) Education Early Years Team	329	329	0
ii) Children's Centres Offer including outreach, early identification and support to families	216	115	-101
iii) Help and Support for Families in Need - spot purchases non maintained nursery schools	71	71	0
iv) Finance Team	88	80	-8
v) Statutory Education functions and strategic support	45	45	0
vi) Business Intelligence for the termly census, EY Census and EYFS Assessments	10	10	0
Total Central Spend from Early Years DSG	759	650	-109

4. Disadvantaged Two Year Old Funding 2023/24

- 4.1. Funding will be received at £7.56 per hour in 2023/24.
- 4.2. This is a £0.69 per hour increase in funding or circa 10% versus 2022/23.
- 4.3. The full funded rate is passed through to providers with eligible two year olds.

5. Recommendations and next steps

- 5.1. Schools Forum to agree final 2023/24 Early Year budget including:
- an increase to the 3 and 4 year old offer base rate from £6.39 to £6.48 and proposed hourly rates for deprivation detailed above.
 - Deprivation rates held at 2022/23 levels
 - Additional Quality Supplement to ensure Primary Schools continue to benefit from the funding provided in 2022/23 to meet exceptional teachers pay and pension inflation

- Special Educational Needs Inclusion fund budget at 2022/23 expenditure levels plus 5%
 - Maintain the help and support for families in need at 2022/23 levels.
- 5.2. Schools Forum to agree final Early Years Central Services Budget for 2022/23 as detailed above in Table 5 totalling £0.650m.
- 5.3. Schools Forum are asked to note the increase in the disadvantaged two year old funding which will be passed to providers in full.

Report ends


Appendix 1 – Specific Consultation Feedback on responses

	Specific Consultation Comments and Feedback from Providers	Response from Hammersmith and Fulham
1	It's hard to work with the figures as you've presented them. There should be another option as well as I agree/I disagree, I would like to have given my thoughts or request further information and question part of the proposal. There is not much flexibility.	Early Years Funding is technically complex, and the workshop may have helped with understanding. Education Finance Team will liaise with Schools, the Early Years Service and EY PVI Schools Forum reps to assess need for further and ongoing briefing sessions.
2	In my opinion, the Quality Supplement should not only be paid to settings that employ qualified teachers. It should be paid to all settings that employ Level 6 staff and above. Very few settings employ qualified teachers, and in fact, it is more desirable (and more highly regarded by Ofsted) for nursery staff to attain EY Teacher Status. Under the terms of this proposal, settings that employ practitioners with EY Teacher Status, rather than QTS, would not be eligible to receive the Quality Supplement, which in my view is discriminatory.	The quality supplement has been included to allow the separate grant funding received by Primary Schools with nurseries to continue in 2023/24. The Teachers Pay and Pensions Grants were principally intended by National Government to provide funding to schools to meet the very significant national increase in teachers' pension contributions. Widening access to this particular element of funding from 2023/24 would result in a funding reduction year on year for primary schools. The Local Authority would be interested in working with all providers to understand how the distribution of future funding increases from 2024.25 financial year may incorporate a wider cohort or qualified professionals into the funding model through the quality supplement. This would be dependent on funding increases in the National Funding Formula for Hammersmith and Fulham from 2024/25
3	The 3/4 year old offer increase needs to increase significantly more to meet the increased costs for nursery schools.	Unfortunately, the nationally determined funding increase for 3 and 4 years olds in 2023.24 is 1% and 8 pence per hour. The budget proposals pass this onto providers in full.

4	<p>Whilst I agree I think the funding generally is very poor. It needs to be looked at more closely and realistic figures should be offered. There is no way anyone can run a nursery on that little.</p>	
5	<p>The increase of 8p an hour for 3-4 year old funding is disgraceful. With the increase to the national minimum wage of 10.9% and the increase of all costs across the board the 8p per hour increase will go nowhere near to covering the costs of delivering quality care and education through qualified, experienced staff. The effect of this will mean that the hourly rate that we have to charge parents will be enormous and will result in less children being able to access nursery care and education. We will also be forced to limit the number of children accessing funding from attending our settings as the funding rate is insufficient to cover the running costs. This will inevitably create a divide between which children can access our settings - those parents who can afford to pay will have to take priority over funded children. The other impact of such a small increase is an already struggling sector will not be able to attract staff, again the result of this is less places being available, particularly for those children that most need it.</p>	<p>The local authority will feed back to the DfE at all opportunities with respect to funding to meet cost inflation.</p>

Agenda Item 5

Agenda Item 4

	<p>London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham</p> <p>SCHOOLS FORUM</p> <p>Tuesday, 14th March 2023</p>	
<p>High Needs Block funding 2023/24 – Special Provision</p>		
<p>Open</p>		
<p>Wards Affected: (All Wards); All</p>		
<p>Accountable Director: Jacqui Mc Shannon, Strategic Director of Children’s Services</p>		
<p>Report Authors:</p> <p>Peter Haylock</p> <p>Operational Director of Education and SEND</p> <p>Tony Burton</p> <p>Head of Finance for Children’s and Education</p>		<p>Contact Details:</p> <p>E-mail:</p> <p>Peter.Haylock@lbhf.gov.uk</p> <p>Tony.burton@lbhf.gov.uk</p>
<p>Purpose of the report</p> <p>This report updates forum on the final High Needs Block allocation for the financial year 2023/24 and updates on changes to the Dedicated Schools Grant conditions prescribed by the Education and Standards Funding Agency in relation to the High Needs Block.</p>		

1. Introduction

- 1.1. This report provides an update on the 2023 to 24 High Needs Block allocation and additional supplementary high needs funding.
- 1.2. The report shows the impact of the amendment to the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) requiring that special provision receives a 3.4% increase in the FY 2023/24 budget allocations.
- 1.3. The report provides an update on the requirement to provide a Minimum Funding guarantee for Special Schools from the financial year (FY) 2023/24.

2. 2023/24 High Needs Block allocations

- 2.1. The 2023 to 2024 High Needs Block (HNB) Dedicated Schools Grant funding (DSG) allocated through the HNB National Funding Formula (NFF) has been confirmed by the Department for Education (DfE) at £35.331m.
- 2.2. In addition to the HNB NFF allocation, there is additional funding of £1.382m. This was announced separately in the government's Autumn 2022 Budget

Statement and is intended to reflect likely cost increases that local authorities and schools will face in the provision for children and young people with high needs. This represents a 3.9% increase on the 2023 to 2024 HNB NFF allocation.

- 2.3. The total 2023 to 2024 HNB allocation is £36.714m. This represents a cash increase of £3.722m on the 2022 to 2023 HNB allocation or 11%.

Additional grant funding payable to Special provision

- 2.4. The DfE have attached further conditions of grant to the additional funding made to local authorities for high needs ensuring that a proportion of the additional high needs funding must be passed to schools.
- 2.5. Local authorities (LA) must use part of this funding to make allocations to all those special schools, pupil referral units that are maintained by the LA, all special and alternative provision (AP) academies that the LA previously maintained and all special and AP academies and free schools that were not previously maintained but are located in their area.
- 2.6. Local authorities must make an allocation that is equivalent to 3.4% of the estimated total grant funding (place and top-up funding) of the school including funding received by the school or from other placing LA's. The ESFA has provided information to the LA for the allocation for AP academies and AP free schools. This is based on the place and top-up funding received by this type of provision.
- 2.7. The predicted impact on H&F is £0.664m based on the guidance for calculation provided by the ESFA is shown at Table 1.

Table 1 – allocation of the 2023/24 additional grant funding for special provision.

School	2023/24 additional HNB allocation at 3.4% £
Cambridge	143,378
Jack Tizard	123,472
Wood Lane	78,682
Queensmill	226,371
The Bridge Academy	38,776
Courtyard Academy	12,496
Westside	61,472
Total	684,647

3. Special Schools Minimum Funding Guarantee for 2023 to 2024

- 3.1. The DfE has set a condition of grant in 2023 to 24 requiring LA's to ensure that special schools including special academies receive a total budget that is 3% higher per pupil in 2023/24 versus 2021/22. This has previously been set at 0%.

- 3.2. The 3% Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) uses the 2021 to 2022 baseline to achieve broad equivalence with the MFG for mainstream schools over the same period.
- 3.3. The MFG must assume that all pupils in the school are placed by the provider local authority and that all top-up rates received by the school are those set by the provider local authority.
- 3.4. The MFG calculation must exclude the equivalent grant funding for the former teachers pay and pensions grant and the 2023 to 2024 additional high needs funding. Eligible schools will continue to receive these grants as separate allocations for budgeting purposes.
- 3.5. The total MFG calculated for the three H&F maintained special schools and the Special School Academy is £0.483m. The proportion of this amount estimated to be payable by H&F for H&F resident pupils is £0.259m. The amount expected to be paid by other placing local authorities is £0.224m. These figures are based on the Autumn 2022 census data.
- 3.6. The four H&F special schools have a high proportion of their pupils placed from outside of the borough and therefore the expectation is that placing local authorities will pay at the increased top-up rate that reflects the MFG.
- 3.7. The 2022/23 Supplementary grant shown at column H of table 2 will not be paid as a separate grant in 2023/24. This amount is included in the 2023/24 MFG allocation and reflects ESFA guidance to calculate the increase funding over a two year period from 2021/22.
- 3.8. The ESFA guidance recommends that once the 2023 to 24 top-up rates are calculated in line with the guarantee, that they are applied to reflect the actual number and type of places at the school.

Table 2 – 2023/24 Special Schools MFG allocations

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
School	AY 2023/24 Places	AY 2023/24 pupils (Autumn 22 census)	Current top- up per pupil £	Proposed top-up per pupil to meet 3% MFG £	Proposed Top-up increase per pupil £	Total estimated top-up increase (based on Autumn 2022 census data - All pupils) £	2022/23 Supplementary grant included in the H&F MFG payable to schools £
Cambridge	129	133				120,422	38,564
<i>Cambridge basic rate</i>	129		13,923	14,641	718	92,582	
<i>Additional higher rate</i>	40		23,200	23,896	696	27,840	
Woodlane	100	113	11,000	11,630	630	63,000	30,989
Jack Tizard	70	69	40,957	42,486	1,529	107,010	23,450
Queensmill:	246	245				192,437	72,175
<i>Queensmill main</i>	169		17,189	18,005	816	138,664	
<i>Queensmill at FP</i>	30		12,500	13,175	675	20,250	
<i>Queensmill at FS</i>	47		14,292	15,021	729	33,523	
						482,869	165,178


Table 3 – summary of 2023/24 additional funding

School	2023/24 Additional HNB allocation at 3.4% £	2023/24 estimated MFG £	Total Additional 2023/24 funding £	2022/23 Supplement ary grant £	Total additional funding for one year – 2023/24 to 2022/23 £
Cambridge	143,378	120,422	263,800	-38,564	225,236
Jack Tizard	123,472	107,010	230,482	-23,450	207,032
Wood Lane	78,682	63,000	141,682	-30,989	110,693
Queensmill	226,371	192,427	418,798	-72,175	346,623
The Bridge Academy	38,776	0	38,776	0	38,776
Courtyard Academy	12,496	0	12,496	0	12,496
Westside	61,472	0	61,472	0	61,472
Total	684,647	482,859	1,167,516	-165,178	1,002,328

Report ends

Agenda Item 6

Agenda Item 5

	London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham SCHOOLS FORUM March 2023
Q3 Update: High Needs Block 2022/23	
Open	
Classification - For Scrutiny Review & Comment	
Key Decision: No	
Wards Affected: (All Wards): All	
Accountable Director: Jacqui McShannon, Strategic Director of Children's Services	
Report Authors:	
Joe Gunning - Programme Lead, Children's Commissioning	
Purpose of the report	
This report provides an update on the High Needs Block programmes of work and performance against the Department for Education Safety Valve Agreement at Q3.	

Recommendations:


1. Schools Forum to note the current position of the High Needs Block (HNB) and forthcoming transformation programmes.


HIGH LEVEL FORECAST


	21/22 Final Outturn	22/23 Updated Q3 (FY 22/23)	23/24 Updated Q3 (FY 22/23)	24/25 Updated Q3 (FY 22/23)	25/26 Updated Q3 (FY 22/23)
HNB allocation	29,082,078	32,992,213	36,714,054	37,815,476	38,855,355
Block Transfer	(528,000)	0	0	0	0
HNB Expenditure before savings	33,767,970	37,630,649	41,153,539	42,861,909	44,465,815
Investment	166,250	486,410	2,625,621	2,902,020	3,288,136
Total savings (Schedule A)	(599,772)	(1,414,953)	(1,809,485)	(1,919,001)	(2,040,045)
HNB after savings	32,806,448	36,702,106	41,969,675	43,844,928	45,713,906
Sub total - Deficit / (Surplus)	3,724,370	3,709,893	5,255,621	6,029,452	6,858,551
Variance from original safety valve agreement to mitigate	3,292,177	4,053,403	5,280,575	7,084,325	8,914,012
Further savings to mitigate movement (Schedule B)	(4,027,674)	(3,716,000)	(5,657,051)	(6,284,972)	(6,961,984)
Additional Efficiency Target (Schedule C)	0	0	0	0	0
Variance from original safety valve after all mitigations	(735,497)	337,403	(376,476)	799,354	1,952,028
Total deficit / (surplus) after all mitigations	(303,304)	(6,107)	(401,430)	(255,520)	(103,433)
Safety Valve Payment	4,555,600	4,000,000	3,000,000	3,000,000	0
Retained Deficit	11,820,076	7,813,969	4,412,539	1,157,019	1,053,586

Programme update


Delivered / Low Risk	Some risk – closely monitor	Not delivered / undeliverable
----------------------	-----------------------------	-------------------------------

Workstream:	Early Intervention and development of robust Local Offer
Safety Valve 	
<p>Specialist Teacher Surgeries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed analysis undertaken of schools participating in surgeries against requests for assessments. Targeted comms to schools who are underutilising this offer completed by Director of Education. <p>SENCo Workshop/Workforce Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Director of Education discussion with Headteacher via Primary and Secondary Heads forums to promote attendance at SENCO forum. 80% of SENCO's reported that they found the SEN Support Thematic helpful. New SENCO Induction – the graduated approach and SEN November 2022 <p>Next steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete the development of our early intervention outcomes framework and data capture processes. 	

Workstream:	SLCN Early Intervention Offer			
Safety Valve 	21/22 Target	21/22 Delivered	22/23 Target	22/23 Q2
	£47,073	£0	£139,297	£139,297
<p>Progress update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parent/Carer workshops delivered in the Autumn Term. Programme of targeted sessions being delivered from January 2023 in response to needs identified via the Progression Tools. Ongoing delivery of the SLCN Early Identification and Early Intervention Progression Tools training. Partnership working with NHS Health Visiting Secondary Curriculum Area Workshops implemented for Spring Term to re-enforce message that “Communication is Everyone’s business – whatever subject area you teach”. INSPIRE Joint Communication Team Highly Specialist SLT supporting pupils discharged at 6.5 years to provide Specialist (Red) interventions with the aim to avoid escalation to the EHCNA process. <p>Key next steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roll out of the targeted programmes. Embed the data capture processes to measure impact Continue to socialise the JCT offers as part of the ordinarily available and graduated response to meeting needs. 				

Workstream:		SLCN Special School Offer		
Safety Valve 	21/22 Target	21/22 Delivered	22/23 Target	22/23 Q2
	£250,000	£64,072	£250,000	£184,000
Progress update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saving delivered in relation to two Special Schools with effect from April 2022. • Saving now confirmed for one special school with effect from September 2022. • Full year effect of savings in 2023/2024 - £257,000. Key next steps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing work with special schools in embedding new approach. 				

Workstream:	Autism Education Trust (AET) Early Intervention Offer
Progress update: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Targeted comms to settings/schools who have not engaged. Five targeted schools committed to sessions since Sept 22. Two primary schools yet to engage 5% of total• Making Sense of Autism sessions delivered• Planning & finalising of Early Years and School Good Autism Practice module rolled out• Good Autism Practice module rolled out• AET standards workshops completed and delivered• Making Sense of Autism Trainings continue to be well attended by Early Years settings – PVIs especially engaged.• Bespoke sessions offered to individual settings with staff release/resources difficulties• Childminders – sessions in evening offered – well attended• Children Centres – requested sessions x2 sessions delivered, to be repeated each half term• 1 session delivered re: Reasonable Adjustments for Parent/Caregivers• Session to be delivered to SENCO Forum in Nov	
Next steps: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improve % of Delegate Feedback returned – currently 30% - target 80%• Review and update Microsoft Forms and associated data collection• Continue Making Sense of Autism rollout as part of Graduated Approach Universal offer – central training for all schools• Parent workshops will be delivered to complement Making Sense of Autism sessions by stage.	

Workstream:	SEND Case Management, Reporting and Quality Assurance (QA)		
Safety Valve 			
Progress update SEND Case Management and Reporting <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ongoing finance reconciliation• Ongoing work with BI in the development of report suite• Interim Reports finalised• System skills gap analysis with EHC staff completed• Second finance module configuration workshop held• Annual review data analysis and updates completed			

Progress updated QA

- Multi-agency half termly audits – first EHCP QA Panel scheduled for February 2023
- Initial discussion with Parentsactive re involvement in audit activity
- External EHCP audit commenced – completion time extended to February 2022
- Undertaken analysis of 2022 Tribunals outcomes
- Two SEND Support surveys circulated:
 - School/settings survey
 - Parent/Carer survey
- Annual Review Improvement Plan agreed and shared with DfE Adviser
- Initial discussion with Parentsactive re involvement in AR guidance refresh
- SEND Scorecard drafted and circulated to SDG for comment
- EHC Needs Assessment dashboard completed
- EHCP dashboard completed
- Initial sections of JSNA drafted January 2023
- Initial SEF drafted
- Progressed identification of data sources to complete required child level data for Annex A.
- Progressed updating of Synergy records to be able to produce required lists.
- Begun analysis to produce specific performance information required for Ofsted/CQC Annex A.

Key next steps:

- Ongoing manual finance reconciliation until module implemented
- Ongoing BI development of report suites

Workstream:**Panels, needs assessments and new plans****Progress update:**

- Current performance on needs assessments and new plans: Performance in relation to the timeliness of assessments remains good. Calendar year to date (to September) performance is 82.1% finalised in 20 weeks excluding exceptions and 80.4% including exceptions, significantly higher than national average.

Next steps:

- Implement and embed the revised panel structure and monitor the effectiveness via established fortnightly performance monitoring meetings.
- Monitor impact via decisions to assess/issue

Workstream:**Annual Reviews****Annual Review progress update:**

- Development of annual review action plan.
- Targeted data cleansing and case management system updated completed
- Rebalance caseload across new team members ~130 cases each including new assessments
- Monitoring of school performance of report returns (2wks) and LA's 4-week timeliness via fortnightly EHC/HNB Working meetings
- Ongoing embedding of annual review targets via established performance management frameworks within the EHC Team.
- Director of Education written to all school partners (including FE settings) setting


expectation of annual reviews - roles, responsibilities, process, who to invite to annual reviews to contribute (e.g., Continuing Care, Children's Nursing etc).


Preparing for Adulthood targeted actions progress update:


- Cohort of 34 young people identified for transition this academic year
- 53% of that cohort have now transitioned– 18 of the 34
- Placement cost saving per annum of £77k. £242k per annum in admin costs for maintaining plan.
- Casework ongoing for 8 to complete transition
- 3 young people are currently awaiting appropriate care or health pathway
- 76% likely to be transitioned by the end of the financial year – 26 of the 34
- Analysis by BI colleagues is being completed of the SEND and Adult Social Care cohort to support joint planning across the services and opportunities for the next three years – targeted Nov 22.


Key next steps:


- Ongoing monitoring of school performance of report returns (2wks) and LA's 4-week timeliness via Department Leadership Meetings and High Needs Block Board.
- Follow up letter to all schools and ongoing conversations with headteachers via established forums.
- Deliver ongoing SENCO training session for school partners (including special schools) on *Annual Review quality - What does a good annual review look like?*
- Recruit 1FTE Annual Review Coordinator to provide capacity in support of EHC and Leadership Team in project managing the Annual Review process.
- Work with Corporate BI to develop annual review management reports, ensuring reporting for 2022 annual review data captures compliance against statutory timescales and reflects revised annual review workflow
- Subject to full implementation of case management system - explore coproduction of digital forms and process for the management of annual reviews and other EHC processes


Workstream:		Alternative Provision Reduction of Place Commissioning			
Safety Valve		21/22 Target	21/22 Delivered	22/23 Target	22/23 Q2
		0	0	£128,456	£128,456
Progress update:					
• Saving firm. No further actions required.					


Workstream:		Alternative Provision Funding Recoupment			
Safety Valve		21/22 Target	21/22 Delivered	22/23 Target	22/23 Q2
		£43,750	£53,000	£51,000	£51,000
Progress update: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Saving firm - no further action required.					

Workstream:		Alternative Provision – Short Term Intervention			
Safety Valve		21/22 Target	21/22 Delivered	22/23 Target	22/23 Q2
		£141,167	£52,500	£242,000	£192,000
Progress update: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Saving firm. No further action required.• Full saving target will be achieved in 2023/24.					

Workstream:		Outreach Services			
Safety Valve 		21/22 Target	21/22 Delivered	22/23 Target	22/23 Q2
		-	-	-	-
Progress update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2022/23 governance established and 1 year contract signed. Term 1 data capture in progress to inform discussions with Task and Finish group early in Spring term. Key next steps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Options on arrangements for outreach services from September 2023 onwards. Socialise findings with school leaders and LA officers to gather views. Options paper to be produced which will include exploration of a traded services model. Progress governance of options paper (and consultation if necessary). 					

Workstream:		SEN Sufficiency and High Needs Capital Allocation			
Safety Valve 		21/22 Target	21/22 Delivered	22/23 Target	22/23 Q2
		£50,000	£0	£150,000	£0
Progress update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft Sufficiency Review circulated for Officer review. Draft of internal decision papers prepared in order to release the Review to public consultation. Progressing documents through internal governance alongside Capital Plan and School Org plan. Next steps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Release strategy for formal consultation Targeting Cabinet June 2023 for sign off of Strategy, Capital Plan and School Org strategy. 					


Workstream:		Interim Tuition			
Safety Valve 		21/22 Target	21/22 Delivered	22/23 Target	22/23 Q2
		£165,000	£215,000	£165,000	£165,000
Progress Update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liaison with EHCP Team to progress updating of the case tracker with learners' info to inform future options appraisal. Next steps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take briefing to Education Leadership Team for steer on desired service model Confirm dates and attendees for Medical Needs Policy working group Finalise draft of Medical Needs Policy for circulation and consultation Confirm briefing and governance dates for Medical Needs Policy and report 					

Workstream:		High Needs Block Staffing Efficiencies			
Safety Valve 		21/22 Target	21/22 Delivered	22/23 Target	22/23 Q2
		£215,200	£400,000	£215,200	£400,000

Progress Update:

- Saving firm. No further action required.

Workstream:**Schools Block to High Needs Block Transfer**


Safety Valve 	21/22 Target	21/22 Delivered	22/23 Target	22/23 Q2
	£528,000	£528,000	£0	£556,000

Progress Update:

- Transfer approved. No further action required.

Agenda Item 7

Agenda Item 6

	London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham SCHOOLS FORUM March 14th 2023	
DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT MONITORING QUARTER 3 2022/23		
Open		
Wards Affected: (All Wards); All		
Accountable Director: Jacqui McShannon, Strategic Director of Children Services		
Report Authors: Tony Burton Head of Finance for Children’s Services and Education		Contact Details: Tel: 07909 004 710 E-mail: tony.burton@lbhf.gov.uk
Purpose of the report This report updates forum on the 2021/22 quarter 3 budget monitoring position for the Dedicated Schools Grant covering: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• High Needs Block• Schools Block including dedelegated budgets• Central Services Schools Block• Early Years Block		

1. Introduction

- 1.1. This paper sets out:
- Carry forward balances at 1st April 2022
 - Forecast variances in each of the blocks of the Dedicated Schools Grant in 2022/23
 - Projected closing balances at 31st March 2023
 - Changes in 2022/23 dedicated schools grant allocations advised by Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA)

2. Summary Position

- 2.1. Table 1 below shows the high-level position for 2022/23 financial year at quarter 3.

Table 1 – Accumulated Adjusted DSG Carry Forward from 2021/22 (balances at 31/03/22 and forecast balances at 31/03/23)

Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Balances by Block			
Figures in red and brackets represent surplus	Balances 31/03/22	2022/23 Forecast Variance	Forecast Balance 31/03/23
	£m	£m	£m
Schools Block	(0.065)	(0.056)	(0.121)
Central Services Schools Block	0	0	0
High Needs Block (including Safety Valve £4m)	11.820	(4.006)	7.814
Early Years Block	(0.234)	0.234	0
TOTAL DSG	11.521	(3.828)	7.693

3. Schools Block and Maintained De-delegation 2022/2023

- 3.1. The £0.065m Schools Block surplus carry forward at 31/03/22 relates to the underspend on maintained primary de-delegated budget in 2021-22.
- 3.2. A total of £0.240m contingency budget for schools in financial difficulty is available in 2022/23 to support maintained primary schools.
 - £0.065m Schools Block surplus carry forward at 31/03/22 relates to the underspend on the maintained primary de-delegated budget in 2021-22 for Schools in Financial Difficulty
 - £0.175m is available from the agreed budget for 2022/23
- 3.3. The proposed allocations totalling £162,000 from the contingency for Schools in Financial Difficulty for 2022/23 are set out below.
- 3.4. Appendix 1 Details Contingency funding support paid and proposed in 4 year period 2019/20 to 2022/23.
- 3.5. The following should be noted with respect to this recommendation:
 - This funding support is a short-term measure to support schools with low levels of retained balances where cost increases above the budgeted level have led to a deficit in retained balances pending the realisation of the benefits of cost reductions.
 - The schools concerned have evidenced a sustainable medium term budget position following mitigating actions around cost reductions and efficiencies.
 - Financial support from the de-delegated contingency to support restructure costs and short-term deficits are expected to be one-off support to schools within the planning cycle.
 - The schools benefitting from this support should not expect further support from the contingency for schools in financial difficulty in the short to medium term.

- Financial support will meet direct restructure costs and balance of short-term deficit.
- Schools ordinarily, are expected to meet the costs of redundancies and other restructure costs from within the delegated schools budget.

3.6. Schools Forum are asked to approve the allocations for payment subject to virtual review and approval of a subgroup of the Schools Forum.

Table 2 – Recommended Allocation of De-delegated Contingency for Current Requests Schools in Financial Difficulty 2022/23.

Maintained Primary	Contingency Support Recommended	Support Provided for:
	£	
Flora Gardens Primary	72,000	Tight budget position, significant restructure and cost reductions through staff turnover achieved. Short term budget support 2022/23 needed with respect to short term deficit with time lag on cost reduction measures. Support with significant restructure costs at £72,000.
Avonmore Primary	60,000	Tight budget position, significant restructure, cost reductions and income generation. Short term budget support 2022/23 needed with respect to short term deficit with time lag on cost reduction measures. Includes £10,000 for redundancy.
Kenmont Primary	30,000	Short Term budget issue 2022/23 driven by temporary reduction in nursery numbers (now recovering), short term exceptional staffing costs not covered by insurance. This is within a context of operation over recent years with low levels of reserves and unbudgeted system wide cost increases. Long term sustainable budget presented with roll expected to improve in years 5 and 6 following linked school status with Queens Park Community School, QPCS
Total Proposed	162,000	
Available Budget	240,000	
Fund Balance c/f	78,000	

- 3.7. The Schools Block budget 2022/23 is summarised below in Table 3. There is a de-delegated underspend forecast on the maintained primary fund of £0.121m:
- £0.078m underspend on contingency for schools in financial difficulty per Table 2.
 - £0.043m underspend forecast on de-delegated School Effectiveness Service due to part year vacancy in the service.
- 3.8. Proposals for the expected carry forward of de-delegated underspend will be reported to Schools Forum in the Summer term with the 2022/23 Dedicated Schools Grant Outturn report.

Table 3 - Schools Block Forecast 2022/23

	£m	£m	£m
	2022/23 Budget	2022/23 Forecast	2022/23 Variance
Schools Block delegated (after academy recoupment)	37.276	37.276	0
Falling Rolls Fund	0.200	0.200	0
Maintained schools de-delegated Budget	0.666	0.545	(0.121)
Maintained schools de-delegated underspend b/f from 2021/22	0.066	0.066	0
Maintained schools Education Functions	0.258	0.258	0
Transfer to High Needs Block	0.556	0.556	0
Total Schools Block	39.022	38.901	(0.121)

4. Central Services Schools block 2022/23

- 4.1. The £2.817m CSSB block is forecast to outturn to budget with no variances to budget expected.
- 4.2. A planned contribution of £1.319m to support the High Needs Block in 2022/23 is expected to be achieved.
- 4.3. Any underspend within the CSSB ahead of the notified further grant reduction in April 2023 will be passed through to support the High Needs Block pressure in year.

5. High Needs Block 2022/23

- 5.1. The retained HNB deficit at 31/03/22 was £11.8m after receipt of High Needs Safety Valve funding of £6m and £4.5m in 2020/21 and 2021/22 respectively.
- 5.2. The High Needs Block is forecast to be broadly balanced in 2022/23 financial year due to an underspend of £0.006m after:

- High needs funding allocation of £27.927m in 2022/23 excluding academy recoupment funding.
 - Contribution of £0.556m from agreed Schools Block Transfer
 - Contribution of £1.319m from Central Services Schools Block
 - Benefit of final surplus of £0.179m on Early Years Block 2021/22 after final funding adjustments,
- 5.3. A retained closing deficit of £7.813m is forecast on the High Needs Block in 2022/23 after further High Needs Block Safety Valve funding of £4m expected.
- 5.4. A further £6m of High Needs Safety Valve funding is expected with respect to the remaining deficit, with £3m in 2023/24 and 2024/25 financial years respectively.

6. Early Years Block 2022/23

- 6.1. Early years DSG closed with a provisional retained surplus in 2021/22 of £0.234m, subject to final funding adjustments by the ESFA.
- 6.2. Final funding for 2021/22 was reduced by £0.051m leaving revised surplus balance of £0.179m.
- 6.3. This balance will offset against the High Needs Block retained deficit balance carried forward from 2021/22 of £11.820m. Schools Forum are asked to note this as an essential contribution to balance the in-year High Needs expenditure versus available funding – see paragraph 5.1.

Table 4 Early Years Grant Funding 2022/23

	£m	£m	£m
Early Years Funding Element	2022/23 Original Budget	2022/23 Revised Allocation	Change in Funding
3 and 4 YO universal & extended offer	13.388	13.056	(0.332)
2 YO Disadvantaged offer	0.906	1.048	0.142
EY Pupil Premium	0.095	0.092	(0.003)
Disability Access Fund	0.051	0.051	0
MNS supplementary funding	0.733	0.702	(0.031)
Total 2022/23 Early Years	15.173	14.948	(0.225)

- 6.4. The Early Years block is forecast to spend to budget in 2022/23 based on current data available.
- 6.5. In the 2022/23 financial year, the ESFA reverted to using January headcounts to determine the annual allocation. As funding will follow participation the individual headcount numbers, it is expected that funding will be adequate to cover the costs incurred.

- 6.6. The Early Years Block is adjusted retrospectively each year so the final funding allocation for 2022/23 will not be known until July 2023.


Report ends

Item 6, Appendix 1 - Contingency Funding for Schools In Financial Difficulty 2019/20 to 2022/23 (Including 2022/23 Recommended)

Maintained Primary Fund Only

	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23 Proposed	Total
School	£	£	£	£	£
Avonmore Primary School				60,000	60,000
Flora Gardens Primary School	31,000			72,000	103,000
Kenmont Primary				30,000	30,000
Melcombe Primary School			106,700		106,700
Miles Coverdale Primary School	46,000				46,000
Old Oak Primary School	108,000		34,887		142,887
St Paul's CofE Primary School			15,409		15,409
St Thomas Of Canterbury Catholic Primary			26,791		26,791
Total Paid	185,000	-	183,787	162,000	530,787

Agenda Item 7

	London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham	
	SCHOOLS FORUM	
	March 14th 2023	
LBHF Proposed Amendments to the Financial Scheme		
Open		
Wards Affected: (All Wards); All		
Accountable Director: Jacqui McShannon, Strategic Director of Children Services		
Report Authors: Tony Burton Head of Finance for Children’s Services and Education		Contact Details: Tel: 07909 004 710 E-mail: tony.burton@lbhf.gov.uk
Purpose of the report This report is requesting agreement from the Schools’ Forum to an amended to The Scheme for Financing Schools with respect to the deadline regarding the submission of the detailed breakdown of the planned use of the school’s budget share: the 3-year budget plan.		

1. Introduction

- 1.1. The Scheme for Financing Schools (the "policy") sets out the financial relationship between the Local Authority and the maintained schools that it funds. It contains requirements relating to the financial management of its schools.
- 1.2. In making any changes to their schemes, local authorities must consult all maintained schools and receive approval of the Schools' Forum representing maintained schools.
- 1.3. The proposed policy is compliant with DfE guidance and the Authority's financial regulations.

2. Policy Updates for Consideration

- 2.1. The current Scheme for Financing Schools was last updated in March 2022 following agreement from the Schools' Forum.

- 2.2. It is proposed to revise the deadline for submission of the 3-year budget forecast to the first working day of May as opposed to the last working day of May which is the current deadline in the LHBF Schools Financial Scheme.
- 2.3. This is to ensure any budgetary issues and support requirements are picked up as early as possible in the financial year.
- 2.4. If approved following consultation, this revision is suggested to take effect from May 2024 with respect to three-year budget plans 2024-25 to 2026-27 financial years.
- 2.5. The intention is to achieve a gradual transition to an earlier budget setting timetable.

2.1.2	<p>Provision of financial information</p> <p>Current: <i>Schools are required to provide the local authority with details of expected and actual expenditure and income and other information for financial purposes, in a form and at times determined by the local authority. The Section 151 Officer of the local authority may at their discretion amend the requirements for financial information and reports from schools, and the timetable on which these are provided to suit the local authority's overall financial monitoring requirements.</i></p> <p><i>The details of the requirements are as follows:</i></p> <p><u><i>At the start of the financial year:</i></u></p> <p><i>A detailed breakdown of the planned use of the school's budget share no later than the 31 May (or the last working day of May). This breakdown must have been approved by the governing body. The budget report must provide the local authority with details of anticipated and actual expenditure and income. The format provided by the local authority will take account of the Consistent Financial Reporting (CFR) framework.</i></p> <p>Proposed change</p> <p><u><i>At the start of the financial year:</i></u></p> <p>Schools are required to submit a 3-year budget plan to the Authority by 1 May (or the first working day of May) each year. <i>This breakdown must have been approved by the governing body. The budget report must provide the local authority with details of anticipated and actual expenditure and income. The format provided by the local authority will take account of the Consistent Financial Reporting (CFR) framework.</i></p>
-------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

--	--

3. Consultation

3.1. In accordance with the provision set out in 1.4 of the Scheme and DfE guidance, 'any proposed revisions to the Scheme will be the subject of consultation with the governing body and the headteacher of every school maintained by the Authority, before they are submitted to the Schools Forum for their approval'.

3.2. To comply with this requirement, Schools Forum is asked to note the updated provision and provide consent for the proposed Scheme to be circulated to all maintained schools for consultation.

3.3. Schools Forum is asked to agree to the Scheme being placed on the agenda for the next Schools Forum meeting to enable consultation responses to be reviewed and formally approved.

4. Recommendations

4.1 Schools Forum is asked to:

- review and approve the updated Scheme to be consulted on with all maintained schools (in line with provision 1.4 of the policy);
- agree to the Scheme being placed on the agenda for the next Schools Forum meeting so that consultation responses can be reviewed, the final policy approved and implemented from 2023-24.

Report ends