

West Berkshire Schools' Forum	
Title of Report:	Overall DSG Budget for 2014/15
Date of Meeting:	3rd March 2014
Contact Officer(s)	Claire White, Shannon Coleman-Slaughter, and Ian Pearson
For Decision	

1. School Funding Settlement 2014/15

1.1 As previously reported, the Department for Education (DfE) announced the School Funding Settlement for 2014/15 on 18th December 2013. There has been no change to the funding rates compared to 2013/14 – the settlement is cash flat per pupil. As in 2013/14 DSG funding is split into 3 funding blocks, each calculated in a different way. The blocks are not ring fenced, though provide a guideline on how the funding should be allocated, and where possible the aim should be to maintain this

1.2 The breakdown of the funding for the 3 blocks is detailed in Appendix A. Currently, only the Schools Block is confirmed and the funding received and the allocation of this block was detailed and agreed at the last meeting of the Schools' Forum.

1.3 The Early Years block funding is detailed in a separate report on this agenda.

1.4 The High Needs block funding is fixed at the 2013/14 level plus an additional £448k for the full year adjustment of Academies/Further Education which commenced September 2013. There will be a further adjustment following the place number review, and the final allocation will be notified in March 2014.

2. Estimated DSG Funding and Budget Requirement 2014/15

2.1 The following table summarises the current DSG allocation notified for 2014/15, compared to an estimate of the budget requirement, for each funding block. The breakdown of the budget, split between the three blocks is shown in Appendix B.

	DSG Funding £'000	Budget Estimate £'000	Headroom/ (Shortfall) £'000
Schools Block	£95,150	£95,177	(£27)
Early Years Block	£7,980	£7,980	0
High Needs Block	£17,036	£17,308	(£272)
High Needs Carry Forward from 2013/14	£1,518		£1,518
Total	£121,684	£120,465	£1,219

2.2 As already stated, the Schools block is already agreed. The detailed proposals for the Early Years block and High Needs block are set out in separate reports on this agenda.

2.3 Due to the high underspend likely to be carried forward from the High Needs block in 2013/14, there is "one-off" funding of £1,219k underallocated. It is recommended that this remains in the High Needs Contingency, given that there are still a number of uncertainties on demands on this budget, in particular for high needs pupils in further education. This funding can also be utilised for any other high needs purposes or projects identified as a requirement during the year and agreed by the Schools' Forum. Should a balance remain towards the end of the financial year, an option would be to allocate out to schools as part of their 2015/16 funding, and this would need to be determined at the January 2015 meeting of the Schools' Forum.

Recommendation: To agree the DSG Budget proposals for 2014/15

Appendices

Appendix A - Estimated DSG Funding 2014/15

Appendix B – Proposed DSG Budget 2014/15

Estimated DSG Funding 2014/15 as at MARCH 2014		
	Final 2013/14	Estimate 2014/15
	Oct 2012 census	Oct 2013 census
3	SCHOOLS BLOCK	
4	Pupil Numbers	
5	21,812.0	21,922.0
6	55.0	46.0
7	-131.0	-119.0
8	21,736.0	21,849.0
9		
10	£4,359.00	£4,359.00
11	£94,747,224	£95,239,791
12		
13	£33,000	£33,115
14		-£123,140
15		
16		
17		
18	94,780,224	95,149,766
19		
20	EARLY YEARS BLOCK (Provisional)	
21	Pupil Numbers	
22	415.7	421.0
23	1,043.7	1,114.0
24	0.0	0.0
25	1,459.4	1,535.0
26		
27	£3,911.00	£3,911.00
28	£5,707,557	£6,003,385
29		
30	£364,000	£0
31	£1,073,090	£1,316,928
32		
33		£632,030
34		
35	7,144,647	7,952,343
36		
37	HIGH NEEDS BLOCK	
38	16,587,354	16,587,354
39		
40		-40,974
41		43,254
42		-551,229
43		487,754
44		509,693
45		
46		1,518,000
47		
48	16,587,354	18,553,852
49		
50	118,512,225	121,655,961
51	755,580	
52	119,267,805	121,655,961
53		
54	Expenditure Budgets (including academies, split into funding blocks)	
55	SCHOOLS BLOCK	
56	94,088,540	94,379,130
57	100,000	370,000
58	571,390	427,410
59	94,759,930	95,176,540
60	EARLY YEARS BLOCK	
61	1,956,570	1,922,420
62	3,961,810	4,308,760
63	278,000	354,540
64	755,550	1,267,230
65	192,720	99,390
66	7,144,650	7,952,340
67	HIGH NEEDS BLOCK	
68	6,470,120	6,094,670
69	2,179,880	1,927,570
70	722,980	785,470
71	1,484,610	2,074,500
72	2,881,090	3,841,110
73	1,374,900	1,500,776
74	2,249,640	2,302,985
75	17,363,220	18,527,081
76		
77	119,267,800	121,655,961
78		
79	5	0

