**SCHOOLS FORUM – 20TH MARCH 2019**

**DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT FINANCIAL SETTLEMENT 2019-20**

1. **Purpose**

The purpose of this paper is to provide school forum members with an update of the 2019-20 financial settlement in respect of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) which was published by central government on the 17th December 2018.

1. **Settlement position**

The settlement issued on the 17th December 2018 and detailed data issued in respect of the Council indicates a total DSG figure of £131.836M for 2019-20. This shows an increase of £1.238M on the 2018-19 figure of £130.598M.

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

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Category** | **2019-20 Allocation £m** | **2018-19 Allocation £m** | **Comment** |
|  |  |  |  |
| School Block | 101.802 | 100.906 | To fund schools and academies. Year on year adjusted to reflect changes in pupil numbers and for growth as calculated by the ESFA, |
| Early Years Block | 10.060 | 10.571 | Reduction in funding due to a fall in take up of funded hours. Analysis indicates a reduction in 2 year olds accessing the service but increased numbers for 3 and 4 year olds. |
| High Needs Block | 18.558 | 17.682 | To fund the 2 special academies, centrally retained SEN services, Pupil referral units, alternative provision. The uplift is as a result of the introduction of the new High Needs National Funding Formula and the additional funding £357k announced in 2018. |
| Central Services Block | 1.416 | 1,439 | To fund pre-existing pensions cost, ESG funded services, centrally retained services, eg schools admissions etc. |
| **TOTAL** | **131.836** | **130.598** |  |

The DSG allocation has increased by £1.238M. The increase is as a result of the introduction of the new High Needs Block National Funding Formula and also increased pupil numbers in schools and the additional funding pledged to schools as part of the June 2017 general election campaign. This increase has been offset by a reduction in early funding for reasons explained above.

Please note, the figures quoted above are before any academy recoupment.

1. **Recommendation**

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

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