

DERBYSHIRE SCHOOLS FORUM

29th January 2024

4.45pm

County Hall, Committee Room 1

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the Schools Forum meeting held on 11th December 2023 and actions arising. P.2
3. Update from Strategic Lead for Schools and Learning
4. Forum self-evaluation
5. Update following DSG funding settlement 2024-25 p.7
6. Pupil Growth Fund 2024-25 + Falling Rolls p.11
7. Early Years Block 2024-25 p.20
8. High Needs Block 2024-25 p30
9. DSG 2023-24 Quarter 3 Monitoring p.40

Please remember to send any apologies to
CAYA.BSHQSupport@derbyshire.gov.uk

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
DERBYSHIRE SCHOOLS' FORUM

Minutes of the Meeting Held on 11th December 2023

At County Hall, Matlock at 4.45pm

Present

Members	School / Organisation
Jennifer Murphy	Hunloke Park Primary
Peter Johnston	The Village Federation
Julian Scholefield	Esteem MAT
Chris Greenhough	Swanwick School & Sports College
Emma Haywood	Alfreton Nursery School
Karen Hayes	Esteem MAT
Keith Hirst	Brookfield Community School
Simon Redfern	St Ralph Sherwin CMAT
Liz Seymour	Church of England Diocese - Derby
Deborah Turner	NEU

Substitutes	School / Organisation
Cilla Hollman	Hadfield Infants School

Observers	School / Organisation
Cllr Alex Dale	DCC
Cllr Robert Flatley	DCC
Cllr Ruth George	DCC

DCC Officers/others	School / Organisation
Carol Cammiss	Executive Director, Childrens Services
Dan Careless	Strategic Lead for Schools and Learning
Helen Wallace	Strategic Lead Inclusion Support Services
Jenny Webster	Head of Development Children's Services
Saranjit Shetra	Assistant Director, Education & Improvement
Sarah Bryan	Senior School Advisor (Early Years)
Andy Walker	CS & T Finance
Eddie Grant	CS & T Finance
Elena Beard	CS & T Finance

Peter Johnston chaired the meeting.

23/21 - Apologies for Absence

Name	School / Organisation
Peter Crowe	ASCL
Nick Goforth	Belper Secondary School
Donna Hain	Redhill Academy Trust
Sarah Baker	TEAM Education Trust
Canon Carolyn Lewis	Church of England Diocese-Derby
Cllr Julie Patten	DCC

Name	School / Organisation
Michelle Jenkins	Etwall Primary
Alan Thomas	Northfield Junior School
George Wolfe	Curbar Primary
Ruth Lane	CS & T Finance
Phil Burrows	CS & T Finance
Shelley Kerslake	CS & T Finance
Alison Noble	Children's Services
Nicola Cook	TEAM Education Trust

Due to a change in working patterns and responsibilities, Shelley Kerslake will no longer be a DCC representative at the Schools Forum. Eddie Grant will now cover this role. Peter Johnston thanked Shelley for all her work and support on behalf of the Schools Forum.

Nick Gorforth has resigned from been a Secondary School Headteacher representative of the Schools Forum.

23/22 - Minutes of The Schools Forum 18th October 2023

The minutes were agreed and the action point below will be deferred to the next meeting.

Action point	Responsibility	Timeline
Review Schools Forum self-evaluation Form	EG / EB	29 th January 2024 meeting (self-evaluation form to be emailed to representatives and findings reported at the next meeting)

No other matters arising were raised.

Eddie Grant advised the Forum that items 5 and 6 were the only items that requires members to vote, and the other items are for information only.

The meeting was quorate.

23/23 – Update from Strategic Lead for Schools and Learning

Dan Careless provided a verbal update on the High Needs Block (HNB) Management Plan. The PowerPoint presentation slides are attached for information.

The LA currently has a small overspend in the HNB and has significant challenges around managing the HNB over the next five years. Some work has been in process since March 2023, but further work and funding will be required for a high level management plan to be developed for approval in March / April 2024.

Dan Careless highlighted during the presentation;
HNB Elements 1, 2, and 3 funding,
Some LA's have received Safety Valve funding up to £56m,

Develop partnerships with schools,
How the GRIPS backlog has been removed,
Estimate of 93 EH&CP have been averted due to short term Inclusion Funding,
IDOX – a new application process showing current state of EH&CP,
Consistent application process and panel decisions,
Enhanced Resource and Alternative Provision development,
Special Schools hub and development,
Cluster schools' development,
Reduction of permanent exclusions of which there was 264 in Derbyshire last year,
Consider changes to current bandings and profiles.

Within the presentation Jenny Webster stated that in conjunction with the DfE the LA would clarify capacity levels for SEN provision within the current settings.

Helen Wallace stated that supporting schools to allow SENCOs to do that role and develop is a priority but would need additional funding.

During the presentation there were numerous comments /questions including;

Karen Hayes questioned how the number of exclusions would be reduced. Dan Careless and Helen Wallace stated the number had to reduce.

In response to a comment regarding a culture of Headteachers excluding pupils in Derbyshire, Peter Johnston commented that he didn't know of any Headteachers where it is a culture to exclude pupils. Even under particularly challenging circumstances it is only a last resort to exclude.

Kevin Hirst stated that if there was an improvement in Alternative Provision who deliver an adequate curriculum, then this would reduce the number of permanent exclusions. From experience Derbyshire was lacking in this area compared to Nottinghamshire.

Saranjit Shetra commented that there isn't a culture of exclusions in Derbyshire. Schools, and Headteachers against the odds are doing great work with challenging issues.

Simon Reed questioned how Notional SEN Funding was calculated, K code funding, and that he had spoken to schools who were struggling to find the first £6,000 for EH&CP funding streams.

Peter Johnson thanked Dan Careless for the presentation and the HNB update. Dan Careless will keep the Schools Forum updated on the management plan.

23/24 – High Needs Block – first view / planning 2024-25

Eddie Grant presented the paper to inform the Schools Forum of the provisional indicative High Needs Block (HNB) settlement for 2024-25 and the potential spend for next year.

The 2023-24 projected HNB budget is estimated to be £7.655m overspent. The estimated indicative 2024-25 HNB budget allocation is £128.694m, including

changes for top ups, numbers, and inflation. These figures would give an estimated shortfall in funding for 2024-25 of around £12.3m.

The previous agenda items including potential changes to the HNB funding and expenditure is not included in these projections.

Karen Hayes asked if the cost of out of county provision and independent and non-maintained special schools could be shown separately in the reports in future, to which Eddie Grant confirmed this would be done.

23/25 – Pupil Growth Fund 2024-25 + Falling Rolls

Eddie Grant presented the paper to seek the Schools Forum approval for plans in principle for use of the Pupil Growth Fund (PGF) and Falling Rolls (FRF) for 2024-25, pending final settlement figures due later this month.

He explained that Derbyshire have never had a Falling Rolls Fund, but it was the Schools Forum decision on how to spend this.

Proposed Pupil Growth allocations for 2024-25 totalled £2.330m.

It was agreed by the School Forum on the planned LA use of this allocation.

Proposed Falling Rolls Fund allocation for 2024-25 is £140,000. The Schools Forum is to decide on whether to operate a Falling Rolls Fund, or add the small amount anticipated to the residual contingency budget.

Peter Johnston requested if this decision could be deferred until more information regarding how many schools could trigger this claim, and what the criteria may be. Other representatives also agreed with this approach. Eddie Grant confirmed this would be acceptable and he would provide further details at the next meeting.

Action point	Responsibility	Timeline
Falling Rolls Fund 2024-25 criteria / schools involved	EG	29 th January 2024

23/26 – Central School Services Block 2024-25

Eddie Grant presented the paper to seek Schools Forum approval to the 2024-25 Central School Services Block budgets.

The 2024-25 allocation is estimated to total £4.4m which is similar to 2023-24 levels. The proposed spend in 2024-25 is £4,141m, leaving a surplus of £0.304m which will go towards the Dedicated Schools Grant deficit. The proposed spend includes a reduction of 20% each year relating to the early Help Offer.

There were no comments from the floor.

The Schools Forum agreed to the 2024-25 Central School Services Block budgets requested by the LA.

23/27 – Early Years update – verbal

Eddie Grant explained that Phil Burrows had been preparing this update but had sent his apologies due to unforeseen circumstances.

Eddie Grant and Sarah Bryan explained major changes were forthcoming in the entitlement / provision of Early Years with changes been phased in from April and September 2024. The Government have recently announced funding rates for the LA, of which at least 95% must be passported to providers. Currently, the LA passport nearer 97% and it is hoped this level will continue next year.

The LA will inform providers of estimated rates as soon as possible which will be presented at the next Schools Forum meeting, then to be agreed by Cabinet.

Action point	Responsibility	Timeline
Provide updated estimated rates for Early Years providers	EG / SB	29 th January 2024 meeting

The meeting closed at 6.40pm

Summary of action points

Action point	Responsibility	Timeline
Review Schools Forum self-evaluation Form	EG / EB	29 th January 2024 meeting (self-evaluation form to be emailed to representatives and findings reported at the next meeting)
Falling Rolls Fund 2024-25 criteria / schools involved	EG	29 th January 2024
Provide updated estimated rates for Early Years providers	EG / SB	29 th January 2024 meeting

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**SCHOOLS FORUM****29th January 2024****Briefing note: update following DSG funding settlement 2024-25**

This note provides an update for Schools Forum on the funding settlement for 2024-25 and the implications for Derbyshire's primary and secondary sector formulae, Pupil Growth Fund (PGF) and Central School Services Block (CSSB) allocations.

Settlement and implications

On 19th December 2023, the DfE published local authorities' Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) allocations for 2024-25.

Table 1 – Derbyshire DSG Block Allocations 2024-25

Block	2024-25 £m	2023-24 £m	Change £m	Change %
Schools*	586.237	572.844	+13.393	+2.33
Schools - Pupil Growth & Falling Rolls	2.291	2.493	-0.202	-8.10
High Needs	117.009	111.255	+5.754	+5.17
Early Years **	75.203	44.910	+30.293	+67.45
Central School Services	4.441	4.412	+0.029	+0.66
Total DSG	785.181	735.914	+49.267	+6.69

*Comparative rates have been adjusted for the 2023-24 Maintained Schools Additional Grant

** Expansion of entitlements to under 3-year-olds in 2024-25

Schools Block

Applying the National Funding Formula (NFF) multipliers to the DfE's published school formula data is estimated to cost £587.966, £1.729m more than the Schools Block total allocation. The shortfall is largely due to increases in deprivation, as measured by the Ever 6 and free school meals indicators. Additional shortfalls arising from increases in low prior attainment and Universal Business Rate increases have led to the gap being greater than that originally estimated in previous reports to Schools Forum.

The allocations from Pupil Growth fund: £0.400m contribution plus a further £0.358m, including the first call on contingency, to fund in year increases in free schools' pupil numbers, reduce the shortfall to £0.971m.

A report will be going to the Local Authority Cabinet on 22nd February to seek approval for local mainstream formula multipliers set out in Appendix 1 as the basis for calculating Derbyshire school and academy budgets. In order to contain the cost of school budgets within the total resources available, those multipliers represent NFF multipliers with a 0.18% pro-rata reduction applied.

The report also recommends Cabinet accept responsibility for costs funded from de-delegated and top-sliced resources for the services approved by Schools Forum. The list of services and proposed de-delegation and top-slice rates for 2024-25 are summarised in Appendix 2.

Mainstream schools have been notified of their provisional allocations, subject to Cabinet and ESFA approval.

Pupil Growth Fund (PGF) & Falling Rolls Fund (FRF)

Derbyshire's PFG & FRF allocation is £2.291m. The plans in principle for PFG were approved by Schools Forum at the December meeting and for the FRF in a separate paper at the January meeting and now the final settlement is known allocations for 2024-25 can be confirmed as:

	2024-25
Budget	£m
In year pupil growth – Free Schools	0.300
Contribution to Schools Block	0.400
Contribution to Free School reserve	0.450
In year pupil growth – Other schools*	0.300
Key Stage 1 class sizes	0.350
Falling Rolls	0.140
Residual contingency*	0.351
Total	2.291

*A call on the in year growth & contingency of £0.058m is already anticipated due to a growing infant school and higher than anticipated Free School in year pupil growth.

Central School Services Block (CSSB)

CSSB allocations were considered and set by Schools Forum at its December meeting. Whilst the settlement figure was not known at that point, there has only been a marginal change of -£0.003m due to pupil numbers. The impact of this will be to reduce the balance to £0.300m which had been set aside to help manage the DSG deficit.

High Needs and **Early Years** Blocks are covered in later agenda items.

Author: Eddie Grant & Phil Burrows

Contact Details: X38748

Analysis of mainstream formula budgets 2024-25 by indicator

Appendix 1

	Primary				Secondary		
	2024-25	2024-25	2024-25		2024-25	2024-25	2024-25
Indicator	Count	Multiplier	Budget		Count	Multiplier	Budget
		£	£			£	£
Per Pupil – Key Stage 1 & 2	57,398.23	3,555.38	204,072,519		-	-	-
Per Pupil – Key Stage 3					25,398.00	5,012.67	127,311,793
Per Pupil – Key Stage 4					16,071.00	5,650.48	90,808,864
Current FSM	16,433.70	489.09	8,037,559		11,096.00	489.09	5,426,943
Ever 6FSM	16,737.92	818.48	13,699,657		11,847.00	1,197.77	14,189,981
IDACI F	4,882.92	234.56	1,145,337		3,548.98	339.37	1,204,417
IDACI E	6,885.14	284.47	1,958,616		4,623.00	449.16	2,076,466
IDACI D	2,603.44	444.17	1,156,369		1,882.66	628.83	1,183,872
IDACI C	3,053.13	484.10	1,478,018		2,194.51	688.72	1,511,405
IDACI B	2,998.54	514.04	1,541,371		2,054.93	738.63	1,517,834
IDACI A	757.06	678.74	513,845		537.18	943.24	506,691
Low Prior Attainment	17,750.64	1,167.83	20,729,725		9,364.51	1,771.70	16,591,108
English as an Additional Language	1,682.94	588.90	991,081		396.80	1,582.06	627,766
Mobility	278.98	958.22	267,324		3.26	1,377.44	4,490
Lump Sum	353.70	134,150.28	47,448,954		45.00	134,150.28	6,036,763
Sparsity	50.04	56,993.91	2,852,024		0.24	82,845.79	19,607
Split site: School	6.00	53,600.23	321,601		1.00	53,600.23	53,600
Split site: Distance	2.26	26,850.02	60,797		1.00	26,850.02	26,850
Private Finance Initiative	-	-					3,063,579
Rates			4,188,579				2,718,267
Exceptional Circumstances			57,423				86,007
Minimum Per Pupil Level			1,023,139				396,495
Minimum Funding Guarantee ^{see note 2}			88,128				0
Total Formula Budgets			311,632,065				275,362,798
TOTAL BOTH SECTORS							586,994,863

Note 1 – The multipliers are below the national rates as they have been reduced in line with the LA's consultation to pare back multipliers in order to make the formula affordable with the overall schools block allocation, taking into account the £0.758m from the growth fund.

Note 2 – the Minimum Funding Guarantee has been set at 0.5% per pupil in accordance with the LA's consultation.

List of proposed de-delegated and top-sliced funded services 2024-25**Appendix 2**

			2024-25 Proposed		2023-24	
<u>Item</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Basis</u>	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>
School Contingency Fund	e.g. schools in financial difficulty, exceptional unforeseen costs, unreasonable for a GB to meet	Per pupil	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00
Insurance	Includes premises, cash in transit, public liability and employers' liability	Per pupil	24.75	24.75	22.75	22.75
Staff Costs: Maternity	Cover costs for staff on maternity, paternity or adoption leave	Per pupil	16.61	N/A	15.60	N/A
Staff Costs: Public Duties	Cover costs for staff on jury service.	Per pupil	0.22	N/A	0.21	N/A
Staff Costs: Trade Unions	Cover costs for staff undertaking union duties	Per pupil	4.56	4.56	4.28	4.28
School Improvement	Services include Leadership forums, single named contact for advice, guidance, signposting & support, e-noticeboard, reduced rate attendance at courses and conferences plus core package of 3 days of school improvement activity plus governor support package	Lump sum	3,075.00	3,075.00	2,950.00	2,950.00
Redundancy (top-sliced)	Cost of release where agreed by LA as necessary	Per pupil	4.25	4.25	4.00	4.00
Former ESG (top-sliced)	Funds a range of HR, Finance, pensions, ICT and asset management functions	Per pupil	30.25	30.25	29.00	29.00

Schools Forum**29th January 2024****Joint Report of the Executive Director for Children's Services &
Director of Finance and ICT****Schools Block Budgets 2023-24 – Pupil Growth & Falling Rolls Fund****1. Purpose of the Report**

To seek the Schools Forum approval for plans in principle for use of the Pupil Growth Fund (PGF) and Falling Rolls Fund (FRF) for 2024-25, now that the final settlement figures are known.

2. Information and Analysis**2.1 The Pupil Growth Fund**

The PGF element of the DSG funds in-year pupil growth as well as supporting new free schools and Key Stage 1 class sizes. The distribution of the PGF is a matter for the Schools Forum rather than the County Council.

2.2 Settlement 2024-25

On 17th July 2023, and revised on 6th October 2023, the DfE published the *National Funding Formula (NFF) for schools and high needs: 2024 to 2025*, providing indicative settlement information for 2024-25. No PGF allocations had been published at this stage as the calculation for 2024-25 relies on a comparison of pupil number increases for October 2023 with October 2022 at Middle Super Output Area (MSOA) level. This has now been published. Reductions in pupil numbers at MSOA level are ignored for PGF. Each additional primary pupil attracts £1,550 and each secondary pupil £2,320. In addition, LAs receive £76,195 for each new institution registered for the first time on the October 2023 census. Derbyshire has no qualifying academies in 2024-25.

Derbyshire received £2.493m in 2023-24 and the level of funding for 2024-25 will reduce to 2.151m. This is £180k less than the estimate provided in December due to a smaller increase in Secondary school pupils than anticipated. Derbyshire's Pupil Growth funding for 2024-25 is shown in Table 1 below:

Table 1 – Pupil Growth Fund allocation 2024-25

	Pupil Increase	2024-25 Rate	Pupil growth funding
Primary	397	£1,550	£615,350
Secondary	662	£2,320	£1,535,840
Sub total			£2,151,190
New Institutions			-

	Pupil Increase	2024-25 Rate	Pupil growth funding
Total allocation			£2,151,190

2.3 **Proposed allocation**

The Authority proposes the following allocations:

- (i) In year support for Free Schools - £0.300m – this is the additional funding the four new free schools in Derbyshire are estimated to need to reflect their increased pupil rolls from September 2024. This has been increased by £0.050m considering the 2023-24 cost.
- (ii) Free School Reserve – a contribution of £0.450m towards the pre and post opening support costs of existing and potential new free schools. Further details are set out in Appendix 1.
- (iii) In year pupil increase - £0.300m – this fund is available to help schools and academies meet the costs of significant in-year increases in pupil numbers. Further details regarding this fund are set out in Appendix 2.
- (iv) Support for Infant Class Sizes - £0.350m - This budget helps support infant and primary schools to meet national infant (Key Stage 1) class size requirements. Locally, the distribution of funding for this purpose includes two key features:
 - Schools with more than 150 on roll are ineligible for support; and
 - Schools are expected to self-fund £600 per month of any claim.

Excluding larger schools recognises that running an extra class is a proportionately lesser burden for a large school than a small one. The £600 per month contribution was introduced several years ago to reduce the net cost of the support.

A core budget of £0.300m would be applied and apportioned as follows:

£0.125m for the 5 months April to August; and
£0.175m for the 7 months September to March.

Eligible claims for each period would, if necessary, be scaled to contain costs.

A contingency fund of £0.050m would be held to meet exceptional cases e.g. additional support for schools in deficit and where the £600 monthly contribution is waived. Schools seeking such support would have to demonstrate a significant financial need. The total budget would also provide for an administrative fee of £4,000 (1% of the total) to cover central processing costs.

- (v) Pupil Growth Fund contingency – the balance of the overall pupil growth allocation would be retained as a contingency. Predicting the level of claims against the infant class sizes contingency and in-year pupil growth funds is

difficult and this residual sum would be available to offset any overspends in these areas.

Any underspend for 2024-25 would contribute towards addressing the overall DSG deficit.

The proposals in (i) to (v) above are summarised in Table 2 below.

Table 2 – Proposed Pupil Growth allocations 2024-25

	2024-25
Budget	£m
In year pupil growth – Free Schools	0.300
Contribution to Free School reserve	0.450
In year pupil growth – Other schools	0.300
Key Stage 1 class sizes	0.350
Residual contingency	0.751
Total	2.151

2.4 Alternative uses of Pupil Growth fund

The growth fund can only be used to:

- support growth in pre-16 pupil numbers to meet basic need
- support additional classes needed to meet the infant class size regulation
- meet the costs of new schools

The growth fund must not be used to support:

- schools in financial difficulty: any such support for maintained schools should be provided from a de-delegated contingency
- general growth due to popularity; this is managed through lagged funding

However, as it is within the schools block, the growth fund can be used to support schools formula budgets and this would not be treated as a transfer between blocks.

The impact of the 2024-25 demographics and funding announced for schools is now known. Based on the indicative Schools Block settlement for 2024-25, it was projected that Derbyshire could face a funding shortfall of ~£0.450m next year because of rising eligibility for free school meals (FSM). However, the full extent of the impact of up-to-date pupil numbers, FSM and Low Prior Attainment has seen the shortfall increase to £1.37m. As discussed at the October meeting of the Schools Forum, the outcome of our local consultation with schools was that the majority of schools supported a paring back of all NFF multipliers as the preferred approach to making Derbyshire's formula allocations affordable within the funding available.

Forum is permitted to make a contribution from the PGF to support mainstream budgets. To do so Forum would have to approve the value of such support. However, any contribution to mainstream and academy budgets would reduce the residual contingency, thus reducing the fund's ability to offset any overspends in individual Pupil Growth budgets and/or other areas of the DSG.

For example, making a fixed contribution of £0.400m to support mainstream school and academy budgets would reduce the estimated Schools Block shortfall and reduce the pare back of multipliers.

Given the ongoing pressures elsewhere in the DSG, the Authority's view is that it would be unwise to allocate the residual contingency fully to cover the shortfall in the main Schools Block. If the Forum were minded to agree a contribution to mainstream school budgets, then a transfer of around 50% of the residual contingency – a 53% contribution is £0.400m - is the maximum that could be afforded. For information, the residual shortfall after a contribution of £0.400m from the PGF is £0.97m, a pare-back of 0.18% on all multipliers will be necessary.

The Forum is asked to determine the basis for allocating the PGF for 2024-25.

2.5 Falling Rolls Fund

The 2024-25 regulations have been updated to remove the requirement for schools to be judged Good or Outstanding at their last inspection to be eligible for falling rolls funding. LAs can now provide falling rolls funding to schools whereby school capacity survey (SCAP) data shows that school places will be required in the subsequent three to five years.

Local Authorities will continue to have discretion over whether to operate a falling rolls fund. Derbyshire does not currently operate such a fund. The distribution of the FRF is a matter for the Schools Forum rather than the County Council.

2.6 Settlement 2024-25

FRF allocations have now been published. The allocation for each local authority will be £140,000 per MSOA which sees a 10% or greater reduction in the number of pupils on roll between the two census years.

Table 3 – Falling Rolls Fund allocation 2024-25

	MSOA	2024-25 Rate	Falling Rolls funding
Primary - Growing (for information)	36		
Primary - Falling (for information)	63		
of which :Lower than -10%	1	£140,000	£140,000
Secondary – Growing (for information)	83		
Secondary – Falling (for information)	16		
of which :Lower than -10%	0	£140,000	£0
Total allocation			£140,000

2.7 Criteria & Examples of Methodology

The Schools Forum should agree both the value of the fund and the criteria for allocation, and the Local Authority should consult schools forum before expenditure is incurred. As with the growth fund, the falling rolls fund is within the NFF schools block. Criteria for allocating falling rolls funding should contain clear objective trigger points for

qualification and a clear formula for calculating allocations. Compliant criteria would generally contain some of the features set out below:

- SCAP shows that school places will be required in the subsequent three to five years (this is a mandatory requirement)
- surplus capacity exceeds a minimum number of pupils, or a percentage of the published admission number
- the school will need to make redundancies to contain spending within its formula budget and it is expected (using SCAP data - detailed above) that these posts will need to be re-filled in the subsequent 3 to 5 years.

An example of methodology would be:

- the total number on roll (NOR) has dropped by at least 5% between last October census and the previous year's October census
- following year would see a projected increase of at least 50% of the reduction
- spare capacity of the school is a minimum of 15% of PAN
- school capacity data shows that school places will be required in the subsequent 3 to 5 years

Distribution methods could include:

- A rate per vacant place
- A lump sum with clear parameters for calculation (e.g. the cost of providing a curriculum or salary cost of staff that would otherwise be made redundant)

The Authority will receive £0.140m in 2024-25 which is not a significant amount of funding for falling rolls despite 64% of MSOA's in the primary sector seeing a reduction in pupil numbers from October 22 to October 23. Further details regarding the criteria and methodology of this fund are set out in Appendix 3.

The Forum is asked to determine the basis for allocating the £0.140m FRF for 2024-25.

3. Other Considerations

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: prevention of crime & disorder, equality of opportunity, human resources, legal & human rights, environmental, financial, health, property and transport considerations.

4. Background Papers

Papers held in Corporate Services and Transformation Finance.

5. Officer's Recommendations

R1 – That the Schools Forum agree to fund the cost of the Free Schools in year increases at an estimated cost of £0.300m.

R2 – That the Schools Forum consider and determine the basis for supporting maintained and academy schools' Key Stage 1 class costs from April 2024.

R3 – That the Schools Forum agree a Key Stage 1 budget of £0.350m for 2024-25.

R4 – That the Schools Forum approve an in-year pupil increases budget of £0.300m for 2024-25;

R5 – That the Schools Forum agree to the eligibility arrangements for 2024-25.

R6 – The Schools Forum is asked to note the forecast funding requirement in respect of Free Schools and agree to contribute £0.450m to the Free Schools Reserve for 2024-25.

R7 – The Schools Forum is asked to note the residual pupil growth balance and the potential for it to contribute towards the overall DSG deficit.

R8 - That the Schools Forum note the potential alternative use of the Pupil Growth Fund and determine what contribution, if any, it wishes to make towards closing the residual Schools Block shortfall from the residual contingency budget.

R9 – That the Schools Forum agrees to operate a Falling Rolls fund of £0.140m for 2024-25 via the criteria and distribution method specified in Appendix 3.

Carol Cammiss
Executive Director for Children's Services

Mark Kenyon
Director of Finance & ICT

Report Author: Eddie Grant & Phil Burrows
Contact Details: X38748

Under the DfE's Presumptive process four new primary free schools have opened locally, The Mease at Hilton & Chellaston Fields (September 2019), Highfields Farm (September 2020) and Clover Leys (September 2021). A further primary school, Drakelow, has been approved for September 2024, although looking more likely to be 2027, with a further three - Clowne North, Staveley and Radbourne Primary - planned for September 2025 at the earliest.

There are three other schools under consideration outside of the presumptive process, namely: New House Farm, Mickleover, The Avenue, Wingerworth and Infinity Park, a secondary school near Chellaston. If approved, these schools would be administered directly by the DfE and would not have a claim on DSG funding.

LAs are responsible for funding the pre-opening & post-opening support costs of presumptive schools. Pre-opening support provides funding to meet some initial costs in advance of the school opening e.g. employing key staff. Post opening support recognises that in the initial years after opening the formula allocation is unlikely to provide sufficient resources to run a school.

- (i) Pre-opening support - Support negotiated within a £172k to £212k range, the lower figure is more usual where a single Trust is opening more than one school in the same local authority in the same academic year and reflects an expectation that there will be some economies of scale in the planning stages.
- (ii) Post-opening support (Leadership) - provides an average of £13,500 per empty cohort per annum, the maximum support being £283,000 during the first six years.
- (iii) Post-opening support (Resources) - provides additional resources to support a growing pupil roll. Funding is based on a flat rate £250 per additional pupil, a total cost of £52,500 for a 210 pupil school.

Based on the four schools that have opened to date, the cost of the above support is estimated to be ~£2.027m, an average of £0.507m per school. Extrapolating this unit rate for the four additional schools increases the total cost for all 8 to around £4.054m at current prices. To meet liability, the following contributions to the Free School Reserve have been approved by the Schools Forum:

Contributions to the Free School Reserve

Year	Contribution	Cumulative	Year	Contribution	Cumulative
	£	£		£	£
2015-16	500,000	500,000	2021-22	500,000	3,327,000
2017-18	600,000	1,100,000	2022-23	500,000	3,827,000
2019-20	1,002,000	2,102,000	2023-24	500,000	4,327,000
2020-21	725,000	2,827,000	2024-25	450,000	4,777,000
			Total		4,777,000

Given that the pre and post opening support is provided over an eight year period, the £4.054m estimated cost would not be fully incurred until 2031-32. It is proposed that a contribution of £0.450m be allocated to the reserve for 2024-25. This would bring the

aggregate contributions to £4.777m, sufficient to meet the estimated liability with a margin of £0.723m to meet inflationary pressures (the reserve will need to cover increases in DfE academy funding rates over several years). Any unused funds would ultimately be returned to the General DSG reserve

Growth in pre-16 pupil numbers to meet basic need

Appendix 2

Purpose

The need for support arises from the lagged nature of schools and academies' funding. Children admitted in September 2023 would not generate additional funding until the start of the 2024-25 financial year (LA maintained schools) or 2024/25 academic year (academies). This leaves the school and academy having to support any in-year additional costs for seven and twelve months respectively.

It is important to note that institutions would only be considered eligible for support where the increase in pupil numbers arose as a direct consequence of a basic need issue i.e. where the Authority has required the school or academy to admit a significant number of children. DfE guidance specifically prohibits general growth due to popularity as this should be managed through lagged funding. However, in exceptional circumstances, the LA is able to provide support to mainstream schools in financial difficulty via the contingency fund and this can include the impact of in-year increases in pupil numbers.

Eligibility and Methodology

Any claims for support from the pupil growth fund would consider,

- The actual cost of the pupils, relative to the size of the institution's budget; and
- The institution's current/forecast balances.
- £1,550 per Primary pupil would be used to calculate the allocation (this is a DfE mandatory factor) OR
- £2,320 per Secondary pupil would be used to calculate the allocation

Falling Rolls

Appendix 3

Eligibility and Methodology

Any claims for support from the falling rolls fund would consider,

- Whether the school will need to make redundancies to contain spending within its formula budget and these posts would need to be refilled within the next 3-5 years.
- The number of in year admissions that have been refused by the school
- Whether the school have excluded in the last academic year
- The normal area developments of housing and timings/pupil yields
- Have we invested to expand the school within the last 5 years? A conversation about the utilisation of that accommodation and reduction of PAN if appropriate

Distribution will be based on those schools that have a 20% or greater reduction in their NOR between the previous October and the current October at a rate of £667 per pupil.

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**SCHOOLS FORUM****29th JANUARY 2024****Joint Report of the Executive Director for Children's Services and Interim
Director of Finance and ICT****Early Years Block Funding Settlement 2024-25****1. Purpose**

- 1.1 To update the Schools Forum on the Early Years Block announcements for 2024-25 and to seek approval to central early years budgets for next year.
- 1.2 To update the Schools Forum on the expansion of entitlements from April 2024 (Appendix 3)

2. Information and Analysis**2.1 Settlement – Key Points**

The early years funding rates for 2024-25, and implied funding totals, were published by the Department for Education on 19th December 2023. The allocations are summarised in Table 1 below and further background details of each element are provided in Appendix 2.

Table 1 – Early Years Indicative Settlement 2024-25

Item	2024-25	2023-24	
Early Years Block:			
No. 3 & 4 year olds - universal prov'n (part time equiv, PTE)	9,477.02	9,399.71	
Universal entitlement - 3 & 4 year old hourly rate	£5.33	£4.80	
Sub total universal hours 3&4 yr old funding (£m)	28.701	25.718	
Universal entitlement - 3 & 4 year old TP&PG	0.754	0.375	
No. 3 & 4 year olds - add'l 15 hours for working parents (PTE)	4750.27	4405.54	
Additional entitlement - 3 & 4 year old hourly rate	£5.33	£4.80	
Sub total additional hours 3&4 yr old funding (£m)	14.432	12.054	
Additional entitlement - 3 & 4 year old TPPG	0.379	0.176	
Total hours 3& 4 yr old funding – Passporting baseline	44.266	38.322	a
No. 2 year olds: assessment based PTE	1298.98	1449.03	
Universal entitlement: 2 year old hourly rate	£7.53	£5.63	

Item	2024-25	2023-24	
Sub total univ. hours 2 yr old assess. based funding (£m)	5.575	4.650	
No. 2 year olds: working parents (DfE estimate PTE)	2901.03		
Universal entitlement: 2 year old hourly rate	£7.53		
Sub total universal hours 2 yr old funding (£m)	12.452		
Total hours 2 year old funding – Passporting baseline	18.027	4.650	b
	2024-25	2023-24	
No. 9 mth - 2 year olds: (DfE estimate PTE)	1737.07		
Universal entitlement: under 2 year old hourly rate	£10.24		
Sub total universal hours under 2 yr old funding (£m)	10.139		
Total hours under 2 yr old funding – Passporting baseline	10.139		c
Other Early Years allocations:			
Maintained Nursery School (MNS) Grant (£m)	1.074	1.031	
Maintained Nursery School (MNS) Grant (£m) TPPG/TPAG	0.290	0.149	
Early Years Pupil Premium 3 & 4 yo (£m)	0.560	0.501	
Early Years Pupil Premium 2 yo (£m)	0.310		
Early Years Pupil Premium under 2 yo (£m)	0.018		
Early Years Disability Access Fund (£m)	0.515	0.258	
Sub total – Other EY allocations	2.771	1.938	d
TOTAL EARLY YEARS BLOCK (£m)	75.203	44.910*	e=d +c+ b+a

*The 2023-24 figures are those published in January 2023, before any corrections or supplementary grants have been taken into account.

The published allocations for 2024-25 in Table 1 have been based on January 2023 census data except for the extended entitlements for working parents of 2 year olds and under 2's which are based on a DfE estimate. The actual early years quantum for 2024-25 will be driven by the January 2024 and January 2025 census data.

From 2023-24, the teachers' pay grant and teachers' pensions employer contribution grant (TPPG) are no longer being paid directly to school-based nurseries, and instead this funding has been rolled into the overall quantum of 3 and 4 year old entitlement funding. In addition, from 2024-25, the teacher's pay additional grant (TPAG) will also be rolled into the entitlement funding. As with all other supplements, it is for local authorities to determine the appropriate metric for allocating funding, however, the DfE encourages local authorities to consider the purpose for which the grants were originally introduced when designing their approach. With that in mind, Derbyshire proposes to continue to target the funding to take account of additional pressures that providers face from the need to pay increased pay and employer contributions to the teachers' pension scheme.

With the introduction of the extended entitlements for 2 year olds and under from 2024-25, changes to the distribution of funding have been announced for 2024-25. A deprivation supplement for this new funding, although not mandatory, is favoured by the DfE. LAs will also continue to have to meet a passporting test. This test requires that at least 95% of the universal and additional hours funding for 3 and 4 year olds must be delegated to providers, with a maximum of 5% allowed to be held centrally. In

addition, at least 95% of the extended entitlements must also be delegated to providers. The DfE have signalled that both these thresholds are under review and anticipate a movement to 97% in the near future. The passporting percentage can be different for the 3 elements of funding, i.e. 3&4 yo, 2 yo and under 2 yo. In terms of decision making, early years central budgets are a matter for the Schools Forum whilst the Early Years Single Funding Formula is the responsibility of the Council.

2.1 Early Years Single Funding Formula (EYSFF)

This is the basis for funding nursery schools, nursery units attached to mainstream schools and private, voluntary and independent early years provision. The formula must include a basic hourly rate for all providers and a deprivation indicator for 3- & 4-year-olds, in addition LAs can include indicators for rurality/sparsity, flexibility, quality and a lump sum for nursery schools.

The Authority proposes the following for 2024-25:

- (i) A universal & extended hourly rate of £5.00, an increase of £0.20 on the 2023-24 rate after the 2023-24 supplementary grant is added (4.17%);
- (ii) An enhanced hourly rate for nursery schools of £0.62, an increase of £0.04 (6.9%), which absorbs some of the supplementary grant
- (iii) The existing 3 & 4 yo deprivation multiplier to remain at £1.35 per hour per eligible child;
- (iv) A nursery school lump sum of £109,500, an increase of £14,000 (14.6%). This figure absorbs an element of the 2023-24 supplementary grant and a proportion of the MNS increase due to TPAG.
- (v) The TPPG & TPAG supplement will be increased to £0.50 for nursery schools and other school settings to replace the specific grants previously allocated to these settings. This will be funded via universal and extended hours.
- (vi) The 2-year-old hourly rate for working parents and assessment based 2-year-olds to be set at £7.21 with a supplement of £0.32 per hour for deprivation for any pupil that qualifies. This combined rate allocates £7.53 per hour in total for 2-year-olds that qualify for the deprivation supplement for 2024-25 which mirrors the 100% pass through rate seen in previous years for this quantum.
- (vii) The under 2-year-old hourly rate to be set at £9.84 with a further £0.32 for deprivation.

The estimated costs of applying the above EYSFF multipliers to the January 2023 data used to calculate the income in Table 1 are set out in Table 2 overleaf.

Table 2 – EYSFF Allocations 2024-25

3 & 4 year olds	Nursery schools	Nursery units	PVI	Total	
Proposed Universal/additional hourly rate	£5.00	£5.00	£5.00		
Proposed Enhanced hourly rate	£0.62	£0.00	£0.00		
Proposed supplement	£0.50	£0.50	£0.00		
Proposed Overall hourly rate	£6.12	£5.50	£5.00		A
3&4 year olds universal hrs	513	3025	5909	9447	B
3&4 year olds additional hrs	204	970	3576	4750	C
Delegated funding	£m	£m	£m	£m	
Universal allocation	1.645	8.621	16.840	27.105	=AxBx570hrs
Additional hours allocation	0.655	2.765	10.191	13.611	=AxCx570hrs
TPPG allocation	0.205	1.133	0.000	1.338	
Subtotal - hourly rate allocations	2.504	12.518	27.031	42.053	
Formula supplements:					
Lump sum	0.876	0.000	0.000	0.876	
Deprivation	0.097	0.632	0.392	1.120	
Rates	0.075	0.000	0.000	0.075	
Subtotal - formula supplements	1.048	0.632	0.392	2.071	
Contingency – delegated	0.040	0.000	0.000	0.040	
Total delegated funding	3.592	13.150	27.423	44.165	

2 year olds	Nursery schools	Nursery units	PVI	Total	
Proposed Overall hourly rate	£7.21	£7.21	£7.21		A
Assessment based 2-year-olds universal hrs	36	119	1143	1299	B
2-year-olds universal hrs	81	265	2554	2901	C
Delegated funding	£m	£m	£m	£m	
Assess. based 2 yo Universal allocation	0.149	0.488	4.701	5.338	=AxBx570hrs
2 yo hours allocation	0.334	1.090	10.498	11.922	=AxCx570hrs
Subtotal - hourly rate allocations	0.483	1.579	15.199	17.261	
Formula supplements:					
Deprivation	0.007	0.022	0.209	0.237	
Subtotal - formula supplements	0.007	0.022	0.209	0.237	
Contingency – delegated	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
Total delegated funding	0.490	1.600	15.408	17.498	

9 mth – 2 year olds	Nursery schools	Nursery units	PVI	Total	
Proposed Overall hourly rate	£9.84	£9.84	£9.84		A
Under 2-year-olds universal hrs	49	159	1529	1737	B
Delegated funding	£m	£m	£m	£m	
Under 2 yo Universal allocation	0.273	0.891	8.579	9.743	=AxBx570hrs
Subtotal - hourly rate allocations	0.273	0.891	8.579	9.743	
Formula supplements:					
Deprivation	0.003	0.008	0.080	0.091	
Subtotal - formula supplements	0.003	0.008	0.080	0.091	
Contingency – delegated	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
Total delegated funding	0.275	0.899	8.659	9.833	

2.2 Early Years Central Budgets

These are a matter for the Schools Forum. The Authority's recommended budgets for 2024-25, together with the 2023-24 comparative figures, are set out in Table 3 below. The Authority proposes keeping central early years spend at a similar proportion to 2023-24.

Table 3 – Central Early Years Budgets 2024-25

3- & 4-year-olds	Proposed	Approved
	2024-25	2023-24
Service	£m	£m
Central Services to fulfil EY duties*	1.386	1.316
Early Years SEN Service (part, balance funded by High Needs Block)	0.067	0.067
Nursery school licences & misc funds**	0.013	0.013
Total	1.466	1.396
Proportion of funding allocated for central EY service (for passporting purposes)	3.31%	3.64%

*Including

- Information for families
- 2yr old assessment-based funding
- Sufficiency reports and data
- Contracts and Compliance
- Funding payments
- Continuous professional development, support, and challenge for the delivery of the EYFS framework

**This includes the estimated cost of various copyright licences negotiated by the DfE and recharged to local authorities, with the balance set aside to fund support to help address cyber security related IT issues.

Under 3-year-olds	Proposed
	2024-25
Service	£m
Central Services to fulfil EY duties *	0.805
Early Years SEN Service (part, balance funded by High Needs Block)**	0.030
Total	0.835
Proportion of funding allocated for central EY service (for passporting purposes)	2.96%

*See note on previous table

2.3 Early Years – Overall funding and passporting tests

The cost of the proposed allocations in sections 2.2 and 2.3 would fully allocate the hours-based funding for 3- and 4-year-olds and the Maintained Nursery School Grant as shown in Table 4.

Table 4 – Summary of estimated income and proposed spend 2024-25

	3 & 4 yo	2 yo	Under 2 yo
	£m	£m	£m
Delegated Allocations per Table 2	44.165	17.498	9.833
Central Budgets per Table 3	1.466	0.529	0.306
Total spend	45.631	18.027	10.139
Universal/additional hours grant – Table 1	44.266	18.027	10.139
Maintained Nursery School grant – Table 1	1.364		
Total grant	45.629	18.027	10.139

The comparison in Table 4 shows a balanced financial position, however, both the income and proposed delegated allocations are based on the hours in the settlement. The actual levels of income and expenditure in 2024-25 will be largely determined by the number of hours of provision recorded on the census returns. If the number of hours provided were to fall, this would result in a deficit being incurred as the marginal loss of grant would be greater than the reductions in allocations to providers. Equally, if the hours were to increase, then the reverse would be true and an underspend would be generated. Any over or underspend would need to be considered in future DSG allocation decisions.

The proposals would meet the DfE's passporting test as shown in Table 5 below.

Table 5 – Estimated impact of allocations on passporting test

	3 & 4 yo	2 yo	Under 2 yo
	£m	£m	£m
Delegated Allocations per Table 2	44.165	17.498	9.833
Less funded by MNS grant	(1.364)		
Delegated spend for passporting purposes	42.801	17.498	9.833
Universal/additional hours income – Table 1	44.266	18.027	9.833
Percentage of funds passported	96.69%	97.06%	96.99%

The Schools Forum is invited to comment on the report, including the proposed EYSFF rates for 2024-25 outlined in section 2.2, and to consider the Authority's proposed central early years budgets set out in section 2.3

3. Implications

Appendix 1 sets out the relevant implications considered in the preparation of the report.

4. Background Papers

4.1 Schools Funding settlement announcement 19th December 2023

5. Appendices

5.1 Appendix 1 - Implications.

5.2 Appendix 2 – Early Years Funding Components 2024-25

6. Recommendations

That Schools Forum:

- a) Notes the national early years funding rates for 2024-25;
- b) Notes the changes in TPPG & TPAG funding arrangements and funding rates for 2024-25
- c) Gives its views on the Authority's Early Years Single Funding Formula proposals for 2024-25 set out in section 2.2; and
- d) Considers and approves the central early years budgets proposed by the Authority set out in section 2.3.

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Implications

Financial

- 1.1 As set out in the report. The cost of the proposed allocations in sections 2.2 and 2.3 would fully allocate the hours-based funding for 3 and 4 year olds and the Maintained Nursery School Grant. However, both the income and proposed delegated allocations are based on the hours in the settlement. The actual levels of income and expenditure in 2024-25 will be largely determined by the number of hours of provision recorded on the census returns.

Legal

- 2.1 The proposed allocations are in line with DfE Guidance at:
[Early years funding: 2024 to 2025 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-years-funding-2024-to-2025)

Human Resources

- 3.1 None

Information Technology

- 4.1 None

Equalities Impact

- 5.1 None

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

- 6.1 The proposals will support the Council's objective to work creatively together to inspire and empower children, young people and their families and communities to be the best they can be: safe, healthy, happy, learning and working.

Other (for example, Health and Safety, Environmental Sustainability, Property and Asset Management, Risk Management and Safeguarding)

- 7.1 None

Early Years Funding Formula (EYFF) Components of Income to LA Appendix 2

Universal/additional hours for 3- and 4-year-olds - For 2024-25 the LA will receive £5.33, excluding TPPG, a £0.20 increase (3.9%) on the EYFF hourly rate after the Early Years Supplementary Grant (EYSG) is taken into account.

Funding for assessment based 2-year-olds – the rate for the LA have increased by £0.18 per hour to £7.53. Derbyshire's 2023-24 rate being £7.35 after EYSG, an increase of 2.45%. This funding is provided as part of a national scheme to support eligible pupils access childcare.

Funding for 2-year-olds of working parents– the rate for the LA is £7.53 for 2024-25. This funding is provided as part of the expansion of entitlements from April 2024.

Funding for 9-month-old up to 2-year-old of working parents– the rate for the LA is £10.24 for 2024-25. This funding is provided as part of the expansion of entitlements from September 2024.

Early Years' Pupil Premium (EYPP) - the DfE have also confirmed that the national rate for 2024-25 will be £0.68 per eligible child per hour an increase of £0.02 (3%) on 2023-24 after EYSG. The EYPP gives providers extra funding to support eligible 3- & 4-year-olds for up to 15 hours per week. From April this will be extended to eligible 2-year-olds and under 2-year-olds from September

Disability Access Fund (DAF) - the 2024-25 rate is £910 per eligible child per year, an increase of £29 (3.3%) on 2023-24 after EYSG. DAF supports 3 & 4 year olds in receipt of nursery entitlement and Disability Living Allowance to access provision. From April this will be extended to eligible 2-year-olds and under 2-year-olds from September

Maintained Nursery Schools (MNS) grant – supports the higher operational costs of nursery schools. The £1.364m for 2024-25 includes £0.290m for TPPG and TPAG. The 2024-25 grant has been calculated as the number of universal hours per year multiplied by £4.66 per hour, which includes £0.99 for TPPG and TPAG. The unit rate, excluding the roll in of TPPG and TPAG but including EYSG, is £0.13 (3.6%) higher than 2023-24.

Currently, all parents and carers of 3 and 4-year-olds are entitled to 15 hours a week childcare support with registered childcare providers. Eligible working parents and carers of children aged 3-4 can also get an additional 15 hours of childcare support, bringing their total up to 30 hours a week.

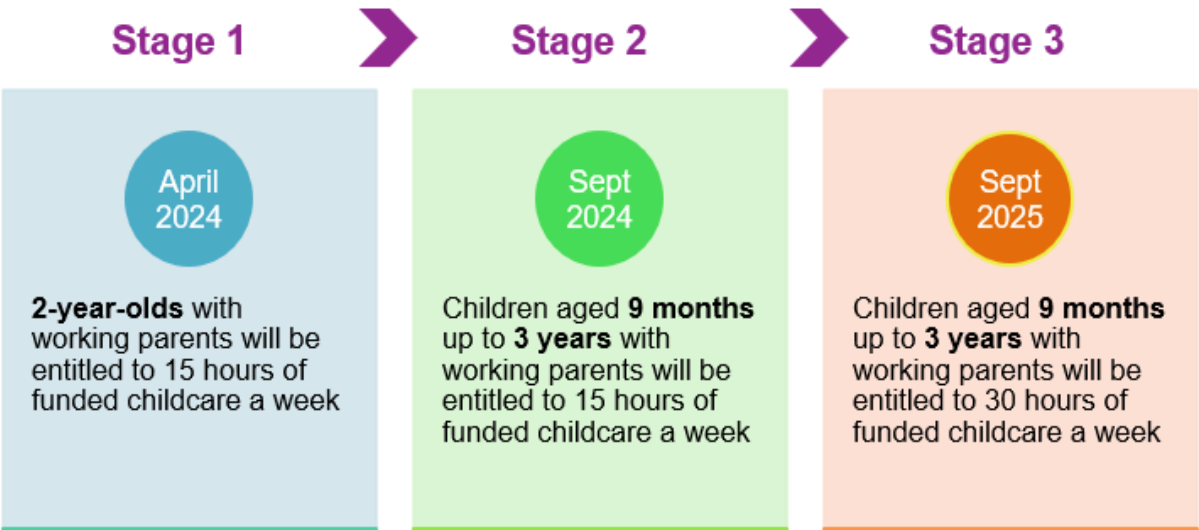
Some eligible parents of 2-year-old children are also entitled to 15 hours childcare support, if they receive some additional forms of government support (assessment-based funding)

From April 2024, existing support with the cost of childcare will be expanded. By September 2025, most working families with children under the age of 5 will be entitled to 30 hours of childcare funding.

The new entitlements will be introduced in phases:

- from April 2024, all working parents of 2-year-olds can access 15 hours per week.
- from September 2024, all working parents of children aged 9 months up to 3-years-old can access 15 hours per week.
- from September 2025, all working parents of children aged 9 months up to 3-years-old can access 30 hours free childcare per week.

The entitlements will continue to work on a termly basis. Therefore, children of eligible working parents will be able to receive the entitlement from the beginning of each term after they reach the relevant age.



DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**SCHOOLS FORUM****29th January 2024****Joint Report of the Executive Director for Children's Services
and Executive Director of Corporate Services and Transformation
High Needs Block Budgets 2024-25****1. Purpose of the Report**

To report the High Needs Block settlement for 2024-25 and seek the views of the Schools Forum on its allocation.

2. Information and Analysis

The High Needs Block settlement for 2024-25 was published on 19th December 2023, summary details are set out in Appendix 1. Derbyshire's allocation is set to increase by £5.783m next year, equivalent to 5.2% of the 2023-24 figure. The announcement was slightly better than the indicative sum signalled back in July 2023, with the LAs' allocation being increased by an additional £0.597m, due to the usual update of pupil numbers and import/export figures. There was no additional funding announced in the Autumn statement.

There are several points to consider.

- Current levels of spending
The latest provisional monitoring, based on expenditure to the end of December 2023, shows a forecast HNB overspend for 2023-24 of £11.476m. Further information is reported within the later agenda item on the quarter 3 budget monitoring forecast.
- Continued growth
The number of EHCPs as at 24th January 2024 was 6,429, an increase of 26%, from the start of the financial year. The full year financial impact on spend of that increase will not be realised until the next financial year. In addition, further growth in the number of children supported via an EHCP is expected during 2024.
- Existing DSG deficit position
The accumulated DSG deficit as at the beginning of the current financial year was £4.775m and based on quarter 3 projected spend the deficit is expected to increase. At a recent webinar on High Needs Sustainability, representatives of the DfE made it clear that the DSG override, the legislation which keeps DSG balances separate from Council reserves, will end on 31st March 2026 and will not be extended. Local authorities must take steps to ensure spending is kept within the grant available and that plans are in place to recover existing DSG deficits.
- Expectations of future funding settlements

The DfE have previously signalled that future increases in high needs funding will be much lower than received for 2022-23 and 2023-24. As a result, future year increases are unlikely to have sufficient headroom to meet continued growth in demand or make a significant contribution to our accumulated DSG deficit. It is therefore essential that the allocations for next year are affordable and provide sufficient scope to contain demographic pressures within the grant.

This report looks at the proposed allocation of high needs resources for 2024-25 and seeks the views of the Forum on the issues raised.

2.1 Places

Following the annual commissioning process, the Authority has now agreed the number of places required in special schools, ER schools, AP centres and FE Colleges etc. for 2024-25. The planned cost is £18.436m which is a £1.736m (10.4%) increase on the 2023-24 base (£16.700m). An analysis of the current and provisional places for 2024-25 is provided at Appendix 2. The main increase is in respect of AP support centres and special schools and academies.

2.2 Top ups

The proposed top up budgets and the comparison with previous years is summarised in Table 1 below and in Appendix 3.

Table 1 – Proposed top up budgets 2024-25 & previous years’ actual/forecasts

Top ups and GRIP	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget	F’cast	Proposed
	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2023-24	2024-25
Sector	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Early Years	0.590	0.748	0.933	0.657	0.882	0.745
Primary	11.442	13.406	15.946	16.644	17.147	16.816
Secondary	7.591	8.256	9.277	10.274	10.755	11.484
Special	13.863	15.488	16.973	17.897	19.136	19.267
Special - Other LAs	1.825	3.073	3.149	3.157	3.354	3.448
Independent/Non maintained	9.473	12.893	16.889	19.206	24.273	22.558
Section 75 pooled budget	2.335	2.052	2.070	2.026	2.026	2.026
Post 16	3.670	3.751	4.044	4.491	5.678	5.677
AP Centres	2.224	1.758	2.285	2.748	4.119	4.714
Contingency / Savings	0.000	0.000	0.423	0.000	0.000	-5.937
TOTAL	53.013	61.425	71.989	77.100	88.370	80.798

The figures in Table 1 reflect the full year impact of the current year’s increases in top ups together with the anticipated further increases during 2024-25, including the impact of the additional AP & special school places commissioned.

As well as reflecting changes in the number of children expected to need support, the totals also assume an increase in the Element 3 pupil profiles for special schools and academies, AP support centres (PRUs) and Enhanced Resources Schools (ERS).

The High Needs additional grant requires a minimum 3.4% increase to funding from the 2022-23 baseline for special schools and support centres. Derbyshire will again allocate this as a separate amount, distinct from monthly top up payments. It is estimated that this will cost £1.205m; the final 2024-25 commissioned places will determine the amount. As this guarantee was new for 2023-24, the cost in 2024-25 is the only the cost of the demographic change from £1.151m in 2023-24 to £1.205m i.e. £0.054m.

This additional grant allocation for special schools and support centres is still therefore less than the average increase for mainstream schools, which is why the proposal to be considered by Council's Cabinet in March will also include consideration for an uplift to Element 3 pupil profiles for special schools and AP centres by a further 1.4%, which is in line with increase to basic entitlement/MPPL for mainstream schools.

ERS provision is not included in the additional grant requirement, however, the Authority's draft proposed allocations assumes that the same approach will be taken, i.e. as an additional single payment, and element 3 uplift applied as for special schools and AP centres.

At this stage the budget for top ups in mainstream schools resulting from EHCPs and IF provisions assume no increase in rates as the costs of meeting increased demand fully utilise the funding available.

Finally, no contingency would be available to meet overspends against individual budget lines.

3. Services

Services' budgets are included at Appendix 3 and the 2023-24 base. As there was no inflation applied in 2023/24 a rate of 2% has been applied to services with staffing costs and no inflation has been allowed on contributions given to other services.

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4. Summary

The implications of the assumptions in sections 2 and 3 are summarised in Table 2. The allocations would fully utilise the 2024-25 High Need Block grant and additional grant.

Table 1 – Summary of Proposed High Needs allocations 2024-25

Budget head	2023-24 base budget	Places	Inflation	Demographic pressure	2024-25 provisional base
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£000s
Places	16.700	1.736	0	0	18.436
Top ups/ IF	77.100	0	0.999	2.699	80.798
Services/other	17.426	0	0.258	0.091	17.775
Total	111.226	1.736	1.257	2.790	117.009

Final allocations are a matter for the Council to determine and will be considered at its Cabinet meeting in March 2024.

The views of the Forum on the proposals are welcomed.

5. De-delegation of funding

Approval was given at the October Forum meeting to top-slice funds from special schools' budgets for 2024-25 for former ESG-funded services and redundancy costs.

- 6. Other Considerations** In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: prevention of crime & disorder, equality of opportunity, finance, human resources, legal & human rights, environmental, health, property and transport considerations.

- 7. Background Papers** Held in Corporate Services and Transformation.

8. Officers' Recommendations.

That the Schools Forum notes the settlement and gives its views on the proposals and provisional base budgets for 2024-25.

Carol Cammiss
Executive Director for
Children's Services

Mark Kenyon
Interim Director of
Finance & ICT

High Needs Block Settlement 2024-25

Appendix 1

Factor	2023-24			2024-25		
	Count	Multiplier Total		Count	Multiplier Total	
		£	£m		£	£m
Pop'n 2-18	149,716	236.89	35.466	150,069	267.40	40.128
Healt Dis - Ch Bad Health	670	6,412.48	4.296	655	7,854.69	5.145
Healt Dis - DLA	6,933	822.44	5.702	7,937	829.36	6.583
Deprivation - current free meals	28,927	272.24	7.875	31,026	291.56	9.046
Deprivation - IDACI Band F	11,863	71.10	0.843	11,863	80.44	0.954
Deprivation - IDACI Band E	16,399	93.96	1.541	16,399	106.30	1.743
Deprivation - IDACI Band D	6,036	128.82	0.778	6,036	145.73	0.880
Deprivation - IDACI Band C	7,400	136.49	1.010	7,400	154.41	1.143
Deprivation - IDACI Band B	6,950	151.62	1.054	6,950	171.49	1.192
Deprivation - IDACI Band A	1,685	199.70	0.336	1,685	225.83	0.381
Low Attainment @KS2	1,220	4,615.78	5.631	1,376	4,543.93	6.252
Low Attainment @KS4	1,551	3,167.64	4.913	1,762	3,354.93	5.911
Historic Spend			33.499			33.499
Funding Floor						0.000
Sub Total			102.945			112.857
Memo Item funding per 2-18 (£)			687.605			752.035
Hospital Education			0.298			0.299
Basic Entitlement	1,367	4,660.00	6.370	1,468	4,660.00	6.841
Import/export adjustment			-3.114			-2.988
Sub Total			106.499			117.009
2023-24 additional allocation			4.727			
High Needs Total			111.226			117.009
Increase (£m)						5.783
Increase (%)						5.20%

High Needs Places 2024-25

Appendix 2

DfE	School	Type	Places 2024-25			Places 2023-24			Budget	Budget	Change
			April	Sept	FTE	April	Sept	FTE	2024-25	2023-24	
			Enhanced Resource Schools (ERS)						£	£	£
2025	Springfield Junior School	Academy	14.00	16.00	15.17	14.00	14.00	14.00	91,000	84,000	7,000
2026	New Whittington Community Primary School	Academy	7.00	6.00	6.42	8.00	7.00	7.42	38,500	44,500	-6,000
2036	Dunston Primary and Nursery Academy	Academy	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	36,000	36,000	0
2037	Langley Mill Academy	Academy	9.00	6.00	7.25	9.00	9.00	9.00	43,500	54,000	-10,500
2116	Aldercar Infant School	Academy	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	18,000	18,000	0
2356	Elmsleigh Infant & Nursery School	Academy	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	96,000	96,000	0
4004	Outwood Academy Newbold	Academy	16.00	18.00	17.17	16.00	16.00	16.00	103,000	96,000	7,000
4052	The Long Eaton School	Academy	11.00	12.00	11.58	11.00	11.00	11.00	69,500	66,000	3,500
4089b	Aldercar High School (HI)	Academy	5.00	8.00	6.75	6.00	5.00	5.42	40,500	32,500	8,000
4089d	Aldercar High School (Phys)	Academy	0.00	1.00	0.58	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,500	0	3,500
5410a	The Pingle Academy (Area)	Academy	35.00	35.00	35.00	33.00	35.00	34.17	210,000	205,000	5,000
5410c	The Pingle Academy (Autism)	Academy	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	90,000	90,000	0
4013	Hope Valley College (Post 16)	Academy	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	108,000	108,000	0
2011	Brampton Primary School	Maintained	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	84,000	84,000	0
2013	Chapel-en-le-Frith CofE VC Primary School	Maintained	20.00	20.00	20.00	19.00	20.00	19.58	120,000	117,500	2,500
2190	Pilsley Primary School	Maintained	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	60,000	60,000	0
2268	Whaley Bridge Primary School	Maintained	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	48,000	48,000	0
2333	Ashbourne Hilltop Primary and Nursery School	Maintained	2.00	2.00	2.00	3.00	2.00	2.42	12,000	14,500	-2,500
4019	Chapel-en-le-Frith High School	Maintained	38.00	45.00	42.08	35.00	38.00	36.75	252,500	220,500	32,000
4173	Tibshelf Community School	Maintained	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	90,000	90,000	0
	Total ERS		262.00	274.00	269.00	259.00	262.00	260.75	1,614,000	1,564,500	49,500

DfE	School	Type	Places 2024-25			Places 2023-24			Budget	Budget	Change
			April	Sept	FTE	April	Sept	FTE	2024-25	2023-24	
	Special Schools								£	£	£
7001	Holbrook School for Autism	Academy	132.00	144.00	139.00	132.00	132.00	132.00	1,390,000	1,320,000	70,000
7006	Ashgate Croft School	Academy	148.00	148.00	148.00	142.00	148.00	145.50	1,480,000	1,455,000	25,000
7012	Stubbin Wood School	Academy	185.00	209.00	199.00	180.00	185.00	182.92	1,990,000	1,829,167	160,833
7014	Bennerley Fields School	Academy	95.00	100.00	97.92	91.00	95.00	93.33	979,167	933,333	45,833
7017	Peak School	Academy	78.00	80.00	79.17	73.00	78.00	75.92	791,667	759,167	32,500
7019	Stanton Vale School	Academy	95.00	111.00	104.33	85.00	95.00	90.83	1,043,333	908,333	135,000
7000	Holly House Special School	Maintained	43.00	43.00	43.00	43.00	43.00	43.00	430,000	430,000	0
7005	Brackenfield Special School	Maintained	155.00	170.00	163.75	134.00	155.00	146.25	1,637,500	1,462,500	175,000
7009	Swanwick School and Sports College	Maintained	92.00	97.00	94.92	85.00	92.00	89.08	949,167	890,833	58,333
7018	Alfreton Park Community Special School	Maintained	125.00	130.00	127.92	115.00	125.00	120.83	1,279,167	1,208,333	70,833
	Total Special		1,148.00	1,232.00	1,197.00	1,080.00	1,148.00	1,119.67	11,970,000	11,196,667	773,333
AP Centres											
1106	Esteem South Academy	Academy	26.00	25.00	25.42	26.00	26.00	26.00	254,167	260,000	-5,833
1102	Esteem Valley Academy	Academy	130.00	135.00	132.92	135.00	130.00	132.08	1,329,167	1,320,833	8,333
1111	Esteem North Academy	Academy	135.00	250.00	202.08	100.00	135.00	120.42	2,020,833	1,204,167	816,667
	Total AP Centres		291.00	410.00	360.42	261.00	291.00	278.50	3,604,167	2,785,000	819,167
FE											
8000	Chesterfield College	FE	77.00	90.00	85.67	67.00	77.00	73.67	514,000	442,000	72,000
133811	University of Derby	FE	73.00	73.00	73.00	73.00	73.00	73.00	438,000	438,000	0
	Total FE		150.00	163.00	158.67	140.00	150.00	146.67	952,000	880,000	72,000

DfE	School Post 16	Type	Places 2024-25			Places 2023-24			Budget	Budget	Change
			April	Aug	FTE	April	Aug	FTE	2024-25 £	2023-24 £	£
4000	Swanwick Hall School	Academy	0.00	2.00	1.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,000	0	8,000
4004s	Outwood Academy Newbold	Academy	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	6,000	6,000	0
4006	David Nieper Academy	Academy	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	6,000	6,000	0
4009	John Port Spencer Academy	Academy	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	0.67	0	4,000	-4,000
4010	Tupton Hall School	Academy	0.00	2.00	1.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,000	0	8,000
4011	Kirk Hallam Community Academy	Academy	2.00	1.00	1.33	0.00	2.00	1.33	8,000	8,000	0
4012	Glossopdale School and Sixth Form	Academy	2.00	1.00	1.33	1.00	2.00	1.67	8,000	10,000	-2,000
4052s	The Long Eaton School	Academy	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	6,000	6,000	0
4013s	Hope Valley College	Academy	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0
4089	Aldercar High School	Academy	16.00	20.00	18.67	20.00	16.00	17.33	112,000	104,000	8,000
4174	Highfields School	Academy	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.33	0	2,000	-2,000
4196	Brookfield Community School	Academy	2.00	1.00	1.33	2.00	2.00	2.00	8,000	12,000	-4,000
4500	Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School	Academy	0.00	3.00	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.67	12,000	4,000	8,000
4505	Anthony Gell School	Academy	2.00	1.00	1.33	3.00	2.00	2.33	8,000	14,000	-6,000
4510	Buxton Community School	Academy	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.33	0	2,000	-2,000
5400	Netherthorpe School	Academy	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.00	0.00	1.00	0	6,000	-6,000
5401	The Ecclesbourne School	Academy	2.00	5.00	4.00	3.00	2.00	2.33	24,000	14,000	10,000
5408	Heanor Gate Spencer Academy	Academy	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.33	0	2,000	-2,000
5409	Friesland School	Academy	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.33	0	2,000	-2,000
5410	The Pingle Academy	Academy	3.00	5.00	4.33	1.00	3.00	2.33	26,000	14,000	12,000
5413	St Mary's Catholic High School, A Catholic Vc	Academy	4.00	3.00	3.33	5.00	4.00	4.33	20,000	26,000	-6,000
5416	The Ripley Academy	Academy	2.00	2.00	2.00	1.00	2.00	1.67	12,000	10,000	2,000
4509	Dronfield Henry Fanshawe School	Maintained	1.00	0.00	0.33	1.00	1.00	1.00	2,000	6,000	-4,000
5404	Belper School and Sixth Form Centre	Maintained	1.00	3.00	2.33	0.00	1.00	0.67	14,000	4,000	10,000
5411	Lady Manners School	Maintained	2.00	1.00	1.33	2.00	2.00	2.00	8,000	12,000	-4,000
	Total Post 16		42.00	53.00	49.33	53.00	42.00	45.667	296,000	274,000	22,000
	Total Derbyshire		1,893.00	2,132.00	2,034.42	1,793.00	1,893.00	1,851.25	18,436,167	16,700,167	1,736,000

Draft High Needs Block allocations 2024-25

Appendix 3

	Base (2023-24 budget)	Place increase/ (decreases)	Demographic pressure	Inflation	Other planned adjustments	Draft allocation 2024-25
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Places / School budgets	16.700	1.736	-	-	-	18.436
SLAs / Basic Entitlement	1.067	-	-	0.02	-0.251	0.836
Top-ups						
HNB - Nursery Top-ups	0.657	-	0.088	-	-	0.745
HNB - Primary Top-ups - Derbyshire	9.215	-	1.366	-	-	10.581
HNB - Primary Top-ups - Derbyshire ERS	1.441	-	-0.353	0.014	-	1.102
HNB - Primary Top-ups - OLA	0.606	-	-0.135	-	-	0.471
HNB - Secondary Top-ups - Derbyshire	7.174	-	1.421	-	-	8.595
HNB - Secondary Top-ups - Derbyshire ERS	1.421	-	0.045	0.019	-	1.485
HNB - Secondary Top-ups - OLA	0.717	-	-0.070	-	-	0.647
Top-ups - Derbyshire special Schools & Acads	17.897	-	0.885	0.485	-	19.267
HNB - Special Top-ups - Other LAs	3.157	-	0.197	0.094	-	3.448
Special Top-ups - Independent/NM schools	18.176	-	3.055	0.297	-	21.528
Complex cases	2.026	-	-	-	-	2.026
HNB - Post 16 Top-ups	4.491	-	1.186	-	-	5.677
HNB - PRU Top-ups	2.748	-	1.877	0.089	-	4.714
HNB - contingency for growth in top ups	-	-	-5.847	-	-	-5.847
	69.726	-	3.715	0.998	-	74.439
Other provision						
Contribution to CiC placements with education	1.030	-	-	-	-	1.030
IF Primary	-	-	-	-	2.352	2.352
IF Secondary	-	-	-	-	0.123	0.123

GRIP Primary	5.384	-	-	-	-3.075	2.309
GRIP Secondary	0.963	-	-	-	-0.327	0.637
Behaviour Support - TAPS	0.324	-	-	-	-0.324	-
Education Direct Pay	0.443	-	-	-	0.148	0.591
HNB - Hospital Tution	0.110	-	-	-	-0.080	0.030
HNB - PRU to Provision Transport	0.100	-	-	-	-	0.100
	8.354	-	-	-	-1.183	7.171

Central Services

HNB - Access & Inclusion - Access blw £10k	0.030	-	-	-	0.010	0.040
HNB - Access & Inclusion - Proact SCIP	0.075	-	-	-	-	0.075
HNB - Behaviour Services	2.000	-	-	0.035	0.102	2.137
HNB - Inclusion Pathways	0.887	-	-	0.018	-	0.905
HNB - Inclusion Pathways - OOST	1.250	-	-	0.026	0.073	1.350
HNB - Inclusion Pathways - TMP	0.827	-	-	0.017	-	0.843
HNB - Inclusion Pathways - Virtual classroom	0.210	-	-	0.004	0.010	0.224
HNB - Inclusion Pathways - Hasland	0.016	-	-	-	-	0.016
HNB - Primary Exclusions	- 0.071	-	-	-	-	- 0.071
HNB - Secondary Exclusions	- 0.365	-	-	-	-	- 0.365
HNB - Virtual School	1.162	-	-	0.020	-0.030	1.153
HNB - Ed Psychologists	0.400	-	-	-	-	0.400
HNB - Specialist SEN Services	2.273	-	-	0.038	0.081	2.392
HNB - SSSEN	5.034	-	-	0.094	0.136	5.264
HNB cont EY SEN	0.748	-	-	-	-	0.748
Inclusion	0.401	-	-	-	-	0.401
Early Years Assessment	0.000	-	-	-	0.176	0.176
HNB - Contingency	0.450	-	-	-	-	0.450
Community Care Workers	0.088	-	-	0.002	-	0.090
Import / Export adjustment	0.090	-	-	-	-0.090	0.000
	15.505	-	-	0.258	0.464	16.227
TOTAL HNB	111.352	1.736	3.715	1.276	-0.970	117.109

SCHOOLS FORUM**29th January 2024****Joint Report of the Executive Director for Children's Services
and the Director of Finance & ICT****Dedicated Schools Grant Monitoring 2023-24 – Quarter 3****1. Purpose of the Report**

To provide the Schools Forum with the quarter 3 projected Revenue Budget outturn position of the Dedicated Schools Grant for 2023-24.

2. Information and Analysis**2.1. Forecast Summary**

The estimates in this report are based on the best available information as at December 2023.

2.1.1 Opening position

The net total DSG deficit brought forward from 2023-24 was £4.775m, which represents an accumulated overspend against the allocated grant of £8.042m, partially offset by other earmarked DSG reserve funds, as shown below.

Reserve	Balance at 31st March 2023
	£m
Uncommitted DSG	(8.042)
Support for pupils in schools	0.107
New Schools pre & post opening grants	3.003
Early Years contingency	0.156
Total deficit	(4.775)

2.1.2 In-year position

The expected Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) and 6th form grant income due to the Authority in 2023-24 totals £396.525m. The Revenue Budget Monitoring Statement shows projected year-end expenditure of £407.248m. Both of these figures exclude monies recouped from the LA's gross DSG by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA), funds which are

subsequently paid directly by the ESFA to academies. This leaves a projected overspend of £10.724m for the current financial year.

The significant areas of expenditure and income are shown in the table below:

DSG Block	Approved Budget*	Expenditure*	Over/ (Under) Spend
	£m	£m	£m
Central School Services Block	4.412	4.137	(0.275)
Pupil Growth Funding	1.105	0.722	(0.383)
Re-pooled school funding	4.382	4.331	(0.051)
Early Years Block	45.466	45.422	(0.044)
High Needs Block	111.352	122.828	11.476
Schools Block	550.509	550.509	0.000
Total Expenditure	717.226	727.950	10.723
Dedicated Schools Grant	(716.574)	(716.574)	0.000
(Surplus)/Deficit			10.723

*Figures are shown before recoupment of academy funds by the ESFA.

2.2. Key Variances

- 2.2.1. **Central School Services Block (£0.275m u/s)** - The Forum agreed to leave £0.259m unallocated and thus available to help support the Authority's deficit recovery plans.
- 2.2.2. **Pupil Growth Fund (£0.383m u/s)**. Similarly, £0.383m of pupil growth remained unallocated to help the DSG deficit recovery.
- 2.2.3. **Re-pooled school funding (£0.051m u/s)** – This underspend is for those services/functions funded by monies de-delegated or top-sliced from schools' budgets. Overall the figures are roughly in line with budget with a £0.060m overspend on contingency being offset by an underspend on Maternity.
- 2.2.4. **Early Years Block (£0.044m o/s)** – The underspend is attributable to the Early Years Improvement service.
- 2.2.5. **High Needs Block (£11.476m o/s)**

Areas where support for children and young people have been increasing above the initial estimates prepared for budget setting are:

- Element 3 top up payments in respect of mainstream secondary, primary and nursery school children are £1.209m above the approved budget.
- Element 3 top up payments in respect of children receiving their education in Derbyshire special schools and academies and alternative provision (AP) are £2.610m above approved budget.
- Element 3 top up payments in respect of Independent and non-maintained schools are £6.055m above approved budget.
- Element 3 top up payments in respect of post-16 colleges are £1.187m above approved budget.

Central support services and other budgets exceeded budget by £0.298m.

Appendix 1. shows a more detailed breakdown of High Needs Block spending compared to the budget allocations

2.3 Impact

Based on the quarter 3 forecast, the overall DSG balances as at 31st March 2024 would be as follows:

Reserve	Balance at 31st March 2024
	£m
Uncommitted DSG	(18.765)
Support for pupils in schools	0.107
New Schools pre & post opening grants	3.003
Early Years contingency	0.156
Total deficit	(15.499)

The DfE have included provisions in the School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2021 that a DSG deficit must be carried forward to be dealt with from future DSG income, unless the Secretary of State authorises the LA not to do this.

3 Background Papers

Held on file within Corporate Services and Transformation Department.
Officer contact details – Eddie Grant, eddie.grant@derbyshire.gov.uk.

4 Officers' Recommendations

That the Schools Forum notes

- (i) the report and the forecast overspend for 2023-24 DSG
- (ii) the increase in the accumulated DSG deficit

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Executive Director
for Children's Services

Mark Kenyon
Director of
Finance & ICT

Report Author: Eddie Grant

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Appendix 1 - High Needs Block Expenditure 2023-24

	Budget	Forecast	Year End Variance - (under) /over spend
Places / School budgets			
HNB - Special Places	4,676,742	4,676,742	0
HNB - ERS Places	634,500	634,500	0
HNB - P16 SEN in maintained schools	29,000	29,000	0
HNB - Spire lodge SLA	220,508	220,508	0
HNB - EY Schools	126,312	126,312	0
HNB – Import / Export adjustment	89,666	0	-89,666
HNB - Recoupment	12,059,334	12,059,334	0
	17,836,062	17,746,396	-89,666
Top-ups			
HNB - Nursery Top-ups	657,310	882,284	224,974
HNB - Primary EHCP	11,261,633	11,207,035	-54,598
HNB - Primary GRIP	5,383,823	4,363,753	-1,020,070
HNB - Primary IF	0	1,577,000	1,577,000
HNB - Secondary EHCP	9,310,673	9,784,451	473,778
HNB - Secondary GRIP	963,345	915,065	-48,280
HNB - Secondary IF	0	56,000	56,000
HNB - Special Top-ups - Derbyshire Schools & Academies	17,897,192	19,136,543	1,239,351
HNB - Special Top-ups - Independent/NM schools	17,318,130	23,372,650	6,054,520
HNB - Special Top-ups – Other LAs	7,070,641	7,278,723	208,082
HNB - Post 16 Top-ups	4,490,901	5,677,690	1,186,789
HNB - PRU Top-ups	2,748,135	4,118,837	1,370,702
	77,101,783	88,370,029	11,268,246
Other			
HNB - Access & Inclusion	105,000	123,473	18,473
HNB - Behaviour Services	2,000,227	2,116,395	116,168
HNB - Behaviour Support - TAPS	323,656	-601,784.45	-383,834
Children Missing Education:			
HNB - Inclusion Pathways	887,311	717,493	-169,818
HNB - Inclusion Pathways - OOST	1,250,152	1,345,675	95,523
HNB - Inclusion Pathways - TMP	826,588	1,259,808	433,220
HNB - Inclusion Pathways - Virtual classroom	210,217	223,078	12,861

	Budget	Forecast	Year End Variance - (under) /over spend
HNB - Inclusion Pathways - Hasland	16,345	14,291	-2,054
HNB - Hospital Tuition	110,000	30,000	-80,000
HNB - Primary Exclusions	-71,000	-112,254	-41,254
HNB - Secondary Exclusions	-365,000	-534,397	-169,397
HNB - PRU to Provision Transport	100,000	144,320	44,320
HNB - Virtual School	1,162,344	1,102,346	-59,998
HNB - Ed Psychologists	400,000	400,000	0
HNB - Specialist SEN Services	2,273,201	2,390,806	117,605
HNB - SSEN	5,033,848	5,209,623	175,775
HNB - Community Care worker posts	87,722	87,722	0
HNB - Other	1,613,303	1,803,263	189,960
HNB - Contingency	450,000	450,000	0
	16,413,914	16,711,463	297,549
Total HNB	111,351,759	122,827,889	11,476,129