

SCHOOLS FORUM**19th June 2019****Report of the Executive Director for Children's Services****De-Delegation of Funding 2020-21: Responses to Consultation****1. Purpose of the Report**

To seek "in principle" decisions from school representatives on the Schools Forum in relation to the de-delegation (re-pooling) of funds for 2020-21.

2. Information and Analysis

The DfE have yet to confirm the national arrangements for 2020-21, including whether or not LAs will continue to be permitted to top-slice and de-delegate funding for a defined list of services. However, in anticipation of the relevant national regulations being laid, the Schools Forum was anxious to bring forward the decision making process to improve the financial planning for both schools and the relevant services. Accordingly, on 1st May 2019 the LA wrote to mainstream primary and secondary schools asking them to give their views on whether or not a range of budgets should be de-delegated for 2020-21. A copy of the proforma response sheet is provided at Appendix 1. Schools were asked to e-mail their views on or before 5th June 2019.

Since April 2013 the Schools Forum has agreed to de-delegate funding in respect of a range of services, such funding then being administered centrally on behalf of all contributor schools. De-delegation only applies to mainstream primary and secondary schools, other schools and academies are excluded from this process by regulation and have to make their own arrangements to cover the relevant responsibilities. Top-slicing of funding for redundancy costs and former ESG funded services is permitted for all LA maintained schools excluding nursery schools.

Approval to de-delegate/top-slice funding for each sector is a matter for each sector's school representatives on the Schools Forum; the consultation with schools is designed to help relevant Forum members reach their decisions on this issue.

For nursery schools, the Forum has no overarching power to make de-delegation decisions. Each individual nursery school will be asked in the autumn term whether or not they wish to be incorporated in any de-delegation arrangements for 2020-21, subject to the Forum's decisions in respect of mainstream schools.

The results of the consultation are shown in the table overleaf (% figures for each service represents the percentage of the respondents in favour of de-delegation):

	No. of Responses	Contingencies	Insurance	Maternity	Public Duties
Primary respondents supporting de-delegation (of 276)	129 (46.7%)	122 (94.6%)	125 (96.9%)	125 (96.9%)	121 (93.8%)
Secondary respondents supporting de-delegation (of 17)	5 (29.4%)	4 (80%)	5 (100%)		
	No. of Responses	Trade Union FT	School Improv't	Costs of redundancy	Fmr ESG services
Primary respondents supporting de-delegation (of 276)	129 (46.7%)	104 (80.6%)	111 (86.0%)	124 (96.1%)	126 (97.7%)
Secondary respondents supporting de-delegation (of 17)	5 (29.4%)	3 (60%)	4 (80%)	5 (100%)	4 (80%)
Special respondents supporting de-delegation (of 5)	3 (60%)			3 (100%)	3 (100%)

One point to note, the actual de-delegation rates for next year will be determined by the Authority as part of the 2020-21 budget process. However, the rates are not expected to vary significantly from the figures shown on the response form.

In view of the responses from schools, it is recommended that funding for all of the above services be de-delegated for 2020-21 for LA maintained primary, secondary and special schools. Ultimately, mainstream school representatives need to determine the arrangements for their sector for 2020-21. If the decisions are to de-delegate funding, the Council would have to formally agree to this arrangement. As the DfE have yet to confirm the funding arrangements for 2020-21 any decision by sector representatives to de-delegate funding would be "in principle" and subject to future DfE regulations. However, providing an early decision is felt to be helpful for both schools and service providers.

3. **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.
4. **Background Papers** Letter to schools published 1st May 2019 and the responses from schools held in Children's Services Finance.
5. **Executive Director's Recommendations** Subject to future DfE funding arrangements:
 - (i) Primary school Forum representatives agree to de-delegate/top-slice the budgets in Appendix 1 for 2020-21 for their sector;
 - (ii) Secondary school Forum representatives agree to de-delegate/top-slice the budgets in Appendix 1 for 2020-21 for their sector;
 - (iii) Special school Forum representatives agree to top-slice the budgets in Appendix 1 for 2020-21 for their sector; and
 - (iv) Schools Forum seeks the Council's approval to the arrangements arising from (i)-(iii) above.

Jane Parfremment
Executive Director for Children's Services

Response Form: De-delegated (Re-pooled)/Top-sliced Funding 2020-21
(Primary, Secondary and Special Schools only)

*Please return your school's completed form to schoolfunding@derbyshire.gov.uk
by 5th June 2019*

School Name:
 Name of Person Completing Form:
 Contact email:

DfE No:
 Position within School:

<u>Primary</u>		2019-20 Value £	Narrative	De-delegate/ (Re-pool) Yes or No?
Contingencies	AWPU	9.00	e.g. schools in financial difficulty, exceptional unforeseen costs which are unreasonable for a GB to meet	Please select.
Insurance	AWPU	20.64	Includes premises, cash in transit, public liability and employers' liability	Please select.
Staff Costs: Maternity	AWPU	17.41	Cover costs of staff on maternity, paternity or adoption leave	Please select.
Staff Costs: Public Duties	AWPU	0.09	Cover costs of staff on jury service.	Please select.
Staff Costs: Trade Unions	AWPU	3.48	Cover costs of staff undertaking approved union duties	Please select.
School Improvement	Fixed	2,850.00	Services previously offered via subscription e.g. 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	Please select.
Redundancy costs*	AWPU	10.95	To meet the agreed redundancy costs of school staff	Please select.
Fmr ESG funded svces*	AWPU	13.86	To meet the costs of a range of statutory, Finance, HR, property and other functions.	Please select.
<u>Secondary</u>		2019-20 Value £	Narrative	De-delegate/ (Re-pool) Yes or No?
Contingencies	AWPU	4.90	See primary	Please select.
Insurance	AWPU	18.20	See primary	Please select.
Staff Costs: Trade Unions	AWPU	3.48	See primary	Please select.
School Improvement	Fixed	2,850.00	See primary	Please select.
Redundancy costs*	AWPU	10.95	See primary	Please select.
Fmr ESG funded svces*	AWPU	13.86	See primary	Please select.
<u>Special</u>		2019-20 Value £	Narrative	De-delegate/ (Re-pool) Yes or No?
Redundancy costs*	Per place	37.23	See primary	Please select.
Fmr ESG funded svces*	Per place	20.00	See primary	Please select.

*Technically this funding was top-sliced