

West Berkshire Schools' Forum	
Title of Report:	DSG Monitoring 2013-14, Month 9
Date of Meeting:	20^h January 2014
Contact Officer(s)	Ian Pearson, Shannon Coleman-Slaughter
For Discussion	

1. Background

- 1.1 The main source of funding for schools is the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). It is a ring fenced specific grant and can only be used on school/pupil activity.
- 1.2 The grant is split into three funding blocks. The schools block is calculated by multiplying a guaranteed unit of funding per pupil (set by the DfE) by the actual pupil numbers from the October census count (so October 2013 census for 2014/15 budget); the early years block is calculated by multiplying a guaranteed unit of funding 5/12 from the January 2013 early years census, and 7/12 from the January 2014 early years census; the high needs block is a fixed sum based on the actual budget set by the Council in 2012/13.
- 1.3 The Local Authority is required to use national formula factors but applies local rates to distribute funding to schools.
- 1.4 Centrally Retained Overspends, unless funded from outside the DSG, are carried forward and top sliced from the following year's DSG allocation. Underspends must be carried forward to support the school's budget in future years.
- 1.5 The Authority and Schools' Forum are responsible for ensuring that the DSG is deployed correctly, and monitoring of spend against the DSG needs to take place regularly to enable decision making on overspends/underspends and to inform future year budget requirements.

2. Monitoring Position as at Month 9 (31st December 013)

2.1 The following is the position as at the end of December 2013. A further analysis per cost centre is shown in Appendix A:

	Total Budget £m	Actual Spend Forecast £m	Forecast Outturn Variance £m
Schools Block (inc ISB)	66.337	66.337	0.0
Early Years Block	7.061	7.061	0.0
High Needs Block	16.392	15.063	-1.329
Total Net Expenditure	89.790	88.461	-1.329
Support Service Recharges	0.720	0.720	0.0
Total Expenditure	90.511	89.181	-1.329
DSG Grant	90.511	90.511	0
Net Position	0	-1.329	-1.329

2.2 The Schools Block inclusive of the ISB is forecasting a year end position of on line.

2.3 The Early Years Block is forecasting a year end position of on line.

2.4 The High Needs Block is forecasting a year end position of £1,329k under spent. Within the High Needs Block the Top Up cost centres are forecasting a pressure of £247k. The High Needs Contingency is currently forecasting a year end position of £939k under spent this is post a virement of budget from contingency of £709k as agreed at the School's Forum on 7th October 2013 into the Top Up cost centres. The net forecast position for the Top Up cost centres, including the contingency, is £692k under spent at the year end.

2.5 The High Needs Block non-top up or place funding cost centres are forecasting an under spend of £637k. £309k is on the Non-LEA Special School cost centre due to a reduction of costs and revision of commitments. £400k is recoupment income relating to 2012-13. There is a £70k pressure on home tuition.

2.5 Appendix A details all under and over spends forecast within the High Needs Block.

Appendices

Appendix A – DSG 2013/14 Budget Monitoring Report