

<p style="text-align: center;">Hammersmith & Fulham</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SCHOOLS FORUM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2 July 2019</p>	
Schools Budget Preparation 2020-21	
Open Report	
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Purpose of the report

This report describes the proposed outline process for setting school budgets for 2020-21.

1. Introduction

- 1.1. The ESFA provides indicative data for the local authority to calculate and consult on schools' budgets including early years and high needs.
- 1.2. The Schools Forum is required to approve the final allocations for schools including any disapplication requests and to set the early years budget including hourly rates and central spend.
- 1.3. This report gives a timeline to the process.
- 1.4. Please note that we expect the ESFA to issue revised Dedicated Schools Grant guidance and an update on the National Funding Formula in late July 2019. However, at this time and pending the outcome of the Governments Comprehensive Spending Review, we anticipate limited financial and budget information to be available at that time. Officers will proceed with modelling 2020/21 budgets based on prudent assumptions and will consult on principles and indicative budget figures from early in the Autumn Term 2019.

2. Proposed Timeline

2.1. September 2019 Budget Briefings

Two 2-hour briefings proposed for week commencing 16th September. Draft modelling, proposals and options presented to Schools and other stakeholders.

Opportunity for discussion and Q&A. Schools Forum to please advise most suitable days and times for these sessions to be held.

2.2. Tuesday 8th October 2019 - Schools Forum

- Schools Block budget 2020-21 – draft Authority Proforma Tool (APT) presented for consultation using estimated schools block budget and October 2018 census
- Early Years and High Needs updates
- Draft Consultation Document for review
- Schools Forum to review and make recommendations for budget options and consultation process
- Provisional decision on Schools Block to High Needs Block transfer

2.3. 14th October to 8th November 2019 - Schools Budget Consultation and Workshops

- 14th October – Consultation Period Starts
- Workshops covering:
 - APT (Schools Block Allocation model)
 - Early Years Budget Model
 - High Needs Budget Model
 - Dates to be confirmed early in the Autumn term

The workshops will be designed to pass on relevant information to schools and stakeholders, so they are able understand any changes to the funding formula that will impact their budgets and to actively engage with all stakeholders to ensure all areas are covered.

2.4. Autumn Term Budget Disapplication request - deadlines to be confirmed

2.5. Tuesday 10th December 2019 - Schools Forum

- Update on budget process and consultation feedback pending final allocations from ESFA
- Schools Forum to agree principles for final Schools Block allocations
- Early Years and High Needs updates

2.6. Christmas/New Years 2019/20 – Final Budget Work

- ESFA advise final allocations and issue final APT model with October 2019 census data
- Officers final model and final APT calculations and early years budget for presentation to SF 14th January.

2.7. Week commencing 6th January 2020 - Final Budget Briefings

- Workshops covering
 - APT (Schools Block Allocation model)
 - Early Years and High Needs Blocks for schools
 - Dates to be confirmed early in the Autumn term
- The workshops will be designed to:
 - communicate the final proposed schools block allocations for 2020/21 at local authority and school level

- Update on 2021/22 budget for Early Years and High Needs proposals

2.8. Tuesday 14th January 2020 - Schools Forum

- Agree 2020/21 schools budget models
- Agree submission of final APT to ESFA

END OF REPORT