

SCHOOLS FORUM –15TH MARCH 2017**DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT FINANCIAL SETTLEMENT 2017-18****1. Purpose**

The purpose of this paper is to provide school forum members with an update of the 2017-18 financial settlement in respect of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) which was published by central government on the 20th December 2016.

2. Settlement position

The settlement issued on the 20th December 2016 and detailed data issued in respect of the Council indicates a total DSG figure of £127.745M for 2017-18. This shows an increase of £4.326M on the 2016-17 figure of £123.419M.

Analysis supplied by the DFE shows this to be made up as follows below.

<u>Category</u>	<u>2017-18 Allocation £m</u>	<u>2016-17 Allocation £m</u>	<u>Comment</u>
School Block	100.441	99.591	To fund schools and academies. Adjusted to include the NQT payment.
Early Years Block	10.194	7.710	2017-18 allocation includes additional funding as part of the EYNFF and additional funding in respect of the additional 15 hours free entitlement for eligible families from September 2017.
High Needs Block	17.110	16.118	To fund the 2 special academies, centrally retained SEN services,

			Pupil referral units, alternative provision. The uplift is predominantly as a result of the transfer of Post 16 budgets (EFA) to the High Needs Block.
TOTAL	127.745	123.419	

The DSG allocation looks to have increased by £4.326M however the following needs to be noted:

- The Early Years Block looks to have increased by £2.484M however this is due to the EYNFF and additional funding in respect of the additional 15 hours free entitlement for eligible families. It should be noted that EY Funding is participation led and recoupment will take place if numbers differ from EFA estimates used in the indicative allocations.
- The High Needs Block looks to have increased by £0.992M. The bulk of this uplift is predominantly as a result of the transfer of Post 16 budgets (EFA) to the High Needs Block. Nationally £125 million has been transferred from the department's post-16 budget to the high needs block baseline. This is a transfer of place funding for high needs places in FE colleges and post-16 charitable and commercial providers (CCPs). These institutions currently receive £6,000 per place from the EFA as part of their post-16 allocation. From 2017 to 2018 all of these places will be funded from the initial high needs block allocations to local authorities. Deductions will then be made to fund institutions directly, as a result of information collected from local authorities, before the high needs block allocations are finalised in March 2017. The EFA will continue to pay this place funding direct to institutions.

3. Recommendation

It is recommended that members note the contents of this report.

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