

**DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**CABINET**

**21 March 2019**

**Report of the Strategic Director for Children’s Services**

**CENTRAL SCHOOL SERVICES BLOCK FUNDING SETTLEMENT 2019-20  
(YOUNG PEOPLE)**

1. **Purpose of the Report** - To seek Cabinet approval to confirm the allocations to be funded from the Central School Services Block for 2019-20.
2. **Information and Analysis**

The 2019-20 Central School Services Block (CSSB) allocation was announced on 17 December 2018. This block of the Dedicated Schools Grant was introduced in 2018-19 and funds local authorities for the statutory duties that they hold for both maintained schools and academies. The CSSB brings together:

- funding previously allocated through the retained duties element of the former Education Services Grant (see Appendix 1);
- funding for ongoing central functions; and
- historic commitments previously held within the Schools Block.

The CSSB allocation for 2019-20 and the comparable 2018-19 figures are shown in Table 1 below:

Table 1 – CSSB Allocation 2019-20

	2019-20	2018-19
NFF multiplier – ongoing responsibilities	£29.23	£28.61
October 2018 pupil census count	97,700.00	97,138.00
Total ongoing responsibilities	£2,855,771	£2,779,000
Historic commitments	£1,737,000	£1,737,000
2019-20 Central School Services Block	£4,592,771	£4,516,000
2018-19 Central School Services Block	£4,516,000	
Increase	+£76,771	

The allocation of CSSB funding is a matter for Schools Forums rather than local authorities. Derbyshire’s Schools Forum considered the allocations for 2019-20 at its meeting on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019 and agreed the figures in Table 2 below.

Table 2 – Proposed Central School Services Block spend

	2019-20	2018-19
Item	£m	£m
<u>Ongoing responsibilities</u>		
Admissions	0.538	0.527
Schools Forum	0.041	0.040
Former ESG Retained duties	1.620	1.588
Licences – determined by DfE	0.602	0.561
Sub-total – ongoing commitments	2.784	2.716
<u>Historic commitments</u>		
Contribution to combined budgets	1.737	1.737
<b>Total</b>	<b>4.521</b>	<b>4.453</b>

The £1.737m contribution to combined budgets figure has been allocated to Derbyshire on the basis of historic spend and represents the contribution to the Children's Services early help offer. Looking forward, the DfE have signalled that LAs' historic allocations within the CSSB will start to be reduced from 2020-21. The decision of the Forum to use the income to support the early help offer in 2019-20, and the risk to future grant levels from national changes, were anticipated in the early help proposals agreed by Cabinet on 31 January 2019.

3. **Other Considerations** - In preparing this report, the relevance of the following factors has been considered: - prevention of crime & disorder, equality of opportunity, and environmental, health, social value, legal & human rights, human resources, property and transport considerations.
4. **Background Papers** - Files held within Children's Services Finance.
5. **Key Decision** - Yes
6. **Call-in** - Is it required that the call-in period be waived in respect of the decisions being proposed within this report? No
7. **Officer's Recommendations** That Cabinet:
  - (i) Notes the Central School Services Block settlement for 2019-20;
  - (ii) Notes the decisions of the Schools Forum on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019; and
  - (iii) Confirms the Central School Services Block budgets for 2019-20 as set out in Table 2.

**Jane Parfremment**  
**Strategic Director for Children's Services**

<p><b><u>Statutory and regulatory duties</u></b></p> <p>Director of children’s services and personal staff for director (Sch 2, 15a)</p> <p>Planning for the education service as a whole (Sch 2, 15b)</p> <p>Revenue budget preparation, preparation of information on income and expenditure relating to education, and external audit relating to education (Sch 2, 22)</p> <p>Authorisation and monitoring of expenditure not met from schools’ budget shares (Sch 2, 15c)</p> <p>Formulation and review of local authority schools funding formula (Sch 2, 15d)</p> <p>Internal audit and other tasks related to the authority’s chief finance officer’s responsibilities under Section 151 of LGA 1972 except duties specifically related to maintained schools (Sch 2, 15e)</p> <p>Consultation costs relating to non-staffing issues (Sch 2, 19)</p> <p>Plans involving collaboration with other LA services or public/voluntary bodies (Sch 2, 15f)</p> <p>Standing Advisory Committees for Religious Education (SACREs) (Sch 2, 17)</p> <p>Provision of information to or at the request of the Crown other than relating specifically to maintained schools (Sch 2, 21)</p>
<p><b><u>Education welfare</u></b></p> <p>Functions in relation to the exclusion of pupils from schools, excluding any provision of education to excluded pupils (Sch 2, 20)</p> <p>School attendance (Sch 2, 16)</p> <p>Responsibilities regarding the employment of children (Sch 2, 18)</p>
<p><b><u>Asset management</u></b></p> <p>Management of the LA’s capital programme including preparation and review of an asset management plan, and negotiation and management of private finance transactions (Sch 2, 14a)</p> <p>General landlord duties for all buildings owned by the local authority, including those leased to academies (Sch 2, 14b)</p>
<p><b><u>Central support services</u></b></p> <p>No functions</p>
<p><b><u>Premature retirement and redundancy</u></b></p> <p>No functions</p>
<p><b><u>Monitoring national curriculum assessment</u></b></p> <p>No functions</p>

<p><b><u>Therapies</u></b></p> <p>No functions</p>
<p><b><u>Other ongoing duties</u></b></p> <p>Licences negotiated centrally by the Secretary of State for all publicly funded schools (Sch 2, 8) – this does not require schools forum approval</p> <p>Admissions (Sch 2, 9)</p> <p>Places in independent schools for non-SEN pupils (Sch 2, 10)</p> <p>Remission of boarding fees at maintained schools and academies (Sch 2, 11)</p> <p>Servicing of schools forums (Sch 2, 12)</p> <p>Back-pay for equal pay claims (Sch 2, 13)</p> <p>Writing to parents of year 9 pupils about schools with an atypical age of admission, such as UTCs and studio schools, within a reasonable travelling distance (new addition to CSSB, to be included in 2018-19 regulations).<sup>1</sup></p>
<p><b><u>Historic commitments</u></b></p> <p>Capital expenditure funded from revenue (Sch 2, 1)</p> <p>Prudential borrowing costs (Sch 2, 2(a))</p> <p>Termination of employment costs (Sch 2, 2(b))</p> <p>Contribution to combined budgets (Sch 2, 2(c))</p>