

West Berkshire Schools' Forum	
Title of Report:	Primary & Secondary School Formula 2016/17
Date of Meeting:	28th September 2015
Contact Officer(s)	Claire White & Ian Pearson
For Decision by All School Members of the Forum	

1. Background

1.1 The Department for Education (DfE) announced the arrangements for the 2016/17 funding formula for primary and secondary schools on 16th July 2015. As expected, there were no amendments to the regulations. At the Schools' Forum meeting held on 13th July 2015 it was agreed that if there was no change to the regulations that would benefit West Berkshire schools their proposal would be no change to the West Berkshire formula for 2016/17.

1.2 A briefing/consultation document containing this proposal was distributed to all primary and secondary schools on 1st September. This document is attached (Appendix A).

1.3 Comments were invited from schools for return by 8th September.

2. Proposal

2.1 There were just a few responses to the consultation, all except one agreeing with the proposal with no further comment. The exception was in relation to paragraph 2.4 of the document regarding deprivation. It was commented that we should be putting more money through the deprivation factor, due to the fact we have some pockets of serious deprivation in West Berkshire. This can be considered as an option with regard to the allocation of any additional funding.

2.2 Heads Funding Group has considered the document and agrees with the following proposals (for the reasons set out in 2.6 of the briefing document):

- (1) In order to provide schools with stability to their funding for a further year, the formula factors are to remain the same as those used in 2015/16. There are no perceived anomalies that need to be addressed, and it is felt that the current formula is equitable and fair.
- (2) If funding from the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) allows, the funding rates for each formula factor are to remain the same.
- (3) Once the 2016/17 schools block of the DSG funding allocation is known (expected mid December 2015), any shortfall in funding

will be met by an adjustment to the basic entitlement per pupil rate. If there is additional funding available the option of allocating some or all through the deprivation factor will be considered at the January meeting of the Schools' Forum.

2.3 The recommended formula for 2016/17 to be submitted to the Education Funding Agency by 31st October 2015 is as follows:

Factor	Rate - Primary	Rate - Secondary
1. Basic Entitlement per Pupil:		
Primary	£2,937	
Secondary KS3		£4,364
Secondary KS4		£4,364
2. Deprivation per eligible Pupil:		
Free School Meals Ever 6	£875	£670
Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI):		
IDACI Band 1	£40	£60
IDACI Band 2	£120	£180
IDACI Band 3	£240	£360
IDACI Band 4	£240	£360
IDACI Band 5	£240	£360
IDACI Band 6	£240	£360
3. Prior Attainment per eligible Pupil	£284	£1,125
4. Looked After Children	Not used	Not used
5. English as an Additional Language	£345	£345
6. Pupil Mobility	Not used	Not used
7. Sparsity	Not used	£100,000
8. Lump Sum per School	£126,400	£126,400
9. Split Sites	Not used	Not used
10. Rates - actual cost to school	Actual cost	Actual cost
11. Private Finance Initiative	Not applicable	Not applicable
12. London Fringe	Not applicable	Not applicable
13. Post 16	Not used	Not used
14. Exceptional Premises	Actual cost	Actual cost

2.4 The only impact on individual schools will be where they are receiving minimum funding guarantee due to the original formula changes in 2013 (their funding will reduce by 1.5% per pupil). The exemplification in the consultation document uses current (October 2014) data. Schools' final funding allocation for 2016/17 will be based on their pupil numbers (and other relevant data) in the October 2015 census. If this changes significantly then so will their funding.

Recommendation: To recommend the proposals as set out above to the Council for final formal approval

Appendices

Appendix A – Proposed Funding Arrangements for 2016/17 – Briefing & Consultation Document sent to schools September 2015.