



Warrington Schools Forum

Agenda

Date: Tuesday 13 October 2020

Time: 5.15 pm – 7.00 pm

Venue: Via Zoom – due to Covid-19

	Item	Enc / Verbal	Decision; Discussion; Information	Lead
1.	Apologies and welcome			Chair
2.	Minutes from the previous meeting and matters arising (14 January 2020)	Enc		Chair
3.	Funding Announcements for 2021/22	Enc	Information	Garry Bradbury
4.	Financial Consultation for 2021/22 Arrangements	Enc	Information	Garry Bradbury
5.	High Needs Medical Funding	Enc	Discussion	Ellen Parry
6.	Traded Services update	Enc	Information	Stephen McNulty
7.	Early Years update	Enc	Information	Andrea Riley
8.	High Needs update re Funding Bands	Enc	Information and Discussion	Ellen Parry
9.	Proposal for Free School Meals funding from academy schools	Enc	Information	Ellen Parry
10.	Membership	Verbal	Discussion	Chair
11.	AOB			Chair
12.	<p>Proposed meeting schedule for 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 January 2021 • 23 March 2021 • 22 June 2021 • 12 October 2021 <p>All Tuesdays at 5.15 – 7.00 pm (Venue or virtual arrangements TBC)</p>		Decision	Chair

Membership

Membership with differentiated voting rights ~ Total Membership of 27, of whom 23 are entitled to vote on funding formula issues									
Tenure ends 31 August 2020									
Sector Representation (23)	Appointed by the Council following election by:	Member	Dates and Attendance						
			14 January 2020	24 March 2020	23 June 2020	13 October 2020			
Maintained Nursery School Senior Staff (1)	Primary Headteachers Group	Jane Wilkie (JaneW)	P						
Special School Staff (1)	Special School Headteachers Group	Maureen Brettell (MBr)	A						
Special School Governor (1)	Governors Forum	Mike Frost (MF)	P						
PRU (1)	PRU Management Board	Sam Rigby-White (SRW)	P						
UTC (1)	UTC	Lee Barber (LB)	X						
Academy Secondary (6)	Academy Schools	Gwyn Williams (GW)	P						
		Tim Long (TL)	P						
		John Carlin (JC)	P						
		Bev Scott-Herron (BSH)	P						
		Jon Wright (JonW)	A						
	Governors Forum	Vacant	-						
Academy Primary (3)	Academy Schools	Craig Burgess (CB)	P						
		Cath Cooke (CC)	P						
		Gary Cunningham (GC)	P						
Maintained Primary School Sector (6)	WAPH (3)	Jacqui Wightman (JacquiW)	P						
		Lesley McGann (LM)	P						
		Lyndsey Glass (LG)	P						
	Governors Forum (3)	David Hart (DH)	A						
		Janet Lazarus (JL)	P						
		Hazel Coen (HC)	A						
Maintained Secondary School Sector (2)	WASCL (2)	Chris Hunt (CH)	P						
		Ed McGlinchey (EM)	P						
Private Voluntary and Independent Providers (1)	PVI Providers Forum	Vacant	-						

Representing	Member	Dates and Attendance						
		14 January 2020	24 March 2020	23 June 2020	13 October 2020			
<u>Non-Schools Members (4)</u>								
Anglican Diocese (1)	Jane Griffiths	A						
Roman Catholic Diocese (1)	Tim Warren (TW)	P						
16-19 Institutions (1)	Vacant	-						
Parent Governor (1)	Vacant	-						

Independent Chair	Maureen Banner (MBa)	P						
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Representing		14 January 2020	24 March 2020	23 June 2020	13 October 2020			
<u>Warrington Borough Council</u>								
Head of Service Education and SEND	Melissa Young (MY)	P						
Finance Manager	James Campbell (JC)	P						
Senior Accountant (Schools)	Garry Bradbury (GB)	A						
Executive Member for Children and Young People's Services	Cllr Matt Smith (CllrMS)	P						

Key

P ~ Present

S ~ Substitute

A ~ Apologies

- ~ Vacancy

X ~ Absent with no apologies

O ~ Observer

Trades Union

Laura Watson

(NASUWT)

Presenting Item:

Paula Worthington

Director, Early Help, Education and SEND, WBC (Item 10)

Shelley Gerrard

WBC (Item 2)

Helen Fleming

WBC (Item 3)

Apologies

Shaun Everett

(NEU)

Minutes:

Gill Sykes

	<i>Item</i>	Action
1.	<p>Apologies and welcome</p> <p>The chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted. Cllr Matt Smith (portfolio holder for Children’s Services) was welcomed to Schools Forum.</p>	
2.	<p>Revised Early Years Report</p> <p>Shelley Gerrard (SG) presented the report to the forum on behalf of Andrea Riley, and key points were highlighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes to the Inclusion Panel – being held monthly for children identified as requiring additional support. It is the route for health and the LA to fulfil their respective responsibilities and identify children at the earliest opportunity, making sure children are school ready. • Settings can refer into the panel, and support packages can be identified to meet the needs of the child, and these will be reviewed and monitored. <p>Questions/comments were invited from the chair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LG asked how this panel is different from before, is it the provision map? SG noted that the CDC had previously been directing some of the work, but this is now being addressed through the panel. Although the panel has not significantly changed, work has been done to align it with the EHCP Panel so there is a seamless flow. Some of the EHCP team will sit on the Inclusion Panel. • Noted that there used to be referrals for outreach at Sandy Lane, but now referrals go directly to the Panel and they decide if it is appropriate for outreach at Sandy Lane, an Educational Psychologist or for the two new SEND workers to pick up. • The Inclusion Panel is more of a triage approach, and referral is via the MARS form. • LG queried (2.3 of report) how it has been evidenced that as a result of Portage parents understand how to communicate with their child better. SG noted that this is received on the Portage feedback sheets. • JaneW referred to Table 1, and noted that it would be useful to have the Summer 2019 spend. • JaneW asked for a forecast of 1 year olds going to be turning 2 years in order to look at budgets. <p>Action: Shelley Gerrard to provide a forecast of how many 2 year olds may be eligible for funding next year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LG asked if some of the contingency money could be set aside for (a) a person to check free school meal eligibility, and (b) if any free school meals need to be paid for. <p>Action: JC will take this request back to Garry Bradbury for discussion at the EY Funding Formula Group meeting.</p> <p>Schools Forum is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Note the report. NOTED (ii) Note that funding for 2021 will be discussed at single funding formula meeting and reported back to schools forum in March. NOTED 	<p>SG</p> <p>JC/GB</p>

	<i>Item</i>	Action
3.	<p>Facilities Time Agreement</p> <p>Helen Fleming presented her report to the forum, and noted that at the last Schools Forum it was agreed for the underspend to be carried forward into 2020/21. This updated report is now provided to propose the recalculated per pupil contribution rate for trades union facilities time in 2020/21.</p> <p>Recommendation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Taking into account the carry forward, it is therefore proposed that Schools Forum agree, on behalf of the maintained school sector to de-delegate £1.62 per pupil for the purposes of teacher trade union facility time in 2020/21. Participating academies will be asked to contribute at the same rate. AGREED (ii) This reduced rate will apply only to those schools that have supported and contributed to the shared facilities time arrangements historically. Any new schools wishing to participate in the scheme moving forward will be invited to join at the historical rate of £3.67 per pupil. AGREED <p>Over the next 12 months the £3.67 per pupil rate will be reviewed. Other local authorities will be contacted to compare the figures they use, and a report will come back to Schools Forum (possibly October 2020) to consider whether this is the right figure or if it needs to change.</p>	
4.	<p>Free School Meals</p> <p>Melissa Young presented the report on behalf of Ellen Parry, and noted that the service is facing financial challenge. We need to cover the cost of free school meals, and a decision has been made to increase the cost to offset the increases in staffing and food costs. This will mean a change in the amount of funding the LA needs to take from maintained schools' budget allocations with effect from 1 April 2020.</p> <p>CC noted that there are implications for different schools, which might mean significant costs to some schools. MY informed that Ellen Parry will meet with Garry Bradbury to map out the costs, and if untenable for some schools due to their demographic, we may have to consider a cap. CC asked if schools are aware of this change, and informed that she will mention it at the full WAPH meeting on Thursday.</p> <p>Action: MY to ask Ellen Parry to email all schools (primaries and secondaries) to inform of the funding change for free school meals.</p> <p>Concern was raised that the amount per meal was kept at the old rate of £1.86 instead of £2.30, and maintained schools will have retained funding that should have been used to feed children. Noted that academy schools are already paying the full amount of £2.30 per meal. More investigation is needed about why the old rate of £1.86 was used, and a request was made for an update at the next Schools Forum for an understanding of discrepancies in the budget.</p> <p>Action: MY to follow up with Garry Bradbury for an update at the next Schools Forum.</p>	<p>MY</p> <p>MY</p>

	<i>Item</i>	Action
	<p>Recommendation from the report:</p> <p>(i) Schools Forum is asked to note the change to funding being given to the School Meals Service to fund free school meals for eligible children in mainstream schools. NOTED</p>	
5.	<p>Minutes from the previous meeting and matters arising</p> <p>The minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting and noted that matters arising had been addressed.</p>	
6.	<p>Schools Forum Membership</p> <p>Discussion took place about the changes to membership. A number of people have stepped down, and there have been changes to allocation within maintained and academy schools. Andrea Riley will be requesting a volunteer from the PVI sector. MY asked Gwyn Williams to request that a Post 16 rep is nominated at the next WASCL. There is also a long term Parent Governor vacancy that can be from either the primary or secondary sector. MY noted that changes will be made to membership before she leaves.</p>	
7.	<p>Consultation outcome and implications for school budgets</p> <p>James Campbell presented the report on behalf of Garry Bradbury. The last Schools Forum discussed recent developments for NFF for 2020/21, and asked the Formula Working Group to meet and explore options to be considered in a consultation to schools. Three questions were identified for consultation, (i) Should we have a mobility factor in the formula for 2020/21? (agreed), (ii) if we don't receive enough funding what should be scaled back? (a decision on this was subsequently not required), and (iii) if the settlement is a greater level of funding what are the priorities for distribution? This third question was discussed further in relation to the £934K additional money, and noted the consultation favoured AWPU with lump sum a close second. More schools would benefit from the lump sum but by a smaller amount. A hybrid option was presented with 2/3rd through AWPU and the remainder through lump sum.</p> <p>Questions/comments were invited from the chair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The additional funding is headroom which has arisen largely because of the transitional effect of finally moving fully to the new EYFS scoring framework (low prior attainment). Depending on how it is applied, it could inform the minimum funding guarantee in future years – hence we have to be careful not to risk a potential affordability issue. • LG noted that primaries are still working towards the sector minimum MPPFL, whereas secondaries are already receiving MPPFL. • GW noted that Schools Forum had already agreed to stick as close as possible to NFF, and the discussion favouring lump sum was not following the principle of the argument as discussed at the Formula Working Group. We should not just be looking at how many schools benefit. • GW queried what was the point of having a consultation if it was going to be ignored. JC informed that at the time of the consultation we were still waiting for the 	

	<i>Item</i>	Action
	<p>allocations from the government. GC noted that if the consultation could have given the amount of the additional funding, he is confident that the recommendation would have been for lump sum.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion took place around a hybrid option. <p>The forum meeting was adjourned for 5 minutes to allow sector representatives to confer. The meeting reconvened, and proposals were made and seconded for AWPU and lump sum. The votes were counted as 8 for lump sum, and 6 for AWPU, therefore the recommendation for lump sum would be made to the local authority.</p> <p>The secondary sector asked for the minutes to reflect that this decision had gone against the consultation, and they felt the methodology used was hugely weighted towards the primary sector. JC informed that the weighting was school by school.</p> <p>It was noted that this is a recommendation from Schools Forum to the local authority, and ultimately the final decision rests with the local authority.</p> <p>It is recommended that Schools Forum members representing mainstream schools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Note the contents of the report; NOTED (ii) Agree how the Consultation findings should affect the modification to NFF as it is applied to mainstream school budgeting, and hence individual school allocations, for 2020/21. AGREED FOR LUMP SUM BY 8 VOTES TO 6 <p>Update to minutes following the meeting:</p> <p>The local authority has accepted the recommendation of Schools Forum and the uncommitted funding will be applied as a lump sum increase. In doing so, we recognise that this doesn't just reflect the preference scoring from the Consultation, but it is the option which benefits the greatest number of Warrington schools and, importantly, has least impact on future years' funding decisions because it sits outside the MFG. Many of the comments of those schools citing AWPU as their preferred option regarded it as the fairest option, and this is probably correct were it not for the distorting effect of MFG. If lump sum had been clearly and obviously disregarded by most respondents to the Consultation, the decision may have been taken differently.</p>	
8.	<p>DSG funding settlement 2020/21</p> <p>James Campbell presented the report on behalf of Garry Bradbury, and noted this report is a follow up with more information. Interesting to note that the overall DSG is £10.7m more than the year before. The EY Block is the only allocation subject to change, everything else stays the same. GB will provide a mid-year report on the EY Block. The High Needs Block has an extra £2.6m, but this will not solve the challenges with high needs.</p> <p>Questions/comments were invited from the chair, but none were forthcoming.</p> <p>It is recommended that Schools Forum members representing mainstream schools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Note the contents of the report; NOTED 	

	<i>Item</i>	Action
	(ii) Consider the NFF budget figures in the light of this evening’s discussion of the autumn funding consultation, and the decision regarding allocation of headroom. NOTED	
9.	<p>De-delegation agreements</p> <p>James Campbell presented the report on behalf of Garry Bradbury and noted that the de-delegation process remains in place for 2020/21. It is important to note that when we transition to a hard formula de-delegations will not be allowed and we will move to individual trading arrangements with schools.</p> <p>The individual de-delegated items are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Miscellaneous Licences • CLEAPSS • Free School Meals Assessment • Teachers’ Panel and Union Duties • Maternity/Paternity/Adoption Costs <p>The secondary and primary sectors all agreed to the above de-delegated items. Noted that the trades union facilities time de-delegation was agreed as noted in Item 3.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <p>(i) It is recommended that representatives from the maintained sectors are asked, for each phase, to decide which funding streams are to be de-delegated for 2020/21. AGREED ALL ITEMS</p> <p>(ii) For services not agreed for de-delegation, but for which it is recognised that a demand still exists (either collectively or individually), that Schools Forum suggests an alternative model of remuneration, service delivery, or both. N/A</p>	
10.	<p>Update on High Needs (<i>standing item</i>)</p> <p>Paula Worthington informed that the HN budget continues to be challenging. A meeting took place with Ofsted as part of their research on the impact of funding challenges on LAs and schools to deliver an inclusive offer to our pupils. This information will feed into their survey. Noted that some representation has been made into the f40 group around the challenges with funding. Some people may see the additional funding for HN to be a panacea to all our challenges, but it won’t.</p> <p>There are some difficult decisions ahead with some of the key services to young people, for example, we have had to make sure the transport policy is fully implemented. There has been some resistance to that due to financial implications and we have made some individualised arrangements (as a one-off) in order to get some young people to school.</p> <p>There is challenge around Post 16 and a report is going to the CEO regarding the transition team and work around creating a clear pipeline so we don’t get a bulge Post 16. Noted that some external providers have failed to meet the needs of the children and this has increased the cost by changing provision.</p>	

	<i>Item</i>	Action
	<p>PW offered to provide some of the detail on current practice around key priorities for high needs, and would be guided by the forum about what they wanted to see. Noted that part of the work being done around high needs would be presented at Director’s Briefing. The LA does not want to be the arbiter of budgets at the expense of children’s needs. There are still areas of challenge e.g. health and high needs medical funding. PW noted it might be useful to share the numbers about to be submitted on the SEN2 return to the government. As other LA numbers have creased dramatically, we have remained more or less static.</p> <p>Questions/comments were invited from the chair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> JacquiW noted that we have better confidence than before that things have been and are being addressed, and we need to know the amounts and the headlines. MY informed that Panel decisions are being scrutinised to see how much we have spent by each sector, and that support is being provided to the right children. We can pass on the reassurance that we are seeing a difference and better outcomes for children and better support. JacquiW noted that it is reassuring that it isn’t just managing demand, it is meeting children’s needs. 	
11.	<p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advance notice was given that the Leader of the Council, Cllr Russ Bowden, Steven Broomhead (CEO) and Cllr Matt Smith are hosting an evening for school leaders/governors to meet with the leaders of the council for dinner and for an opportunity for conversations. It is taking place on 3 February 2020 at 7.00 pm at Halliwell Jones, and there are places for 15-16 people. Anyone who would like to attend should let Paula Worthington know. Maureen Banner (Chair) thanked Melissa Young for her support and interest and commitment as she moves on at the end of the month. 	
12.	<p>Meeting schedule for 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 24 March 2020 23 June 2020 13 October 2020 <p>All Tuesdays at 5.15 – 7.00 pm. <i>(Venue for all meetings – Sir Thomas Boteler CE High School)</i></p>	

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and the meeting was closed.

REPORT

Report to: Schools Forum

Item: 3

Date: 13th October 2020

For: Information

Title: Funding Announcements for
2021/22

Author: Garry Bradbury

Presenter: Garry Bradbury

1. INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Details have been released of the changes which will be applied to the National Funding Formula (NFF) for the next financial year, running April 2021 to March 2022.
- 1.2 The NFF is critical to schools funding, as it is used to derive the Schools Block of the Dedicated Schools Grant received by each authority in total, and most authorities (including Warrington) use it (or some close variation) to calculate the individual funding allocations which will be received by its mainstream schools and Academies for their core activities (ie everything except pre-school and higher level SEN provision).
- 1.3 As well as NFF, some other Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) elements were included in the update; these will also be outlined in the report.

2 NFF CHANGES FOR 2021/22

- 2.1 The first fundamental change is that what was separate grant funding for teachers' pay and pension increases has been absorbed into the formula, adding (to basic per pupil) £180 for every primary child, and £265 for every secondary phase child on roll. On current numbers, this equates to £6.452 m. This is not a growth increase.

	Primary	Secondary
Teachers Pay Grant	£47.02	£69.21
Teachers Pension Grant	£132.86	£195.57
	<u>£179.88</u>	<u>£264.78</u>

- 2.2 In addition to this, most of the factors in the formula: basic per pupil, Free Schools Meals, attainment, lump sum etc, have been inflated by approximately 3% (the full list of formula values is shown in **Appendix 1**). The most significant consequence of this is that each child will attract as a minimum an additional £86/£121/£137 (Primary/KS3/KS4) respectively.
- 2.3 There has been more significant change in one of the factors which is a proxy for deprivation (IDACI – *Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index*) which will now see the use of a dataset from 2019, rather than 2015 as previously. At the same time, the bandings on which IDACI operates will change from being determined by deprivation ‘scores’ to the use of percentiles. Because the data will be signally affected, the percentage increases in formula values for the IDACI bands will increase from between 2.38% to 9.88%.
- 2.4 There are two levels of overall protection to be applied for individual schools – there is a guaranteed 2% per pupil cash increase for the directly pupil-related funding, and an overall cash guarantee of £4,180 and £5,415 per pupil for NFF funding in total, for primary and secondary respectively. The primary pupil guarantee, accounting for the adjustment for the grants, is as previously notified last year, when their funding increase was staggered. The secondary increase has an **additional** element – an unexpected extra £150 per pupil.
- 2.5 Without the new data from the October 2020 census, we can of course only speculate what effect, if any, this will have when the formula is run, but the figures below illustrate what funding increases *would have happened* in 2020/21 if the secondary protection had been £150 greater:

Culcheth High School	£176,550
St. Gregory's Catholic High School	£159,300
Kings Leadership Academy	£97,200
Great Sankey High School	£257,100
Bridgewater High School	£232,950
Lymm High School	£230,250

- 2.6 Ahead of the new data sets, and census, we cannot yet say what the absolute effect will be, but we can draw some conclusions based on current data, which show:
- A Schools Block increase of £3.672 million, on top of the £6.452 million grant replacement
 - An average increase for primary schools of 3.6% for pupil-related funding (with 27 of 69 at the minimum of 2%)
 - An average increase for secondary schools of 3.1% for pupil-related funding (with 1 of 13 at the minimum of 2%).

The effect on individual school allocations of full implementation of revised NFF *using current data* is shown in **Appendix 2**.

- 2.7 Although there is a guarantee of some growth in funding levels, it is clearly debatable whether these are sufficient to offset inflationary and other cost pressures. Warrington's funding remains proportionately low – its primary unit of funding will be 39th lowest of the 149 English authorities (and 5% below average). Secondary unit of funding: 28th lowest and 7% below average. As always, these units of funding will be applied to the aggregate NOR from the October census, to derive the total Schools Block for 2021/22, which we must then assess compared to the cost of the formula using all the new data, to determine whether either headroom exists, or there is a funding gap.
- 2.8 The largest pressure of implementing full NFF, as is our current policy, is likely to be the cost of the increased protections. The new IDACI dataset, as discussed in section 2.3, suggests, overall, a slight reduction in funding to schools (using current numbers, it's a reduction of £218,959, even after the increase in formula values, as illustrated in **Appendix 3**), which will partially offset that pressure.

3 OTHER DSG FUNDING

- 3.1 Alongside the announcements regarding schools, some limited detail emerged regarding the High Needs and Central Services Blocks within DSG.
- 10% national increase in High Needs Block funding, with a minimum guarantee to Authorities of 8% *per capita* – and up to a maximum of 12%. *On current data*, this would increase Warrington's allocation from £22.9m to £25.3m (10.26% cash increase)
 - Recurrent (not historic) elements within Central Services Block increased by an average 4% for Authorities. Warrington's increase is 6%, as fewer of its elements are historical. Cash equivalent *on current data*: £58,647.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 It is recommended that Schools Forum note the contents of the report, and consider it along with the discussion this evening on options for consultation & implementation of the Warrington funding formula for 2021/22.

Appendix 1: NFF Values 2021/22

Formula Factor	Value 2020/21	Value 2021/22	Change	Increase for TPG*/TPECG**	True Growth	Growth %
Primary AWPU	£2,857	£3,123	£266	£180	£86	3.01%
KS3 AWPU	£4,018	£4,404	£386	£265	£121	3.01%
KS4 AWPU	£4,561	£4,963	£402	£265	£137	3.00%
Primary FSM	£450	£460	£10		£10	2.22%
Secondary FSM	£450	£460	£10		£10	2.22%
Primary FSM6	£560	£575	£15		£15	2.68%
Secondary FSM6	£815	£840	£25		£25	3.07%
Primary IDACI A	£600	£620	£20		£20	3.33%
Primary IDACI B	£435	£475	£40		£40	9.20%
Primary IDACI C	£405	£445	£40		£40	9.88%
Primary IDACI D	£375	£410	£35		£35	9.33%
Primary IDACI E	£250	£260	£10		£10	4.00%
Primary IDACI F	£210	£215	£5		£5	2.38%
Secondary IDACI A	£840	£865	£25		£25	2.98%
Secondary IDACI B	£625	£680	£55		£55	8.80%
Secondary IDACI C	£580	£630	£50		£50	8.62%
Secondary IDACI D	£535	£580	£45		£45	8.41%
Secondary IDACI E	£405	£415	£10		£10	2.47%
Secondary IDACI F	£300	£310	£10		£10	3.33%
Primary LPA	£1,065	£1,095	£30		£30	2.82%
Secondary LPA	£1,610	£1,660	£50		£50	3.11%
Primary EAL	£535	£550	£15		£15	2.80%
Secondary EAL	£1,440	£1,485	£45		£45	3.13%
Primary Mobility	£875	£900	£25		£25	2.86%
Secondary Mobility	£1,250	£1,290	£40		£40	3.20%
Lump Sum	£114,400	£117,800	£3,400		£3,400	2.97%

Sector Protections	Value 2020/21	Value 2021/22	Change	Adjusted for TPG/TPECG	Effective Change
Primary MPPFL	£3,750	£4,180	£430	£4,000	£250
Secondary MPPFL	£5,000	£5,415	£415	£5,150	£150

Area Cost Adjustment (NB Applied to each formula value at individual LA level)	1.00362	1.00362	0.00
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* Teachers' Pay Grant

** Teachers' Pension Employer's Contribution Grant

Cost Centre	School Name	Phase	Baseline NFF funding						
			2019-20 pupil count	Baseline funding (2020-21) (total cash)	2020-21 pupil count	Notional NFF funding in 2021-22 (total cash)	Notional NFF funding in 2021-22 (full-year equivalent) (£ per pupil)	Percentage change in total NFF funding compared to baseline (total)	Percentage change in pupil-led NFF funding (per pupil)
35001	Bewsey Lodge Primary School	Primary	298	£1,519,351.44	294	£1,533,661.87	£5,216.54	0.94%	2.00%
35002	Dallam Community Primary School	Primary	228	£1,199,978.50	231	£1,240,793.17	£5,371.40	3.40%	2.00%
35006	St Elphin's (Fairfield) CoFE Voluntary Aided Primary School	Primary	400	£1,727,325.71	390	£1,720,208.11	£4,410.79	-0.41%	2.00%
35007	St Andrew's CoFE Primary School	Primary	206	£1,037,434.27	206	£1,056,139.16	£5,126.89	1.80%	2.00%
35008	Warrington St Ann's CoFE Primary School	Primary	194	£966,753.48	187	£955,846.44	£5,111.48	-1.13%	2.34%
35009	Warrington St Barnabas CoFE Primary School	Primary	194	£971,583.10	183	£946,996.57	£5,174.84	-2.53%	2.85%
35010	St Margaret's CoFE Voluntary Aided Primary School	Primary	416	£1,833,804.59	417	£1,879,324.66	£4,506.77	2.48%	2.32%
35011	Our Lady's Catholic Primary School	Primary	185	£871,339.67	169	£820,748.87	£4,856.50	-5.81%	2.00%
35012	Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School	Primary	195	£920,409.37	197	£953,233.69	£4,838.75	3.57%	2.95%
35013	St Alban's Catholic Primary School	Primary	190	£921,561.56	194	£968,173.10	£4,990.58	5.06%	3.55%
35014	St Augustine's Catholic Primary School	Primary	139	£745,287.25	142	£774,483.19	£5,454.11	3.92%	2.37%
35015	St Benedict's Catholic Primary School	Primary	203	£919,933.94	204	£946,056.55	£4,637.53	2.84%	2.69%
35016	St Stephen's Catholic Primary School	Primary	205	£973,700.74	211	£1,016,615.53	£4,818.08	4.41%	2.00%
35017	Appleton Thorn Primary School	Primary	195	£798,377.07	202	£865,088.00	£4,282.61	8.36%	5.78%
35018	The Cobbs Infant and Nursery School	Primary	246	£1,006,147.82	250	£1,074,988.00	£4,299.95	6.84%	5.72%
35020	St Monica's Catholic Primary School	Primary	194	£792,069.63	188	£788,678.00	£4,195.10	-0.43%	2.61%
35021	Grappenhall St Wilfrid's CoFE Primary School	Primary	409	£1,612,994.16	407	£1,708,400.00	£4,197.54	5.91%	6.86%
35022	Bradshaw Community Primary School	Primary	203	£849,084.52	202	£884,305.22	£4,377.75	4.15%	4.95%
35023	St Thomas' CoFE Primary School	Primary	211	£868,519.14	210	£882,641.00	£4,203.05	1.63%	2.26%
35024	Stockton Heath Primary School	Primary	399	£1,609,399.88	401	£1,722,161.00	£4,294.67	7.01%	6.90%
35025	Stretton St Matthew's CoFE Primary School	Primary	212	£837,198.20	215	£902,762.00	£4,198.89	7.83%	7.57%
35026	Thelwall Community Junior School	Primary	165	£716,602.49	166	£735,782.76	£4,432.43	2.68%	2.00%
35027	Thelwall Community Infant School	Primary	128	£593,762.93	135	£635,211.55	£4,705.27	6.98%	2.00%
35028	Statham Community Primary School	Primary	204	£854,405.50	197	£854,838.38	£4,339.28	0.05%	2.78%
35029	Cherry Tree Primary School	Primary	217	£887,567.05	212	£906,054.00	£4,273.84	2.08%	4.15%
35030	Ravenbank Community Primary School	Primary	419	£1,672,333.92	409	£1,742,178.00	£4,259.60	4.18%	6.79%
35031	Oughtrington Community Primary School	Primary	416	£1,663,729.96	417	£1,777,046.00	£4,261.50	6.81%	6.87%
35033	Culcheth Community Primary School	Primary	211	£896,511.61	209	£908,605.08	£4,347.39	1.35%	2.00%
35034	Newchurch Community Primary School	Primary	191	£788,152.92	184	£787,799.63	£4,281.52	-0.04%	3.31%
35035	Twiss Green Community Primary School	Primary	197	£811,001.60	201	£859,100.00	£4,274.13	5.93%	4.71%
35036	St Paul of the Cross Catholic Primary School	Primary	158	£718,847.94	147	£692,124.36	£4,708.33	-3.72%	2.59%
35038	Christ Church CoFE Primary School Padgate	Primary	312	£1,299,645.37	313	£1,328,707.02	£4,245.07	2.24%	2.00%
35039	St Oswald's Catholic Primary School	Primary	200	£833,378.92	209	£880,778.31	£4,214.25	5.69%	2.00%
35040	Brook Acre Community Primary School	Primary	224	£1,200,815.80	205	£1,137,603.52	£5,549.29	-5.26%	2.00%
35042	St Bridget's Catholic Primary School	Primary	201	£1,027,188.27	192	£1,004,326.77	£5,230.87	-2.23%	2.00%
35043	St Lewis Catholic Primary School	Primary	179	£758,039.78	163	£713,156.90	£4,375.20	-5.92%	2.00%
35045	Locking Stumps Community Primary School	Primary	372	£1,570,426.93	380	£1,644,966.90	£4,328.86	4.75%	2.69%
35047	St Joseph's Catholic Primary School	Primary	288	£1,134,261.04	283	£1,186,807.00	£4,193.66	4.63%	7.00%
35048	St Vincent's Catholic Primary School	Primary	177	£733,924.97	177	£749,802.85	£4,236.17	2.16%	2.49%
35050	St Peter's Catholic Primary School	Primary	217	£855,550.32	214	£898,332.00	£4,197.81	5.00%	7.24%
35052	Woolston CoFE Aided Primary School	Primary	213	£857,503.38	208	£873,558.00	£4,199.80	1.87%	4.56%
35056	Barrow Hall Community Primary School	Primary	587	£2,373,488.28	606	£2,607,907.00	£4,303.48	9.88%	6.71%
35057	Sankey Valley St James Church of England Primary School	Primary	198	£972,270.58	199	£994,916.75	£4,999.58	2.33%	2.00%
35059	Winwick CoFE Primary School	Primary	193	£798,188.59	187	£790,834.57	£4,229.06	-0.92%	2.00%
35060	Birchwood CoFE Primary School	Primary	189	£956,599.91	180	£933,461.62	£5,185.90	-2.42%	2.00%
35062	Cinnamon Brow CoFE Primary School	Primary	316	£1,373,893.82	312	£1,383,866.64	£4,435.47	0.73%	2.00%
35064	Callands Community Primary School	Primary	353	£1,449,343.49	346	£1,480,552.00	£4,279.05	2.15%	4.05%
35065	St Philip (Westbrook) CoFE Aided Primary School	Primary	509	£2,014,362.60	545	£2,287,068.00	£4,196.46	13.54%	6.81%
35066	Grappenhall Heys Community Primary School	Primary	207	£841,362.40	205	£890,315.00	£4,343.00	5.82%	7.34%
35067	Latchford CoFE Primary School	Primary	177	£859,811.60	183	£904,916.83	£4,944.90	5.25%	2.56%
35103	Culcheth High School	Secondary	1168	£6,430,850.06	1177	£6,681,884.33	£5,677.05	3.90%	2.88%
35107	St Gregory's Catholic High School	Secondary	986	£5,232,434.36	1062	£5,781,575.00	£5,444.04	10.49%	2.68%
35121	Cardinal Newman Catholic High School	Secondary	801	£4,453,295.00	811	£4,628,979.35	£5,707.74	3.95%	2.72%
	Alderman Bolton Community Primary School	Primary	278	£1,330,732.79	262	£1,289,814.46	£4,922.96	-3.07%	2.53%
	Beamont Community Primary School	Primary	380	£1,717,913.65	365	£1,687,000.07	£4,621.92	-1.80%	2.10%
	Broomfields Junior School	Primary	360	£1,440,347.76	352	£1,471,360.00	£4,180.00	2.15%	6.86%
	Bruce Primary School Academy	Primary	218	£903,844.71	214	£904,853.76	£4,228.29	0.11%	2.00%
	Burtonwood Community Primary School	Primary	208	£883,539.13	203	£880,080.51	£4,335.37	-0.39%	2.00%
	Chapelford Village Primary School	Primary	543	£2,136,443.16	557	£2,328,260.00	£4,180.00	8.98%	6.75%
	Croft Primary School	Primary	211	£871,767.61	207	£865,260.00	£4,180.00	-0.75%	3.29%
	Evelyn Street Community Primary School	Primary	264	£1,315,295.93	281	£1,417,863.00	£5,045.78	7.80%	2.00%
	Glazebury Church of England Primary School	Primary	99	£499,810.13	91	£475,990.07	£5,230.66	-4.77%	2.00%
	Gorse Covert Primary School	Primary	287	£1,157,450.76	277	£1,157,860.00	£4,180.00	0.04%	6.88%
	Great Sankey Primary School	Primary	312	£1,226,302.44	313	£1,308,340.00	£4,180.00	6.69%	7.06%
	Meadowside Community Primary and Nursery School	Primary	238	£1,287,289.72	226	£1,237,676.40	£5,476.44	-3.85%	2.00%
	Oakwood Avenue Community Primary School	Primary	621	£2,708,112.06	624	£2,732,847.97	£4,379.56	0.91%	2.00%
	Park Road Community Primary School	Primary	208	£832,552.00	208	£869,440.00	£4,180.00	4.43%	5.16%
	Penketh Primary School	Primary	200	£809,616.56	194	£810,920.00	£4,180.00	0.16%	3.29%
	Penketh South Community Primary School	Primary	190	£787,455.78	200	£836,767.40	£4,183.84	6.26%	2.00%
	St Helen's Church of England Primary School	Primary	133	£596,783.29	133	£606,354.42	£4,559.06	1.60%	2.00%
	Westbrook Old Hall Primary School	Primary	381	£1,495,305.60	370	£1,546,600.00	£4,180.00	3.43%	6.81%
	Woolston Community Primary School	Primary	223	£962,226.31	221	£941,866.51	£4,261.84	-2.12%	2.00%
	Beamont Collegiate Academy	Secondary	873	£5,248,727.78	929	£5,729,126.22	£6,166.98	9.15%	2.77%
	Birchwood Community High School	Secondary	804	£4,458,498.03	784	£4,527,090.47	£5,774.35	1.54%	4.17%
	Bridgewater High School	Secondary	1538	£8,398,203.34	1553	£8,706,495.00	£5,606.24	3.67%	2.86%
	Great Sankey High School	Secondary	1645	£8,678,832.92	1714	£9,281,310.00	£5,415.00	6.94%	2.73%
	King's Leadership Academy Warrington	Secondary	615	£3,246,577.44	648	£3,508,920.00	£5,415.00	8.08%	2.87%
	Lymm High School	Secondary	1508	£7,946,437.30	1535	£8,312,025.00	£5,415.00	4.60%	2.83%
	Padgate Academy	Secondary	427	£2,695,815.34	488	£3,122,958.61	£6,399.51	15.84%	2.00%
	Penketh High School	Secondary	887	£4,805,830.40	875	£4,887,239.65	£5,585.42	1.69%	3.13%
	Sir Thomas Boteler Church of England High School	Secondary	513	£3,086,178.70	558	£3,425,603.96	£6,139.08	11.00%	2.45%
	UTC Warrington	Secondary	170	£1,153,875.03	135	£992,125.14	£7,349.08	-14.02%	6.26%
			29,829		30,051				

Appendix 3: Effect of new IDACI dataset

	IDACI (F)	IDACI (E)	IDACI (D)	IDACI (C)	IDACI (B)	IDACI (A)	IDACI
Alderman Bolton	£17,382.88	-£6,614.09	£23,700.20	-£20,273.64	-£2,182.85	£0.00	£12,012.50
Appleton Thorn	£471.72	-£230.85	£1,645.92	-£326.19	-£832.99	£20.07	£747.68
Barrow Hall	£281.04	-£230.85	-£1,129.08	£446.61	-£436.57	£0.00	-£1,068.85
Beamont Primary	-£175.38	£732.35	£32,491.72	-£652.38	-£25,667.17	£120.42	£6,849.56
Bewsey Lodge	-£11,446.22	-£4,907.87	£14,717.88	£45,187.89	-£59,609.34	£40.14	-£16,017.52
Birchwood Primary	£873.16	-£5,129.01	-£25,968.84	£0.00	£31,980.39	£20.07	£1,775.77
Bradshaw	£16,253.78	-£2,970.80	£4,937.76	-£4,436.10	£0.00	£0.00	£13,784.64
Brook Acre	-£391.40	£10,618.14	£36,561.44	-£35,769.36	-£16,549.51	£541.89	-£4,988.80
Broomfields	£1,124.24	-£722.64	£822.96	-£772.80	£0.00	£0.00	£451.76
Bruche	-£6,924.96	£3,482.49	£3,091.08	-£2,724.87	-£752.69	£80.28	-£3,748.67
Burtonwood	£6,939.14	£12,859.44	-£18,462.35	£282.37	-£358.03	£0.00	£1,260.57
Callands	£567.10	£1,174.15	£3,101.04	£6,739.29	-£14,717.85	£0.00	-£3,136.27
Chapel Ford	£276.02	-£3,241.77	£411.48	£0.00	£80.30	£0.00	-£2,473.97
Cherry Tree	£0.00	£521.88	-£752.72	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	-£230.84
Christ Church	-£11,352.05	£19,250.54	£7,641.77	-£7,299.64	-£12,580.27	£0.00	-£4,339.64
Cinnamon Brow	£13,845.06	-£7,818.65	£3,783.52	-£2,805.15	-£15,636.22	£842.94	-£7,788.50
Croft	-£408.43	£554.65	£1,240.43	-£1,225.33	-£756.34	£0.00	-£595.02
Culcheth Primary	£451.64	-£471.73	-£1,505.44	£1,339.83	£1,033.74	-£602.17	£245.87
Dallam	£271.00	-£461.70	£62,861.04	£10,026.12	-£77,548.86	£80.28	-£4,772.12
Evelyn Street	£1,701.46	-£7,196.15	£8,063.96	£4,546.38	-£6,985.12	£0.00	£130.53
Glazebury	-£205.74	£20.06	-£60.28	£446.61	-£832.99	£1,264.55	£632.21
Gorse Covert	£1,304.72	-£2,860.47	-£10,397.60	-£1,219.41	£14,778.32	£0.00	£1,605.56
Grappenhall Heys	£55.22	£521.88	-£752.72	£0.00	-£436.57	£622.24	£10.05
Great Sankey Primary	£85.34	-£1,756.37	£35.12	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	-£1,635.91
Latchford St James'	-£4,164.92	£2,769.72	£526.80	-£2,890.50	-£2,142.70	£0.00	-£5,901.60
Locking Stumps	£21,397.36	-£22,110.49	-£12,620.64	-£1,625.88	£16,052.96	£20.07	£1,113.38
Meadowside	£1,385.04	£6,633.83	-£8,942.48	£933.36	-£310.55	£220.77	-£80.03
Newchurch	£230.84	£281.00	£858.08	£0.00	-£1,309.71	£622.24	£682.45
Oakwood Avenue	-£29,400.74	£29.77	£35,888.92	-£12,766.20	-£26,901.66	£220.77	-£32,929.14
Old Hall Primary	-£2,689.68	-£5,730.81	£3,126.20	£5,399.46	-£6,508.40	£0.00	-£6,403.23
Oughtrington	£245.90	-£461.70	£70.24	£80.28	£0.00	£40.14	-£25.14
Our Lady's	-£70.12	-£4,747.39	£3,738.44	-£1,269.69	-£2,142.70	£0.00	-£4,491.46
Park Road	£20.08	£521.88	£411.48	£0.00	-£1,309.71	£0.00	-£356.27
Penketh Primary	£10.04	-£752.73	-£306.12	£0.00	£516.87	£0.00	-£531.94
Penketh South	£240.88	-£451.67	£1,234.44	£446.61	-£316.12	£0.00	£1,154.14
Ravenbank	£1,083.92	£0.00	£0.00	£80.28	£0.00	£0.00	£1,164.20
Sacred Heart	-£356.18	-£13,228.02	£17,116.52	£4,952.85	-£8,214.53	£0.00	£270.64
Sankey Valley St James'	£60.24	-£8,280.03	£858.08	£0.00	-£873.14	£0.00	-£8,234.85
St Alban's	-£1,684.64	-£8,464.24	£6,380.69	£20,650.51	-£26,486.25	£0.00	-£9,603.93
St Andrew's	-£90.28	£18,617.01	-£32,126.36	£0.00	£928.53	£60.21	-£12,610.89
St Ann's	-£6,448.14	£4,004.37	£17,563.12	£40.14	-£9,709.75	£60.21	£5,509.95
St Augustine's	£7,216.12	-£4,225.35	£11,626.80	-£9,735.42	-£436.57	£20.07	£4,465.65
St Barnabas'	£2,654.70	-£19,269.92	£18,079.96	£5,805.93	-£8,691.25	£0.00	-£1,420.58
St Benedict's	-£2,699.56	-£2,298.47	£11,215.32	-£286.05	-£9,203.04	£0.00	-£3,271.80
St Bridget's	-£602.16	£11,691.99	£8,731.24	-£10,161.75	-£15,872.04	£1,043.64	£5,169.08
St Elphin's	-£5,629.96	£1,304.54	£27,754.72	-£2,569.38	-£32,185.73	£0.00	-£11,325.81
St Helen's	-£1,234.44	£1,113.97	£1,681.04	-£772.80	£40.15	£0.00	£827.92
St Joseph's	£40.16	-£461.70	£35.12	£0.00	£0.00	£20.07	-£366.35
St Lewis'	-£1,043.76	£10.03	-£2,634.52	£2,313.33	£1,234.49	£0.00	-£120.43
St Margaret's	-£9,743.35	£32,353.59	-£20,297.15	-£286.74	-£3,400.09	£462.72	-£911.02
St Matthew's	£657.38	£10.03	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£667.41
St Monica's	-£1,791.42	-£983.58	£411.48	-£406.47	£0.00	£0.00	-£2,769.99
St Oswald's	-£6,408.06	-£1,194.37	£2,714.72	£40.14	-£3,888.98	£20.07	-£8,716.48
St Paul of the Cross	£6,262.64	£9,152.96	-£11,867.92	£1,620.81	-£2,338.37	£20.07	£2,850.19
St Peter's	-£2,702.31	£2,399.79	£826.82	£120.99	-£1,714.14	£0.00	-£1,068.84
St Philip's	-£160.56	-£662.46	£175.60	£120.42	-£436.57	£0.00	-£963.57
St Stephen's	£1,214.44	£10,778.78	-£21,467.72	-£366.33	£1,340.19	£120.42	-£8,380.22
St Thomas'	-£2,017.24	-£491.79	£0.00	£80.28	£40.15	£0.00	-£2,388.60
St Vincent's	£20.08	-£481.76	£35.12	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	-£426.56
St Wilfrid's	£5,906.38	-£2,468.98	£0.00	£80.28	£0.00	£0.00	£3,517.68
Statham	£657.38	-£752.73	£1,374.92	-£1,219.41	£0.00	£0.00	£60.16
Stockton Heath	-£3,979.14	£110.61	£482.92	-£774.73	-£357.16	£0.00	-£4,517.51
The Cobbs Infant	£574.50	-£957.32	£2,478.80	-£1,919.61	-£438.32	£0.00	-£261.96
Thelwall Infant	£8,646.26	-£491.79	£2,468.88	-£2,398.68	£0.00	£0.00	£8,224.67
Thelwall Junior	£8,019.00	-£2,007.28	£1,645.92	-£1,545.60	£0.00	£0.00	£6,112.04
Twiss Green	£225.82	£281.00	£35.12	£40.14	£0.00	£20.07	£602.15
Winwick	£1,324.80	£30.09	-£2,283.32	-£1,018.71	-£316.12	£0.00	-£2,263.26
Woolston CE	-£2,739.88	£1,314.73	£1,645.92	-£406.47	-£1,309.71	£0.00	-£1,495.41
Woolston CP	-£607.17	-£461.70	£1,339.80	£446.61	-£1,746.28	£0.00	-£1,028.75
Beamont Collegiate Academy	-£10,749.92	£49,327.03	£25,361.02	£10,106.42	-£76,179.30	£652.34	-£1,482.41
Birchwood Community High	£15,846.68	-£22,351.60	-£16,755.72	-£14,401.96	£36,627.06	-£1,977.14	-£3,012.68
Bridgewater High	£1,866.59	-£7,100.37	£14,250.54	-£5,503.40	-£6,738.60	£50.21	-£3,175.03
Cardinal Newman	-£13,349.59	£9,488.72	£28,141.36	-£18,296.06	-£31,643.98	£376.35	-£25,283.20
Culcheth High	£7,185.47	-£15,501.28	£8,340.00	£983.54	£10,954.50	-£9,273.44	£2,688.79
Great Sankey High	£4,257.48	£14,856.98	-£20,721.97	£984.11	-£5,944.87	£943.95	-£5,624.31
King's Leadership Academy	-£10,718.88	£9,750.01	£6,227.44	-£5,238.90	-£2,805.10	£100.36	-£2,685.07
Lymm High	£14,328.61	-£4,719.43	£7,053.72	-£6,067.65	£1,680.44	-£518.22	£11,757.47
Padgate Academy	-£4,637.09	£34,544.17	£45,865.36	-£37,334.70	-£61,732.40	£1,580.67	-£21,713.99
Penketh High	-£10,721.67	-£22,270.97	£47,118.61	£36,764.44	-£71,202.61	£25.12	-£20,287.10
Sir Thomas Boteler High	£1,203.41	-£7,010.80	£50,291.38	-£16,931.14	-£39,316.64	£175.63	-£11,588.16
St Gregory's	-£713.46	-£40,822.78	£33,947.42	£17,322.46	-£36,290.74	£25.09	-£26,532.01
UTC Warrington	-£1,324.69	£1,840.11	£3,296.20	£303.33	-£2,436.75	-£1,597.55	£80.64
	£5,282.52	£7,125.82	£448,480.65	-£54,967.29	-£621,445.88	-£3,434.38	-£218,958.56

REPORT

Report to: Schools Forum

Item: 4

Date: 13th October 2020

For: Discussion / Decision

Title: Financial Consultation for
2021/22 Arrangements

Author: Garry Bradbury

Presenter: Garry Bradbury

1. INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

- 1.1 As discussed in this evening's item *Funding Arrangements for 2021-22*, the revised composition of the National Funding Formula (NFF) to determine local authority Schools Block allocations, and which Warrington uses as the basis of its formula funding model for individual schools, has been released.
- 1.2 As is usually the case, there are a number of regulations informing the process by which an authority implements its own funding model. In particular, whether or not there is a requirement for a full consultation with schools over the LA's funding proposal, or whether it is sufficient to discuss with Schools Forum in its representative capacity.
- 1.3 In either event, as always, the final responsibility for deciding the local funding model rests with the Local Authority, and will remain so until the NFF becomes a 'hard' formula, implemented centrally for all schools as directed by DfE (Department for Education).

2 CONSULTATIVE REQUIREMENTS FOR 2021/22

- 2.1 If no *substantive* change between the current formula model for 2020/21 and that proposed for 2021/22 is suggested, there is no requirement for a formal all-school consultation. Under these arrangements, implementing any of the following is permissible without consultation:
 - a) Updating formula values from the national NFF revision, including the increases in per pupil funding resulting from the mainstreaming of pay and pension grants;
 - b) Using new data sets, for example the updated IDACI information
 - c) Using the revised minimum per pupil funding level protections

- d) Using the same minimum per pupil funding guarantee (MFG) as 2020/21 (in Warrington's case, 1.84%)
- 2.2 The national funding settlement included a guaranteed per pupil funding increase of 2% (and in the illustration using existing data, 28 schools would trigger this protection). To implement this fully is therefore at variance with the circumstance outlined in d) above, and would therefore require a full consultation with all schools.
- 2.3 Having used NFF formula values for 2020/21, any modification of these new values to distribute additional funding, or to retain funding centrally for other specific purposes, will require consultation.
- 2.4 Changing any formula factor definitions would also require consultation. For example, changing from the use of EAL3 to EAL1 for one of the deprivation-based factors.

3 PROPOSAL FOR 2021/22

- 3.1 In the light of the guidance discussed in section 2 of this report, Schools Forum is asked to consider the following funding scenarios for application in financial year 2021/22, some of which would potentially keep back a small amount of funding from distribution:
- SCENARIO 1
2021/22 NFF applied, with existing MFG of 1.84%. No consultation required. Surplus to be retained for contingency purposes.
 - SCENARIO 2
2021/22 NFF applied, with a MFG of 2.00%. Consultation required before can be fully passported.
 - SCENARIO 3
2021/22 NFF applied at standard national rates i.e. no Area Cost Adjustment applied to formula values. Consultation required. Surplus to be retained for contingency purposes.
 - SCENARIO 4
2021/22 NFF, with the exception that lump sums are frozen at 2020/21 levels, with the surplus retained for contingency purposes. Consultation required.

One suggested use for contingency funding is to create an amount to commission a SEND CPD framework and quality assurance process as a measure to reduce our over-reliance on the high needs budget, skill up our schools workforce (key staff) to a quality assured and consistent standard, to introduce a process of scrutiny into our schools focusing on the quality of their SEND offer to reduce the reliance on a small number of schools, to stop the movement of SEND children around the system, to ensure a varied and inclusive offer within all of our schools to reduce the reliance on external and

out of borough placements, to enhance our ITT offer in respect of SEND, inclusive practices and trauma informed schools and to enhance capacity in our special schools

Whichever funding scenario applies will require to be checked for affordability once all new data from the October census are available, and the resulting funding aggregates assessed against our funding allocation (including the growth element). If there is a shortfall, the formula will need to be 'tweaked' using the methodologies agreed at Schools Forum last year. Any headroom will be reported back to Forum and potentially aggregated with any identified contingency.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 It is recommended that Schools Forum notes the contents of the report, and discusses:

a) which funding scenarios should be considered further,

b) whether this will necessitate a wider consultation, and if so which scenarios should be presented as options.

REPORT

Report to:	Schools Forum	Item:	5
Date:	13/10/2020	For:	Information and discussion
Title:	Proposal to remove High Needs Medical Funding		
Author:	Ellen Parry	Presenter:	Ellen Parry

1. INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

Schools can apply for High Needs Medical Funding (HNMF) to support children and young people with complex medical needs. Traditionally this has been for those with health issues such as those with a tracheostomy, cystic fibrosis, cerebral palsy, Type 1 diabetes or epilepsy.

HNMF is unique to Warrington as other local authorities are not known to provide this support. In other areas, support of this nature tends to be funded by health services or from schools own resources, rather than from the High Needs budget.

Schools have a statutory responsibility to support children with medical conditions outlined in the DfE guidance '[Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions: statutory guidance for governing bodies of maintained schools and proprietors of academies in England](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/803956/supporting-pupils-at-school-with-medical-conditions.pdf)', December 2015 which states that "the governing body, proprietor or management committee remains legally responsible and accountable for fulfilling its statutory duty".

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/803956/supporting-pupils-at-school-with-medical-conditions.pdf

The aim of this duty is "to ensure that all children with medical conditions, in terms of both physical and mental health, are properly supported in school so that they can play a full and active role in school life, remain healthy and achieve their academic potential". The key points of these responsibilities are that:

- Pupils at school with medical conditions should be properly supported so that they have full access to education, including school trips and physical education.
- Governing bodies must ensure that arrangements are in place in schools to support pupils at school with medical conditions.
- Governing bodies should ensure that school leaders consult health and social care professionals, pupils and parents to ensure that the needs of children with medical conditions are properly understood and effectively supported.

The guidance also outlines the responsibility of Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG):

“Since 2013 Local Authorities have been responsible for commissioning public health services for school-aged children including school nursing. CCGs should be aware that this does not include clinical support for children in schools who have long-term conditions and disabilities, which remains a CCG commissioning responsibility. Children in special schools in particular may need care which falls outside the remit of local authority commissioned school nurses, such as gastrostomy and tracheostomy care, or postural support. CCGs should ensure their commissioning arrangements are adequate to provide the ongoing support essential to the safety of these vulnerable children whilst in school”.

‘The National Framework for Children and Young People’s Continuing Care’, DoH, January 2016 outlines the process and framework for continuing care assessments.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/499611/children_s_continuing_care_Fe_16.pdf

This framework provides guidance for CCGs when assessing the needs of children and young people whose complex needs cannot be met by universal or specialist health services.

“Some children and young people (up to their 18th birthday), may have very complex health needs. These may be the result of congenital conditions, long-term or life-limiting or life-threatening conditions, disability, or the after-effects of serious illness or injury.

These needs may be so complex, that they cannot be met by the services which are routinely available from GP practices, hospitals or in the community commissioned by clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) or NHS England. A package of additional health support may be needed. This additional package of care has come to be known as continuing care.”

CCGs have a legal responsibility for securing to a reasonable extent the health care which an individual needs. In line with the Haringey judgement, there are clear limits to what care should be funded by the local authority, which should not be a substitute for additional NHS care for children. In this case, the High Court determined that the duty under section 17 of the Children Act 1989 did not extend to meeting essential medical needs. Similarly, the special educational needs support a child may require is the commissioning responsibility of the local authority, as an educational service.

Under the *National Health Service Commissioning Board and Clinical Commissioning Groups (Responsibilities and Standing Rules) (Amendment) Regulations 2013*, the families of a child or young person eligible for continuing care have a ‘right to have’ a personal health budget, covering the part of their care package which would be provided by the NHS. Personal health budgets are not

restricted to children and young people eligible for continuing care. They can be offered to other children on a discretionary basis.

Additionally, in some cases it will be appropriate for children with medical conditions to have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) if they have special educational needs or a disability.

The proposal to remove HNMF was discussed previously at Schools Forum on 23rd April 2019. The outcome of this discussion was for the decision to be put on hold whilst the LA explored a different approach to funding with the CCG.

Renewed discussions have been taking place with a challenge from the LA to the Continuing Care algorithm that has been developed by the CCG. This would likely put more burden on education to support children with complex medical needs rather than being supported through Continuing Care funding. Discussions are ongoing to ensure that the CCG will support children to successfully attend school.

The High Needs budget continues to be significantly overspent, with the current cumulative deficit projected as £1,266,000, despite cost savings being implemented. The need to revisit previous proposals is now essential to help to reduce this overspend.

2. PROPOSAL

The proposal being put forward is to remove HNMF from the Warrington offer. This will be phased out over the next few years.

Existing recipients of this funding will be protected and their support will continue for as long as it is needed. This will be reviewed on an annual basis with the view to seeing a reduction over time as some children learn to cope with their health issues (e.g. those with type 1 diabetes). Part of this review will involve a consideration of whether they would benefit from an EHCP (dependent on their needs).

The LA will not accept any new referrals for HNMF from 1st January 2021.

Leading up to this cut-off date, the LA will be working with the CCG to ensure they have a clear and fair process for ensuring that children and young people with complex medical needs are appropriately supported with their health needs in school.

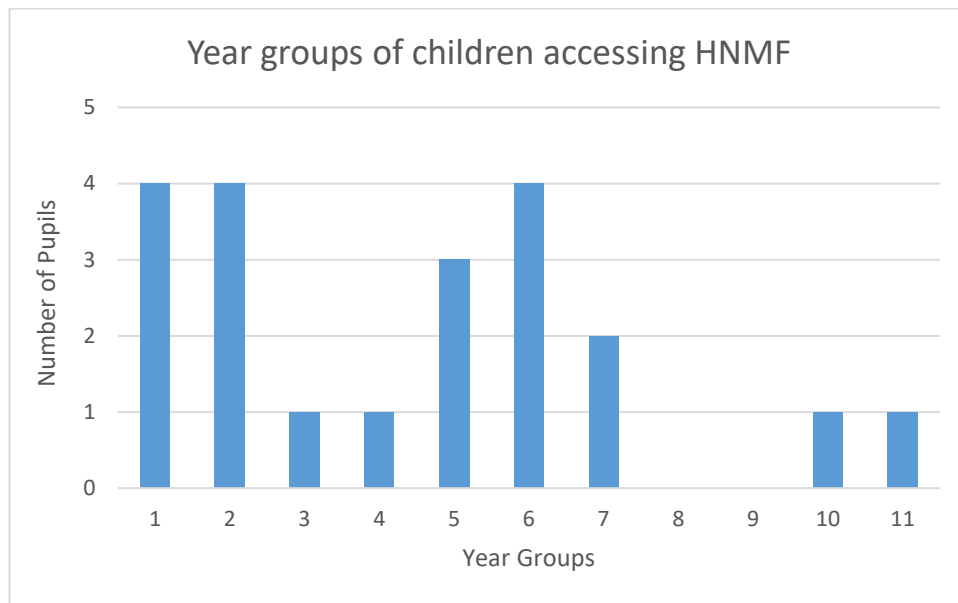
Children and young people currently in receipt of HNMF will be assessed for continuing care once this assessment process has been reviewed (dependent on parent's consent).

Additionally, Warrington's Designated Clinical Officer (DCO) is undertaking training with health professionals with a focus upon their professional remit in writing advice for children undergoing Education, Health and Care needs assessments and contributing to annual reviews, so that they are aware that they must not make any

recommendations regarding educational provision (including levels of support within mainstream schools locally) and the potential consequences of doing so. The DCO's viewpoint is that some of the cases where additional support for medical needs has been provided in school has been potentially instigated and supported by these health professionals.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Currently, there are 21 children in receipt of HNMF attending 19 schools. The majority of these children are in Primary provisions (17 children). HNMF will usually cease at the end of Primary school.



The total HNMF currently for this financial year is £106,710.00.

Average funding being awarded is £5,081.00, with the lowest amount of funding being £553.00 and the highest amount of funding being £11,909.00.

Additionally, the LA have served notice on the tracheostomy and speech and language contracts with the CCG. This will cease after the current extension period.

4. RISKS

Political	Damage to our reputation if we are viewed to be not supporting children with medical needs and making reasonable adjustments in line with their statutory responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010.
Economic	Schools may feel unable to meet the needs of pupils with complex medical needs within their funding allocation which could result in requests for specialist out of authority provision where previously schools could offer support and additional resources.

	<p>There could be an increase in referrals for EHC needs assessments, as an alternative route to secure support and funding for children. This would increase the already high number of children in receipt of an EHCP and put additional pressure on the high needs budget via an alternative route.</p> <p>Schools budgets could be affected if this funding is removed.</p>
Social	<p>Children and young people are placed in provisions outside of their local community and away from their peers and established friendship groups if Warrington schools cannot meet their needs.</p> <p>Pupil progress could be impacted.</p>
Legal	<p>Schools have a statutory responsibility to manage the medical needs of pupils in school in line with the DfE guidance '<u>Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions: statutory guidance for governing bodies of maintained schools and proprietors of academies in England</u>'. Failure to meet these statutory obligations could result in legal challenge from parents / carers.</p> <p>It is not a statutory duty to provide funding for medical needs.</p> <p>Staff could be at risk of redundancy, particularly those where children have a high level of funding for staffing purposes.</p>

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

Schools Forum is asked to:

- a. Note the proposal outlined in section 2.
- b. Support the proposal to remove HNMF from the Warrington offer for new applicants from 1st January 2021.
- c. Support the proposal to maintain the current financial support to those children and young people already in receipt of HNMF (unless these are assessed as being eligible for continuing care funding and support instead).
- d. Note the work that the council and the CCG are undertaking to ensure that appropriate funding and support is provided for those who are eligible for continuing care, as well as promoting the take-up of personal health budgets.
- e. Note that the council will work with WARRPAC and SENDIASS to communicate the changes to parents / carers and with WAPH and WASCL to share the changes with schools.
- f. Note the work being undertaken with health professionals by Warrington's DCO.

well as establishing open communication about new ways of working across the system in Warrington.

2.3 New three year SLA's recently commenced for the vast majority of council traded services. So for maintained schools the new three period of SLA's began on 1st April 2020 and academy schools on 1st September 2020. Exceptions to the three year SLA period include;

- Some ICT SLA's were offered out on a one year contract to both offer more flexibility to the schools (to allow schools to decide on services more frequently due to changes in technology) or in-line with 3rd party contracts.
- Education Child Psychology Service & Warrington LiFE Service (formerly Careers for Young People Service) offer more bespoke advice & guidance, these can be purchased by the school/academy on an "as and when required" basis.
- Tree & Woodland SLA (two year pilot) there is a change to the way the service is charged back to the schools. So schools now pay a heavily reduced rate upfront for the SLA each year and then pay a fixed amount for each ad-hoc service they request. This is to allow more flexibility to schools, for example; statutory requirements are not always on a yearly cycle so schools requirements may change year on year.

2.4 SLA price rises each year are limited to externally verified figures (Consumer Price Index). Anything higher triggering a wider consultation with schools.

2.5 New SLA contract Terms & Conditions were put in place from 2020 which were communicated to schools back in November 2019 as part of the schools & academies consultation, these include;

- New way of Invoicing Academies & Out of Borough Schools:

A number of academies and out of borough schools had previously been in touch to say that they would prefer to pay SLA's in full no matter what the amount is, as it just adds additional work from the academy/school end by paying invoices monthly. So for the new 2020 SLA period onwards we will raise all invoices in full at the beginning of the SLA year. If any academies or out of borough schools prefer to continue to pay monthly then the school will be able to email or ring our income team (details which are on each invoice) and ask them to set up a monthly payment plan. So this will meet both the needs of academy/school who want to pay upfront in full and those who wish to pay monthly.

Maintained schools will continue to be charged via internal transfer, so no changes to the way payments have been processed previously.

- Cancellation of SLA's

In the event that a school/academy wishes to cancel any SLA's with the Council, the following terms and conditions apply:

1. A minimum of 90 days' notice must be given in writing for services where TUPE does not apply.
2. For services where TUPE does apply, the notice must be for 180 days* to allow consultation with staff affected.

*This notice was originally 90 days however to ensure compliance with TUPE legislation we have extended the duration to 180 days.

- Academisation

Schools converting to academy will continue to have all contracts novated to the new academy, or multi-academy trust at the point of conversion. Unless;

1. The council does not offer a service to academies (Insurance SLA's),
2. The service offer is considerably different for academies (Finance Advisory – service would quote academy dependant on their requirements),
3. It is an SLA which is offered free to maintained schools however is chargeable to academies (for example; Health & Safety, Energy Supply and Management – again services would quote the academy dependant on their requirements).

At this point the new academy school will be free of their obligations should they wish. In this instance, the old maintained school may not receive a refund of the remaining in-year balance in their closing account. Any refund will be dependent on what costs the council has incurred.

3. REVENUE PERFORMANCE – MAINTAINED SCHOOLS

3.1 Total combined revenue from all traded services to date has decreased by £188,913*. (2019/20: £3,629,518. 2020/21): £3,440,605**)

*This is mainly due to the six academy conversions during 2019/20. **Ad-hoc services and training are also expected to be sold throughout the remaining financial year (October 2020 > March 2021) and will need to be measured retrospectively at the end of the financial year to ensure a balance between cost of delivery and income generated.

4. REVENUE PERFORMANCE – ACADEMY SCHOOLS

4.1 There have been no academy conversions so far during the 20/21 academic year. Academy schools account for 33 of 91 schools in Warrington (36%).

4.2 At the time of writing this report the council was still in discussion with a number of academy schools with regards to contract renewals and some bespoke MAT wide services. To date revenue has decreased by £170,019* (2019/20: £1,613,075. 2020/21: £1,443,056)

* Ad-hoc services and training are also expected to be sold throughout the remaining academic year (October 2020-August 2021) and will need to be measured retrospectively at the end of the financial year to ensure a balance between cost of delivery and income generated.

5. REVENUE PERFORMANCE COMBINED YEAR ON YEAR

5.1 The following table shows services in which revenue has reduced by at least £10,000 from combined maintained and academy schools compared to 2019-2020. Please note that this table does not include any services which rely heavily on revenue from ad-hoc services and training throughout the year. Those services will

need to be measured retrospectively at the end of the financial year to ensure a balance between cost of delivery and income generated.

Service	% Variance	£ Variance	Rationale
Education Legal Service	-18%	-£11,695	Reduction in buyback mainly from academy schools. Service is looking to introduce a new schools legal training discount offer as part of the SLA. This will be launched in next couple of months.
Performance Data Service	-18%	-£13,141	Reduction in buyback mainly from academy schools. Still waiting on a couple of academy schools to confirm whether they will be purchasing for 20/21. Service is currently looking at reviewing Academy SLA offer to ensure it is fully meeting their requirements.
Governor Support Service	-15%	-£17,067	Reduction in buyback mainly from academy schools. Still waiting on a couple of academy schools to confirm whether they will be purchasing for 20/21. Service will also receive revenue from ad-hoc requests throughout the year.
HR Advisory Service	-14%	-£48,958	Reduction in buyback from academy schools. However service costs have reduced as one member of the service has moved to a new role in one of our academy trusts. The HR Advisory post has not been replaced. Service is also in advanced talks with an out of borough MAT with regards to them signing up to a 3 year contract. Service will also receive revenue from ad-hoc requests throughout the year.

6. IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON TRADED SERVICES

6.1 The council took a decision early on during the pandemic not to furlough any staff. Central Government set aside funds for local authorities and schools to claim back some increased costs/loss of income related to COVID-19. The following Council school traded services have therefore submitted claims with central government:

- **Warrington Training Hub** – Due to lockdown restrictions, the councils training centre was temporary closed therefore no schools training took place between March and beginning of September. Loss of training course income has therefore been claimed.
- **Education Psychology Service** – Schools are entitled to a statutory number of Educational Psychologist Involvement Cases under this service offer. With the schools being partially open during lockdown, the number of statutory case requests reduced dramatically from March-July. The service will however still be required to deliver those statutory cases over the course of the financial year, so this obviously creates pressure on the capacity of the service to deliver. Adding to that the likelihood is the pandemic will increase demand for the service further. We have therefore requested additional funds

to bring in additional capacity so we can support schools during this difficult time.

- **School Meals** – Obviously with schools being partially closed from March through to July, this has resulted in a reduction in school meals and therefore reduction in income for the School Meals Service. The council have therefore submitted claims for the shortfall in income.

7. VALUE FOR MONEY / SERVICE IMPROVEMENT MEETINGS

7.1 Services are subject to review when at least one of the following factors applies;

- Not currently achieving cost recovery (in relation to direct costs)
- A declining revenue year on year
- An unclear financial position

7.2 The council has no intention to cease or drastically reduce any service provided to schools without prior consultation. Any reviews that may take place will focus clearly on supporting services to ensure they are delivering the services that customers want and that there are effective feedback mechanisms between customers and services to ensure any changes or improvements can be identified and agreed. This will ensure that we are delivering modern and efficient services that are providing excellent value for money.

7.3 There are currently 50 council services trading with schools. Back in November and December 2019, we ran a number of workshops with traded services around the new upcoming SLA contract period for both maintained and academy schools. Workshops covered pricing up of services and ensuring that a true reflection of all service costs is captured, as well as examples of how services can gain customer feedback in order to shape their service going forward.

7.4 The Council is currently undergoing transformation and it is anticipated that costs will reduce in some areas. These reductions will be passed on to schools if they are within the areas of traded services.

7.5 Quarterly SLA Meetings for the schools and all WBC traded services were run up until the initial Covid-19 lockdown in March 2020. The overall aim of these meetings is to improve the customer experience by working with the schools to improve service delivery and provide value for money. This will be achieved in a number of ways; the meeting will give the schools an opportunity to share their SLA experiences (whether good or bad). Feedback will go directly to the services in order for us to either share good practice or for our services to make improvements. The meetings are also a good opportunity for our services to update the schools on the current SLA's on offer and any changes or opportunities that are being rolled out in the future.

We will look to re-introduce these SLA meetings at Warrington Training Hub, St Werburghs Development Centre once the current restrictions which are in place

around number of staff/visitors in the building are relaxed. Schools will be informed of all the future meeting dates via email and by the weekly schools newsletter.

8. SLA ONLINE DEVELOPMENTS (My School Services)

8.1 There have been a number of enhancements to the online system for schools during the past twelve months. These are summarised below.

8.2 Schools should note that we will continue to listen to your feedback on how the system is or is not meeting your needs and we will continue to work with the supplier to offer developments and maintain a system, free of charge to schools, into the foreseeable future.

Summary of enhancements

<i>Implemented in 2020</i>	
March	Use of forms now built into the portal. We have used this function for example to collect information from schools wanting to advertise job vacancies and for school transport requests. New system auto-generated messages and templates were also implemented to make schools users aware when finance transactions were checked out of the basket.
April	Further enhancements to how invoices are raised by the system.
September	New e-learning module. This includes the capability to add videos for example; PowerPoint presentations with voice over, YouTube and Vimeo videos. A number of services are now working on rolling this out in the coming months.

<i>Upcoming developments for 2020 and 2021</i>	
October 2020	Online "Webinars" for the delivery of meetings and training online through the portal. Additional updates will also allow us to run e-learning tests through the portal.
January 2021	Enhancements to the Communication Module. This will include updates to newsletters and news articles. We have already started logging potential developments with our supplier, so if schools have any other ideas then please just let us know: (smcnulty@warrington.gov.uk) and we can log the requests on your behalf.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 Schools Forum is asked to:

(i) Note the progress being made to provide sustainable services that offer schools value for money and consistent levels of service.

(ii) Recognise that the council is an important provider, commissioner and participant in the Warrington education system.

(iii) Encourage colleagues to feedback their views on both SLA's and council services in order to help shape the future of traded services. This can be either via the quarterly schools SLA meetings or by contacting Stephen McNulty: smcnulty@warrington.gov.uk / 01925 442682.

Report



WARRINGTON
Borough Council

Report to:	Schools Forum	Item:	7
Date:	13 October 2020	For:	Information
Title:	Early Years Update		
Author:	Andrea Riley	Presenter:	Andrea Riley

1.0 REASON AND PURPOSE OF REPORT:

- 1.1** The report provides Schools Forum with information of current funding situation, following the January 2020 census with respect to 2, 3 and 4 year olds for 2020/21. Schools forum should also note a reduction in funding for the year closed 2019/20.
- 1.2** Aims to provides Schools forum with a summary of how funding was allocated for autumn term 2020.
- 1.3** It seeks to make Schools Forum aware of the financial pressures placed on early years providers and the LA Early Years block as a result of the impact of covid on the childcare market, reduction in funding into the local authority for early years and the absence of reserves within the Early Years Block of Designated Schools Grant DSG.
- 1.4** Highlights that our early years funding currently has a high pass-through rate of 98.9%, therefore there is little capacity to ensure budget meets demand without cutting DSG funding for early years services, or reducing the high pass-through rate or securing contingency from DSG.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1** Schools Forum notes the revised funding allocation for 2020/21 and retrospective 2019/20.
- 2.2** Schools Forum acknowledges the approach to funding across autumn term 2020 and how this seeks to manage the Early Years block across the year.
- 2.3** Schools Forum are asked to support with sustaining the EY offer and protect early years SEND Services; through allocating DSG if required.

3.0 SUMMARY OF MAIN POINTS:

- 3.1** The early years Census measures the numbers of 2, 3 and 4 year olds accessing their childcare entitlements across the spring term. The data is collected by Department for Education DfE and the findings determine the funding allocations for the current year and a recalculation is attributed to the previous year. The January 2020 early years census resulted in Warrington's Early Years block budget for 2020/21 funding being reduced by £573,574 and the retrospective adjustment to 2019/20 reduced by £328,956. Therefore a total reduction in funding of £902,530.
- 3.2** The initial allocation for the early years block for 2020/21 was £14,213,888, this was based on census data for spring 2019 and would be re-calculated once spring census data for 2020 was known. In summer 2020 the census data was validated for spring

2020, the DfE report a decrease in activity across Warrington regarding the take up of childcare for 2 year olds, universal entitlement for 3 & 4 year olds and extended offer for 3 & 4 year olds. The revised early years funding allocation is £13,640,313, therefore there is a significant reduction of £573,574 compared to our initial allocation (see 3.3)

3.3

Early Years Block	Initial Funding 2020/21	Revised Funding 2020/21	Difference
Universal entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds	£8,178,987	£7,832,060	-£346,927
Additional 15 hour entitlements for eligible working parents of 3 and 4 year olds	£4,353,547	£4,196,811	-£156,736
2 year entitlement	£1,443,063	£1,411,594	-£31,469
Early years pupil premium	£127,133	£102,624	-£24,509
Disability access fund	£41,205	£41,205	£0
Supplementary funding for maintained nursery schools	£69,953	£56,020	£13,933
Total	£14,213,888	£13,640,314	-£573,574

3.4 Once the recalculation takes place from the January 2020 census, it will be used to inform the new funding allocation for the whole of the 2020-21 financial year – which is the reduction of £573,574, as discussed. However because the census actually takes place during the 2019-20 financial year, an after-the-event adjustment is made to this financial year as well, even though accounts relating to it have been closed. This adjustment may be an increase or a reduction, depending on the direction of travel of the data, but unfortunately in this case it is the latter, with all activity indicators reducing between the years. The approach taken by the DfE is to take the census numbers from January 2020 to be representative of the situation between autumn 2019 and year-end (7 months), so in addition to the 2020-21 reduction of £574K, a proportionate reduction of roughly 7/12ths, £329K is also applied to old year.

3.5 An equivalent process will be applied next summer, affecting current year after it is closed. Essentially, then, the Early Years Block is calculated on lagged funding, with even more greatly lagged adjustment. Therefore for projection purposes, it is important for us to develop a sense of how the activity numbers are changing.

4.0 FUNDING DURING AUTUMN TERM 2020

4.1 The DfE stated that from ‘the start of the autumn term 2020, local authorities should continue to fund providers which are open at broadly the levels they would have expected to see in the 2020 autumn term had there been no coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

4.2 Warrington receives the lowest possible funding floor rate from the DfE for early years funding, this coupled with 2020 total funding allocation being reduced compared to

previous years means that Warrington cannot fund all providers in PVI sector and Schools as much as they received at headcount in 2019.

- 4.3** During autumn term 2020, the LA will pay the Early Education Funding EEF for 2020 headcount, however if a Schools/PVI 2019 headcount was higher we will pay the 2020 headcount plus 20% uplift capped at 2019 headcount figures for each School nursery/PVI. Our approach aims to support all settings in a way that is fair and provides some support whilst at the same time ensuring we have adequate funding to ensure we can meet demand in spring term.
- 5.0 FUNDING PRESSURES ON EARLY YEARS BLOCK**
- 5.1** Under typical circumstances, the reduced take up of childcare and the funding consequences of this, are not too concerning, as reduced funding would be allocated to meet a reduced need for childcare. However during a pandemic, the reduction is a concern because the economic down turn could see a change in eligibility for childcare. Two of the three childcare entitlements are linked to parental income therefore we could see an increase in 2 year olds becoming eligible for a funded place as their parents income drops below the threshold. And, as parents/carers are made redundant and seek out new careers and job roles, we could experience a surge in dual income families which would increase the numbers being eligible for 30 hours childcare
- 5.2** The Early Years Single Funding Formula Group EYSFFG acknowledged that the Early Years block budget is under pressure and has very little reserves to fall back on. The current climate is unprecedented and activity across the childcare sector could be unpredictable through spring term and into 2021/22.
- 5.3** Local authorities are required to plan to pass-through a minimum of 95% of their 3 and 4 year old funding from the government to early years providers. In Warrington we pass through 98.9%, retaining just 5p/hour, this is because Warrington remains at the national minimum floor rate for 3 and 4 year olds' funding; therefore retaining significant proportions from this budget would result in the universal offer to our settings being funded at a low amount, which is unpalatable to early years providers in light of rising operational costs that are non-negotiable such as increased national minimum wage, increased NI contributions and cost of pension contribution.
- 5.4** There is currently no regulatory requirement to pass through a set amount of the 2 year old funding to providers who deliver the 2 year old entitlements. Warrington currently retains 28p/hour from the 2 year old funding stream. This is used to fund a range of early years services for 2020/21 including free school meals, EY SEND Inclusion Fund, Area Senco and a contribution to the Portage service.
- 5.5** In 2017/18 Early Years Block had a significant underspend, this was carried over into 2019/20 and later used to prop DSG budget in the High needs block. The EYSFFG seek assurance that if Early Years block comes under further financial pressure, DSG can be called on to support Early Years to protect the high level of pass-through and secure the continued funding of early years SEND services which are currently partly financed through Early Years Block.

REPORT

Report to:	Schools Forum	Item:	8
Date:	13/10/2020	For:	Information and discussion
Title:	Proposal to re-introduce funding bands for Education, Health & Care Plans		
Author:	Ellen Parry	Presenter:	Ellen Parry

1. INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

The proposal to remove all funding bands was considered and agreed at Schools Forum on 23rd April 2019. The new approach that was agreed was to move to a new bespoke model which would start with new and reviewed Education, Health & Care Plans (EHCP). This approach would be reviewed after six months to see how it compared to the previous year.

It was hoped that the new model would lead to a more accurate approach to costs and funding for specific interventions and support. This would be a more bespoke personalised approach and would give flexibility to increase or reduce funding depending on the needs of the child at any point. It was felt that this approach would most appropriately target resources to the children who needed it with any savings generated remaining in the high needs funding pot.

The hope was that changing to specific amounts of funding requested would mean that the impact of interventions could be more appropriately tracked. Also, funding requests that sat in-between banding boundaries would not be over funded.

All schools in Warrington with children and young people with EHCPs would be affected over time and would need to resubmit accurate provision maps which would be funded at the level requested where appropriate. This was planned to be done through the Annual Review process.

It is now over twelve months since the new approach was implemented and LA officers have been reviewing the impact of the change from funding boundaries to bespoke funding via provision maps. We have also been discussing different approaches with other LAs and are working with them to undertake benchmarking exercises. The majority of LAs are using funding bands in their approach to awarding top-up funding.

Through the new approach of removing band funding to provide the funding outlined

in provision maps, we have seen a large increase in the top-up requests being submitted for children and young people with EHCPs in mainstream schools. Individual requests have been increasing, whilst we see very few leading to a reduction in the funding required.

Often, the funding requested appears to correlate with the cost of a Teaching Assistant – leading to a concern that we could be moving back to a less inclusive mainstream education system where children with SEN can only thrive if they have one-to-support support.

Additionally, in some cases the interventions being costed on provision maps should actually be delivered through quality first teaching rather than additional support. These requests have been removed from the school’s final allocation at the SEND Panel (or earlier via the triage process).

Removing the funding bands has also removed the funding ‘ceiling’ and there are now no limits to amounts that schools can request. In some cases, top-up requests have exceeded the amounts given for top-up funding in special schools and designated provisions.

The below table gives a profile of the top-up funding for mainstream schools (based on financial years) indicating a vast increase in funding requests compared to the previous two financial years.

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21 (to date)
Amount budgeted	£1,226,948	£1,596,270	£1,634,810	£1,646,095
In-year additions	£541,217	£197,210	£194,786	£315,411
Total	£1,768,165	£1,793,480	£1,829,596	£1,961,506
Difference between years		£25,315	£36,117	£131,910

In 2020/21, the budgeted spend is what the LA have put it into schools as of April for the full tax year. So far, the in-year additions total £315,411 giving us a total of £1,961,506. This obviously does not take into account anything extra that could be awarded between now and the end of March 2021.

In-year adjustments last year were £194,786 so at this point in the year we are already £131,910 over what was awarded last year.

2. PROPOSAL

As can be seen above, the LA cannot sustain the increased sums being requested for top-ups in mainstream schools therefore the proposal being put forward is to re-introduce funding bands for EHCPs. This will be phased in immediately in new EHCPs and through Annual Reviews once the funding bands have been agreed.

The SEND Panel will make better use of the information in EHCPs to determine the funding band for each child and will not only rely on information within the provision map ensuring support and interventions are clearly linked to outcomes.

Additionally, it is proposed that SENCOs receive more training to produce provision maps which clearly state the additional support being requested and remove funding requests for the universal offer of quality first teaching. They should also receive support and training in relation to Warrington’s graduated approach and schools responsibilities to provide support up to £7,500.

Currently, benchmarking exercises are being undertaken across North West local authorities which the LA will use to inform our model.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

It is hoped that reverting back to funding bands will reduce the amounts being spent on top-ups in mainstream schools and therefore reduce this increasing burden on the high needs budget.

This will also enable a fairer distribution of higher funding to those with very complex needs.

4. RISKS

Political	<p>There could be increased parental dissatisfaction with the LA if pupil progress is impacted upon and needs not met which could be damaging to our reputation.</p> <p>The relationship between the LA and schools could be damaged.</p>
Economic	<p>Schools may feel they can no longer meet the needs of the more complex children who have the highest levels of support to maintain mainstream placements which could result in greater demand for our specialist provisions.</p> <p>Greater demand on transport costs if local schools cannot meet need and pupils are moved to our specialist provisions which could be further from home.</p> <p>School budgets could be affected by a reduction in funding.</p>
Social	<p>Pupils could be moved from their locality and friends if schools could no longer meet need.</p> <p>Increased social media traffic from parents/carers about the lack of support in mainstream schools.</p>

Legal	<p>There is an expectation on the LA that additional funding is provided from Element 3. This top up is discretionary there are no set amounts.</p> <p>There could be increased pressure on the EHC team if parents challenge decisions and ultimately go to Tribunal.</p>
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5. RECOMMENDATIONS

Schools Forum is asked to:

- a. Note the proposal outlined in section 2.
- b. Support the proposal to reintroduce a funding band methodology for high needs top-ups which will be phased in immediately in new EHCPs and through Annual Reviews once the funding bands have been agreed.
- c. Note the change to the SEND Panels funding allocation decisions.
- d. Support the proposal to update SENCoS with training around the production of provision maps, Warrington's graduated approach and schools responsibilities for children and young people with SEN.
- e. Support the use of the NW LA benchmarking exercise to inform Warrington's funding band model.
- f. Note that the council will work with WARRPAC and SENDIASS to communicate the changes to parents / carers and with WAPH, WASCL and the SENCo Network to share the changes with schools.

REPORT



Report to:	Schools Forum	Item:	9
Date:	13 October 2020	For:	Information
Title:	Proposal for Free School Meals funding from academy schools		
Author:	Ellen Parry (Assistant Head of Service: Strategic Support)	Presenter:	Ellen Parry

1. INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

As part of the council's traded services arrangements, there is currently 100% buy back from both primary and special schools (maintained and academies) for the provision of school meals. The School Meals Service has provided schools with an excellent service for many years at a nil-cost to schools. It has mainly been funded from free school meals grants and parental contributions.

Over the past 3 years, the School Meals Service has experienced a significant increase in expenditure mainly in relation to the implementation of the Living Wage, incremental pay rewards, rising food costs associated with inflation and the introduction of the ParentPay cashless system. It is anticipated that Brexit will further exacerbate this.

In the last financial year, a deficit of £265,162.45 was reported. The School Meals Service had been working tirelessly to mitigate the overspends by reviewing all expenditure, improving efficiency and identifying ways to generate more income.

The greater number of schools converting to academy status has also had an impact, particularly in the case of larger schools. After conversion, FSM funding goes direct to academies who are then only charged by the service for those children who opt-in to receive a free school meal (minus any reported as being off sick). There are currently 19 academy primary schools using the service.

Additionally, the response to Covid-19 led to a significant decrease in income due to parents not paying for meals and free school meal funding not being claimed from academies. In total, the service experienced lost income of £706,937.89 during this period. During this time, the School Meals Service still

needed to cover the costs of all food, resources and staffing (NB public sector staff could not be furloughed).

Since the end of March 2020, the service did not reclaim any FSM funding from academies and only in June started to charge parents again for paid meals. Subsequently, the FSM (benefits-related) and UIFSM income from academies was just over £300,000 down by the end of the academic year (from the last week of March until end of July).

The service was challenged to deliver a breakeven budget during 2020/21, however this has obviously become impossible due to Covid-19.

A report was presented to the 14th January 2020 meeting of Schools Forum indicating the intention to increase the FSM charge for maintained schools. This brought charges in line with academies.

This related to a change in the amount of funding that the LA needed to take from maintained school's budget allocations to properly fund free school meals for children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. This resulted in a funding rate of £437.00 per pupil instead of £353.10 per pupil and took effect from 1st April 2020.

This proposal was subsequently discussed at WAPH Executive on 12th March 2020 to explain the rationale for this funding increase. One action from this meeting was a request to seek the transfer of all FSM funding from academies rather than charging them per meal taken so that there is a level playing field across all schools.

Additionally in July 2020, all academy trusts were asked to transfer their FSM funding for April – July (4 months) to the School Meals Service for those children who opted-in to the service (minus any that were registered as ill during this period). This was to help to offset the School Meals Service costs associated with the response to Covid-19.

Currently, only one academy trust has committed to transferring this funding to the LA. The funding that has been transferred was calculated using a simple rationale taking the difference between the FSM funding for each of the primary schools minus the amounts charged by the service up to March 2020.

2. PROPOSAL

The proposal being put to Schools Forum is to seek agreement from academies to transfer all of their free school meal funding allocations (benefits-related and UIFSM) to the School Meals Service each academic year from 1st September 2020.

The service has always been run on a 'family of schools model' and has been as fair and transparent as possible to ensure that all schools – no matter their status – are supported equally.

Additionally, FSM funding is given to schools for the sole purpose of providing meals for children and it would be morally wrong for this to be used in any other way.

Based on the numbers of children eligible for free school meals in academies (UIFSM and benefits-related FSM from Yr 3), this would be circa £811,916.00 for the School Meals Service to help to offset the increases in staffing and food costs.

If the above preferred proposal is not agreed to, an alternative would be:

- All academies transfer their FSM funding for April – July (4 months) to the School Meals Service for those children who opted-in to the service (minus any that were registered as ill during this period) using the rationale of taking the difference between the FSM funding for each of the primary schools minus the amounts charged by the service up to March 2020.
- School Meals Service continue to charge schools for any UIFSM/FSM children who are self-isolating due to the closure of schools / school bubbles or close contact with positive cases from September 2020 unless the children are ill themselves.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

Schools Forum is asked to:

- a. Note the preferred proposal outlined in section 2.
- b. Support the preferred proposal to seek agreement from academies to transfer all of their free school meal funding allocations to the School Meals Service each academic year from 1st September 2020.
- c. Support the alternative proposal if the preferred proposal is not agreed.