



Shropshire Council
Legal and Democratic Services
Shirehall
Abbey Foregate
Shrewsbury
SY2 6ND

Date:

**Committee:
Schools Forum**

Date: Thursday, 15 September 2022
Time: 8.30 am
Venue: Microsoft (MS) Teams

You are requested to attend the above meeting.
The Agenda is attached

Tim Collard
Assistant Director - Legal and Governance

Members of Schools Forum

Bill Dowell (Chair)	Kerry Lynch
John Hitchings (Vice-Chair)	Stephen Matthews
Phil Adams	David O'Toole
Michael Barrett	Alan Parkhurst
Mark Cooper	John Parr
Alan Doust	Greg Portman
Sabrina Hobbs	Revell
Sandra Holloway	Darren Reynolds
Colin Hopkins	Mark Rogers
Marilyn Hunt	Andrew Smith
Shelley Hurdley	Charles Thomas
Samantha John	Guy Verling
Sian Lines	

Your Committee Officer is:

Philip Wilson Service Manager Business Support People
Tel: 01743 254344
Email: phil.wilson@shropshire.gov.uk

AGENDA

- 1 **Apologies**
- 2 **Election of Chair (David Shaw)**
- 3 **Minutes and Matters Arising - 30 June 2022 (Pages 1 - 6)**
Paper A attached.
- 4 **Updated Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) 2022-23 (Jo Jones) (Pages 7 - 8)**
Paper B attached.
- 5 **School Revenue Funding Update 2022-23 (Jo Jones) (Pages 9 - 12)**
Paper C attached.
- 6 **Response to 'Direct National Funding Formula' Government Consultation (Phil Wilson) (Pages 13 - 14)**
Paper D attached.
- 7 **Funding for Ukrainian Refugees (Phil Wilson)**
Presentation
- 8 **High Needs Place Planning (David Shaw)**
Presentation
- 9 **Dedicated Schools Grant Monitoring 2022-23 (Stephen Waters/Karen Levell)**
Paper F to follow.
- 10 **Cost of Living (Phil Wilson)**
Presentation


11 Communications

12 Future meeting dates

Thursday 3 November 2022	8.30 – 10.30	Microsoft (MS) Teams
Thursday 1 December 2022	8.30 – 10.30	Microsoft (MS) Teams
Thursday 12 January 2023	8.30 – 10.30	Microsoft (MS) Teams
Thursday 26 January 2023 (Provisional)	8.30 – 10.30	Microsoft (MS) Teams
Thursday 16 March 2023	8.30 – 10.30	Microsoft (MS) Teams
Thursday 15 June 2023	8.30 – 10.30	Microsoft (MS) Teams

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Agenda Item 3

	Schools Forum Date: 15 September 2022 Time: 8.30 am Venue: Via MS Teams	<u>Item/Paper</u> A Public
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MINUTES OF SCHOOLS FORUM HELD ON 30 JUNE 2022 – HELD VIA MS TEAMS

Present

School Forum Members

Bill Dowell (Chair)
Caroline Clode – association secretaries
John Hitchings – Academy governor
Marilyn Hunt – Primary headteacher
Shelly Hurdley – Early Years Representative
Sian Lines – Diocese of Hereford
Georgia Moss – Academy (MAT) representative
James Pearson - TMBSS
Michael Revell – Primary governor
Mark Rogers – Primary headteacher
Andrew Smith – Post 16
James Staniforth – Post 16
Brian Thomas – Special Academy headteacher
Carla Whelan – Primary academy headteacher

Members

Kirstie Hurst-Knight

Officers

David Shaw
Karen Levell
Jo Jones
Stephen Waters
Phil Wilson
Helen Woodbridge
Neville Ward

Observers

Nick Bardsley
Roger Evans

The chair welcomed all to the meeting.

1. Apologies

Apologies had been received from Gwilym Butler, Sandra Holloway, Sue Lovecy, John Parr, Stephen Matthews, and James Staniforth had advised of partial attendance.

Late apologies were received from David O’Toole and David Vasmer (observer)

2. Minutes and Matters Arising

The minutes were agreed as a true record.

The F40 slides had been circulated to Schools Forum members.

Discussions are being undertaken with special schools and AP providers regarding the supplementary grant allocations.

James Staniforth had investigated with the sixth form association as to whether increased high needs funding should be passed on and they had confirmed that this is expected. David Shaw, Karen Levell, and James Staniforth are to discuss this further.

ACTION

DS/KL/JS

The constitution will be amended regarding the Union reference.

PW

It was confirmed that a review is underway around the effectiveness of the Graduated Support Pathway (GSP) and this could be picked up later in the meeting.

Regarding the profile of Early Years and funding, Neville Ward advised of DfE increases to hourly rates adding that most has been passed on to providers. (The funding retained had been put into Early Years SEND.) He added that the Early Years Alliance have begun a campaign for early years as educators

Air cleaning units. Kirstie Hurst-Knight had advised that she had picked this up with Public Health and information had been circulated to schools.

3. **Updated Schools Grant 2022-23**

Jo Jones presented the report which provided an update.

Shropshire's 2022-23 DSG allocation was updated in March 2022 to include recoupment for academies and deductions for high needs places funded by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA).

Schools Block deduction relates to the 62 mainstream academies who receive funding directly from the ESFA.

High Needs Block deduction relates to place funding in the pre and post 16 sector including special academies, mainstream academies, further education, and independent learning providers directly funded by the ESFA.

4. **School Balances as at March 2022**

Jo Jones presented the report for maintained sector schools.

The report confirmed that overall balances had increased by 14% and Jo Jones explained the details.

The chair cautioned that although this presented a generally positive picture of school funding, it may not be so.

Mark Rogers explained that the lockdown period had been unusual. Some activities had to be cut meaning there were one-off surpluses. Now there are significant extra costs relating to getting back to normality. It is an intense time in schools and there are pressures including a lack of supply staff. It is expected that schools will need to use some of their surpluses this year.

Phil Wilson added that three year budget plans are less encouraging in years two and three. He advised that the schools supplementary grant will be embedded into the Schools Block going forward but may not meet the increased costs.

Carla Whelan highlighted the significant increase in SEND needs.

5. **Growth Fund Allocations**

Phil Wilson presented the report which was for information.

2021-22 Growth Fund

- Allocation of £959,993, of which £438,187 was originally set aside for

distribution to schools requiring growth to meet basic need – balance of £521,806 was earmarked to part fund transfer of 0.5% from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block to meet pressures on the latter

- Total of £236,000 was distributed to 6 schools in 2021-22 – balance of £202,187 was used to offset the overall overspend on the Dedicated Schools Grant at the year end.

2022-23 Growth Fund

- Allocation of £910,113, of which School Forum agreed a sum of £544,045 to be earmarked to part fund the transfer of 0.5% - £949,076 - from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block to meet pressures on the latter, leaving a balance of £366,068 for distribution to schools this year.
- 2 primary schools (of which one is an academy) and 2 secondary academies will be receiving support from September 2022, while 2 secondary academies will be receiving funding for the summer term having received funding in 2021-22 – a total committed cost of £246,000 in 2022-23.
- Pre-opening costs for the new mainstream primary school in west Shrewsbury, slipped to September 2023, will be charged to the Growth Fund – total estimate is £180,000 (£100,000 in 2022-23 and £80,000 in 2023-24).

6. **Implementing the Direct National Funding Formula**

Phil Wilson presented the report and supporting paper.

He advised that the implementation is likely to be in 2024/25 and the closing date for responses to the consultation is 9 September 2022.

He plans to liaise with the f40 group on this and encouraged Forum members to consider the consultation questions and respond to him by 8 July. He undertook to share responses with all Forum members.

James Staniforth asked if there were any downsides for Shropshire. Phil Wilson advised of the need to interrogate further to establish this. He added that a School Place Planning Review is planned for 2023 -2038 from Autumn and the LA will now need to notify the Secretary of State re where there is growth. This will then be weaved into the funding formula.

James Staniforth's reflection on Post 16 national funding is that any sense of planning has disappeared. There is now more consistency over the country with a reactivity to numbers.

Phil Wilson clarified that the key basis is the October Census with forecasts for housing. There is a need for improved information to the DfE with the SCAP return now including special and alternative provision.

Mark Rogers advised that he is in favour of the NFF but highlighted the need to ensure that smaller schools are sustainable which Phil Wilson endorsed, including not losing sight of schools with surplus places.

7. **Dedicated School Grant Monitoring 2021-22**

Stephen Waters presented the paper

The 2021-22 outturn position for the DSG is a £1.452m in-year surplus. This surplus needs to be added to the £0.870m DSG deficit carried forward from 2020-21 resulting in a cumulative DSG surplus of £0.582m to be carried forward into 2022-23.

Early Years Block

Underspend of £0.093m on a provisional budget of £16.592m. The final Early Years DSG allocation for 2021-22 is published later in the year. The main reason for this is an underspend of £0.427m identified in relation to the Early Years allocations for three and four year old nursery entitlement. This is due to a decreased level of take up of free entitlement places from eligible parents. £0.174m overspend on SEN Support. The demand experienced on this budget has grown in recent years, and particularly sharply in 2021-22.

£0.109m overspend on deprivation payments and sustainability payments. Sustainability funding is used to 'top-up' the amount of per pupil funding paid to providers in more rural areas to ensure that they have enough overall income to continue to operate. The overspend can be attributed to pandemic recovery with a few settings taking time to get numbers back up to sustainable levels. Early Years budget position is provisional. It is anticipated that the small underspend will change to an overspend for 2021-22 once the final Early Years DSG allocation is published.

Neville Ward explained the importance of the outcome of the January census. This is likely to result in a reduction to the 2021/22 budget.

He mentioned the increased spend (on a small number of settings/schools) in sustainability payments.

Marilyn Hunt advised the importance of the sustainability payments (especially in rural schools/settings) which needs to be considered at a policy making level. Neville Ward suggested that as more schools are being supported it will need to be considered at initial budget setting.

High Needs Block

Stephen Waters explained that this block accounts for the majority of the in-year surplus. He and Karen Levell confirmed a general increase in demand which is a national trend. The independent special schools' budget was overspent despite an increase in the budget of £1m. It is hoped that the opening of the new free special SEMH school, Keystone Academy, (specialising in neuro-diversity) in September may have an impact on this. It will provide 50 places from September 2022 rising to 150 by 2024.

The Post 16 FE High Needs Block variances were considered.

Stephen Waters explained that this is the largest area of underspend as there had been a decrease in expenditure rather than the expected increase.

Karen Levell added that there was an unexpected trend and she couldn't predict if it will be ongoing. She added that there are a number of Post 16 annual reviews to complete and more students are moving towards the independent school sector/new alternative provision.

The chair advised that as some variations were substantial, he wanted Forum to get a feel for what are going on.

James Staniforth advised that Shrewsbury Colleges Group is largest provider in the county and the picture fits with their situation. The colleges have had to

turn down applications as do not have level of specialist support required. David Shaw cautioned that whilst there is currently a projected underspend, there are some issues about the impact of the timeliness of reviews. A clearer picture will emerge in the Autumn term. The LA is aiming to meet statutory deadlines around phase transfers in the future.

Stephen Waters confirmed that the provision for phased transfers is not included.

Andrew Smith added that it would be useful to continue the dialogue and work together to deliver best outcomes for students in the most economical way. Karen Levell advised of continuing increases in requests for support. There has also been a growth in hubs attached to mainstream schools.

Central School Services Block

An in-year overspend was incurred of £0.142m. £0.111m of this occurred as the result of one-off budget monitoring pressures reported under Ongoing Duties as per line 1.5. in the Appendix. This covers "Asset Management" and contributions to "Central Support Services.

Schools Growth Fund

Expenditure of £0.236m in 2021-22 against the Growth fund of £0.438m resulting in a £0.202m underspend. This is effectively carried forward in to 2022-23 as part of the overall £0.582m DSG surplus carried forward

Accounting for the DSG Deficit

DSG position has moved from a revised deficit carried forward of £0.870m to a cumulative DSG surplus of £0.582m as at the end of the 2021-22. The Council has met the Department for Education's requirement to reduce or manage down the deficit as soon as possible

Achieved as a result of less growth in expenditure in 2021-22 compared to growth in High Needs Block DSG allocation in 2021-22 rather than any strategic reductions to High Needs Block DSG expenditure itself

Work is required to understand the growth required in 2022-23 and beyond.

The impact of the pandemic on SEND children needs to be considered.

A small proportion of high-cost, low incident cases can disproportionately impact the High Needs Block DSG financial position.

Mark Rogers suggested that school colleagues may be confused by the picture. Schools are better off than we thought - need has increased but not as much as was expected. The number of children with complex needs is concerning and providing challenge to schools and settings. It is positive about Keystone Academy but we may need even more places.

Marilyn Hunt asked if the DfE have acknowledged that deficit has been addressed. Stephen Waters advised that they hadn't made contact yet.

Brian Thomas referred back to the 4.6% on the top up funding asking if it is attributed to the delay with annual reviews. Karen Levell thought that it may well be. David Shaw added that may also be accounting differences which need clarification. There are increasing numbers of pupils coming through and the LA will be providing more information about this.

David Shaw shared a map re transport which is an example from the new system which will enable placement choices to be considered. Work will start in Autumn on school place planning aligned to the Shropshire local plan. The new school will hopefully reduce transport needs.

The move to independent special schools may be due to underperforming local special schools.

Brian Thomas echoed this and advised that it is impacting on Post 16 placements too.

The chair asked for paper on this for September meeting.

DS/KL

8. **Communications**

Phil Wilson advised that f40 continue to lobby. He shared their concerns regarding funding although they recognised that there had been some improvements. He undertook to share the communication with Schools Forum.

Kirstie Hurst-Knight reported that Shropshire Council were top in first preference secondary placements (and third in primary placements). She acknowledged the work done by the Admissions team.

Kirstie Hurst-Knight advised that she has boxes of free resources from National Association of Funeral Directors on grief and bereavement support. Schools should contact her if they require these.

The chair commented that it was a shame that Amber had not been able to join.

Wished everyone a relaxing summer holiday.

9. **Future meeting dates:**

Thursday 15 September 2022
Thursday 3 November 2022
Thursday 1 December 2022
Thursday 12 January 2023
Thursday 26 January 2023 (Provisional)
Thursday 16 March 2023
Thursday 15 June 2023

The meeting closed at 10.11 am



Schools Forum

Date: 15 September 2022

Time: 8:30 a.m.

Venue: MS Teams Meeting

Paper

B

Public

Updated Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) 2022-23

Responsible Officer Jo Jones

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Summary

The Department for Education (DfE) announced provisional 2022-23 local authority Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) allocations in December 2021. In March 2022 the DfE announced an update to the DSG allocation for the 2022-23 financial year. A further update was received in July 2022.

This report provides a summary of Shropshire's latest updated 2022-23 DSG allocation comparing it with Shropshire's previous provisional DSG allocation as reported to Schools Forum in June 2022.

Recommendation

This report is for information only.

REPORT

1. In January 2022 Schools Forum received a report summarising the funding blocks making up Shropshire's 2022-23 provisional DSG allocation and listing the key financial headlines for each of the blocks.
2. Shropshire's 2022-23 provisional DSG allocation was updated in March 2022 to include recoupment for academies and deductions for high needs places funded by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) at that point.
3. A further update was received in July 2022 including adjustments to academy recoupment in relation to recent convertors, the early years' provisional allocation and the high needs import/export adjustment.
4. A summary of the provisional 2022-23 DSG (as presented to Schools Forum in June 2022), and the latest updated 2022-23 DSG announced in July 2022, is shown in the table below.

5.

	Provisional DSG (as at Dec 2021) £m	Recoupment / Deductions for HN places (as at March 2022) £m	Provisional DSG (as at March 2022) £m	Recoupment / Early Years Adjustment / HN Import/Export Adjustment (as at July 2022) £m	Latest DSG (as at July 22) £m
Schools Block	189.815	128.485	61.330	0	61.330
Early Years Block (Provisional)	16.809	0	16.809	0.559	17.368
High Needs Block	35.754	6.287	29.467	-0.024	29.443
Central Schools Services Block (CSSB)	2.388	0	2.388	0	2.388
Total DSG	244.766	134.772	109.994	0.535	110.529

6. The latest (July 2022) Schools Block allocation shows no changes as there have been no academy conversions. The DSG recoupment will be updated throughout the financial year to reflect any further academy conversions.
7. There is an increase of £0.559m to the Early Years Block allocation due to the updated census data from January 2022. This is still provisional at this stage and will be further updated after the census data collected in January 2023.
8. The latest High Needs Block adjustment relates to an update to the Shropshire import/export adjustment. The import/export adjustment reflects the net place funding costs of other local authority pupils placed in our high needs settings and Shropshire high needs pupils placed in other local authority settings. Shropshire is a net exporter of high needs pupils, and our 2022-23 import/export adjustment has increased by £24,000. The total deduction for our import/export adjustment is now £0.96m included within the High Needs Block funding.
9. Shropshire's latest remaining DSG for 2022-23, after recoupment for academies and deductions for direct funding of high needs places by ESFA, equates to £110.529m.
10. The Schools Supplementary Grant for 2022-23 of £1.682m sits outside the DSG allocation, however the High Needs Supplementary Grant of £1.342m is reported within these figures, as reported to Schools Forum in June 2022.



Schools Forum

Date: 15 September 2022

Time: 8:30 a.m.

Venue: TEAMS Meeting

Paper

C

Public

SCHOOLS REVENUE FUNDING 2023-24

Responsible Officer Jo Jones

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Tel: 01743 254343

Summary

In July 2022 the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) published school revenue funding guidance for 2023-24 for local authorities and Schools Forums.

This report summarises the latest Government guidance for school revenue funding for 2023-24. The full guidance document can be accessed at

[Pre-16 schools funding: local authority guidance for 2023 to 2024 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/pre-16-schools-funding-local-authority-guidance-for-2023-to-2024)

Shropshire Council, with the agreement of Shropshire Schools Forum, agreed to replicate the national funding formula through Shropshire's local funding formula from 2018-19.

Recommendation

This report is for information only

REPORT

Background

1. The Government introduced a national funding formula for allocating schools, high needs, and central school services funding through the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) to local authorities from April 2018.
2. Local authorities currently retain responsibility for determining local funding formulas for allocating funding to schools and academies in their area. Shropshire Council, with the agreement of Shropshire Schools Forum, agreed to replicate the national funding formula (NFF) in Shropshire's local funding formula to schools from 2018-19.
3. The guidance on school revenue funding arrangements for 2023-24 was published by the ESFA in July. The guidance includes details of updates to the NNF.

4. Along with the guidance, the Government has published provisional local authority level allocations for 2023-24 for the Schools and High Needs Blocks within the DSG and notional 2023-24 NFF school level allocations.

School Revenue Funding Arrangements 2023-24

5. The actual primary unit of funding (PUF) and secondary unit of funding (SUF) which will be used to calculate each local authority's Schools Block allocation has been published for 2023-24. For Shropshire these equate to £4,960 per pupil and £5,971 per pupil respectively. As a comparison, in 2022-23 Shropshire's PUF was £4,747 and SUF was £5,687.
6. These units of funding will be applied to pupil numbers recorded in the October 2022 school census to determine final Schools Block allocations for 2023-24. These will be issued to local authorities as usual in December.
7. Local authorities have now been told to bring their local formulae closer to the schools NFF for 2023-24. As a reminder, Shropshire has mirrored this (including the national minimum per pupil funding levels) in its local schools funding formula since 2018-19.
8. The following key elements of the schools NFF have been confirmed by the Government in 2023-24:
 - School funding is increasing by 1.9% overall, however this increase is based on the 2022-23 allocation including the supplementary grant. In 2023-24 the funding for the supplementary grant is included within the NFF allocation. The NFF continues to distribute this based on the needs of schools and their pupil cohorts.
 - For 2023-24 additional support is being directed towards disadvantaged pupils by increasing the values of the FSM6 and IDAC1 deprivation factors by more than other factor values in the formula: these deprivation factors are increasing by 4.3%
 - The minimum per pupil funding levels will be set at £4,405 for primary schools and £5,715 for secondary schools. These levels were £4,265 and £5,525 respectively in 2022-23. This represents the rolling in of the supplementary grant and at least a further 0.5% increase per pupil. The minimum per pupil funding levels is not to be confused with the age weighted pupil units (AWPU) funding levels within the NFF.
 - The 2023-24 NFF funding floor is set at 0.5%. This is a decrease to the usually maximum level of 2%. This means that every school will attract an increase in their pupil-led funding of at least 0.5% per pupil, compared to their baseline.

9. In the 2023-24 DSG settlement, planned for December 2022, funding allocated through the growth factor, will be based on the observed differences between the primary and secondary number on roll between the October 2021 and October 2022 school censuses. The transitional protection has been removed as no local authority received it in the 2022-23 DSG growth allocation and therefore no authority will be eligible for it.
10. Local authorities will continue to be able to transfer up to 0.5% of their Schools Block to other blocks of the DSG, with Schools Forum approval. A disapplication will be required for transfers above 0.5%, or any amount without Schools Forum approval. In previous years Shropshire Schools Forum has agreed to transfer any remaining balance, up to 0.5% of the Schools Block, to the High Needs Block to support the increasing pressures on the block, after fully allocating individual school budget shares in line with the NFF.
11. Local authorities are required to engage in open and transparent consultation with all maintained schools and academies in their area, as well as with their Schools Forums, about any proposed changes to the local funding formula including the principles adopted and any movement of funds between blocks.

High Needs Funding Arrangements 2023-24

12. The latest guidance confirms the following aspects of the High Needs national funding formula for 2023-24:
 - The national increase in high needs funding, from 2022-23 to 2023-24, will be £570 million, or 6.3%.
 - The funding floor – this ensures that all local authorities' allocations per head of population will increase by a minimum percentage compared to the baseline. For 2023-24 the funding floor has been set at 5%, having adjusted the baseline to include the supplementary high needs funding that was allocated to local authorities in December 2021, following the 2021 spending review.
 - The gains cap – the limit on gains per head of the population compared to the baseline. For 2023-24 the gains cap will be set at 7% which means that local authorities can see an increase of up to 7% before their gains are capped (again, compared to a baseline that takes account of the supplementary high needs funding allocated in December 2021).

Central School Services Funding Arrangements 2023-24

13. The NFF for the central school services block (CSSB) of the DSG provides funding for local authorities to carry out central functions on behalf of compulsory school age pupils in maintained schools and academies.

14. The CSSB will continue to have two distinct elements:
 - Ongoing responsibilities, which funds all local authorities for central functions they have to deliver for all pupils in maintained schools and academies, such as education welfare and asset management
 - Historic commitments, which funds some local authorities for commitments they made prior to 2013-14 that are unwinding.
15. Funding for ongoing responsibilities in 2023-24: local authorities will continue to be protected so that the maximum per-pupil year-on-year reduction in funding for ongoing responsibilities is of 2.5%, while the year-on-year gains cap will be set at the highest affordable rate of 5.86%.
16. Funding for historic commitments continues to be reduced in 2023-24 by 20% from local authorities' 2022-23 allocations. As in 2022-23, historic commitments funding will be protected from dropping below the total value of ongoing prudential borrowing or termination of employment costs, based on evidence received by the department. This protection will be applied in the DSG, and so will not be shown in NFF allocations.



Schools Forum

Date: 15 September 2022
Time: 8.30 am to 10.30 am

Venue: Virtual via Microsoft
MS Teams

Paper

D

Public

Response to 'Direct National Funding Formula' Government Consultation

Responsible Officer Phil Wilson

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Summary

On 7 June 2022 the Department for Education (DfE) launched the next stage of their consultation on reforms to the National Funding Formula (NFF), seeking views on their approach to implementing the 'direct' NFF for mainstream schools.

This further consultation for local authorities, schools and academy trusts, and any other interested organisations and individuals had a submission deadline of 9 September 2022.

Following consideration of the DfE's consultation on '*Implementing the Direct National Funding Formula*', Schools Forum, at their meeting on 30 June, agreed that a response would be submitted by officers as the deadline fell before this diaried meeting of School Forum.

Recommendation

That Schools Forum note the submission to the Government's 'Direct National Funding Formula' consultation.

REPORT

Background

1. The DfE launched a consultation on 8 July 2021, the first stage of a process of seeking views on their approach to completing the move to a direct or 'hard' NFF, completing the reform of school funding that was started with the introduction of the NFF in 2018-19. A further, more detailed and technical consultation was launched on 7 June 2022 under the title '*Implementing the Direct National Funding Formula*'.
2. The consultation comprised of 25 questions. At their meeting on 30 June, Schools Forum were invited to consider these questions and given the opportunity to pass through any views ahead of the consultation closing date of 9 September 2022.

3. A submission on behalf of Schools Forum was completed and submitted ahead of the deadline and is appended to this paper for School Forum's information.