



# West Northamptonshire Schools Forum

A meeting of the West Northamptonshire Schools Forum will be held at the Council Chamber, The Forum, Moat Lane, Towcester, NN12 6AD on Wednesday 18 October 2023 at 2.00pm

## Agenda

1.	<b>Apologies for absence and Forum Membership Changes</b>
2.	<b>Declarations of Interest</b> Members are asked to declare any interest and the nature of that interest which they may have in any of the items under consideration at this meeting.
3.	<b>Election of Chair for 2023-24</b>
4.	<b>Election of Vice-Chair for 2023-24</b>
5.	<b>Minutes</b> (Pages 5 - 18) a) To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 7 February 2023. b) To confirm the notes of the informal discussion on 4 July 2023.
6.	<b>DSG Monitoring 2023-24</b> (Pages 19 - 24) Emily Cooledge
7.	<b>DfE / ESFA Funding Announcements</b> (Pages 25 - 32) Emily Cooledge / Beth Baines
8.	<b>Schools Funding 2024-25 - consultation proposals</b> (Pages 33 - 72) For Schools Forum to consider and comment on proposals for consultation. Emily Cooledge / Beth Baines

a)	<b>Schools Funding Formula and Specialist Services</b>
b)	<b>Notional SEND element of funding formula</b>
c)	<b>Split Site Funding Policy</b>
d)	<b>Growth Fund and weighted numbers for new schools / year groups</b>
e)	<b>Central Schools Services budgets 2024-25</b>
f)	<b>Maintained Schools De-delegations (School Improvement Grant, Trade Union Facility Time, Redundancy Support)</b>
9.	<b>Northampton Schools Group PFI Update</b> (Pages 73 - 84) Simon Bowers
10.	<b>High Needs Project Update</b> (Pages 85 - 96) Andy Pymm
11.	<b>West Northamptonshire Council scrutiny review of child and adolescent mental health and the risk of self-harm [verbal item]</b>  To consider a response to the recommendation made by the scrutiny review that the WNC Cabinet agrees to seek a discussion with West Northamptonshire schools through the Schools Forum about system-wide resources to support children and young people's mental health.  Ben Pearson
12.	<b>Schools Forum meeting arrangements - responses to survey</b> (Pages 97 - 108)  To consider the responses to a survey of Schools Forum members and possible resulting actions.  James Edmunds
13.	<b>Forward Plan</b>  Standing items (if required) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DSG Monitoring</li> <li>• DfE / ESFA Funding announcements</li> <li>• School Budgets</li> <li>• High Needs</li> <li>• Early Years</li> <li>• National Funding Formula</li> </ul> <b>13 December 2023</b>  Schools Funding 2024-25 - outcome of consultation and final proposals – votes required on individual items.  Early Years Central Expenditure 2024-25 – consultation proposals

	<p><b>14 February 2024 (subject to Schools Forum agreeing to change the date from 6 February 2024)</b></p> <p>Early Years Budget 2024-25 – outcome of consultation and consideration of final proposals, including vote on central expenditure.</p> <p>WNC Budget Proposals 2024-25</p> <p>Schools Forum meeting dates 2024-25</p>
<p><b>14.</b></p>	<p><b>Urgent Business</b></p> <p>The Chair to advise whether they have agreed to any items of urgent business being admitted to the agenda.</p>

Catherine Whitehead  
Proper Officer  
11 October 2023

**West Northamptonshire Schools Forum Members:**

Beccy Merritt

Paul Wheeler

Dan York

Lee Hughes

Jon Lake

Iain Massey

Hayley Walker

Eliza Hollis

Peter French

James Shryane

Vanessa Bradley

Rachel Martin

Karen Lewis

Jenny Thorpe

Rod Warsap

## Information about this Agenda

### Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence and the appointment of substitute Members should be notified to [democraticservices@westnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:democraticservices@westnorthants.gov.uk) prior to the start of the meeting.

### Declarations of Interest

Members are asked to declare interests at item 2 on the agenda or if arriving after the start of the meeting, at the start of the relevant agenda item

### Local Government and Finance Act 1992 – Budget Setting, Contracts & Supplementary Estimates

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Email: [democraticservices@westnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:democraticservices@westnorthants.gov.uk)

Or by writing to:

West Northamptonshire Council  
The Guildhall  
St Giles Street  
Northampton  
NN1 1DE



## West Northamptonshire Schools Forum

Minutes of a meeting of the West Northamptonshire Schools Forum held at Council Chamber, The Forum, Moat Lane, Towcester, NN12 6AD on Tuesday 7 February 2023 at 2.00 pm.

### Present:

Paul Wheeler – Vice Chair (PW)  
 Beccy Merritt (BM)  
 Dan York (DY)  
 Lee Hughes (LH)  
 Rachel Martin (RM)  
 Jon Lake (JL) – online  
 Louise Samways (LS) - online

### Substitute Members:

Kathryn White (KW)

### Also Present:

Councillor Fiona Baker (FB)

### Officers:

Ben Pearson, Assistant Director - Education (BP)  
 Emily Cooledge, Strategic Finance Business Partner (EC)  
 Andy Pymm, Project Manager - SEND Funding (AP)  
 Katie Morlidge, Senior School Improvement Officer (KM)  
 James Edmunds, Democratic Services Assistant Manager (JE)  
 Kathryn Holton, Committee Officer (KH)

## 1. Apologies for absence and Forum Membership Changes

Apologies were received from Peter French, Hayley Walker (Kathryn White substituting), James Shryane, Eliza Hollis and Karen Lewis.  
 Apologies were also received from Beth Baines.

## 2. Declarations of Interest

PW declared in relation to agenda item 7 that he was the Chief Operating Officer of the East Midlands Academy Trust, which included a school in the Northampton Schools PFI Scheme.

LH declared in relation to agenda item 7 that he was the Chief Operating Officer of the Peterborough Diocesan Education Trust, which included a school in the Northampton Schools PFI Scheme.

DY declared in relation to agenda item 7 that he was carrying out a secondment with Orbis Education Trust which included a school in the Northampton Schools PFI Scheme.

**3. Minutes**

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 13 December 2022 were agreed as an accurate record.

**4. Early Years Budgets 2023-24**

BP outlined the results of the consultation and the recommendations for next steps. The aim was to passport as much money as possible to the sector. The consultation had run from 3-27 January 2023 and receipt of only 24 responses from over 500 providers had been disappointing. The majority of responses had been in support of the proposals, which formed the recommendations as set out in the report. After the consultation had been issued the DfE had increased the base funding rate – as outlined in Tables 1 and 2 under paragraph 6.

RM considered that the wording of questions and acronyms were off-putting to those in the early years sector, most of whom did not have the time to read or respond to complex documents. BP acknowledged that the language used could have been clearer. Work needed to be done to improve engagement with the sector.

PW suggested that, for example, 10 minute bite-sized meetings could be helpful. KW stated that the early years sector needed contact with WNC in order to build confidence around engagement. BM agreed that better engagement was needed.

RESOLVED: that Schools Forum members voted unanimously in favour of the proposal to set the central budget at the maximum 5% of the 3&4 year old funding.

That Schools Forum:

- Agreed unanimously with the proposal to remove the notional SEND budget;
- Agreed unanimously with moving £220k from the notional SEND budget into the SENIF budget (equivalent to 4p on the base rate);
- Agreed unanimously with passing all of the increase on 3&4 year old funding through the base rate for universal and additional hours;
- Agreed unanimously that the “contingency budget” for 3&4 year olds is the expected funding WNC will need to pay as base rate for 3&4 year olds above the number of hours that WNC is funded for by the DfE;
- Agreed unanimously with passing all of the increase on two year old funding through the 2 year old provider rate;
- Agreed unanimously with the proposal that any unspent central budget be used to offset any overspends in other areas of the early years budget;
- Agreed unanimously with the MNS proposal to fund 5% on IDACI 30% and the remainder on January census hours;
- Agreed unanimously with the proposed distribution of early years reserve funding as a one-off distribution to support providers with the increased cost of living.

5. **2022-23 DSG Monitoring**

EC presented the report and highlighted that the DSG forecast outturn position for Quarter 3 was a favourable move of £0.8m from Quarter 2.

PW noted the slight reduction in the forecast high needs overspend and the early years underspend. BP confirmed that plans would be in place to ensure this money was used next year.

RESOLVED: that Schools Forum noted the forecast outturn position for the year ending 31 March 2023.

6. **DSG Funding Update 2023-24**

EC presented the report and advised that the final settlement from the DfE had now been received. The report outlined the DSG allocations for the next financial year. WNC's 2023-24 allocation of the increased funds was £31.9m which was an increase of 7.7%. The funding allocations were summarised in Table 2.

The allocations included additional grant indicative allocations of £10.7m in the schools block and £2.5m in the high needs block. These related to increases announced in the autumn statement and were in addition to allocations that came through the NFF, though still subject to the same DSG terms and conditions.

Table 2 summarised an increase in funding of just over £31m from this financial year to the next financial year. An additional £23m in the schools block, £7m in the high needs block, £1.6m additional in early years and a reduction in the central schools services block which reflected the government's unwinding of the historical responsibilities element of the CSSB by 20% per year.

The schools block included the requirement to provide an update to the maintained schools balances form, which was given in the appendix.

WNC's high needs block increase of £7m represented the authority's share of the £965m national increase for 2023-24 which was in line with the national average. The temporary statutory override whereby high needs deficits could be ring fenced from WNC general fund balances had been extended until March 2026.

WNC has had an ongoing high needs annual deficit of about £1.2m due to funding always being outstripped by the inherent demand. The revised high needs budget was shown in Table 4.

BP advised that WNC were still awaiting the Green Paper which was needed to understand the SEND reforms and how they had been implemented nationally.

RESOLVED: that Schools Forum noted the final funding settlement and schools budgets for 2023-24.

## 7. **WNC Final Budget Proposals 2023-24**

### (a) General Overview

EC provided a general overview of the WNC final budget proposals. The paper outlined the challenges being faced due to inflation, cost of living crisis and the first year with no Covid funding, together with the impact of Covid being played out in the demands of adult and children's social care.

An initially identified funding gap of about £58m was reduced to zero through a series of star chambers (budget challenge sessions). As a local authority WNC was legally required to set a balanced budget.

The final budget proposals include an additional £50m in additional base budget growth to account for the inherent demand pressures and anticipated demographic growth as well as savings and efficiencies of £32.3m.

In terms of education, the proposals for growth equated to just over £600k – largely from the reduction in the CSSB. There was a recognition that it was challenging to meet the EP income targets which had not been revised for a number of years and so that target had been reduced. There had also been some re-baselining of the SEND legal budget which had been overspending in the current financial year due to increased demand. This had been offset by just over £0.5m in savings and efficiencies. The only saving requiring some work was the £75k linked to SEND improvement. A review had been undertaken around whether WNC were funding appropriately between education, social care and health. This showed that funding of the current cohort represented the true position and resulted in a change offset by additional funding through the final settlement from the government in December.

A capital strategy had also been produced with £65m of additional proposals on top of the current capital programme over next 4 years of £126bn. This largely related to highways and regeneration, but £33m related to children's services such as the SEND capital expansion programme, the new special school and other smaller schemes.

PW noted that children were coming into West Northants with high needs and no diagnosis. Diagnosis was taking about a year because professionals such as educational psychologists (EPs) were not available. Was there anything arising from the compromises WNC had made to balance the budget that would be likely to have a direct impact on those delivering the education? BP advised no, but acknowledged that recruitment of EPs was very difficult. In response to this WNC had reduced the income generation requirement which EPs faced in addition to their statutory work which should result in less pressure.

DY noted that schools were having to engage EP services privately due to the shortage. BP advised that all areas were struggling to recruit EPs. Alternative models were being looked at but costs had increased.



(b) Schools PFI Update

BP apologised for the lack of a report relating to the PFI issues. This was a complex matter and WNC was not yet in a position to share proposed actions. BP proposed an extraordinary meeting of Schools Forum be held in the first week of March to consider the options and have a detailed discussion.

PW expressed continued disappointment with the lack of information and engagement around the PFI issues. He agreed that it would be helpful to hold an extraordinary meeting on this matter and requested that the Chief Executive and the Assistant Director Assets be invited to attend.

FB advised that she would be grateful for Schools Forum to put forward their views since these were already being voiced by her and BP.

DY expressed concern that each of the 40+ PFI schools were facing cost increases of between £22k and £100k which would ultimately have a detrimental effect on children's education. BP noted that this was a decision for WNC not Schools Forum. DY considered that there had been a lack of transparency and the potential fallout for schools needed to be made clear.

JE advised that the extraordinary meeting would be held in public and suggested a single item agenda to give more flexibility. Schools Forum members expressed support for inviting representatives from all PFI schools to attend the meeting, although questions should be asked for in advance. PW reiterated that there would be no decision making power but Schools Forum could comment on the direction being taken by WNC on a long term issue that had a significant impact.

RESOLVED: That Schools Forum members noted the WNC Final Budget proposals 2023-24 and Medium Term Financial Plan.

That Schools Forum agreed to hold an extraordinary meeting to consider matters relating to the Schools PFI.

8. **SEND Improvement Update**

AP presented the report and outlined the three areas of SEND service improvements:

1 Additional resource places – this would be delivered through additional capacity in mainstream units and a new special school planned for 2025.

2 SEND ranges was launched in November 2022. Further engagement and training was needed to move forward over the next few years.

3 SEND funding project – this was a combination of Targeted SEND Funding (for those without an EHCP) and support for those with an EHCP.

Key dates were outlined for the three year plan and work was progressing with modelling. Regular updates would be provided to Schools Forum.

BM noted that early years settings had seen a massive increase in the level of SEND need but there was nowhere to go. BP agreed that early intervention was important.

DY acknowledged the strategic approach taken but stated that there was frustration from school leaders because current communications were poor. Good communication was critical to getting schools on board. DY was concerned about how far schools' budgets could be stretched. The plan was for 3 years, but many children needed support now.

RM agreed with DY and also expressed concern over funding against ranges as it was uncertain whether funding would increase or decrease. RM noted that early years could prepare schools by identifying the number of pupils with needs early on.

BP stated that a robust needs assessment needed to be undertaken and shared. Investment from WNC in additional staff to drive improvement would bear fruit. The purpose of introducing ranges was not to save money but to provide clarity and consistency in allocating funding. This needed to be done transparently to improved quality.

RESOLVED: That Schools Forum noted the report.

9. **Forward Plan**

JE presented the Forward Plan, highlighting that proposed meeting dates for 2023-24 followed the schedule used in the current year.

PW invited members to raise any points on the Forward Plan that they wished Schools Forum to consider.

RESOLVED: That Schools Forum noted the latest version of the Forward Plan and the proposed meeting dates for 2023-24.

10. **Urgent Business**

The meeting closed at 3.45 pm

Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

A meeting of West Northamptonshire Schools Forum was scheduled for 2.00pm on Tuesday 4 July 2023 in the Council Chamber, The Forum, Moat Lane, Towcester, NN12 6AD. The meeting was not quorate so could not go ahead. It was decided by those present to proceed with an informal discussion of the items on the agenda, the notes of which are detailed below.

Present:

Paul Wheeler – PW  
Peter French – PF  
Beccy Merritt – BM  
Rachel Martin – RM  
Dan York – DY  
Kathryn White – KW

Also present:

Cllr Fiona Baker, Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education - FB

Officers:

Ben Pearson, Assistant Director Education - BP  
Andy Pymm, Project Manager, SEND Funding - AP  
Simon Bowers, Assistant Director Assets and Environment - SB  
Emily Cooledge, Strategic Finance Business Partner - EC  
Beth Baines, Senior Finance Business Partner - BB  
James Edmunds, Democratic Services Assistant Manager - JE  
Kathryn Holton, Committee Officer – KH

The members present agreed that PW should chair the discussion which followed.

## **1 Apologies for absence and Forum membership changes**

Apologies were received from Eliza Hollis, Lee Hughes, Jon Lake and Karen Lewis.

No Forum membership changes had been reported.

## **2 Declarations of interest**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

## **3 & 4 Election of Chair and Vice-Chair for 2023-24**

The members present noted that the election of the Chair and Vice-Chair for 2023-24 would need to be dealt with at the next meeting on 18 October 2023.

## **5 Minutes**

The members present endorsed that the minutes of the meeting held on 7 February 2023 were an accurate record. It was noted that the minutes would need to be formally agreed at the next meeting on 18 October 2023.

## 6 Northampton Schools Group PFI Update

SB introduced the report which outlined the factual background relating to the Schools PFI.

As outlined in Section 3, the PFI 'unitary charge' included two elements – one part was fixed and the other related to facilities management (FM). The FM charge varied each year by RPIx and every 5 years by benchmarking. Table 1 provided projections from 19 April 2023. The Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR) forecast was not perfect, but it was best placed to advise on future inflation.

West Northamptonshire Council (WNC) had made a one-off contribution to schools in 2023/24 to assist with the position, given high inflation. Appendix A outlined the current position and the projected position using OBR rates and assuming the one-off contribution was not extended.

WNC had appointed specialist consultants to work on the PFI accounts and put forward the case to government to reduce the funding pressure. The DfE and ESFA had agreed to listen. Perspectives from schools would be welcomed.

WNC had imposed £269k performance deductions in 2022/23 as part of managing the PFI. Progress so far indicated that 2023/24 would be similar.

Two of three surveyor posts were occupied and WNC was seeking to recruit. A secondment to PFI manager was also being sought which would provide someone who could give more resource to the area.

The PFI contract was due to end in 15 years. It would therefore be good practice to consider closure arrangements in approximately 10 years' time. When the contract was entered into it was the only option and there was a responsibility to ensure it worked as well as possible.

PW asked how the £269k performance deductions would be returned to schools which had experienced poor performance. SB advised that, when entitled, money would be returned within a few months. Only £5-10k had been returned as most deductions fell below the threshold of £500 and were therefore retained by WNC.

In response to a question from PW, SB advised that asset replacement cycles were part of the FM charges because capital was rigidly fixed.

PW pointed out that many schools had noted poor service from contractors. What actions were being taken to ensure contractors performed satisfactorily other than applying performance deductions? SB advised that some schools were satisfied with performance whilst others were not. The effectiveness of the site manager seemed to be a key factor. Meetings had been arranged with contractors and improvement plans put forward which had resulted in some improvement although the process was ongoing. Performance deductions were not liked by contractors and did perform an important function in the contract. PW asked whether the contract could be cancelled and the work carried out in a different way. SB advised that the PFI contract was long-term and was effectively unbreakable. It was possible

to trigger the process to replace a sub-contractor if there were grounds, but this could still be a long and complicated process.

DY asked for clarification that schools were receiving just 2-4% of performance deductions and asked what metric was being used to determine whether schools were satisfied. SB confirmed that 2-4% was correct. Where there were no complaints it was assumed that schools were satisfied. Surveys had been done and feedback received via the PFI Schools Forum. DY suggested that this was a subjective view and that a significant percentage of schools were not satisfied. The last PFI Schools Forum had been held on 14 December 2022. A decision had been made not to pursue the extraordinary Schools Forum meeting on the basis that a PFI Schools Forum meeting would take place shortly afterwards, but this still had not taken place. Termly meetings were requested. SB advised that a future report to Schools Forum might provide more information about how satisfaction was measured. As the representative for maintained schools, DY was looking for evidence to support schools. The narrative remained the same and there had been no improvement. PW advised that the views from academy schools reflected those of maintained schools.

DY welcomed the projected costs being given so that schools could factor these into their budgets and asked whether schools in deficit budgets would have an increase in PFI costs. BP advised that conversations would take place with individual schools to support them to balance budgets over a 3-year period. PW agreed that serious conversations were needed about the cuts which would be required to fund increases.

DY pointed out that if resources were withdrawn to balance the budget, less was available to support children. Schools also faced increased SEND pressures.

## **7 DSG Provisional Outturn including carry forward requests and school balances**

EC referred to Table 1 in the report which summarised the DSG provisional outturn showing an overspend of £934k at 31 March 2023. This was a favourable movement of £230k on the position for Quarter 3. There had been a £2m overspend on high needs, largely due to out of county placements. There was a small overspend of £100k on the schools block and an overspend on the growth fund due to the continued shortage of secondary school places which would continue into the new financial year until approval was received from the DfE for a new free secondary school. There were a high number of overseas arrivals. There was an underspend of £0.8m on early years and £0.3m on the central schools services block due to historical teachers' pension costs. There had been an overspend on funding for 2 year olds due to more hours being claimed.

There was a risk of approximately £1.9m associated with alternative provision. The budget had been disaggregated on the basis of population but the location of one facility in West Northamptonshire had resulted in WNC bearing costs from places commissioned by North Northamptonshire Council (NNC). This was being discussed with the DfE and NNC and BP had had a helpful meeting with the DfE in

the previous week. It was hoped to avoid a legal challenge but the situation currently produced an additional financial pressure on WNC.

In response to a question from PW, EC confirmed that the finalisation of the county council 2020/21 accounts had almost been completed.

PF asked if extra funding would be provided by the ESFA for Ukrainian refugees. BP advised that funding was available but it was not enough and timeliness was an issue. BP agreed to raise this with the ESFA.

In response to a query about reducing out of county placements, BP stated that there was a programme to deliver 500 places in the next couple of years. In addition, all teachers and TAs would be SEND trained.

FB stated that the East Midlands lead members group had written to the Ministry of Justice recently to highlight that the funding provided to support refugees did not cover extra costs incurred even if it covered education.

BB advised that there were no proposed changes to the maintained school balance control mechanism for the current year. There were two schools with uncommitted balances above the 10% allowable level at the end of 2022/23. These would not be clawed back, but a review panel was being considered for 2023/24.

The appendix showed the movement between the end of 2021/22 and 2022/23. There had been an increase of £0.8m in capital balances but an additional DfE payment made in February had been ring-fenced to energy costs which had had a masking effect. The majority of balances had been spent in-year, which was the aim.

There were 6 schools in deficit at the end of 2022/23 comprising a total deficit value of £93k. Schools in deficit created risks for both the authority and themselves, so action needed to be taken quickly. A review of staffing structure and 3 year plans would be undertaken and a financial recovery plan implemented and monitored.

PW asked how many schools had an in-year deficit and what the projection looked like. BP advised that not all schools had provided 3 year plans yet, but he could bring details to the next meeting. 36 maintained schools had had to rely on reserves in-year. The current fiscal year and the next academic year looked to be more of a challenge. The pressures of early years needed to be considered, especially for small providers who had no spare capacity.

PF asked that decisions were not based on 3 year budgets because the future was so uncertain, whilst he recognised that the DfE required this approach.

PW stated that more voices advocating the need for more funding was important. Joint representations needed to be made to government, which BB agreed to look at.

DY wanted to understand the context. It was not known where funding for pay rises would come from, and together with PFI this resulted in significant pressures for schools.

BP agreed and stated that maintaining focus on safeguarding was paramount, but more creative support needed to be offered – such as peer support, academisation or federation. The school effectiveness team were already looking at options and he was happy to report back. BP also noted that falling rolls were a challenge. One school had received no applications for reception places this year.

BM noted that options for maintained nursery schools were limited because they could not academise. Private providers were also struggling financially and some had closed.

RM advised and KW agreed that staffing was a big issue – recruitment had been difficult. All staff were paid minimum wage and parents were reducing hours due to increased fees. BP stated that he was happy to work collaboratively and to work with the university to make the sector an attractive place to work.

## **8 Scheme for financing schools**

BB presented the report setting out the relationship with maintained schools. Any significant changes would need to go to consultation. There had been housekeeping changes which were highlighted in the report, which were not significant and did not require a vote by Schools Forum.

## **9&10 Schools Funding 2024-25 Consultation & Early Years Funding 2024-25 Consultation – process and timelines**

EC advised that it was proposed to bring the draft consultation to Schools Forum for review in October and then back in December after consultation for a decision. Feedback had been taken on board in respect of language used and a non-finance officer would review the technical terms and acronyms, although these were difficult to remove. The Early Years consultation would take a similar time frame as previously so that the timescales for publishing budgets could be met. The provisional DSG settlement was expected soon – some pressures were inherent and funding was not keeping up.

## **11 High Needs project update**

AP advised that WNC and strategic partners had co-produced a new SEND and Alternative Provision Strategy and Co-production Charter for 2023-26. There was a new SEND improvement team – a manager and two officers. 20 co-production events had been facilitated, reaching out to over 800 people, with 3,000 comments received. Five key values had been identified: working together, communication, transparency, respect and accountability. The strategy would be presented to Cabinet on 11 July 2023. BP added that implementation of the Strategy would be overseen by a Board chaired by Councillor Baker with a vice chair from the Northamptonshire Parent Forum Group and subject to an annual review.

AP advised that additional capacity would be provided at Moulton School (January 2024) and a new special school (September 2025). Further updates would be provided on work to increase capacity involving other schools.

AP advised that implementation of training on SEND Ranges was proceeding to plan.

The SEND funding project was focussed on reviewing provision according to the principle of fair and transparent funding which followed needs. Application documentation and processes were being looked at. Changes would be implemented before 1 April 2024 if possible with the support of the sector.

Progress was being made with non-statutory support including a review of panels, application forms and funding criteria. Progress was also being made on financial modelling and responding to topics which had been raised.

The EHCP milestone to update the needs profile form had been hit 2 months early, with the needs profile form now being more intuitive. It was completed by caseworkers and would determine the banding level of that child. The aim was to provide clarity about how resources followed a child's needs. It was not a cost-cutting exercise. As at the previous week WNC had 3,100 funding appeals. The current process needed to be refined but this would take time to implement.

Consultation on the funding project would take place over the summer and feedback could be provided to Schools Forum in October.

FB noted that all of the work being done on funding aimed to enhance clarity in decision-making and enable resources to follow a child's needs more effectively. RM asked for advance notification of any new forms and communication through the relevant portal so that it was received by everyone. Emails were easily missed and there was then a risk that a child did not receive funding. AP highlighted planned communication through Early Years Connections and HeadWest. Action could be taken to ensure that communication was co-ordinated and information included on the portal.

RM stated that the fixed rate of funding of £8 per hour for Early Years settings did not cover the costs of providing for the needs of children with SEND. Settings were forced to meet the cost deficit and did not have the funds to do so. It also seemed that Early Years settings were being advised to start the EHCP process earlier but this was supposed to be a needs-based process. It would be helpful to see WNC's future financial modelling.

KW raised the issue of children who were not safe without 1:1 support, when there was no funding. PW emphasised the importance of early identification and prompt action relating to additional needs.

BP advised that the message to Early Years settings was not to request EHC assessments at all costs. It was recognised that the backlog of EHC assessments was a significant issue. WNC had commissioned external education psychologists to address this. A new Principal Education Psychologist had recently been appointed and was already identifying ways to increase in-house capacity to deal with business as usual. These actions should have an impact from September onwards. Building on SEND Ranges would also form part of the overall response.



DY asked whether there was any modelling or forecasting to show that the proposed changes to funding would be implemented in a fair and transparent way. AP stated that the overall budget would be considered, a series of pilots carried out and changes communicated later in the year. BB advised that tools were used to model outcomes with protections in place for those who would be adversely affected.

AP advised that the EHCP Resource Allocation System (RAS) model was already in place for special schools. The same system would be implemented across different settings. RAS banding was being looked at for unit provision. DY emphasised the importance of proceeding in a way that engaged schools and did not give the impression that changes were just being imposed on them.

DY sought further information about the proposed funding appeals panel process and commented that this needed to operate in a transparent, objective and informed way that took account of the real life needs of the child. AP advised that the initial needs profile forms would be completed by a caseworker and then reviewed by another officer in the EHCP team. The appeals process would need to be effective with set terms of reference for appeals panels. BP advised that it was anticipated appeals panels would involve sector representatives not just WNC officers.

It was confirmed that Targeted SEND funding was the same as High Needs funding. The new title had been recommended by the working group involved in development work. The range of funding had not yet been decided.

BP advised that the early help offer across West Northamptonshire was not sufficiently co-ordinated at present and would be reviewed. There needed to be a spectrum of levels of support, not just EHCP.

## **12 Administrative arrangements for allocation of central government grants**

BB advised that the report informed Schools Forum about arrangements that would be used in 2023/24. The principle was to pay grants to schools in the month following receipt of the grant payment.

## **13 Forward plan**

JE advised that the Chair and Vice-Chair could be elected at the meeting in October.

DY asked for a further PFI update with survey results from SB.

PW welcomed back PF after his absence due to ill health and thanked members for their participation over the last academic year.

JE advised that it was proposed to change the date of the February 2024 meeting from 6 February 2024 to 14 February 2024 because the venue was not available on the date originally agreed.

PW raised the need to consider the format for future Schools Forum meetings given that it had not been possible to achieve a quorum. Members commented about the possibility of varying meetings between Towcester and Northampton and that hybrid

meetings were not very effective. It was suggested that a survey be undertaken to identify issues affecting attendance.

The meeting ended at 4.15pm



## West Northants Schools Forum: 18 October 2023

### Agenda Item 6

#### 2023-24 Dedicated Schools Grant Monitoring as at Period 4

## 1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The report provides an assessment of West Northamptonshire Council's (WNC) financial performance against its approved 2023-24 DSG budget, incorporating key financial risks, issues and opportunities identified since 1 April 2023, for Schools Forum to note.
- 1.2 Table 1 shows the relevant responsibilities in relation to in year monitoring which is taken from the Education and Skills Funding Agency's Schools Forum Powers and Responsibilities, published in March 2021.

Table 1

Local Authority	Schools Forum	ESFA
De-delegation – proposes	Decides	Adjudicates where Forum disagrees with the Authority's proposals
General Duties for maintained schools – proposes	Decides	Adjudicates where Forum disagrees with the Authority's proposals
Growth Fund and Falling Rolls Fund – proposes	Decides	Adjudicates where Forum disagrees with the Authority's proposals
Central Spend on Early Years and Central School Services – proposes	Decides	Adjudicates where Forum disagrees with the Authority's proposals
Central Spend on High Needs – Decides	None, but good practice to Consult	None

## 2 2023-24 Forecast Outturn

- 2.1 Table 1 summarises the DSG forecast outturn and variance currently being estimated for this financial year. It highlights some identified service pressures against the high needs block which will be sought to be managed within year and across the medium term.

Table 1 – Forecast Outturn 2023-24 by DSG Block £k

<b>DSG Block</b>	<b>Gross Exp Budget</b>	<b>Recoupment</b>	<b>Net Exp Budget</b>	<b>Forecast Net Spend</b>	<b>Variance</b>
Schools	341,995	(273,243)	68,752	68,752	0
Early Years Provision	28,151	0	28,151	28,013	(138)
High Needs	71,245	(17,233)	54,012	55,624	1,612
Central Schools Services Block	3,791	0	3,791	4,229	437
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>445,182</b>	<b>-290,476</b>	<b>154,706</b>	<b>156,618</b>	<b>1,911</b>

2.2 The DSG is currently forecasting an overspend of £1.91m.

### **High Needs Block**

2.3 The forecast pressure in the high needs block totalling £1.61m overspend is due to increased demand for out of county placements and provision for pupils with SEND.

2.4 This is especially for young people with social, emotional and mental health needs alongside other needs such as autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and learning difficulties.

2.5 Independent special school placements have increased by 34 pupils by the end of July whereas the increase for the whole of 2022-23 was 52. The cost of placements has also increased from an annual average of £50k to £55k which is a combination of increased need but also inflation on the costs being charged.

2.6 Additional capacity in the Educational Psychology team is being commissioned on a fixed term basis, funded by one off resources from the Council's general fund, to provide the statutory assessments needed to significantly improve the current performance, while enabling the substantive service to continue to recruit permanent staff and complete new assessments.

2.7 As a direct result of assessments working through the system, there is a significant likelihood that the forecast overspend on the high needs block will increase in the short term.

2.8 The 2023-24 capital programme includes a total of circa £34m investment in a new special school with a target completion date of September 2025, and continuation of works to increase resourced places in mainstream schools and special school expansions over the next academic year to support better outcomes for children, create in excess of an additional 600 places and reduce financial pressures over the medium term. This will be funded through central government grants and Council borrowing.

## Central Schools Services Block (CSSB)

2.9 The CSSB forecast overspend totals £0.4m which is largely made up of historical pensions costs above budgeted levels, due to index linked inflationary uplifts in payments to the teachers pensions company for previously centrally employed teachers pensions.

## Early Years Block

2.10 The early years block is forecast to underspend by £0.14m on central expenditure due to staffing vacancies. The service continues to recruit to centrally funded posts to offer the sector advice, support and guidance around quality first teaching, safeguarding, SEND specialist support, transitions, funding and any other areas of need.

## DSG Balances

2.11 The table below shows the forecast DSG balances as at 31 March 2024 based on the current estimate of commitments, and in year forecast at period 4.

Table 2 – Forecast Balances 2023-24 by DSG Block £k

<b>DSG Block</b>	<b>Balance as at 31 March 2023</b>	<b>Movements in Year 2023-24</b>	<b>2023-24 P4 Forecast Outturn Variance</b>	<b>Forecast Balance as at 31 March 2024</b>
Schools	(441)	441	0	0
Early Years	(2,065)	1,000	(138)	(1,203)
High Needs	1,967	(1,703)	1,612	1,876
Central Schools Services Block	(1,610)	0	437	(1,173)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>(2,149)</b>	<b>(262)</b>	<b>1,911</b>	<b>(500)</b>

## 3 The Regional and National Picture

3.1 Based on the RA data (Budget) for 2023-24, WNC Education rank 10th out of 16 for unit cost compared to nearest neighbour analysis shown on the graphs on the next page, with 16th being the lowest cost per resident.

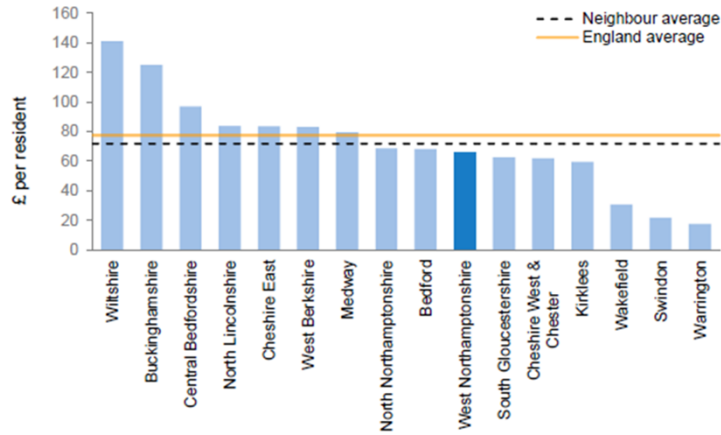
3.2 WNC Education costs sit 9% lower than its nearest neighbours.

3.3 On a National level WNC Education ranks 81st out of 125 local authorities, with 125th being lowest cost per resident.

## Unit costs

Service:	Relative unit costs:	Your authority's relative unit cost:
<b>Overall unit costs (exc. schools)</b>	Your authority	
	Neighbours	
	England	
		Expenditure per resident:
		■ 2.6% below the NN average
		■ 6.5% below the England average
<b>Education (exc. schools)</b>	Your authority	
	Neighbours	
	England	
		Expenditure per resident:
		■ 8.7% below the NN average
		■ 15.5% below the England average

Chart 3 - Unit Costs for Education, excluding schools



3.4 Total high needs block deficits were estimated to be £1.9bn nationally in March 2022, rising to £3.6bn by 2025 with no intervention.

3.5 There is currently a statutory override in place (meaning that any DSG deficits are not included in councils' main revenue budgets) which has been extended until March 2026. It's removal, without radically reforming High Needs funding would potentially force a number of LAs to issue section 114 notices.

3.6 Just under half of the East Midlands authorities geographical neighbours (5/11) have DSG surplus balances ranging between circa £10m-£22m, with the remainder with deficit balances ranging between £4m-£30m. 3 out of the 5 LAs with surplus balances were given above minimum increases to high needs block funding in the 2023-24 national funding formula.

## 4 Financial implications

4.1 The resource and financial implications of the WNC DSG budget are set out in the body of, and appendices to, this report.

## 5 Legal implications

5.1 There are no legal implications arising from the proposals.

## 6 Risks

6.1 This report sets out the financial forecast and risks identified following the period 4 review of the Council's DSG budgets.

## 7 Recommendations for Schools Forum

7.1 That Schools Forum notes the forecast outturn position for the year ended 31 March 2024.

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## **West Northants Schools Forum: 18 October 2023**

### **Agenda Item 7**

#### **Schools and High Needs National Funding Formula 2024-25**

#### **1 Background**

- 1.1 This report sets out details of the National Funding Formula (NFF) 2024-25 policy publication for schools and high needs.
- 1.2 2024-25 is the final year of a three year increase of £7bn to the national core schools budget to £56.8bn (a further rise of £1.5bn from 2023-24).
- 1.3 The Autumn 2022 statement announced a further £2bn increase in funding in each 2023-24 and 2024-25 to respond directly to increasing costs faced by schools with the current year allocated through a separate grant outside of the NFF (Mainstream Schools Additional Funding Grant).
- 1.4 On 17 July 2023, the Department for Education (DfE) published an update on the policy paper of the NFF 2024-25 for schools and high needs.
- 1.5 On 6 October 2023, Susan Acland-Hood, Permanent Secretary for the DfE, wrote to Robin Walker MP, Chair of the Education Select Committee outlining a technical error in the NFF that was initially published in July.
- 1.6 The error related to the processing of forecast pupil numbers, which left unaddressed, would mean the cost of the core schools budget would be 0.62% greater than allocated in 2024-25. As the budget is due to be £59.6bn next year, an error of that size would equal around £370m.
- 1.7 The error does not impact the total planned spend on the core schools budget of £59.6bn for 2024-25 or the high needs NFF, and there are no cash adjustments to be made as the funding has not yet been allocated.
- 1.8 The DfE told schools in July that funding through the mainstream schools national funding formula "is increasing by 2.7% per pupil in 2024-25". The updated guidance states the rise will be just 1.9%.
- 1.9 The government's prediction for the minimum per-pupil funding for secondary schools has been revised down by £55. At primary level it's down £45. Based on these figures, the average secondary school would be £57,970 worse-off than predicted in July, and the average primary would be £12,420 worse-off.

1.10 The provisional announcement for WNC schools is that they will receive £6.9m (2.0%) of the national increase in 2024-25, down £3m on the amount announced in July.

Table 1 – 2024-25 Provisional Settlement by DSG Block £k

<b>DSG Block</b>	<b>Schools</b>	<b>Early Years Provision</b>	<b>High Needs</b>	<b>Central Schools Services Block</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
2023-24 (updated July 2023)	343,470	27,916	66,957	3,939	442,282
Provisional 2024-25	353,436	27,916	69,091	3,670	454,113
Revised Provisional 2024-25 (updated October 2023)	350,385	27,916	69,091	3,670	451,062
Increase/ (decrease)	6,915	0	2,134	(269)	8,780
<b>% increase/ decrease</b>	<b>2.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>3.2%</b>	<b>(6.8%)</b>	<b>1.99%</b>

- *The early years block of the final settlement and the import/export adjustment of the high needs block are indicative; the final grant figures will be provided by the ESFA in July 2023.*
- *schools block growth funding is an estimate with final figures to announced in the December settlement.*

## **2 National Funding Formula for schools and high needs**

2.1 The Government have changed a small number of existing features of the funding formula for 2024-25 school funding.

2.2 The basic per pupil funding factor, FSM6 and the lump sum factors have been increased to reflect the rolling in of the mainstream schools additional grant into the NFF, as described in the following section below. On top of these, the core factors in the NFF – the basic per pupil funding factor, additional needs factors and the school lump sum – will increase by 1.4%. The free school meals factor will increase by 1.6%.

2.3 The minimum per pupil levels in 2024-25 will be set at £4,610 per pupil for primary schools and £5,995 per pupil for secondary schools. This includes £143, £186 and £208 per primary, KS3 and KS4 pupil respectively for the rolling in of the mainstream schools additional grant.

2.4 The 2024-25 NFF funding floor is set at 0.5%. This means that every school will attract an increase in their pupil-led funding of at least 0.5% per pupil, compared to their baseline. Funding floor baselines have also been increased to take account of the rolling in of the mainstream schools additional grant.

2.5 With the exception of split sites funding, which is now formularised, premises funding will continue to be allocated at local authority level on the basis of the amount spent by local authorities on this factor in their 2023-24 local formulae – as recorded in the 2023-24 Authority Proforma Tool (APT). The PFI factor is increasing in line with the RPIX measure of inflation 10.4%, to reflect the use of RPIX in PFI contracts.

### 3 NFF for High Needs 2024-25

3.1 The department has confirmed the following aspects of the high needs NFF:

- the funding floor is set at 3% so each local authority will see an increase of at least 3% per head of their 2 to 18 population (as estimated by the Office for National Statistics)
- the gains cap is set at 5%, allowing local authorities to see gains up to this percentage increase under the formula, again calculated on a per head basis of their 2 to 18 population

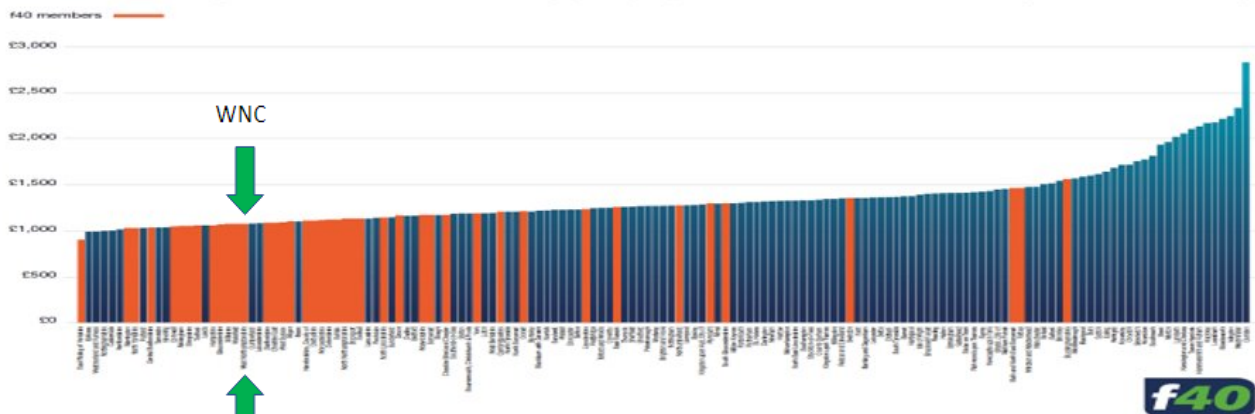
3.2 The provisional increase in the high needs block for WNC is £2.1m. However, the July 2023 DSG update for 2023-24 gave the latest update to the import/export adjustment which reduced this part of the grant by £156k and reduced the additional funding for special free schools by £1m from £1.67m to £0.67m.

3.3 Our budget modelling assumes that this is the level of funding we can expect and that the same additional funding for free schools and import/export levels which means the provisional total shown is likely to be 1.156m lower than that shown in the table above.

3.4 The actual growth in the budget is likely to be only £1m more than initially budgeted for 2023-24.

3.5 When looking at the published provisional increase of £2.1m, WNC is due to receive the minimum level of uplift in High Needs Block funding in percentage terms. The graph below indicates that WNC is in the bottom quartile in terms of the high needs block funding per pupil received, which means that it is becoming increasingly difficult to manage demand and price increases.

Variation of High Needs Block funding per pupil allocations 2023-24 by local authority



#### 4 Central schools' services NFF 2024-25

4.1 The central services school block provides funding to local authorities to carry out central functions on behalf of maintained schools and academies. The block comprises of two elements: ongoing responsibilities and historic commitments.

4.2 However, the historical funding part of the block is being unwound each year by a 20% reduction. The services funded by this have gradually had their costs "shunted" to the general fund and this has been built into the medium term revenue plan, however due to increasing pressures on the general fund due to rising demand in adults and Childrens social care, temporary accommodation and the impact of inflation this will have to be reviewed against the uncommitted CSSB balances held.

Table 2 – Ongoing and Historical Elements of the CSSB £k

<b>CSSB</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Change %</b>
Ongoing Responsibilities	2,193	2,273	80	3.6%
Historical Funding	1,746	1,396	(350)	(20.0%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,939</b>	<b>3,670</b>	<b>(269)</b>	<b>(6.8%)</b>

#### 5 Notional school budgets 2024-25

5.1 Notional school budget allocations calculated by the Education Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) have been published and attached as Appendix A (for information) to demonstrate the NFF. It should be noted that the published allocation of school notional budgets for 2024-25 by the ESFA is for illustrative purposes and is not the actual funding a school will received through the formula for 2024-25. The actual baselines used for the NFF for individual schools differ to the published NFF by school as it does not take local factors and rates into account in the calculation.

5.2 WNC's School Funding Formulae has been a locally agreed formula working in collaboration with the Council and Schools Forum in accordance with the DfE statutory guidelines of implementation of the NFF within the timescales. WNC local formula factors and funding rates have mirrored the NFF factors for many years. The rates of those factors for 23-24 and 2024-25 mirror the NFF with the exception of the cap on budget increases. The cap has had to be set at 3.32% and 1.4% respectively in the indicative modelling to balance to the overall available funding for the Schools block after locally agreed high needs block funding move of 0.5%. As a result, the base position and protections within the calculations built into the Authority proforma Tool (APT) received by Local Authorities for calculating school and academy budgets will have a different prior year base as compared to the published NFF school budgets.

5.3. The local authority will first calculate provisional school budgets upon publication of the first APT. The first tool we receive is based on the current 2023-24 pupil data which allows LAs to model proposed changes to funding from the formula as if it were applied to the current year. We have used this to provide modelled budgets for schools to view alongside the options in the schools consultation.

5.4. Later in the Autumn term a final APT is provided to LAs which is updated to include the October 2023 school census data. The draft formula budgets for schools can then be modelled and brought to the Schools Forum in December alongside the results of the school consultation. The final DSG settlement is usually received after the December Schools Forum but we will only revisit the Schools Forum vote if the settlement is significantly different to that previously modelled and agreed in December. The APT tool is then submitted to Government mid-January 2024.

5.5 A comparison of local funding factor rates and NFF rates for 2024-25 is detailed as below and compared to 2023-24 rates as reported in December 2022, as part of the School Forum approval of WNC formulae:

<b>Factor</b>	<b>2023 to 2024 (NFF)</b>	<b>2024-25 NFF</b>	<b>2024-25 Local WNC formula</b>
Minimum per pupil funding - Primary	4,405	4,610	4,610.00
Minimum per pupil funding – Secondary KS3	5,503	5,771	5,771.00
Minimum per pupil funding – Secondary KS4	6,033	6,331	6,331.00
AWPU basic entitlement - Primary	3,405	3,562	3,574.15
AWPU basic entitlement – Secondary KS3	4,801	5,022	5,039.13
AWPU basic entitlement – Secondary KS4	5,411	5,661	5,680.30
Primary FSM	482	490	491.67
Secondary FSM	482	490	491.67
Primary FSM6	707	820	822.80
Secondary FSM6	1,033	1200	1,204.09
Primary IDACI F	231	235	235.80
Primary IDACI E	281	285	285.97
Primary IDACI D	441	445	446.52
Primary IDACI C	482	485	486.65
Primary IDACI B	512	515	516.76
Primary IDACI A	672	680	682.32
Secondary IDACI F	336	340	341.16
Secondary IDACI E	446	450	451.53
Secondary IDACI D	622	630	632.15
Secondary IDACI C	682	690	692.35
Secondary IDACI B	732	740	742.52
Secondary IDACI A	933	945	948.22
Primary EAL3	582	590	592.01
Secondary EAL3	1,570	1,585	1,590.41
Primary LPA	1,159	1,170	1,173.99
Secondary LPA	1,756	1,775	1781.05
Primary mobility	948	1,170	963.27
Secondary mobility	1,364	1,380	1,384.71
Primary lump sum	128,421	134,400	134,858.30
Secondary lump sum	128,421	134,400	134,858.30
Primary sparsity	56,485		57,294.71

Secondary sparsity	82,169		83,283.03
All-through sparsity	82,169		83,283.03

(all rates shown above include area cost adjustment ACA for WNC of 1.00329)

## 6 Recommendations for schools forum

6.1 This paper is for information – Schools Forum are recommended to note the information provided.

## 7 Next steps

7.1 The next steps are to consider the 2024-25 schools consultation proposals and high needs budget proposals.

## 8 Financial implications

8.1 This report is for information but details the likely increases schools can expect in their formula funding for 2024-25 individual schools budgets. It provides caution around the published NFF budgets and how they can differ to actual amounts received. It also details the high needs funding increases and likely inadequacy to cover forecast growth in that area and provides information on the central schools services block decrease but provides assurance that services will not be reduced as a result due to the costs being picked up by the general fund and/or uncommitted CSSB balances.

## 9 Legal implications

9.1 There are no legal implications.

## 10 Risks

10.1 The report highlights a number of risks, most significantly around the risk that the high needs block funding increase is not adequate to cover the growth and the risk that in future years, any further unwinding of the historical part of the CSSB will take it below the unavoidable pre-2013 teachers pension costs.

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### National funding formula: Impact of the schools national funding formula - WNC schools

KEY:	Baseline funding	Notional NFF funding in 2024-25
------	------------------	---------------------------------

Unconventional cells are denoted in bold, with the following meanings:

**[i]** We are unable to calculate a meaningful percentage change in pupil-led funding for some very small schools as their pupil-led funding makes up an extremely small proportion of their total funding, and is more likely to be distorted by changes in school-led funding.

**[ii]** We are not illustrating percentage changes for schools that are new, amalgamated or split because they either do not have a baseline or their baseline is no longer appropriate because their school structure has changed.

**[iii]** Notional per pupil funding has been adjusted for two schools with negative premises adjustments to ensure they reach the minimum per pupil funding levels.

The note numbers succeeding column headers in row 8 correspond to full explanations found in the "Notes" sheet

LAESTAB	School Name	Flag for schools with theoretical baselines (those that are new or have amalgamated or split)	Baseline NFF funding [Note 1]		Notional NFF funding in 2024-25 [Note 2]		Notional NFF funding in 2024-25		Percentage change in total NFF funding compared to baseline (total)	Percentage change in pupil-led NFF funding (per pupil)							
			2022-23 pupil count	Baseline funding (2023-24) (total cash)	Proportion of the year for which the school was funded (either 2023-24 or 2023/24)	2023-24 pupil count	Notional NFF funding in 2024-25 (total cash)	Notional NFF funding in 2024-25 (full-year equivalent) (£ per pupil)			[f] = (e) / [d] / [c]						
												[a]	[b]	[c]	[d]	[e]	[f]
												[g] = (e) - [b] / [b]	[h]				
9412126	Abbey CoE Academy		172	£887,641	100%	159	£854,588	£5,375	-3.72%	3.43%							
9414007	Abbeyfield School		1,236	£8,498,249	100%	1,235	£8,689,602	£7,036	2.25%	1.68%							
9412177	Abington Vale Primary School		411	£2,043,856	100%	410	£2,115,374	£5,159	3.50%	3.79%							
9412001	All Saints CoE VA Primary School		372	£1,702,822	100%	386	£1,815,225	£4,703	6.60%	3.32%							
9412225	Ashby Fields Primary School		373	£1,721,625	100%	368	£1,755,671	£4,771	1.98%	3.53%							
9413002	Ashton CoE Primary School		27	£259,851	100%	27	£270,410	£10,015	4.06%	8.78%							
9412000	Badby School		153	£734,604	100%	155	£770,708	£4,972	4.91%	4.65%							
9413004	Barby Church of England Primary School		96	£504,896	100%	99	£531,608	£5,370	5.29%	3.98%							
9412197	Barry Primary School		400	£1,866,050	100%	408	£1,978,088	£4,848	6.00%	4.70%							
9412235	Blackthorn Primary School		189	£1,239,982	100%	206	£1,391,111	£6,753	12.19%	4.65%							
9413006	Blakesley Church of England Primary School		102	£571,622	100%	102	£573,846	£5,626	0.39%	0.56%							
9412002	Blisworth Community Primary School		165	£804,647	100%	169	£834,470	£4,938	3.71%	2.09%							
9413007	Boddington Church of England Voluntary School		53	£402,278	100%	48	£386,636	£8,585	-3.89%	2.20%							
9412188	Boothville Primary School		617	£3,087,010	100%	612	£3,199,773	£5,228	3.65%	4.13%							
9412003	Boughton Primary School		186	£849,074	100%	186	£857,460	£4,610	0.99%	1.17%							
9412224	Bracken Leas Primary School		418	£1,896,764	100%	415	£1,913,150	£4,610	0.86%	1.66%							
9413008	Brackley Church of England Junior School		208	£990,643	100%	198	£959,482	£4,846	-3.15%	1.15%							
9413011	Braunston Church of England Primary School		196	£922,309	100%	193	£928,650	£4,812	0.69%	2.37%							
9412039	Briar Hill Primary School & Nursery		254	£1,501,612	100%	270	£1,612,650	£5,973	7.39%	1.41%							
9412010	Bridgewater Primary School		619	£3,055,578	100%	621	£3,128,565	£5,038	2.39%	1.63%							
9412006	Brington Primary School		55	£398,464	100%	46	£379,256	£8,245	-4.82%	8.19%							
9413012	Brixworth CoE VC Primary School		466	£2,158,247	100%	483	£2,265,286	£4,690	4.96%	1.68%							
9412247	Buckton Fields Primary School		104	£543,752	100%	170	£806,585	£4,745	48.34%	0.50%							
9412008	Bugbrooke Community Primary School		266	£1,245,379	100%	252	£1,191,453	£4,728	-4.33%	0.50%							
9412011	Byfield School		80	£518,818	100%	82	£538,131	£6,563	3.72%	3.23%							
9414051	Campion School		1,030	£6,285,960	100%	1,103	£6,909,321	£6,264	9.92%	2.85%							
9414005	Caroline Chisholm School		1,794	£11,185,905	100%	1,803	£11,563,387	£6,425	3.55%	1.84%							
9412151	Castle Academy		410	£2,253,385	100%	403	£2,291,565	£5,686	1.69%	2.32%							
9412158	Cedar Road Primary School		413	£1,993,927	100%	408	£2,004,258	£4,912	0.52%	1.10%							
9413307	Chacombe CEVA Primary Academy		92	£517,073	100%	90	£520,347	£5,782	0.63%	3.16%							
9414089	Chenderit School		883	£5,345,354	100%	873	£5,372,389	£6,154	0.51%	1.67%							
9412181	Chiltern Primary School		274	£1,484,235	100%	228	£1,326,097	£5,816	-10.65%	2.55%							
9412013	Chipping Warden Primary Academy		82	£491,769	100%	82	£503,556	£6,141	2.40%	3.73%							
9413202	Clipston Endowed Voluntary Controlled Primary School		108	£586,981	100%	102	£583,407	£5,720	-0.61%	4.94%							
9412015	Cogenhoe Primary School		198	£921,681	100%	199	£936,187	£4,704	1.57%	2.62%							
9412229	Collingtree Church of England Primary School		90	£525,880	100%	87	£568,264	£4,532	8.06%	16.80%							
9412023	Cosgrove Village Primary School		52	£412,073	100%	49	£407,833	£8,323	-1.03%	4.09%							
9412024	Crick Primary School		186	£870,920	100%	191	£915,407	£4,793	5.11%	3.39%							
9413019	Croughton All Saints CoE Primary School		114	£632,860	100%	108	£625,113	£5,788	-1.22%	3.88%							
9413312	Culworth Church of England Primary Academy		80	£503,847	100%	85	£532,453	£6,264	5.68%	2.55%							
9412022	DSLVA E-ACT Academy		868	£5,281,193	100%	937	£5,857,038	£6,251	10.90%	3.00%							
9412025	Deanshanger Primary School		351	£1,632,731	100%	329	£1,516,690	£4,610	-7.11%	0.57%							
9412014	Delapre Primary School		599	£3,031,101	100%	609	£3,187,441	£5,234	5.16%	3.58%							
9412026	Denton Primary School		106	£582,727	100%	101	£572,421	£5,668	-1.77%	2.30%							
9412210	Duston Eldean Primary School		417	£2,066,459	100%	416	£2,096,321	£5,039	1.45%	1.17%							
9412160	Earl Spencer Primary School		396	£2,259,679	100%	396	£2,293,810	£5,792	1.51%	0.81%							
9413026	East Haddon Church of England Primary School		83	£507,557	100%	81	£510,467	£6,302	0.57%	3.42%							
9412219	East Hunsbury Primary School		420	£1,909,605	100%	416	£1,917,760	£4,610	0.43%	1.43%							
9412031	Eastfield Academy		190	£1,148,303	100%	196	£1,218,575	£6,217	6.12%	3.24%							
9412209	Ecton Brook Primary School		574	£3,090,827	100%	590	£3,319,701	£5,627	7.40%	4.71%							
9414041	Elizabeth Woodville School		995	£6,060,345	100%	1,040	£6,514,740	£6,264	7.50%	3.13%							
9412161	Falconer's Hill Academy		229	£1,175,179	100%	235	£1,220,038	£5,192	3.82%	1.65%							
9412125	Falconer's Hill Infant School		177	£954,575	100%	173	£940,056	£5,434	-1.52%	0.50%							
9412038	Farthinghoe Primary School		53	£382,583	100%	43	£362,047	£8,420	-5.37%	9.96%							
9413028	Flore Church of England Primary School		76	£497,814	100%	81	£555,547	£6,859	11.60%	10.39%							
9413029	Gayton Church of England Primary School		70	£481,487	100%	63	£454,069	£7,207	-5.69%	0.50%							
9412042	Greatworth Primary School		63	£448,269	100%	58	£437,260	£7,539	-2.46%	3.82%							
9412143	Green Oaks Primary Academy		193	£1,155,224	100%	199	£1,212,724	£6,094	4.98%	1.74%							
9413032	Greens Norton Church of England Primary School		173	£801,602	100%	174	£822,828	£4,729	2.65%	2.59%							
9414042	Guisborough Academy		1,141	£6,759,930	100%	1,134	£6,798,330	£5,995	0.57%	1.20%							
9413318	Guisborough Church of England Primary School		116	£605,618	100%	108	£593,118	£5,492	-2.06%	4.35%							
9413511	Hackleton CoE Primary School		202	£925,405	100%	198	£915,954	£4,626	-1.02%	0.80%							
9412152	Hardingstone Academy		216	£1,011,667	100%	205	£994,312	£4,850	-1.72%	3.28%							
9412046	Harlestone Primary School		51	£372,399	100%	52	£383,173	£7,369	2.89%	3.46%							
9413034	Harpole Primary School		186	£878,503	100%	188	£898,004	£4,777	2.22%	1.59%							
9413035	Hartwell Primary School		188	£869,934	100%	183	£856,956	£4,683	-1.49%	0.92%							
9412162	Headlands Primary School		437	£2,085,709	100%	454	£2,182,630	£4,808	4.65%	1.04%							
9412047	Helmdon Primary School		121	£614,894	100%	110	£600,597	£5,460	-2.33%	6.40%							
9412184	Hopping Hill Primary School		405	£2,036,307	100%	399	£2,060,665	£5,165	1.20%	1.45%							
9412218	Hunsbury Park Primary School		301	£1,729,386	100%	290	£1,704,438	£5,877	-1.44%	0.99%							
9412076	John Hellins Primary School		204	£938,756	100%	207	£966,151	£4,667	2.92%	1.95%							
9413039	Kilsby Church of England Primary School		129	£647,355	100%	142	£702,163	£4,945	8.47%	0.63%							
9412153	Kings Heath Primary Academy		300	£1,730,464	100%	294	£1,723,446	£5,862	-0.41%	0.50%							
9412065	Kings Sutton Primary Academy		134	£714,072	100%	133	£726,475	£5,462	1.74%	2.95%							
9412166	Kingsley Primary School		386	£1,974,817	100%	395	£2,073,615	£5,250	5.00%	2.43%							
9414071	Kingsthorpe College		1,207	£8,218,715	100%	1,246	£8,718,585	£6,997	6.08%	2.47%							
9412208	Kingsthorpe Grove Primary School		428	£2,168,027	100%	434	£2,247,496	£5,179	3.67%	2.99%							
9413205	Kingsthorpe Village Primary School		204	£1,046,541	100%	204	£1,088,284	£5,335	3.99%	4.01%							
9413040	Kislingbury Primary School		144	£717,473	100%	123	£634,997	£5,163	-11.50%	0.50%							
9412190	Lings Primary School		379	£2,148,810	100%	371	£2,180,437	£5,877	1.47%	2.85%							
9413326	Little Houghton Church of England Primary School		80	£498,027	100%	89	£534,296	£6,003	7.28%	0.50%							
9412068	Long Buckby Infant School		128	£656,846	100%	130	£668,890	£5,145	1.83%	1.03%							
9412067	Long Buckby Junior School		197	£940,839	100%	197	£952,806	£4,837	1.27%	1.51%							
9412238	Lumbertubs Primary School		201	£1,224,479	100%	202	£1,266,310	£6,269	3.42%	2.51%							
9412176	Lyncrest Primary School		199	£1,067,470	100%	201	£1,106,087	£5,503	3.62%	2.43%							
9414550	Magdalen College School		1,183	£7,066,628	100%	1,199	£7,260,550	£6,056	2.74%	1.46%							
9412069	Maidwell Primary School		64	£437,183	100%	67	£460,441	£6,872	5.32%	5.10%							
9416910	Malcolm Arnold Academy		1,170	£7,534,724	100%	1,243	£8,113,336	£6,527	7.68%	1.49%							
9412164	Malcolm Arnold Preparatory School		413	£1,880,507	100%	414	£1,908,540	£4,610	1.49%	1.36%							

9412248	Marie Weller Primary School	50	£329,436	100%	104	£558,140	£5,367	69.42%	4.59%
9412070	Middleton Cheney Primary Academy	357	£1,621,298	100%	341	£1,572,010	£4,610	-3.04%	1.22%
9412016	Millway Primary School	377	£1,895,753	100%	391	£1,987,533	£5,083	4.84%	1.41%
9413045	Milton Parochial Primary School	80	£452,664	100%	68	£407,886	£5,998	-9.89%	1.07%
9412239	Monksmoor Park Church of England Primary School	130	£688,806	100%	160	£827,391	£5,167	20.12%	3.32%
9415200	Moulton Primary School	578	£2,634,675	100%	609	£2,817,116	£4,626	6.92%	1.86%
9414022	Moulton School and Science College	1,170	£7,031,857	100%	1,200	£7,311,396	£6,093	3.98%	1.45%
9413046	Naseby Church of England Primary Academy	73	£477,541	100%	63	£439,678	£6,979	-7.93%	0.50%
9413331	Newbottle and Charlton Church of England Primary School	106	£591,871	100%	111	£616,594	£5,555	4.18%	1.13%
9412073	Newnham Primary School	75	£481,055	100%	71	£467,189	£6,580	-2.88%	0.56%
9412214	Nicholas Hawksmoor Primary School	415	£1,884,756	100%	421	£1,940,810	£4,610	2.97%	1.73%
9416905	Northampton Academy	1,441	£9,634,407	100%	1,472	£9,887,289	£6,717	2.62%	0.50%
9414018	Northampton International Academy	2,020	£12,900,941	100%	1,921	£12,435,011	£6,473	-3.61%	1.32%
9415404	Northampton School for Boys	1,114	£6,589,295	100%	1,121	£6,720,395	£5,995	1.99%	1.39%
9414076	Northampton School for Girls	1,428	£9,184,226	100%	1,426	£9,324,468	£6,539	1.53%	1.06%
9412131	Old Stratford Primary School	188	£894,370	100%	184	£881,927	£4,793	-1.39%	0.50%
9412074	Overstone Primary School	160	£808,245	100%	175	£873,177	£4,990	8.03%	0.50%
9412237	Parklands Primary School	410	£1,977,398	100%	406	£1,998,319	£4,922	1.06%	1.46%
9413049	Pattishall Church of England Primary School	155	£747,891	100%	140	£704,097	£5,029	-5.86%	2.54%
9413050	Paulerspury Church of England Primary School	59	£436,769	100%	74	£497,394	£6,722	13.88%	3.94%
9412233	Pineham Barns Primary School	287	£1,320,974	100%	341	£1,572,010	£4,610	19.00%	1.98%
9412075	Pitsford Primary School	67	£445,348	100%	61	£435,034	£7,132	-2.32%	5.52%
9412223	Preston Hedges Primary School	418	£1,897,181	100%	417	£1,922,370	£4,610	1.33%	1.67%
9412105	Queen Eleanor Primary Academy	195	£1,154,364	100%	202	£1,244,421	£6,161	7.80%	4.83%
9412202	Rectory Farm Primary School	197	£1,177,342	100%	191	£1,165,903	£6,100	-0.97%	0.89%
9412079	Roade Primary School	295	£1,357,693	100%	321	£1,495,778	£4,664	10.17%	2.42%
9413203	Rothersthorpe Church of England Primary School	88	£499,073	100%	84	£495,525	£5,899	-0.71%	5.31%
9413057	Silverstone Church of England Primary School	245	£1,115,714	100%	245	£1,129,450	£4,610	1.23%	1.40%
9414011	Silverstone UTC	260	£1,805,196	100%	235	£1,652,453	£7,032	-8.46%	0.50%
9412220	Simon de Senlis Primary School	416	£2,024,867	100%	432	£2,140,428	£4,955	5.71%	1.81%
9412150	Southfield Primary School	127	£651,519	100%	115	£608,280	£5,289	-6.64%	1.19%
9414004	Sponne School	1,155	£6,824,364	100%	1,155	£6,924,225	£5,995	1.46%	1.49%
9413058	Spratton Church of England Primary School	76	£509,195	100%	80	£527,775	£6,597	3.65%	0.50%
9412033	Spring Lane Primary School	395	£2,239,387	100%	414	£2,391,405	£5,776	6.79%	1.98%
9413304	St Andrew's Ceva Primary School	327	£1,659,086	100%	334	£1,766,682	£5,289	6.49%	4.85%
9413354	St Gregory's Catholic Primary School	256	£1,337,164	100%	243	£1,289,185	£5,305	-3.59%	1.15%
9413348	St James Church of England Primary School	387	£1,980,427	100%	394	£2,041,584	£5,182	3.09%	1.48%
9412118	St James Infant School	134	£731,561	100%	157	£867,257	£5,524	18.55%	4.76%
9413344	St Loys Church of England Primary Academy, Weedon Lois	56	£408,760	100%	44	£376,197	£9,550	-7.97%	8.14%
9413090	St Luke's Church of England Primary School	411	£1,973,467	100%	399	£1,956,298	£4,903	-0.87%	1.29%
9413350	St Mary's Catholic Primary School	201	£1,066,513	100%	186	£1,001,297	£5,383	-6.11%	0.50%
9413400	St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Aston-le-Walls	74	£433,343	100%	72	£428,990	£5,958	-1.00%	1.29%
9412192	Standens Barn Primary School	388	£2,025,016	100%	372	£1,989,429	£5,348	-1.76%	1.29%
9413336	Staverton Church of England Voluntary Primary School	96	£562,075	100%	99	£570,204	£5,780	3.28%	1.62%
9412157	Stimpson Avenue Academy	353	£1,743,196	100%	372	£1,890,657	£5,082	8.46%	3.59%
9413060	Stoke Bruerne Church of England Primary School	66	£440,423	100%	65	£448,971	£6,907	1.94%	5.00%
9412064	Sunnyside Primary Academy	337	£1,763,811	100%	357	£1,919,639	£5,377	8.83%	3.21%
9413062	Syresham St James CoE Primary School and Nursery	75	£485,340	100%	79	£502,127	£6,356	3.46%	0.50%
9412169	The Abbey Primary School	332	£1,772,872	100%	333	£1,814,448	£5,449	2.35%	1.45%
9412052	The Arbours Primary Academy	297	£1,721,763	100%	278	£1,661,241	£5,976	-3.52%	0.50%
9413500	The Bliss Charity School	194	£893,073	100%	183	£854,292	£4,668	-4.34%	0.58%
9412012	The Bramptons Primary School	91	£537,990	100%	96	£559,576	£5,829	4.01%	0.50%
9414066	The Duston School	1,678	£10,370,717	100%	1,715	£10,709,144	£6,244	3.26%	0.50%
9413355	The Good Shepherd Catholic Primary School	275	£1,343,028	100%	266	£1,352,665	£5,085	0.72%	4.21%
9412137	The Grange School, Daventry	430	£2,072,126	100%	419	£2,048,330	£4,889	-1.15%	1.34%
9410124	The Northampton School	240	£939,086	58%	240	£943,378	£6,738	[ii]	[ii]
9414001	The Parker E-ACT Academy	993	£6,438,228	100%	1,033	£6,775,930	£6,559	5.25%	1.28%
9412234	The Radstone Primary School	324	£1,473,097	100%	344	£1,585,840	£4,610	7.65%	2.12%
9414703	Thomas Becket Catholic School	721	£5,074,487	100%	752	£5,312,630	£7,065	4.69%	0.50%
9412092	Thorplands Primary School	200	£1,154,803	100%	204	£1,212,978	£5,946	5.04%	3.63%
9413340	Tiffeld Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School	47	£375,362	100%	44	£376,009	£8,546	0.17%	7.20%
9413515	Towcester Church of England Primary School	384	£1,748,989	100%	365	£1,682,650	£4,610	-3.79%	0.88%
9413508	Upton Meadows Primary School	384	£1,864,332	100%	385	£1,920,319	£4,988	3.00%	2.97%
9412174	Vernon Terrace Primary School	205	£1,099,977	100%	207	£1,120,075	£5,411	1.83%	1.13%
9412090	Walgrave Primary School	156	£753,131	100%	142	£719,699	£5,068	-4.44%	3.78%
9412117	Waynflete Infants' School	150	£723,929	100%	142	£727,177	£5,121	0.45%	6.22%
9412094	Weedon Bec Primary School	204	£1,007,522	100%	200	£997,932	£4,990	-0.95%	0.88%
9415212	Welford Sibbertoft and Sulby Endowed School	74	£504,280	100%	76	£519,549	£6,836	3.03%	2.12%
9413076	Welton Church of England Academy	131	£660,049	100%	130	£665,749	£5,121	0.86%	1.86%
9413077	West Haddon Endowed Church of England Primary School	201	£933,060	100%	211	£988,429	£4,684	5.93%	2.31%
9414000	Weston Favell Academy	1,262	£9,310,152	100%	1,312	£9,894,035	£7,541	6.27%	2.01%
9413091	Weston Favell CoE Primary School	420	£1,908,213	100%	416	£1,917,760	£4,610	0.50%	1.51%
9412183	Whitehills Primary School	413	£2,001,018	100%	417	£2,060,029	£4,940	2.95%	1.67%
9413080	Whittlebury Church of England Primary School	66	£450,306	100%	68	£459,314	£6,755	2.00%	0.50%
9413086	Woodford Halse Church of England Primary Academy	254	£1,195,477	100%	244	£1,176,059	£4,820	-1.62%	2.19%
9412228	Woodland View Primary School	414	£1,879,501	100%	401	£1,848,610	£4,610	-1.64%	1.41%
9412063	Woodvale Primary Academy	410	£2,223,205	100%	409	£2,285,224	£5,587	2.79%	2.67%
9414020	Wootton Park School	1,147	£6,082,372	100%	1,154	£6,235,535	£5,403	2.52%	1.99%
9412106	Wootton Primary School	371	£1,691,883	100%	374	£1,724,140	£4,610	1.91%	1.25%
9413088	Yardley Gobion Church of England Primary School	97	£544,189	100%	84	£513,748	£6,116	-5.59%	6.03%
9412107	Yardley Hastings Primary School	103	£553,805	100%	103	£564,896	£5,484	2.00%	2.91%
9412108	Yelvertoft Primary School	96	£584,729	100%	94	£583,923	£6,212	-0.14%	2.10%





## West Northants Schools Budget Information and Consultation 2024-25

### 1. Who is this consultation for?

- 1.1. This consultation is for all maintained and academy schools in West Northamptonshire Council (henceforth 'the council'). There is a specific focus on the local funding formula for mainstream schools, so it will be most relevant for primary and secondary mainstream schools.

### 2. Overview

- 2.1. This consultation provides an opportunity for the council to engage with all primary and secondary schools, both maintained and academies about the principles of the local school funding formula for 2024-25.
- 2.2. Based on the provisional National Funding Formula (NFF) allocations for the total Dedicated Schools Grant allocation, West Northamptonshire schools, will gain £6.9m (2.0%) overall in 2024-25 compared to 2023-24. This does not include changes in growth funding or the import/export adjustment as the data on those are not yet available. For the indicative 2024-25 budgets we have used the current 2023-24 values as an estimate. We will update this when more information is available.
- 2.3. The Council's schools funding formula will mirror the DfE's national funding formula as closely as possible. There is a further move towards a fully national formula again for 2024-25 with a national split site methodology and rates.
- 2.4. It may not be possible to mirror the NFF completely if the funding formula costs more than the final funding allocation provided in December 2023. Indicative modelling of the 2024-25 schools budgets shows that a cap of 1.48% on per pupil increases will be required in order to bring the schools budgets into balance with the funding available.
- 2.5. Indicative modelling of individual schools budgets, using the NFF rates for 2024-25, indicates that WNC schools could expect to see an increase on the per pupil budget factors between 0.5% and 1.4% and an overall budget changes between -0.3% and 1.8% compared to their 2023-24 budgets when not including new and growing or split site schools who have protected increases under the new formula.

### 3. 2024-25 Budget Consultation Themes

- 3.1. The council have a number of important themes on which it needs to consult on with schools for setting the 2024-25 budget. Each of these are included as a section within this suggested consultation paper.

### 4. Responding to the consultation

- 4.1. Please only make one submission per school DfE number. If Academy Trusts which to submit a response, they are very welcome and it will be counted as one response.

- 4.2. To respond to this consultation, please visit:

[To be confirmed]

- 4.3. Appendix 1 to this consultation document provides an indicative financial summary by individual school.
- 4.4. Schools should note that all values are illustrative based on the DfE provisional allocation and values are likely to change when the final allocation is confirmed in December 2023.
- 4.5. In addition, the data used in the financial modelling is based on the same data used to create the 2023-24 schools budgets plus an estimate of growth as the schools census data from October 2023 will not be available until December 2023.

#### Deadline

- 4.6. The deadline for this consultation is 30 November 2023 at 11:59pm.

#### Your Responses

- 4.7. The consultation feedback will be shared with Schools Forum at the December 2023 meeting and used to inform the schools funding formula for 2024-25.

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## **5. Indicative Finance Model based on the Proposed Consultation on the Formula Funding.**

- 5.1 The [national funding formula \(NFF\)](#) provides information to schools and LAs on the funding that the Government would provide if there was a single direct national funding formula with no local variation. We are moving closer to a direct national funding formula as per the [2022 consultation](#) and [2023 consultation](#) on

the national split site formula. In 2024-25, as in 2023-24, local authorities will be required to bring their own formulae closer to the schools NFF by 10% for each factor.

- 5.2 WNC aims to follow the NFF as closely as possible. In 2024-25 the NFF minimum funding guarantee (MFG) is 0.5%. This applies to the 'per pupil' parts of the formula funding (the AWPU, deprivation factors, low prior attainment and English as an additional language but not premises related funding) and means that each school's average per pupil value is increased by 0.5% as compared to the prior year 2023-24 funding formula. The range that can be used by LAs in setting the MFG for 2024-25 is 0 to 0.5%.
- 5.3 There is no cap on per pupil increases in the NFF published indicative budgets for 2023-24 but WNC will have to apply a cap. The cap works in a similar way to the MFG in that it is applied to per pupil increases between 2023-24 and 2024-25. This will have to be used for 2024-25 budgets to be able to balance the schools budgets to the schools block funding available.
- 5.4 The financial modelling used to arrive at the indicative budgets is based on the provisional DSG announced within the [NFF on gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/national-funding-formula-2024-25). The NFF does not include the growth fund part of the schools block, so we will use a tool provided by Government to estimate this. Any additional resources available in the final settlement for the schools block DSG will be used to lift the cap as far as possible.
- 5.5 The other protection in the NFF for schools is the minimum per pupil funding level (MppFL). This is an average rate per pupil of all formula funding including the premises factors and for 2023-24 in the NFF these have increased by 4.7%-4.9%:

Table 3: 2024-25 National Funding Formula minimum per pupil funding level

Year	Primary minimum per pupil funding level	Secondary (KS3 only) minimum per pupil funding level	Secondary (KS4 only) minimum per pupil funding level
2023-24	£4,405	£5,503	£6,033
2024-25	£4,610	£5,771	£6,331
increase £	£205	£268	£298
increase %	4.7%	4.9%	4.9%

- 5.6 The provisional schools block allocation of DSG plus estimate of growth funding for WNC is £350,385k. WNC propose to transfer 0.5% of the schools block to the high needs block (which was also in place for 2023-24 local funding formula).

- 5.7 We are often asked why some school's budget percentage increases are less than the 0.5% MFG (minimum funding guarantee increase). This is usually because the school has very small number of pupils. The MFG is a protection applied to the per pupil rate, so the lump sum, rates and split sites (if applicable) are not included. The larger the proportion of budget made up of those non-pupil related characteristics, the less impact the MFG increase has on the overall budget for the school. There is also an impact of the increase in the lump sum for 2024-25 as this is removed from the baseline 2023-24 for the MFG calculation.

## 6 Split Site Funding Policy

### Purpose

- 6.1 To update West Northamptonshire Schools of the new national Split Site Policy within the schools national funding formula for 2024-25.

### Background

- 6.2 The new split sites factor targets extra funding to schools which operate across more than one site.
- 6.3 The split sites factor is made up of two parts:
- i. Basic eligibility funding: Schools attract a lump sum payment for each of their additional eligible sites – up to a maximum of three additional sites.
  - ii. Distance funding: Additional eligible sites that are separated from the school's main site by more than 100 metres attract distance funding on top of the basic eligibility funding – up to a maximum of three additional sites.
- 6.4 Schools attract basic eligibility funding for each of their additional sites (up to a maximum of 3 per school) which:
- a. Are part of the same school - i.e. have the same unique reference number (URN) as the school's main site.
  - b. Are separated from the school's main site by a public road or a railway.
  - c. Have a building on them which is primarily used for the education of 5 to 16-year old pupils in mainstream education.
- This excludes playing fields, ancillary buildings and buildings leased full time by the school.

### Financial Impact

- 6.5 The basic eligibility unit value in the National Funding Formula is £53,700 per additional site, for up to 3 sites. There is a 'tapering' of that rate from the main distance threshold of 500m down to 100m, which means that schools with a distance of less than 500m but more than 100m will receive funding but at a lower rate.
- 6.6 The total funding distributed through the schools funding formula for WNC split sites in 2022-23 was £335k across 5 schools. The new formula has increased this to £1.2m across 7 schools.

### The Split site eligibility

- 6.7 Eligible schools have been identified from a data collection exercise in 2022 as part of the budget setting process for 2023-24. Each school that previously submitted this information to us has been contacted again as part of the 2024-25 budget setting process. If you believe you may qualify for this but have not been contacted, please email [finschool.wnc@westnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:finschool.wnc@westnorthants.gov.uk)

### Legal implications

- 6.8 There are no legal implications arising from the proposals.

### Risks

- 6.9 There is a risk that not funding split sites appropriately leads to a greater financial burden on some schools than others.
- 6.10 Implementing the full national funding formula does increase the funding being distributed to a small number of schools which is quite a significant change. This diverts funding away from all other schools and means the capping needs to be more than they would have been without this change. However, the only local flexibility allowed would be for WNC to diverge from the split site rates by 2.5% and this would not significantly impact the cap imposed.

### Recommendations for Schools

- 6.11 That Schools consider the change to the Split Site Policy for inclusion in the formula at the full NFF rate.



## 7. Growth Fund Policy and Weighted Numbers and Falling Rolls

### Purpose

- 7.1 The report is to update West Northamptonshire Schools Forum of the proposed Growth Fund Policy for 2024-25, the pupil number adjustments (weighted numbers) for new and growing schools and the growth fund budget to be included in the schools budgets for 2024-25.

### Background

- 7.2 It is the Council's responsibility to propose suitable funding for the growth in schools and growth funding is provided within schools block DSG allocations for this purpose. It is Schools Forum's responsibility for setting the Growth Fund budget and policy. See extract below from the '[Schools Forum Powers and Responsibilities](#)' document

Table 6: Powers relating to growth funding for schools

Function	Local Authority	Schools Forum	DfE Role
<b>Central spend on and the criteria for allocating funding from: • funding for significant pre-16 pupil growth, including new schools set up to meet basic need, whether maintained or academy</b>	Proposes	Decides	Adjudicates where schools forum does not agree LA proposal

- 7.3 The growth funding can only be used to:
- Support growth in pre-16 pupil numbers to meet basic need
  - Support additional classes needed to meet the infant class size regulation
  - Meet the costs of new schools
  - weighted numbers added into the funding formula budget or;
  - from the Growth Fund during the year.
- 7.4 Schools receive this funding through one of two routes, either through estimates of pupils numbers added to their formula budget before the start of the year, referred to as 'weighted numbers' or a payment from the growth fund within the year.
- 7.5 Both methods are applied to Maintained and Academy Primary, Secondary and All-through Schools, in the same way. LAs **do require** Schools Forum agreement to add these increases in pupil numbers into the schools formula budget and we will be asking for Forum members to vote on this in December's Forum.

- 7.6 West Northamptonshire Council (WNC) applies weighted numbers in the funding formula to new schools, only where year groups are not already occupied for 2023-24 and propose to keep this policy the same going forward for 2024-25.

#### Proposed Pupil Number Adjustments to Formula Budgets for 2024-25

- Monksmoor, Daventry +30 - year 6
- Marie Weller, Towcester +30 - year 2
- Buckton Fields Primary +60 – year 2
- Northampton School +210 - year 8

#### School Growth Beyond 2024-25

- 7.7 All new schools planned for WNC are free academy schools:

- Overstone Leys Primary Sept 2025
  - Special School - Tiffield Sept 2025
  - Northampton area Secondary – 6FE/900 places total – Sept 2026\*

\* subject to the Secretary of State entering into a funding agreement with the Academy Trust.

#### Proposed Policy Updates

- 7.8 For the first time in 2024 to 2025 local authorities will be required to provide growth funding where a school or academy has agreed with the local authority to provide an extra class to meet basic need in the area (either as a bulge class or as an ongoing commitment). Funding, either through the growth fund, or by adjusting pupil numbers in the formula budgets, will need to be provided regardless of whether the additional class is within or outside of the pupil admission number (PAN). We are therefore updating the WNC policy to include reference to an additional class and remove the reference to PAN.
- 7.9 Schools will be eligible for growth funding when requested by the LA to open a new class, or where a new school is being established by the authority, the full pupil/class increase will be taken into account in determining the funding.
- 7.10 The rate of allocation has a minimum per pupil level set by the ESFA for the first time in the 2024-25 budgets. The current WNC policy minimum funding is above this rate. The allocations, which apply to all maintained schools and academies, will be funded based on the following criteria; The Head of Place Planning and Pupil Admissions will:

- confirm with the school if the lower (15 pupil increase) or higher (30 pupil increase) reimbursements rate will apply and
- confirm if a learning support assistant will be funded (we have removed the separate classroom support rate for 2024-25),
- confirm if a resource allocation for consumables is required,
- Funding will be issued for the period from the intake of pupils to the subsequent issue of the budget where the pupils are then included in the formula funding budget.
- This funding is calculated using Pupil Census data or schools admissions data. Where school admission data is used to calculate the increase in pupil numbers this will subsequently be verified by the following Pupil Census data and adjusted up or down as applicable.
- Additionally, the growth fund budget holder, in conjunction with the portfolio holder for Education, is also able to make payments to cover extraordinary growth events. For example, a school taking a number of asylum seekers where there is not yet funding provided by Government. If funding is later received from Government, this will be used to offset the growth fund payment to ensure there is no duplication of funding.

7.11 The level of funding provided to schools for growth is detailed in the tables below:

Table 7: Growth funding in primary school (LSA if required, 1 per class of 30).

Primary Growth Fund Element	Annual Rates	5/12ths Apr to Aug	7/12ths Sept to Mar
Teacher	46,572	19,405	27,167
LSA (per 1 class of 30)	15,874	6,614	9,260
Consumables	1,065	444	621

Table 8: Growth funding rates in secondary (LSA if required, 1 per class of 30).

Secondary Growth Fund Element	Annual Rates	5/12ths Apr to Aug	7/12ths Sept to Mar
Teacher	55,217	23,007	32,210
LSA	28,090	11,704	16,386
Resource	3,000	1,250	1,750

#### [Growth Fund Budget to be agreed by Schools Forum](#)

7.12 WNC propose to include the following within the schools budget consultation, with the proposed new schools and increases in classes to cope with increasing pupil numbers:

- The forecast expenditure required for 2024-25 is £1.49m

- Expected refund of recoupment for amount paid to academies for period April 2024 to August 2024 is £0.52m
- Budget requirement for commitments for 2024-25 is therefore £0.97m. See table 2 below for the schools due to receive additional classes of pupils in-year for 2024-25.
- Any surplus within the schools block, after the national funding formula has been applied to schools is proposed to be held in the growth fund to fund in year uncommitted growth and if unused, to cover high needs overspends.

Table 9: Committed use of the growth fund in 2024-25

<b>Phase and WNC Schools list</b>	<b>Growth Fund Funded (£)</b>
Secondary Schools Abbeyfield School DSLV Duston School Kingsthorpe College Moulton Secondary NSG Wootton Park Thomas Beckett Weston Favel Requirement for known bulge not yet placed Forecast capacity growth from Sept 2023	970k
Primary Schools Marie Weller Primary Brackley junior Waynflete Primary Monksmoor Overstone Primary Radstone Fields Primary Roade Primary The Grange Hardingstone Academy	523k

### Falling Rolls Fund

- 7.13 In 2024-25 the ESFA have removed the Ofsted requirement relating to LAs who operate a falling rolls fund. This means all schools of any rating could potentially qualify. The lack of equality around Ofsted ratings has often been a barrier to implementing a falling rolls policy.
- 7.14 However, there still remain requirements around the temporary nature of the fall in rolls and for this to be demonstratable from SCAP population data. The Head

of place planning and admissions reviewed the SCAP data and none of the schools we would expect to benefit from a falling rolls fund would be eligible. We have therefore not proposed to create a falling rolls fund for 2024-25.

#### Legal implications

7.15 There are no legal implications arising from the proposals.

#### Recommendations for Schools

7.16 Schools to consider and support the proposed growth fund and respond to the Schools Funding Consultation to give schools forum members your views.

## 8 Central Expenditure

- 8.1 There is a £0.27m decrease in the central schools services block for 2024-25 largely due to the 20% reduction (£0.35m) in the historical element of the Central Schools Services Block (CSSB). We are proposing to fund the historical combined services from CSSB reserves and not reduce the services or transfer additional costs to the general fund for 2024-25.
- 8.2 Table 21 shows the relevant responsibilities in relation to formula change which is taken from the Education and Skills Funding Agency’s Schools Forum Powers and Responsibilities, published in September 2018.

Table 10 responsibilities in relation to formula change

Local Authority	Schools Forum	ESFA
Proposes	Maintained School members decide	Adjudicates where Schools Forum does not agree Local Authority proposal

### Central Expenditure on Education Functions

- 8.3 The CSSB came into existence in April 2018 following the termination of the Education Services Grant (ESG). This funding is insufficient to fund the full cost of the Local Authority’s duties to all schools and results in West Northamptonshire Council (WNC) revenue general fund (and Northamptonshire County Council before this) picking up the remaining expenditure on central services for all schools i.e. results in these services being provided at no cost to schools.
- 8.4 The CSSB is made up of two elements:
  - Ongoing responsibilities funding which is formula driven (nationally distributed 90% via a per pupil rate current multiplied by October 2022 pupil census data but will be revised to October 2023 numbers in the December 2023 announcement).
  - Historical commitments funding allocated at levels carried forward from previous years. The DfE have been reducing the historic commitments funding from 2021-22 by 20% per annum. This reduction has been applied to the provisional 2024-25 CSSB funding and now takes the funding below the historical costs for pensions and PFI. We will therefore apply to the ESFA for protection for 2024-25 budgets.
- 8.5 The provisional total allocation is £3.67m compared to £3.94m in 2023-24 – a reduction of 6.8% (£0.27m).
- 8.6 Table 22 shows WNC’s proposals for the use of the CSSB funding in 2024-25, together with explanations of its use and changes from 2023-24.

Table 11 – WNC Provisional CSSB Expenditure £m

	2023-24	2024-25	Reserves	Change	Change %
<b>Historical Commitments</b>	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>		<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
Combined Services - School Standards & Effectiveness	0.065	0.000	0.065	0.000	0%
Combined Service - Northamptonshire Safeguarding Children Board	0.039	0.000	0.039	0.000	0%
Combined Services - MASH - Staffing	0.057	0.000	0.057	0.000	0%
PFI – Greenfields Special School	0.298	0.355	0.000	0.057	19.3%
Historical Teachers Pension pre-2013	1.288	1.335	0.000	0.047	3.6%
<b>Total Historical Commitments</b>	<b>1.746</b>	<b>1.691</b>	<b>0.160</b>	<b>(0.055)</b>	<b>(3%)</b>
<b>Provisional Historical CSSB</b>		<b>1.397</b>		<b>(0.349)</b>	<b>(20%)</b>
<b>Estimate of historical protection required</b>		<b>0.294</b>			

	2023-24	2024-25	Change £	Change %
<b>Ongoing Responsibilities</b>	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
Schools Forum	0.011	0.011	0.000	3.65%
Admissions	0.509	0.532	0.023	4.50%
National Copyright Licenses	0.400	0.415	0.015	3.65%
Corporate Overheads (e.g. Ex ESG retained LA duties)	0.994	1.038	0.045	4.50%
Estate services	0.000	0.168	0.168	(100%)
Contribution to high needs overspend	0.153	0.000	(0.153)	(100%)
Combined Services - School Standards & Effectiveness	0.012	0.000	(0.012)	(100%)
Teacher's Pay and Pension Grant	0.114	0.108	(0.006)	(5.26%)
<b>Total Ongoing Responsibilities</b>	<b>2.193</b>	<b>2.273</b>	<b>0.080</b>	<b>3.63%</b>
<b>Provisional Ongoing CSSB</b>		<b>2.273</b>		
Variance		<b>0</b>		

-ve reduction in expenditure    +ve increase in expenditure

8.7 The reduction of 20% on the historical block leaves an estimated funding gap of £0.45m against the expenditure requirement which will be met through the CSSB reserves of £0.16m to prevent additional burden on the general fund and 0.29m protection funding. We will request the protection funding from the ESFA to cover the unavoidable historical teachers pensions costs and special school PFI costs.

### Legal implications

- 8.8 There are no legal implications arising from the proposals.

### Risks

- 8.9 The main risks arising should Schools Forum not agree the recommendations are that the few remaining combined services will need to be either halted or funded from the general fund budget.

### Recommendations for Schools

- 8.10 That Schools respond to this consultation to provide Schools Forum members with your opinions on the Central Expenditure proposals for 2024-25, funded from the CSSB as per Table 11



## 9 De-delegations

- 9.1 There are three de-delegations taken from maintained schools budgets at WNC for specific purposes:
- Redundancy costs for Maintained Schools
  - School Improvement Grant (SIG)
  - Trade Union Duties De-delegations
- 9.2 Maintained members of Schools Forum can decide on behalf of all maintained schools to de-delegate funding for the Authority to provide services to all maintained schools.
- 9.3 Funding cannot be de-delegated from academies however they can choose to procure these services from the Authority or an alternative provider.
- 9.4 Table 25 shows the Authority's proposals for de-delegation for maintained primary schools for 2024-25 and shows a comparison with the prior year.

Table 13 – Proposed per pupil De-delegations £

	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25 proposals</b>	<b>Change £</b>	<b>Change %</b>
Redundancy costs for Maintained Schools	£4.00	£4.00	0	0
School Improvement Grant (SIG)	£5.50	£5.50	0	0
Trade Union Duties Option 1	£3.21	£3.21	0	0
Trade Union Duties Option 2	£3.21	£3.53	£0.32	10%

- 9.5 Further details on the individual proposals
- 9.6 above can be found in the appendices to this report.
- [Financial implications](#)
- 9.7 These are set out in the report and in the appendices to the report.
- [Legal implications](#)
- 9.8 There are no legal implications arising from the proposals.

### Risks

- 9.9 The main risks arising should Schools Forum not agree the recommendations are set out in the respective appendices for de-delegations.

### Recommendations for Schools

That Maintained Schools members agree to the proposals for de-delegation as per Table 5 and the associated appendices to this report.

## 10 De-delegation for Trade Union Facility Time

### Background

- 10.1 The structure of trade union facility time in West Northamptonshire Council's (WNC) maintained schools (and academies who are part of the shared arrangements) is as follows:
- Each school may provide some facility time to employee trade union representative(s) from within their workforce for matters specific to that school.
  - Through de-delegation of budget for facility time, schools collectively fund senior employee representatives who operate across all schools within the shared arrangement. These representatives may also participate in centralised Education and Schools engagement and consultation (JCNF, DCF, H&S Forums etc.).
- 10.2 It is Schools forum that decides whether shared facility time arrangements operate across schools and they set funding levels annually. Maintained primary school forum representatives vote on behalf of their phase to transfer funding from delegated budgets to a central budget (held by the local authority) for trade union facility time. This is known as de-delegation.
- 10.3 Funding of facility time is paid for by the school at the same 'per pupil' rate.
- 10.4 The current forecast position on the trade union de-delegation is that it will be within the range of overspent by £6k to a surplus of £19k depending on the income generated by academy buy-in to the scheme. The 2023-24 budget was supported by a carry forward balance of £24k.
- 10.5 Trade Unions are very aware of the financial pressures that schools are experiencing and do not want to increase their rate above inflation. They are therefore proposing a 10% increase on the rate set in 2023-24 (which was a 10% reduced rate in as compared to 2022-23).
- 10.6 The arrangements for 2024-25 needs to be agreed at schools forum in December 2023 and this report sets out further information to assist schools in feeding back their views to schools forum to help them make that decision.

### Trade Union Representatives and Facility Time in Schools

- 10.7 The ACAS Code of Practice 3 uses the term 'union representative' to mean an employee who has been elected or appointed in accordance with the rules of the independent union, to be a representative of all or some of the union's members in the school(s) where the union is recognised for collective bargaining purposes. This is intended to equate with the legal term 'trade union official'.
- 10.8 The recognised trade unions for the school workforce are as follows:

- Teachers: ASCL, NAHT, NASUWT, NEU, Voice
- Local Government Employees: GMB, Unison

10.9 The legislation relating to time off for trade union duties and activities applies to all employers, including those responsible for maintained schools, academies and free schools. There is significant flexibility for all schools to determine their own approaches to facility time to ensure positive workplace relations. Further information can be found in the non-statutory advice produced by the DfE [‘Advice on trade union facility time in schools’](#)

#### Options for West Northamptonshire Schools

10.10 **Option 1:** Continuation of the delegation as per 2023-24 at £3.21

10.11 **Option 2:** Acknowledge the salary inflation for 2023-24 and 2024-25 and increase the per pupil rate by 10% to £3.53.

10.12 The impact of no de-delegation on schools would mean that each individual school would be required to:

- Consult with all recognised TUs on all employment and health and safety matters
- Develop own agreement with TUs and any collective approach
- Make own arrangements for access to TU representatives to represent employees and to manage facility time within the school
- Have a potentially longer timeframe for resolution of employment relation issues  
WNC officers are therefore not offering this as an option to Schools Forum in December.

10.13 The trade unions see the benefits of de-delegation funding as follows:

- Understanding of local context inc Academy TUPE transfers
- Ability to deal with casework (which continues to increase across West Northamptonshire)
- Effective relationships now established with the various HR Service providers that support schools (especially since the cessation of the WNC HR Advisory service)
- Fast, efficient and informal resolution meaning cases are resolved quickly and fairly by other means rather than Employment Tribunal.
- Reduced staff turnover & recruitment costs
- Cost effective TU representation
- Local knowledge to support local members
- Enables consistency of practice
- Least disruptive to education and cost effective means of organising facilities time; ensures no single school faces a disproportionate cost

#### Draft Budget Information

10.14 As noted above the forecast outturn for trade union activities in the current year is likely to be a deficit or small surplus, depending on income from academies.

This creates a different situation as compared to prior years. The forecast financial requirement for 2024-25 is £76.7k.

10.15 If the rate is kept at £3.21 per pupil as for 2023-24, then this would require a surplus from 2023-24 of £9k. If a 10% rate increase is applied to £3.53 then £2k of 2023-24 carry forward would be needed. This is shown in table 14.

10.16 Any surplus at year end will be ring fenced to TU facility time in 2025-26. Table 14: Trade Union Funding and expenditure 2021-22 to 2023-24 option 1 and 2.

	2023-24 rate £2.10	2024-25 Option 1 £3.21	2024-25 Option 2 £3.53
Forecast DSG Expenditure 2023-24	70,623	76,680	76,680
de-delegated 2023-24 budget	-28,798	-46,034	-41,849
carry forward	-23,529	-28,343	-25,767
Academy income	-27,360	-9,065*	-9,065*
Budget	-79,687	-83,442	-76,680
Estimated underspend at end of year	-9,065*	-6,762	0

*\*Academy income is not guaranteed could range between negative £6k and positive £19k.*

### Recommendations for Schools

10.17 To support this report and the officer suggested de-delegation rate for trade union facility time in the Schools Funding Consultation and to be aware that a vote will be required by Maintained School Members in December's forum meeting.

### Financial implications

10.18 Without the Trade Union de-delegation schools and academies will have to employ and fully fund their own facility union rep for the time they need. It is likely to be more expensive purchasing directly than through the de-delegation.

### Legal implications

10.19 The legislation on time off for trade union duties and activities applies to all employers, including those responsible for maintained schools, academies and free schools (Section 2.3). The continuation of de-delegation enables schools to meet these requirements.

## Risks

- 10.20 If facility time is not organised centrally, each trade union can press for the release of a union representative at each individual school. The training requirement for these representatives could be significant, given the new role they would be expected to fulfil (e.g. employee, Health and Safety and Learning representative duties; attend training or learning activities; consultation and negotiation on employment related matters and the schools own HR policies).
- 10.21 There would be a risk of increased disruption in the school, for example, releasing a teacher from the classroom to accompany a member in a formal disciplinary/ grievance/performance/individual consultation meeting.

## 11 De-delegation for School Improvement Grant

### Background

- 11.1 The school standards and effectiveness (SSE) team is funded from the central block of the dedicated schools grant. However, this is supplemented by funding from maintained primary schools (there are no maintained secondary schools) in order to support and challenge primary schools 'of concern' as defined by the DfE's 'schools causing concern' guidance – see [here](#) for the latest iteration, dated September 2022).
- 11.2 The School Effectiveness Team will provide appropriate support and challenge to 'promote high standards' in line with the DfE guidance.
- 11.3 The School Effectiveness Team has worked with all maintained schools and nurseries in the last year in accordance with the school effectiveness strategy and the needs of the school
- 11.4 As a result of measures taken, the positive impact of actions can be clearly seen. Examples of impact seen include:
- Leadership has been strengthened through support offered and clear actions for improvement identified and implemented.
  - Where leadership was a concern and the school was at risk of a requires improvement judgement at best, the LA Associate Headteacher acted as Interim Headteacher for two terms following the departure of the substantive Headteacher and maintained a 'good' judgement at inspection. In addition, the Associate headteacher was deployed in a further school following the resignation of the substantive head and worked to identify improvements requirements and continue to support the substantive head as they start their first term of headship.
  - Where schools were deemed at risk of an Inadequate OFSTED judgement, this has been averted and have achieved a judgement of RI or better.
  - Details of all OFSTED inspection results for maintained schools in Table 1 below

LA Maintained	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	SM/SW	Number of Pupils	% G/O
Nursery	26%	74%	0%	0%	301	100.0%
Primary	9%	84%	7%	0%	13,497	92.9%
Secondary	-	-	-	-	0	-
Special	82%	18%	0%	0%	224	100.0%
	10%	83%	7%	0%	14,022	93.2%

11.5 The SIG is an essential source of funding that enables the school effectiveness team to broker support for maintained schools requiring support. It funds:

- where required, partner headteachers, school leaders and other teaching staff to support school effectiveness work, provide mentoring for new heads and other staff within schools, to conduct school reviews, carry out bespoke support and monitor progress that schools make against agreed objectives.
- Where required, to provide executive head teacher arrangements on a 50:50 basis with the host school if needed for a 6 month (maximum) period (this fund is held back as a contingency if it is not used).
- The costs of an interim executive board chair.
- The cost of governing body review where a school is causing concern and the school is unable to afford it.
- school-to-school support plans approved by the head of school effectiveness.
- school-to-school support for targeted schools where outcomes or progress are low in target areas of phonics, reading, maths, SEND and pupil premium outcomes or there are concerns regarding teaching and learning, curriculum development or finance

11.6 This report describes the:

- purpose of the review;
- de-delegation agreed for the current year;
- use of SIG grant;
- impact of the work undertaken with the grant; and
- priorities.

11.7 Finally, recommendations for 2024-25 are made.

#### SIG funding and impact

11.8 The purpose of this review is to:

- identify what has been delivered through the SIG de-delegated funds;
- review if the de-delegation should continue in 2024-2025 and if so the amount per pupil that should be 'charged'.

11.9 For 2023-24 the primary SIG de-delegation was approved by West schools forum in December 2022. The rate was a de-delegation of £5.50 and a budget of £69k taken from schools individual budgets plus a carry forward of £187k. The forecast carry forward into 2024-25 is £0.

11.10 We propose to continue the rate of £5.50 for 2024-25 which will provide an overall budget of £69k for 2024-25.



11.11 The SIG is being used to target primary maintained schools which were judged by Ofsted to require improvement or special measures, or:

- have a data dip or downward trend in outcomes that would put them at risk of an adverse Ofsted inspection unless bespoke interventions were put in place;
- require improvement in pupil premium outcomes;
- require improvement in reading outcomes.

11.12 The SIG is used to:

- resource school-to-school support plans for those schools requiring intervention;
- support the placement of a partnership head teacher to support improvements in the school placed into special measures;
- fund several reviews of governance and pupil premium;
- pay partnership head teachers for their role in whole school reviews especially in those schools requiring improvement;
- Fund school-to-school support from partnership heads, other schools leaders and teaching staff, including SENDCos as and were required;

11.13 The impact has been:

- schools of concern have been identified earlier and timely and effective support put in place as confirmed through Ofsted feedback.
- Outcomes are in line with national averages at KS2 for maintained schools in all measures.
- Ofsted inspections have all been favourable in the schools supported by the DSG; where a maintained school did drop from good to Requiring improvement, concerns had been identified and support put in place and school improvement was already underway.
- 

11.14 Future priorities are:

- to continue improve progress and attainment in combined measure at KS2
- improve phonics data in maintained schools to ensure that it is in line with national average
- maintain Ofsted outcomes for all maintained schools and Nurseries
- reduce the achievement gap for disadvantaged pupils and those with send; and

11.15 It is currently estimated the SIG resources will be fully utilised in 2023-2024 and in 2024-25. In the unlikely event that the SIG is not fully utilised at the end of March 2025, the underspend would be rolled forward to be used in future years for SIG.

### Recommendations

- 11.16 Schools are asked to agree the proposal to continue the rate of £5.50 per pupil for the school improvement grant and feed that back to Schools Forum members through the response to this consultation.

### Financial implications

- 11.17 Should the consultation take place, and schools forum agree at its December meeting the de-delegation of £5.50 (or a close amended amount resulting from changes in the latest school census information), primary maintained schools will have £5.50 deducted from the schools individual budget as set through the funding formula.

### Legal implications

- 11.18 Under schools forum regulations, the responsible local authority has the power to de-delegate funding from maintained schools, following agreement of its schools forum, or any direction by the secretary of state for education.

### Risks

- 11.19 The risk, if schools forum does not agree the de-delegation, is that the authority will not have the resources required to support and challenge schools of concern. This is likely to result, at best, in standards failing to improve or, at worst, poorer pupil progress and achievement.

## 12 De-delegation for redundancy support

### Background

- 12.1 The redundancy costs for maintained schools de-delegation enables maintained schools to collectively manage redundancy situations that are unaffordable for individual schools. It provides a means for maintained primary schools to access financial support when restructuring for the purpose of bringing their budget into balance.
- 12.2 This gives some protection to schools that need to adjust their staffing structures in order to manage their financial circumstances, potentially preventing them from incurring deficits and compounding their financial circumstances.

### Accessing the Fund

- 12.3 Maintained Schools can submit a redundancy business case and a three-year budget plan for before and after planned redundancies (in an agreed format available on asking) to West Northamptonshire Council (WNC) HR and WNC Finance. If specific conditions are met, financial support is authorised by both the Director of Children's Services and the Section 151 Officer (or their deputies).
- 12.4 The standard level of support provided is 25% of the cost of redundancy or greater if the resulting cost leaves the school in a deficit budget in the year purely as a result of the redundancy costs.
- 12.5 Detailed Criteria for Accessing the fund:
- Must be a maintained primary school
  - Restructure needed to bring school budget into balance within next year or across the three-year business plan
  - Reserves not held that could cover cost of redundancies
  - The revised structure must balance the budget (or significant work must be in progress towards that end e.g. amalgamation)
  - Three-year business plan before and after restructure must be provided in business case (in full excel format)
  - Estimate of cost must be provided in business case, including pension strain.

### Financial Position and Budget Requirement for 2023-24

- 12.6 In 2023-24 budget setting the rate set was £4.00 per pupil and this combined with the carry forward gave a budget of £220k. There have been two calls on this resource in 2023-24 with another 2 committed and we forecast a spend of £120k in 2023-24. There are a number of schools submitting 3 year plans to us with deficit budgets forecast for 2024-25 and schools with planned restructures who may fulfil the criteria for funding support. With this uncertainty but expected

demand for the support, we propose to continue the current rate for 2024-25 at £4 per pupil.

Table 16: 2022-23 Forecast Outturn Position on Redundancy De-delegation Budget

	<b>2023-24 £k</b>	<b>2024-25 estimate £k</b>
Budget	-52	-52
Carry forward	-168	-100
Spend estimate	120.0	100.0
<b>Forecast outturn position ( -ve = underspend )</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>-52</b>

- 12.7 The contributions and therefore the budgets can reduce during the year if maintained schools convert to academy in year.
- 12.8 As this funding is de-delegated from individual maintained school budgets any underspend at the end of 2023-24 would be ring-fenced and carried forward to use in future years as necessary.

#### [Recommendations for Schools](#)

- 12.9 To support this report and the officer suggested de-delegation rate for redundancy funding for inclusion and to feed this back to the Schools Forum members through the response to this consultation. Maintained School Forum Members will then take a vote on this in December's forum meeting.

#### [Legal implications](#)

- 12.10 The legislation governing the Schools Forum Powers and Responsibilities is available through the link below. This outlines that de-delegations require a vote by maintained schools forum members.

[Stat guidance template \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

- 12.11 For further information on the legislature for de-delegations please see [The School and Early Years Finance \(England\) Regulations 2020 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://legislation.gov.uk) under regulations 11(5) and 11(6).

#### [Risks](#)

- 12.12 The main risk is that the budget is not sufficient to support all schools that are restructuring due to financial difficulties. This could be mitigated by agreeing to carry forward any overspends to the following year to fund from the budget set for 2024-25.

### 13. Notional SEND Budgets

- 13.1 For 2024-25 budgets the ESFA require all LAs to review and their notional SEND policy, to follow certain principles and to consult on any changes with schools and schools forum.
- 13.2 Notional SEND budgets represent the amount of funding within the National Funding Formula that the ESFA expects schools will require to fund the additional support for pupils with SEND.
- 13.3 Government guidance/instruction on it is here: [The notional SEN budget for mainstream schools: operational guide 2024 to 2025 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/the-notional-sen-budget-for-mainstream-schools-operational-guide-2024-to-2025)
- 13.4 There is no specific requirement of what percentages LAs should apply to specific characteristics of the formula to create the SEND budget but there are guidelines and two examples.
- 13.5 Current 2023-24 notional SEND budget is formulated by 9.1% or AWPU and 12.7% of all deprivation characteristics , but no other formula components.
- 13.6 The ESFA guidance suggests that:
- a small part of the basic entitlement funding (this is the AWPU) [currently have 9.1% = notional SEND, which gives £22.4m of the notional budget]
  - a larger part of deprivation funding, reflecting the higher prevalence of lower-level SEN amongst disadvantaged pupils [WNC currently have 12.7% = notional SEND, which gives £2.7m of the notional budget]
  - the majority or whole of the low prior attainment factor funding, as this is the best proxy we currently have for pupils with low-cost, high-incidence SEN [WNC currently don't use for notional SEND]
- 13.7 The guidance also suggests: Other elements of the funding formula may also be used – for example to reflect the prevalence of SEN amongst particular groups of pupils such as those who frequently move between schools, as captured by the mobility factor. A proportion of the lump sum could reflect any fixed costs of making SEN provision that would apply to all local schools or diseconomies of scale relevant to small schools.
- 13.8 For 2024-25 we are currently considering 3 options and present the impact of these on school notional SEND budgets in appendix B.

13.9 The options are:

<b>Option 1</b>	<b>As per 2023-24 but with LPA at 80% (as per second Government example) and with none applied to FSM (as per Government examples), AWPU set to a percentage which balances total overall notional SEND budget, which brings to 2.3% which also aligns with second Government example.</b>
<b>Option 2</b>	<b>As per Government first example in guidance</b>
<b>Option 3</b>	<b>As per Government second example in guidance</b>

## **14. Next Steps**

- 14.1 This information and consultation document is first taken to Schools Forum for member input into the information and questions on the 18<sup>th</sup> October. It will then be updated and published on the 1<sup>st</sup> November.
- 14.2 The consultation will close on the 30<sup>th</sup> November and responses will be collated for Schools Forum in December.
- 14.3 School Forum members will be asked to vote in December 2023 on all aspects but have the authorising vote on specific items such as the central budget, growth fund and de-delegation.
- 14.4 In December the ESFA will publish the DSG settlement and small adjustments to the budgets will be made accordingly and the budgets submitted to the ESFA in mid-January. If there are any significant differences between the settlement and the provisional budgets, that impact the budgets being set, an extraordinary meeting of the schools forum may need to be scheduled for early January.
- 14.5 On receipt of the budget information, the ESFA check and review the budgets before authorising them in early February.

## 15. CONSULTATION QUESTIONNAIRE

- 15.1 We appreciate that a lot of the funding formula is now nationally driven and that there is less local choice each year. However we are still interested in your views and can let your views be known to the ESFA.
- 15.2 We are happy to accept consultation responses that do not answer each question from every section. If you only have one or two comments, then we would still like to hear from you.

### [Section 5: National Funding Formula Budget](#)

Q5i) Split Site Policy: Do you agree with changing to the full national funding formula split site policy?

- a) Yes
- b) No
- c) Other – please provide details
- d) Comments - please use this space for any comments you would like to make.

### [Section 6: Split site policy](#)

Q6i) Split Site Policy: Do you agree with changing to the full national funding formula split site policy?

- e) Yes
- f) No
- g) Other – please provide details
- h) Comments - please use this space for any comments you would like to make.

Q6ii) Split Site Rates: Do you agree with using the full rates for the split site factor as provided in the national funding formula?

- a) Yes
- b) No
- c) Other – please provide details
- d) Comments - please use this space for any comments you would like to make.

### [Section 7: Growth fund policy and weighted numbers](#)

Q7i) Growth Fund Policy: Do you agree the changes to the growth fund policy bringing it in line with the national requirements, reducing reference to pupil admission number and referring to additional classes rather than an increase of 15 pupils?

- a) Yes



- b) No
- c) Other – please provide details
- d) Comments - please use this space for any comments you would like to make.

Q7ii) Growth Funding Rates: Do you agree with the update to the growth fund rates of 6.5%?

- a) Yes
- b) No
- c) Other – please provide details
- d) Comments - please use this space for any comments you would like to make.
- e)

Q7iii) Growth Fund Budget: Do you agree with the growth fund budget level for 2024-25?

- a) Yes
- b) No
- c) Other – please provide details
- d) Comments - please use this space for any comments you would like to make.

Q7iv) Growth Fund Budget: Do you agree with the growth fund budget allocation for 2024-25?

- a) Yes
- b) No
- c) Other – please provide details
- d) Comments - please use this space for any comments you would like to make.

#### [Section 8: Central expenditure from the central schools services block](#)

Q8) Central: Are you in favour of the continuation of the central services that are partly funded by the dedicated services grant?

- a) Yes
- b) No
- c) Other – please provide details
- d) Comments - please use this space for any comments you would like to make.

#### [Section 10: Trade Union Facility Time de-delegation](#)

Q9) De-delegation for Trade Union Facility Time: Which option do you support:

- a) Option 1 £3.21 per pupil
- b) Option 2 £3.53 per pupil
- c) Other – please provide details
- d) Comments – please use this space for any comment you would like to make

### Section 11: School Improvement Grant de-delegation

Q10) De-delegation for School Improvement Grant: Do you support the proposed continuation of this de-delegation and the rate of £5.50 proposed?

- a) Yes
- b) No
- c) Other – please provide details
- d) Comments - please use this space for any comments you would like to make.

### Section 12: Redundancy de-delegation

Q112 De-delegation for redundancy support: Do you support the proposed continuation of this de-delegation and the £4.00 rate proposed?

- a) Yes
- b) No
- c) Other – please provide details
- d) Comments - please use this space for any comments you would like to make.

### Section 13: Notional SEND consultation

Q13)i Notional SEND: Of the three options modelled, which would be your preferred option?

- a) Option 1
- b) Option 2
- c) Option 3
- d) No preferred option

Q13)ii Notional SEND: Do you agree with the notional SEND budget being changed?

- a) Yes
- b) No
- c) Other – please provide details
- d) Comments - please use this space for any comments you would like to make.

LEA/STAB	School Name	(from Adjusted Payers column 0)	2023-24	Additional grant 2023-24	Total 2023-24	2024-25 modelled (1.4% cap)	Increase £	Increase %	new and growing or split site
9411235	Anglo Saxon Hill Infant School	173	892,249	28,008	920,257	928,120	7,863	0.8%	
9411231	Old Stratford Primary School	184	855,074	28,008	883,130	880,920	-2,210	-0.3%	
9411038	Faringthorpe Primary School	43	333,142	9,763	342,905	343,439	534	0.2%	
9411036	Rilstone Church of England Primary School	203	562,428	17,477	579,905	581,364	1,459	0.3%	
9411003	Adcock CofE Primary School	27	256,192	9,313	265,505	266,904	1,398	0.5%	
9411050	Patersay Church of England Primary School	74	473,336	14,403	487,739	489,848	2,110	0.4%	
9411040	Tiffind Church of England Aided Primary School	44	241,523	8,987	250,510	251,544	1,034	0.4%	
9411008	Badbrooke Community Primary School	252	1,147,054	38,263	1,185,317	1,195,560	10,243	0.9%	
9411006	Bratton Primary School	46	349,082	10,121	359,203	361,835	2,631	0.8%	
9411044	St Ives Church of England Primary Academy, Meldon Inn	44	346,697	10,121	356,818	357,214	396	0.1%	
9411007	Boddington Church of England Voluntary School	48	357,137	10,673	377,810	380,657	2,847	0.8%	
9411023	Loxwade Village Primary School	49	382,327	11,310	393,637	396,626	3,089	0.8%	
9411028	Port Church of England Primary School	81	496,091	16,095	512,186	516,596	4,410	0.9%	
9411046	Heronstone Primary School	52	347,913	13,096	361,009	362,865	1,856	0.5%	
9411046	Naseby Church of England Primary Academy	63	420,100	12,672	432,772	436,400	3,628	0.9%	
9411042	Greenwith Primary School	58	409,998	11,554	421,552	426,206	4,654	0.9%	
9411036	Stoke Beauchamp Church of England Primary School	65	437,020	12,994	450,014	453,275	3,261	0.8%	
9411029	Gayton Church of England Primary School	63	431,807	12,777	444,584	448,465	3,881	0.9%	
9411073	Newbarn Primary School	71	444,630	13,430	458,060	461,785	3,725	0.9%	
9411080	Whitby Church of England Primary School	68	436,227	12,838	449,065	452,899	3,834	0.9%	
9411069	Madwell Primary School	67	427,387	12,838	440,225	444,077	4,052	0.9%	
9411038	Yarby Gildon Church of England Primary School	84	471,439	15,957	487,396	491,167	4,131	0.9%	
9411036	East Haddon Church of England Primary School	81	477,498	14,928	492,426	496,760	4,334	0.9%	
9411075	Prenton Primary School	81	402,380	15,238	417,618	419,180	1,562	0.4%	
9411203	Rothborough Church of England Primary School	84	461,399	15,284	476,683	481,298	4,615	1.0%	
9411212	Welford School and Sixth Form Centre	78	491,369	14,611	505,980	511,223	5,243	1.0%	
9411013	Chipping Warden Primary Academy	82	468,584	15,454	484,038	489,149	5,111	1.0%	
9411011	Byfield School	82	506,039	16,193	522,232	526,366	5,134	1.0%	
9411036	Scorton Church of England Primary School	80	504,600	16,394	520,994	526,099	5,105	1.0%	
9411400	St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Aston-le-Walls	72	402,758	16,000	418,758	421,035	2,277	0.5%	
9411045	Milton Parochial Primary School	68	388,687	13,065	401,752	403,910	2,158	0.5%	
9411077	Yarby Haddon Primary School	83	379,897	12,739	392,636	396,762	4,126	1.1%	
9411229	Collingtree Church of England Primary School	87	494,160	16,477	510,637	515,868	5,231	1.1%	split site
9411026	Detton Primary School	101	537,533	17,522	555,055	561,035	5,980	1.1%	
9411036	St Andrew's Church of England Voluntary Primary School	98	538,243	16,763	555,006	561,023	5,917	1.1%	
9411062	Sydsam St James CofE Primary School and Nursery	79	478,004	14,583	492,587	498,423	5,836	1.2%	
9411236	Little Houghton Church of England Primary	89	508,956	15,985	524,941	531,008	6,067	1.2%	
9411038	Godshope Church of England Primary School	108	555,201	18,687	573,888	580,100	6,212	1.1%	
9411019	Croxtedge All Saints CofE Primary School	108	583,153	17,836	600,989	606,823	5,834	1.0%	
9411012	The Brampton Primary School	96	528,693	16,821	545,514	551,924	6,412	1.2%	
9411012	Leith Church of England Primary School	85	523,420	15,425	538,845	545,420	6,575	1.2%	
9411331	Newbottle and Charlton Church of England Primary School	111	584,050	18,612	602,662	609,663	7,001	1.2%	
9411004	Barby Church of England Primary School	99	494,633	17,179	511,812	517,658	5,847	1.2%	
9411030	Southfields Primary School	113	576,096	19,715	595,811	602,194	6,383	1.1%	
9411001	The Rock Aided Church of England Primary School	103	6,338,823	223,842	6,562,665	6,630,029	67,364	1.0%	
9411515	Towcester Church of England Primary School	365	1,631,887	53,845	1,685,732	1,687,221	1,489	0.1%	
9411007	Chalombi CEVA Primary Academy	90	486,537	16,313	502,850	509,225	6,375	1.3%	
9411030	The Ross Church of England Primary School	163	814,047	28,893	842,940	852,896	9,956	1.2%	
9411161	Falconer's Hill Academy	235	1,152,616	40,929	1,193,545	1,206,486	12,941	1.1%	
9411020	Clypton Endowed Voluntary Controlled Primary School	102	538,842	17,224	556,066	563,375	7,309	1.4%	
9411031	Heddon CofE Primary School	107	497,484	20,207	617,691	626,684	8,993	1.5%	
9411065	Kings Sutton Primary Academy	133	678,787	23,235	702,022	711,836	9,814	1.4%	
9411025	Deanshanger Primary School	329	1,490,539	47,552	1,538,091	1,553,570	15,479	1.1%	
9411076	Wilton Church of England Primary School	130	617,987	22,313	640,300	646,924	6,624	1.0%	
9411040	Kislingbury Primary Academy	123	604,916	20,045	624,961	632,735	7,774	1.3%	
9411108	Yerford Primary School	94	548,743	17,521	566,264	573,976	7,712	1.4%	
9411038	Wilton Church of England Primary School	110	616,149	18,384	634,533	642,323	7,790	1.2%	
9411117	Waufrate Infant School	142	663,998	23,043	687,041	695,535	8,494	1.3%	
9411235	Blackburn Primary School	206	1,286,298	37,466	1,323,764	1,339,884	16,120	1.3%	
9411138	St James Infant School	117	799,463	26,795	826,258	834,378	8,120	1.0%	
9411002	Greens Norton Church of England Primary School	174	784,620	26,769	811,389	821,855	10,467	1.3%	
9411002	Blisworth Community Primary School	169	787,934	26,789	814,723	820,341	5,618	0.7%	
9411136	Yarby CofE Primary School	168	811,610	27,786	839,396	847,923	8,527	1.0%	
9411005	Harwell Primary School	183	823,333	27,308	850,641	861,530	10,889	1.3%	
9411004	Harold Primary School	188	857,034	28,335	885,369	897,223	11,854	1.4%	
9411015	Cogenhoe Primary School	189	897,217	29,640	926,857	938,800	11,943	1.3%	
9411020	Walesby Primary School	142	676,440	21,356	697,796	711,992	14,196	2.0%	
9411039	Kibby Church of England Primary School	142	667,668	21,396	689,064	698,956	9,892	1.4%	
9411068	Low Buckley Infant School	130	632,799	21,715	654,514	663,569	9,055	1.4%	
9411350	St Mary's Catholic Primary School	186	959,811	31,218	991,029	1,004,127	13,098	1.3%	
9411011	Brantworth Church of England Primary School	193	876,822	30,697	907,519	919,638	12,099	1.4%	
9411026	Southcote Village Primary School	204	1,006,556	30,656	1,037,212	1,044,727	7,515	0.7%	
9411049	Petriball Church of England Primary School	140	699,659	23,860	723,519	731,176	7,657	1.1%	
9411027	Rectory Farm Primary School	191	1,105,118	34,155	1,139,273	1,154,362	15,079	1.4%	
9411067	Long Buckley Junior School	197	906,381	31,779	938,160	952,887	14,728	1.6%	
9411152	Hartington Academy	203	937,073	32,171	969,244	982,896	13,652	1.4%	
9411008	Brackley Church of England Junior	188	915,684	30,668	946,352	959,330	12,978	1.4%	
9411137	The Grange School, Deventry	410	1,935,197	64,775	2,000,972	2,026,129	26,158	1.4%	
9411041	Elmsett Wood Primary School	100	6,278,838	215,617	6,494,455	6,572,664	78,209	1.2%	split site
9411238	Lumberthorpe Primary School	202	1,178,844	35,826	1,214,670	1,231,115	16,444	1.4%	
9411025	Queen Eleanor Primary Academy	202	1,139,958	35,783	1,175,741	1,191,619	15,878	1.4%	
9411355	The Good Shepherd Church of England Primary School	264	1,293,143	42,732	1,335,875	1,352,423	16,548	1.2%	
9411354	St Gregory's Catholic Primary School	243	1,231,349	39,901	1,271,250	1,288,487	17,237	1.4%	
9411052	The Abhors Primary Academy	278	1,553,218	43,554	1,596,772	1,618,293	21,521	1.4%	
9411148	Green Oaks Primary School	199	1,146,701	33,187	1,179,888	1,194,772	14,884	1.3%	
9411158	Cedar Road Primary School	408	1,916,041	58,019	1,974,060	2,012,350	37,290	1.9%	
9411076	John Hellins Primary School	207	922,913	30,908	953,821	967,359	13,538	1.5%	
9411086	Woodford Hall Church of England Primary Academy	244	1,133,240	38,416	1,171,656	1,189,829	18,173	1.6%	
9411001	All Saints CofE VA Primary School	386	1,713,009	57,078	1,770,087	1,793,330	23,243	1.4%	
9411039	Brar Hill Primary School & Nursery	270	1,520,697	48,968	1,569,665	1,591,419	21,754	1.4%	
9411176	Brar Hill Primary School	201	1,028,111	30,713	1,058,824	1,074,511	15,687	1.5%	
9411153	Mira Health Primary Academy	284	1,633,428	48,852	1,682,280	1,703,725	21,445	1.3%	
9411190	Lings Primary School	371	2,018,863	61,652	2,080,515	2,110,278	29,763	1.4%	
9411124	Milway Primary School	391	1,888,809	56,211	1,945,020	1,968,517	23,497	1.2%	
9411024	Crick Primary School	191	871,567	28,580	900,147	913,526	13,379	1.5%	
9411022	DSV EACT Academy	937	5,479,349	193,348	5,672,697	5,749,274	76,577	1.4%	
9411127	Alington Vale Primary School	410	2,017,969	57,093	2,075,062	2,106,366	31,304	1.5%	split site
9411169	The Abbey Primary School	313	1,209,795	39,664	1,249,459	1,265,831	16,372	1.3%	
9411192	Standen Barn Primary School	372	1,866,546	56,742	1,923,288	1,950,001	27,213	1.5%	
9411104	Woodton Primary School	378	1,656,277	53,872	1,710,149	1,731,964	21,815	1.4%	
9411064	Northwell Primary Academy	307	1,309,310	44,535	1,353,845	1,380,512	26,667	1.9%	
9411166	Witley Primary School	395	1,941,178	60,761	2,001,939	2,030,455	28,516	1.4%	
9411014	Delage Primary School	629	2,959,097	90,093	3,049,190	3,092,911	43,721	1.5%	
9411225	Abby Fields Primary School	368	1,680,417	53,886	1,734,303	1,758,316	24,013	1.4%	
9411220	Simon de Senlis Primary School	432	2,046,790	60,379	2,107,169	2,150,771	43,602	2.1%	
9411181	Whitwell Primary School	417	1,962,599	57,862	2,020,461	2,060,913	40,452	2.1%	
9411099	Emm Brook Primary School	500	2,054,216	71,613	2,125,829	2,165,590	39,761	1.9%	split site
9411070	Middleton Cheney Primary Academy	381	1,509,943	46,802	1,556,745	1,577,785	21,039	1.4%	
9411073	Southwell Primary School	186	821,670	27,044	848,714	860,150	11,436	1.4%	
9411219	Spring Lane Primary School	414	2,274,388	69,865	2,344,253	2,379,220	34,967	1.5%	
9411208	Kingshore Grove Primary School	434	2,096,812	68,235	2,165,047	2,196,871	31,824	1.5%	
9411000	Badby School	155	716,434	23,865	740,299	751,904	11,605	1.6%	
9411167	St Andrew's Church of England Primary School	245	1,065,761	36,801	1,102,562	1,120,829	18,267	1.7%	
9411348	St James Church of England								

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school ref	School name	Phase	NOR (Oct 2022)	Total Formula Budget 2023-24	Current notional SEND £	Current notional SEND % of budget	Option 1 Notional SEND £	Option 1 Diff to current £	Option 1 notional SEND % of budget	option 2 Notional SEND £	option 2 Diff to current £	Option 2 notional SEND % of budget	option 3 Notional SEND £	option 3 Diff to current £	Option 3 notional SEND % of budget
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>60,471</b>	<b>329,481,468</b>	<b>25,071,154</b>	<b>7.6%</b>									
9413002	Ashton CofE Primary School	Primary	27.0	256,192	10,703	4.2%	8,757	-1,945	3.4%	17,996	7,293	7.0%	14,084	3,382	5.5%
9412038	Farthinghoe Primary School	Primary	43.0	333,142	13,511	4.1%	9,370	-4,141	2.8%	15,477	1,966	5.6%	12,169	-1,342	3.7%
9413344	St Lays Church of England Primary Academy, Weedon	Primary	44.0	346,497	14,993	4.3%	11,578	-3,416	3.3%	20,680	5,686	6.0%	16,264	1,271	4.7%
9413340	Tiffield Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School	Primary	44.0	347,527	13,936	4.0%	13,958	22	4.0%	21,554	7,618	6.2%	17,405	3,468	5.0%
9412006	Brington Primary School	Primary	46.0	349,082	14,476	4.1%	12,880	-1,596	3.7%	19,384	4,907	5.6%	15,667	1,190	4.5%
9413007	Boddington Church of England Voluntary School	Primary	48.0	367,137	15,478	4.2%	17,484	2,007	4.8%	24,899	9,421	6.8%	20,582	5,105	5.6%
9412023	Cosgrove Village Primary School	Primary	49.0	382,327	16,330	4.3%	20,699	4,368	5.4%	30,573	14,242	8.0%	25,204	8,874	6.6%
9412046	Harlestone Primary School	Primary	52.0	347,911	16,683	4.8%	16,899	215	4.9%	24,401	7,717	7.0%	20,019	3,335	5.8%
9412042	Greatworth Primary School	Primary	58.0	409,998	18,123	4.4%	25,720	7,597	6.3%	33,977	15,853	8.3%	28,622	10,498	7.0%
9412075	Pitsford Primary School	Primary	61.0	402,380	19,995	5.0%	23,527	3,532	5.8%	32,463	12,469	8.1%	27,079	7,084	6.7%
9413046	Naseby Church of England Primary Academy	Primary	63.0	420,100	20,525	4.9%	16,319	-4,206	3.9%	24,520	3,995	5.8%	19,816	-708	4.7%
9413029	Gayton Church of England Primary School	Primary	63.0	432,807	20,720	4.8%	24,698	3,978	5.7%	34,263	13,543	7.9%	28,560	7,840	6.6%
9413060	Stoke Bruerne Church of England Primary School	Primary	65.0	417,002	20,444	4.9%	18,746	-1,697	4.5%	26,778	6,335	6.4%	21,864	1,421	5.2%
9412069	Maidwell Primary School	Primary	67.0	427,387	21,106	4.9%	18,950	-2,156	4.4%	26,783	5,677	6.3%	21,896	790	5.1%
9413045	Milton Parochial Primary School	Primary	68.0	386,687	21,734	5.6%	25,085	3,351	6.5%	33,829	12,095	8.7%	28,256	6,523	7.3%
9413080	Whittlebury Church of England Primary School	Primary	68.0	436,237	21,223	4.9%	17,094	-4,129	3.9%	24,493	3,270	5.6%	19,860	-1,363	4.6%
9412073	Newnham Primary School	Primary	71.0	444,610	22,881	5.1%	14,335	-8,546	3.2%	22,768	-113	5.1%	17,940	-4,941	4.0%
9413400	St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Aston-le-Walls	Primary	72.0	402,758	24,030	6.0%	13,398	-10,632	3.3%	23,667	-363	5.9%	18,327	-5,703	4.6%
9413050	Paulerspury Church of England Primary School	Primary	74.0	473,336	24,379	5.2%	20,909	-3,470	4.4%	31,847	7,468	6.7%	25,751	1,371	5.4%
9415212	Welford Sibbertoft and Sulby Endowed School	Primary	76.0	491,369	25,362	5.2%	38,195	12,833	7.8%	49,782	24,420	10.1%	42,375	17,013	8.6%
9413062	Syresham St James CofE Primary School and Nursery	Primary	79.0	478,004	25,386	5.3%	17,959	-7,427	3.8%	26,485	1,099	5.5%	21,319	-4,066	4.5%
9412248	Marie Weller Primary School	Primary	79.5	437,465	25,409	5.8%	28,391	2,981	6.5%	37,811	12,401	8.6%	31,632	6,223	7.2%
9413058	Spratton Church of England Primary School	Primary	80.0	504,600	25,831	5.1%	43,311	17,479	8.6%	54,843	29,012	10.9%	46,982	21,151	9.3%
9413026	East Haddon Church of England Primary School	Primary	81.0	477,488	25,589	5.4%	22,321	-3,268	4.7%	31,110	5,521	6.5%	25,484	-105	5.3%
9413028	Flore Church of England Primary School	Primary	81.0	496,053	28,823	5.8%	37,164	8,341	7.5%	53,380	24,557	10.8%	44,515	15,692	9.0%
9412011	Byfield School	Primary	82.0	504,039	28,005	5.6%	32,638	4,633	6.5%	44,909	16,904	8.9%	37,636	9,631	7.5%
9412013	Chipping Warden Primary Academy	Primary	82.0	469,584	26,919	5.7%	28,216	1,297	6.0%	38,571	11,652	8.2%	32,121	5,202	6.8%
9413203	Rothersthorpe Church of England Primary School	Primary	84.0	461,399	27,425	5.9%	19,772	-7,653	4.3%	29,596	2,171	6.4%	23,812	-3,612	5.2%
9413088	Yardley Gobion Church of England Primary School	Primary	84.0	471,439	27,507	5.8%	21,587	-5,920	4.6%	31,830	4,323	6.8%	25,811	-1,697	5.5%
9413312	Culworth Church of England Primary Academy	Primary	85.0	501,868	27,094	5.4%	39,435	12,342	7.9%	50,060	22,966	10.0%	42,657	15,564	8.5%
9412229	Collingtree Church of England Primary School	Primary	87.0	494,160	29,445	6.0%	33,212	3,767	6.7%	46,870	17,424	9.5%	38,923	9,477	7.9%
9413326	Little Houghton Church of England Primary	Primary	89.0	508,956	29,529	5.8%	21,559	-7,970	4.2%	32,561	3,032	6.4%	26,202	-3,328	5.1%
9413307	Chacombe CEVA Primary Academy	Primary	90.0	486,537	29,606	6.1%	23,872	-5,734	4.9%	35,366	5,760	7.3%	28,692	-914	5.9%
9412108	Yelvertoft Primary School	Primary	94.0	548,743	32,032	5.8%	34,746	2,714	6.3%	47,754	15,722	8.7%	39,925	7,893	7.3%
9412012	The Bramptons Primary School	Primary	96.0	528,691	31,139	5.9%	27,290	-3,849	5.2%	38,000	6,861	7.2%	31,251	112	5.9%
9413004	Barby Church of England Primary School	Primary	99.0	494,633	32,029	6.5%	27,926	-4,103	5.6%	38,561	6,532	7.8%	31,749	-280	6.4%
9413336	Staverton Church of England Voluntary Primary School	Primary	99.0	539,245	32,102	6.0%	32,698	596	6.1%	44,209	12,108	8.2%	36,758	4,656	6.8%
9412026	Denton Primary School	Primary	101.0	537,533	32,741	6.1%	28,629	-4,113	5.3%	39,443	6,701	7.3%	32,508	-234	6.0%
9413006	Blakesley Church of England Primary School	Primary	102.0	552,428	32,905	6.0%	30,099	-2,805	5.4%	40,908	8,003	7.4%	33,861	957	6.1%
9413202	Clipston Endowed Voluntary Controlled Primary School	Primary	102.0	538,842	32,391	6.0%	24,722	-7,669	4.6%	34,316	1,925	6.4%	27,978	-4,413	5.2%
9412107	Yardley Hastings Primary School	Primary	103.0	527,897	32,592	6.2%	22,786	-9,806	4.3%	32,112	-480	6.1%	25,963	-6,629	4.9%
9413318	Guilsborough Church of England Primary School	Primary	108.0	555,201	35,484	6.4%	23,353	-12,132	4.2%	34,847	-637	6.3%	27,999	-7,486	5.0%
9413019	Croughton All Saints CofE Primary School	Primary	108.0	582,151	34,160	5.9%	51,951	17,792	8.9%	64,689	30,529	11.1%	55,382	21,222	9.5%
9412047	Helmdon Primary School	Primary	110.0	552,149	34,992	6.3%	25,462	-9,530	4.6%	35,433	442	6.4%	28,812	-6,180	5.2%
9413331	Newbottle and Charlton Church of England Primary School	Primary	111.0	584,050	35,604	6.1%	36,084	481	6.2%	47,509	11,905	8.1%	39,707	4,103	6.8%
9412150	Southfield Primary School	Primary	115.0	578,696	37,749	6.5%	38,351	602	6.6%	51,903	14,154	9.0%	43,233	5,484	7.5%
9413040	Kislingbury Primary School	Primary	123.0	604,916	39,770	6.6%	45,549	5,779	7.5%	59,108	19,338	9.8%	49,792	10,022	8.2%
9413076	Welton Church of England Academy	Primary	130.0	627,397	44,000	7.0%	39,282	-4,718	6.3%	55,467	11,467	8.8%	45,736	1,736	7.3%
9412068	Long Buckby Infant School	Primary	130.0	632,795	42,735	6.8%	42,277	-458	6.7%	56,293	13,558	8.9%	47,033	4,299	7.4%
9412065	Kings Sutton Primary Academy	Primary	133.0	679,787	45,600	6.7%	64,941	19,342	9.6%	83,754	38,155	12.3%	71,504	25,904	10.5%
9413049	Pattishall Church of England Primary School	Primary	140.0	659,659	44,256	6.7%	44,426	170	6.7%	57,028	12,772	8.6%	47,806	3,550	7.2%
9410124	The Northampton School	Secondary	140.0	830,643	67,257	8.1%	49,143	-18,115	5.9%	71,218	3,960	8.6%	57,999	-9,258	7.0%
9412247	Buckton Fields Primary School	Primary	141.0	648,939	44,062	6.8%	35,889	-8,173	5.5%	47,086	3,024	7.3%	38,821	-5,241	6.0%
9412090	Walgrave Primary School	Primary	142.0	678,640	46,929	6.9%	37,216	-9,713	5.5%	51,595	4,666	7.6%	42,409	-4,520	6.2%
9412117	Waynflete Infants' School	Primary	142.0	663,998	46,266	7.0%	56,056	9,789	8.4%	71,462	25,196	10.8%	60,623	14,357	9.1%
9413039	Kilsby Church of England Primary School	Primary	142.0	667,668	44,764	6.7%	44,796	31	6.7%	57,730	12,965	8.6%	48,299	3,535	7.2%
9412000	Badby School	Primary	155.0	716,434	50,205	7.0%	53,554	3,349	7.5%	69,854	19,650	9.8%	58,579	8,374	8.2%
9412118	St James Infant School	Primary	157.0	799,465	56,305	7.0%	64,647	8,342	8.1%	90,668	34,363	11.3%	75,667	19,362	9.5%
9412126	Abbey CofE Academy	Primary	159.0	811,610	59,657	7.4%	61,103	1,446	7.5%	90,741	31,084	11.2%	74,946	15,288	9.2%

school ref	School name	Phase	NOR (Oct 2022)	Total Formula Budget 2023-24	Current notional SEND £	Current notional SEND % of budget	Option 1 Notional SEND £	Option 1 Diff to current £	Option 1 notional SEND % of budget	option 2 Notional SEND £	option 2 Diff to current £	Option 2 notional SEND % of budget	option 3 Notional SEND £	option 3 Diff to current £	Option 3 notional SEND % of budget
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>60,471</b>	<b>329,481,468</b>	<b>25,071,154</b>	<b>7.6%</b>									
9412239	Monksmoor Park Church of England Primary School	Primary	159.5	806,053	53,111	6.6%	35,525	-17,586	4.4%	53,018	-92	6.6%	42,537	-10,573	5.3%
9412002	Blisworth Community Primary School	Primary	169.0	782,934	55,473	7.1%	56,930	1,457	7.3%	74,374	18,902	9.5%	62,467	6,994	8.0%
9412125	Falconer's Hill Infant School	Primary	173.0	898,249	62,673	7.0%	69,855	7,182	7.8%	97,263	34,591	10.8%	81,462	18,789	9.1%
9413032	Greens Norton Church of England Primary School	Primary	174.0	784,629	56,096	7.1%	49,895	-6,201	6.4%	65,352	9,256	8.3%	54,404	-1,692	6.9%
9412074	Overstone Primary School	Primary	175.0	827,968	58,970	7.1%	51,398	-7,571	6.2%	71,782	12,812	8.7%	59,123	153	7.1%
9413035	Hartwell Primary School	Primary	183.0	823,333	57,914	7.0%	60,532	2,618	7.4%	76,017	18,103	9.2%	64,130	6,216	7.8%
9413500	The Bliss Charity School	Primary	183.0	816,047	59,132	7.2%	47,531	-11,602	5.8%	63,335	4,203	7.8%	52,318	-6,814	6.4%
9412131	Old Stratford Primary School	Primary	184.0	855,072	59,342	6.9%	66,589	7,247	7.8%	84,117	24,774	9.8%	71,226	11,884	8.3%
9412003	Boughton Primary School	Primary	186.0	821,670	58,502	7.1%	49,109	-9,393	6.0%	63,444	4,943	7.7%	52,586	-5,916	6.4%
9413350	St Mary's Catholic Primary School	Primary	186.0	959,871	71,159	7.4%	81,887	10,728	8.5%	120,973	49,814	12.6%	100,184	29,025	10.4%
9413034	Harpole Primary School	Primary	188.0	857,034	60,677	7.1%	58,738	-1,940	6.9%	75,891	15,214	8.9%	63,586	2,909	7.4%
9412202	Rectory Farm Primary School	Primary	191.0	1,105,118	76,477	6.9%	86,063	9,586	7.8%	131,636	55,159	11.9%	108,619	32,142	9.8%
9412024	Crick Primary School	Primary	191.0	871,567	60,936	7.0%	66,253	5,317	7.6%	83,226	22,290	9.5%	70,394	9,458	8.1%
9413011	Braunston Church of England Primary School	Primary	193.0	876,872	65,247	7.4%	59,700	-5,547	6.8%	80,746	15,499	9.2%	67,264	2,017	7.7%
9412031	Eastfield Academy	Primary	196.0	1,128,988	78,165	6.9%	98,002	19,837	8.7%	146,448	68,283	13.0%	121,619	43,455	10.8%
9412067	Long Buckby Junior School	Primary	197.0	908,381	65,784	7.2%	64,740	-1,044	7.1%	85,567	19,783	9.4%	71,735	5,950	7.9%
9413008	Brackley Church of England Junior School	Primary	198.0	915,634	64,917	7.1%	70,778	5,861	7.7%	90,570	25,653	9.9%	76,555	11,638	8.4%
9413511	Hackleton CofE Primary School	Primary	198.0	878,454	63,020	7.2%	49,348	-13,672	5.6%	64,738	1,718	7.4%	53,425	-9,594	6.1%
9412015	Cogenhoe Primary School	Primary	199.0	897,175	65,937	7.3%	54,974	-10,964	6.1%	76,293	10,356	8.5%	62,646	-3,292	7.0%
9412143	Green Oaks Primary Academy	Primary	199.0	1,146,701	73,541	6.4%	85,556	12,014	7.5%	125,483	51,941	10.9%	103,861	30,319	9.1%
9412094	Weedon Bec Primary School	Primary	200.0	947,181	67,790	7.2%	95,665	27,875	10.1%	120,980	53,190	12.8%	103,612	35,822	10.9%
9412176	Lyncrest Primary School	Primary	201.0	1,038,111	67,060	6.5%	76,771	9,711	7.4%	99,967	32,907	9.6%	84,324	17,264	8.1%
9412105	Queen Eleanor Primary Academy	Primary	202.0	1,139,908	78,375	6.9%	101,492	23,117	8.9%	145,186	66,811	12.7%	121,636	43,261	10.7%
9412238	Lumbertubs Primary School	Primary	202.0	1,178,844	81,322	6.9%	101,421	20,100	8.6%	151,603	70,282	12.9%	125,897	44,575	10.7%
9413205	Kingshorpe Village Primary School	Primary	204.0	1,000,356	67,743	6.8%	81,099	13,357	8.1%	106,000	38,258	10.6%	89,352	21,610	8.9%
9412092	Thorplands Primary School	Primary	204.0	1,124,860	89,664	8.0%	106,690	17,026	9.5%	170,211	80,547	15.1%	140,005	50,342	12.4%
9412152	Hardingstone Academy	Primary	205.0	937,673	68,416	7.3%	68,338	-77	7.3%	93,260	24,844	9.9%	77,555	9,140	8.3%
9412235	Blackthorn Primary School	Primary	206.0	1,286,998	88,102	6.8%	102,935	14,833	8.0%	167,146	79,044	13.0%	136,567	48,465	10.6%
9412076	John Hellins Primary School	Primary	207.0	922,913	66,710	7.2%	63,016	-3,694	6.8%	80,945	14,235	8.8%	67,835	1,125	7.4%
9412174	Vernon Terrace Primary School	Primary	207.0	1,067,514	72,360	6.8%	91,615	19,255	8.6%	123,884	51,525	11.6%	104,265	31,905	9.8%
9413077	West Haddon Endowed Church of England Primary School	Primary	211.0	945,174	67,115	7.1%	56,460	-10,655	6.0%	73,170	6,055	7.7%	60,746	-6,369	6.4%
9412181	Chiltern Primary School	Primary	228.0	1,205,031	82,901	6.9%	84,588	1,687	7.0%	120,758	37,857	10.0%	100,320	17,419	8.3%
9412161	Falconer's Hill Academy	Primary	235.0	1,152,616	88,016	7.6%	113,712	25,696	9.9%	156,261	68,245	13.6%	131,985	43,969	11.5%
9414011	Silverstone UTC	Secondary	235.0	1,583,195	125,290	7.9%	111,583	-13,707	7.0%	150,599	25,310	9.5%	125,236	-54	7.9%
9413354	St Gregory's Catholic Primary School	Primary	243.0	1,231,349	93,313	7.6%	116,608	23,294	9.5%	170,587	77,274	13.9%	141,749	48,436	11.5%
9413086	Woodford Halse Church of England Primary Academy	Primary	244.0	1,115,245	85,226	7.6%	77,875	-7,351	7.0%	108,527	23,301	9.7%	90,186	4,959	8.1%
9413057	Silverstone Church of England Primary School	Primary	245.0	1,086,763	80,326	7.4%	65,756	-14,570	6.1%	88,184	7,858	8.1%	72,948	-7,378	6.7%
9412008	Bugbrooke Community Primary School	Primary	252.0	1,147,054	83,772	7.3%	72,683	-11,089	6.3%	96,597	12,825	8.4%	80,433	-3,339	7.0%
9413355	The Good Shepherd Catholic Primary School	Primary	266.0	1,259,143	97,468	7.7%	87,612	-9,856	7.0%	132,980	35,512	10.6%	108,645	11,177	8.6%
9412039	Briar Hill Primary School & Nursery	Primary	270.0	1,520,697	108,792	7.2%	103,028	-5,764	6.8%	166,598	57,806	11.0%	135,779	26,987	8.9%
9412052	The Arbours Primary Academy	Primary	278.0	1,553,218	102,874	6.6%	121,504	18,631	7.8%	175,160	72,286	11.3%	145,499	42,626	9.4%
9412218	Hunsbury Park Primary School	Primary	290.0	1,599,385	109,626	6.9%	151,294	41,668	9.5%	210,141	100,514	13.1%	177,062	67,436	11.1%
9412153	Kings Heath Primary Academy	Primary	294.0	1,631,428	117,343	7.2%	144,176	26,834	8.8%	213,639	96,296	13.1%	177,484	60,141	10.9%
9412079	Roade Primary School	Primary	321.0	1,429,973	102,642	7.2%	84,006	-18,637	5.9%	107,586	4,943	7.5%	89,517	-13,126	6.3%
9412025	Deanshanger Primary School	Primary	329.0	1,490,539	107,900	7.2%	91,929	-15,971	6.2%	120,296	12,396	8.1%	100,157	-7,743	6.7%
9412169	The Abbey Primary School	Primary	333.0	1,702,785	122,243	7.2%	135,859	13,616	8.0%	192,285	70,041	11.3%	160,339	38,096	9.4%
9413304	St Andrew's Ceva Primary School	Primary	334.0	1,622,192	129,227	8.0%	158,253	29,025	9.8%	233,281	104,053	14.4%	193,529	64,302	11.9%
9412070	Middleton Cheney Primary Academy	Primary	340.0	1,509,943	108,090	7.2%	131,307	23,218	8.7%	159,156	51,067	10.5%	136,108	28,018	9.0%
9412233	Pineham Barns Primary School	Primary	341.0	1,509,922	116,507	7.7%	93,991	-22,516	6.2%	133,735	17,228	8.9%	109,388	-7,119	7.2%
9412234	The Radstone Primary School	Primary	344.0	1,517,361	110,007	7.2%	102,704	-7,303	6.8%	128,863	18,856	8.5%	108,347	-1,660	7.1%
9412064	Sunnyside Primary Academy	Primary	357.0	1,809,310	123,885	6.8%	140,971	17,086	7.8%	186,357	62,472	10.3%	157,325	33,440	8.7%
9413515	Towcester Church of England Primary School	Primary	365.0	1,617,887	121,191	7.5%	123,715	2,524	7.6%	158,919	37,727	9.8%	134,103	12,912	8.3%
9412225	Ashby Fields Primary School	Primary	368.0	1,680,417	123,556	7.4%	174,068	50,512	10.4%	217,848	94,292	13.0%	186,724	63,168	11.1%
9412190	Lings Primary School	Primary	371.0	2,019,863	149,631	7.4%	176,924	27,293	8.8%	266,823	117,192	13.2%	220,876	71,245	10.9%
9412157	Stimpson Avenue Academy	Primary	372.0	1,780,881	127,248	7.1%	179,531	52,282	10.1%	235,785	108,537	13.2%	199,815	72,566	11.2%
9412192	Standens Barn Primary School	Primary	372.0	1,866,546	134,631	7.2%	162,740	28,109	8.7%	223,183	88,552	12.0%	187,419	52,788	10.0%
9412106	Wootton Primary School	Primary	374.0	1,655,237	123,767	7.5%	131,120	7,353	7.9%	167,104	43,337	10.1%	141,274	17,507	8.5%
9413508	Upton Meadows Primary School	Primary	385.0	1,801,207	144,373	8.0%	160,293	15,919	8.9%	229,430	85,056	12.7%	191,230	46,857	10.6%
9412001	All Saints CofE VA Primary School	Primary	386.0	1,712,009	132,485	7.7%	133,549	122,864	52.1%	180,978	48,493	10.6%	151,089	18,604	8.8%

school ref	School name	Phase	NOR (Oct 2022)	Total Formula Budget 2023-24	Current notional SEND £	Current notional SEND % of budget	Option 1 Notional SEND £	Option 1 Diff to current £	Option 1 notional SEND % of budget	option 2 Notional SEND £	option 2 Diff to current £	Option 2 notional SEND % of budget	option 3 Notional SEND £	option 3 Diff to current £	Option 3 notional SEND % of budget
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>60,471</b>	<b>329,481,468</b>	<b>25,071,154</b>	<b>7.6%</b>									
9412016	Millway Primary School	Primary	391.0	1,889,805	132,420	7.0%	135,713	3,293	7.2%	179,528	47,109	9.5%	150,603	18,183	8.0%
9413348	St James Church of England Primary School	Primary	394.0	1,955,041	150,482	7.7%	178,586	28,103	9.1%	257,746	107,263	13.2%	214,767	64,285	11.0%
9412166	Kingsley Primary School	Primary	395.0	1,941,178	138,043	7.1%	151,524	13,481	7.8%	203,931	65,888	10.5%	171,382	33,339	8.8%
9412160	Earl Spencer Primary School	Primary	396.0	2,159,700	159,977	7.4%	176,501	16,524	8.2%	269,309	109,332	12.5%	222,209	62,232	10.3%
9413090	St Luke's Church of England Primary School	Primary	399.0	1,871,847	134,021	7.2%	130,557	-3,464	7.0%	170,930	36,909	9.1%	143,412	9,391	7.7%
9412184	Hopping Hill Primary School	Primary	399.0	1,949,347	138,530	7.1%	132,389	-6,142	6.8%	180,808	42,278	9.3%	150,668	12,138	7.7%
9412228	Woodland View Primary School	Primary	401.0	1,773,817	128,345	7.2%	128,930	586	7.3%	159,917	31,572	9.0%	135,200	6,855	7.6%
9412151	Castle Academy	Primary	403.0	2,136,545	147,743	6.9%	162,682	14,938	7.6%	231,747	84,003	10.8%	192,661	44,918	9.0%
9412237	Parklands Primary School	Primary	406.0	1,909,431	132,539	6.9%	154,874	22,335	8.1%	194,463	61,924	10.2%	165,122	32,583	8.6%
9412197	Barry Primary School	Primary	408.0	1,836,831	136,487	7.4%	144,499	8,012	7.9%	189,783	53,296	10.3%	159,314	22,827	8.7%
9412158	Cedar Road Primary School	Primary	408.0	1,916,041	142,308	7.4%	131,882	-10,427	6.9%	183,233	40,924	9.6%	151,878	9,570	7.9%
9412063	Woodvale Primary Academy	Primary	409.0	2,132,003	162,740	7.6%	191,594	28,854	9.0%	285,109	122,369	13.4%	236,326	73,586	11.1%
9412177	Abington Vale Primary School	Primary	410.0	2,017,369	137,247	6.8%	170,863	33,615	8.5%	219,694	82,446	10.9%	186,202	48,955	9.2%
9412033	Spring Lane Primary School	Primary	414.0	2,274,398	158,215	7.0%	233,017	74,803	10.2%	324,240	166,025	14.3%	273,050	114,835	12.0%
9412164	Malcolm Arnold Preparatory School	Primary	414.0	1,830,889	141,723	7.7%	133,553	-8,170	7.3%	180,571	38,848	9.9%	150,453	8,730	8.2%
9412224	Bracken Leas Primary School	Primary	415.0	1,835,802	130,375	7.1%	129,982	-393	7.1%	158,539	28,164	8.6%	134,184	3,809	7.3%
9412219	East Hunsbury Primary School	Primary	416.0	1,843,589	138,210	7.5%	172,023	33,813	9.3%	215,341	77,131	11.7%	183,735	45,525	10.0%
9413091	Weston Favell CofE Primary School	Primary	416.0	1,844,926	138,142	7.5%	100,284	-37,858	5.4%	137,917	-225	7.5%	112,816	-25,326	6.1%
9412210	Duston Eldean Primary School	Primary	416.0	1,998,488	136,036	6.8%	144,674	8,638	7.2%	182,053	46,018	9.1%	154,172	18,136	7.7%
9412183	Whitehills Primary School	Primary	417.0	1,962,599	135,402	6.9%	123,147	-12,255	6.3%	156,588	21,186	8.0%	131,400	-4,002	6.7%
9412223	Preston Hedges Primary School	Primary	417.0	1,844,136	131,634	7.1%	93,895	-37,740	5.1%	119,821	-11,813	6.5%	98,730	-32,904	5.4%
9412137	The Grange School, Daventry	Primary	419.0	1,935,197	153,712	7.9%	154,340	627	8.0%	219,807	66,095	11.4%	182,624	28,911	9.4%
9412214	Nicholas Hawksmoor Primary School	Primary	421.0	1,859,510	135,132	7.3%	119,795	-15,338	6.4%	151,150	16,018	8.1%	126,725	-8,408	6.8%
9412220	Simon de Senlis Primary School	Primary	432.0	2,046,790	141,693	6.9%	136,821	-4,872	6.7%	174,707	33,014	8.5%	146,933	5,240	7.2%
9412208	Kingshorpe Grove Primary School	Primary	434.0	2,096,812	161,761	7.7%	219,944	58,183	10.5%	300,049	138,288	14.3%	253,530	91,769	12.1%
9412162	Headlands Primary School	Primary	454.0	2,092,906	165,632	7.9%	200,499	34,867	9.6%	273,771	108,139	13.1%	230,332	64,700	11.0%
9413012	Brixworth CofE VC Primary School	Primary	483.0	2,166,271	159,348	7.4%	119,312	-40,037	5.5%	158,255	-1,093	7.3%	130,782	-28,567	6.0%
9412209	Ecton Brook Primary School	Primary	590.0	3,054,216	231,950	7.6%	266,766	34,816	8.7%	394,551	162,601	12.9%	327,190	95,240	10.7%
9412014	Delapre Primary School	Primary	609.0	2,959,097	220,072	7.4%	275,419	55,347	9.3%	372,975	152,902	12.6%	314,373	94,300	10.6%
9415200	Moulton Primary School	Primary	609.0	2,692,271	200,914	7.5%	178,025	-22,889	6.6%	231,339	30,424	8.6%	193,179	-7,736	7.2%
9412188	Boothville Primary School	Primary	612.0	3,002,824	223,047	7.4%	280,497	57,450	9.3%	380,688	157,641	12.7%	320,728	97,681	10.7%
9412010	Bridgewater Primary School	Primary	621.0	2,982,061	203,539	6.8%	198,180	-5,359	6.6%	252,916	49,377	8.5%	212,601	9,062	7.1%
9414703	Thomas Becket Catholic School	Secondary	752.0	5,077,121	418,551	8.2%	483,081	64,530	9.5%	691,201	272,651	13.6%	577,229	158,678	11.4%
9414089	Chenderit School	Secondary	873.0	5,154,673	428,900	8.3%	414,753	-14,147	8.0%	533,556	104,657	10.4%	449,103	20,203	8.7%
9412022	DSL V E-ACT Academy	Allthrough	937.0	5,479,349	469,679	8.6%	533,573	63,895	9.7%	747,902	278,224	13.6%	626,519	156,840	11.4%
9414001	The Parker E-ACT Academy	Secondary	1033.0	6,539,801	539,771	8.3%	644,952	105,180	9.9%	856,070	316,298	13.1%	724,772	185,001	11.1%
9414041	Elizabeth Woodville School	Secondary	1040.0	6,278,858	512,537	8.2%	460,699	-51,838	7.3%	599,958	87,421	9.6%	502,887	-9,650	8.0%
9414051	Campion School	Secondary	1103.0	6,527,800	555,112	8.5%	535,633	-19,479	8.2%	708,927	153,815	10.9%	595,016	39,904	9.1%
9415404	Northampton School for Boys	Secondary	1121.0	6,467,367	549,839	8.5%	382,295	-167,544	5.9%	524,130	-25,709	8.1%	428,139	-121,701	6.6%
9414042	Guilford Academy	Secondary	1134.0	6,521,799	551,783	8.5%	469,321	-82,462	7.2%	604,542	52,759	9.3%	505,744	-46,038	7.8%
9414020	Wootton Park School	Allthrough	1154.0	5,855,305	494,679	8.4%	406,930	-87,749	6.9%	535,371	40,692	9.1%	444,641	-50,037	7.6%
9414004	Sponne School	Secondary	1155.0	6,628,339	548,825	8.3%	412,571	-136,254	6.2%	523,650	-25,175	7.9%	434,972	-113,854	6.6%
9414550	Magdalen College School	Secondary	1199.0	6,955,519	571,849	8.2%	464,463	-107,386	6.7%	587,691	15,842	8.4%	490,888	-80,962	7.1%
9414022	Moulton School and Science College	Secondary	1200.0	6,988,980	600,611	8.6%	476,740	-123,871	6.8%	652,028	51,416	9.3%	538,061	-62,551	7.7%
9414007	Abbeyfield School	Secondary	1235.0	8,163,115	656,736	8.0%	639,720	-17,017	7.8%	898,635	241,898	11.0%	747,769	91,032	9.2%
9416910	Malcolm Arnold Academy	Secondary	1243.0	7,792,079	652,549	8.4%	674,376	21,827	8.7%	930,079	277,530	11.9%	777,308	124,759	10.0%
9414071	Kingshorpe College	Secondary	1246.0	8,236,437	648,424	7.9%	668,632	20,208	8.1%	909,697	261,273	11.0%	761,849	113,425	9.2%
9414000	Weston Favell Academy	Secondary	1312.0	9,269,616	750,084	8.1%	851,382	101,299	9.2%	1,252,580	502,496	13.5%	1,040,748	290,664	11.2%
9414076	Northampton School for Girls	Secondary	1426.0	8,935,523	724,494	8.1%	550,091	-174,403	6.2%	779,010	54,517	8.7%	637,863	-86,631	7.1%
9416905	Northampton Academy	Secondary	1472.0	9,511,907	825,470	8.7%	840,761	15,290	8.8%	1,242,535	417,064	13.1%	1,027,095	201,625	10.8%
9414066	The Duston School	Allthrough	1715.0	10,041,242	791,308	7.9%	726,304	-65,003	7.2%	959,083	167,775	9.6%	802,471	11,163	8.0%
9414005	Caroline Chisholm School	Allthrough	1803.0	10,720,152	802,978	7.5%	613,183	-189,795	5.7%	789,484	-13,494	7.4%	655,360	-147,618	6.1%
9414018	Northampton International Academy	Allthrough	1921.0	11,854,679	994,567	8.4%	1,132,639	138,072	9.6%	1,605,578	611,011	13.5%	1,341,177	346,610	11.3%

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West Northamptonshire Schools Forum: 18 October 2023  
Agenda Item 9  
Northampton schools group PFI update

## List of Appendices

Appendix A: Assumed school charges 2024/25

Appendix B: 2022 Satisfaction Scores

## 1. Introduction

1.1 The Council operates a large group PFI, covering 42 schools in Northampton. The costs of the PA are met partly by 'PFI credits', partly by WNC, and partly by the schools. This report sets out issues relating to the contract, including the projected facilities maintenance costs and outcome of the most recent customer satisfaction survey.

## 2. PFI contract and the schools

2.1 The PFI contract was entered into by the then Northamptonshire County Council and commenced 31<sup>st</sup> December 2005. It has been inherited by West Northamptonshire Council. It was used as a means of delivering the additional schools places needed across Northampton at that time. It has also been varied to construct what is now Greenfields Specialist School for Communication, to make further school extensions and modifications, and to allow for the change in status of schools to academies. The PFI runs until 1<sup>st</sup> January 2038.

2.2 The PFI contractor is a 'special purpose vehicle' called Northampton Schools Limited (NSL). Service provision is via a sub-contractor, Amey.

2.3 The number of schools in the PFI was 41 at commencement. The fact there are still 41 reflects the fact that Greenfields was added but Bellinge was merged with Ecton Brook. In the information which follows the entry for Ecton Brook includes both its sites (i.e., including the former Bellinge site). Schools in the PFI receive a dedicated additional element of dedicated schools grant (DSG) reflecting costs they incur under the PFI contract.

- 2.4 There are now 29 academies and 12 maintained schools in the PFI. The maintained schools include Greenfields which, as a SEND specialist school, is funded in a different way from the other schools. It does not have an individual school budget but rather is funded via the central school service block (CSSB).
- 2.5 For the avoidance of doubt, references to the PFI in this report only refer to the Northampton Schools group PFI, and do not refer to the single-school PFI for Caroline Chisholm School.

### 3. PFI charges

- 3.1 The PFI 'unitary charge' includes two elements, a fixed amount which broadly reflects the capital costs of constructing and extending schools originally, and a facilities management (FM) charge which covers services to the schools such as maintenance, cleaning, and grounds work. The FM charge is increased (or theoretically decreased) each year in line with the retail price index excluding mortgage costs (RPIx). Each year the February RPIx figure determines the price for the following year.
- 3.2 Additionally, every five years the FM charge is subject to benchmarking to reset it in line with current costs of providing these services. This most recently affected the 2022/23 charges, which now provide the baseline for inflationary increases.
- 3.3 The OBR publishes future inflationary increases on a quarterly basis. Table 1 shows current OBR projections.

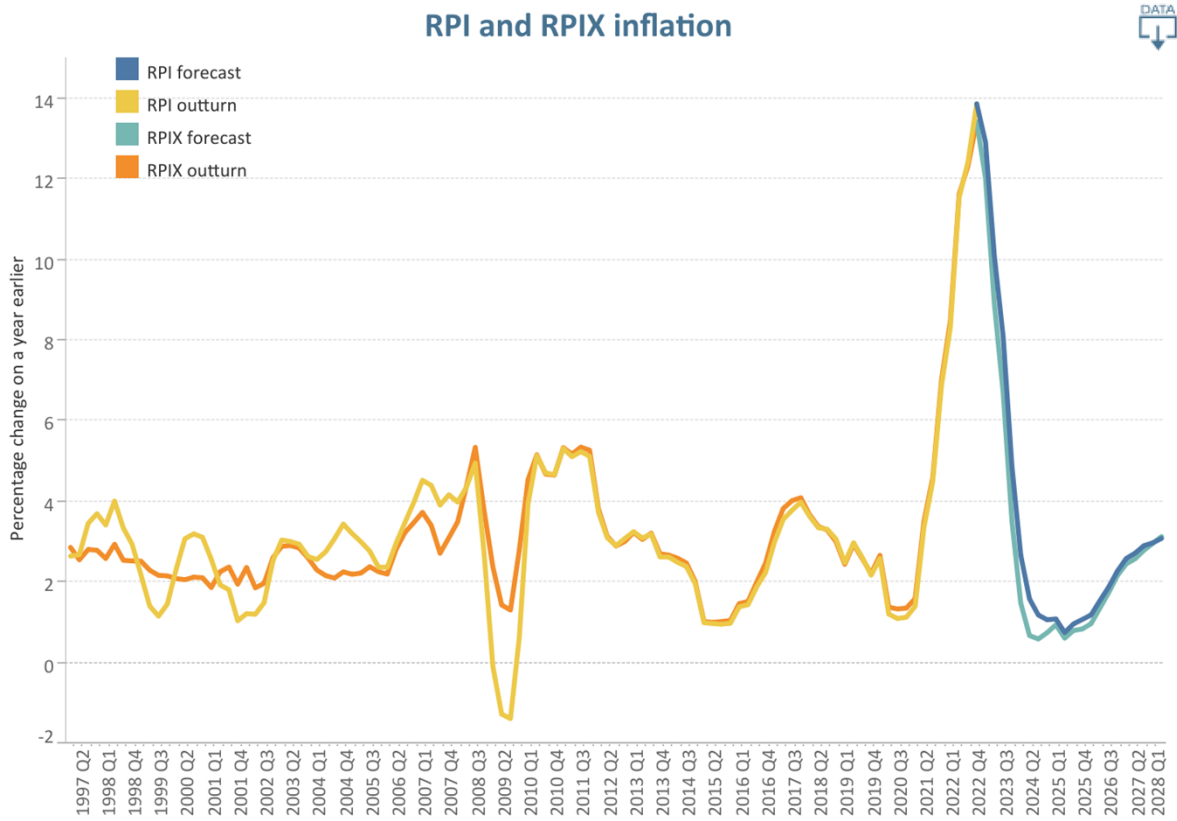
**Table 1: OBR inflation projections**

OBR forecast date	Q1 2024	Q1 2025	Q1 2026	Q1 2027	Q1 2028
27 January 2023	2.8%	0.0%	-	-	-
19 April 2023	1.5%	0.9%	1.0%	2.5%	3.1%

- 3.4 Figure 1 shows the most recent OBR inflation data and projections, which highlights how unusual recent events have been. It is also worth noting that the OBR suggests inflation will drop dramatically during 2023 and 2024. However, projections at that distance in time should be treated with caution. Whilst the underlying logic (the sharp rises in prices – notably in fuel prices, caused by the Russian invasion of Ukraine – drop out the 12-month comparisons which are the basis of inflation calculations) does seem valid actual inflation numbers suggest UK inflation may remain somewhat higher for longer than was expected. The actual August RPIx figure was 7.8% compared to the OBR quarter 3 (July – September) forecast of 6.7%.

3.5 The Chancellor is due to present his Autumn Statement on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2023. The OBR will present updated forecasts alongside this statement, so by then we should have a somewhat better view of February 2024 RPIx and therefore of PFI FM charges and thus the costs for schools.

**Figure 1: April 2023 OBR inflation history and projections**



Source: ONS, OBR

3.6 The Council wrote to all schools in the Northampton group PFI earlier in the year explaining it would make a one-off contribution towards the inflationary increase in 2023/24, which would provide schools with time to plan for the likely position in 2024/25. In Appendix A, the contribution for each school is shown, with the 2023/24 actual position and the 2024/25 projected position based on the assumption that applicable inflation rate follows the OBR forecast and the one-off contribution is not extended.

3.7 At the time the letter was sent to schools, the Council’s one-off contribution was estimated at £532k. In fact, due to the way inflation turned out, the actual figure was over £600k. However, it is proposed only to reverse the £532k originally stated. This would mitigate any additional impact on the schools.

3.8 The Council is nearing a conclusion of its examination of PFI costs and income with the specialist consultants, RSM. Hopefully it will soon be able to report back to the Forum on the outcome.

#### **4. PFI Customer Satisfaction Survey**

4.1 At the last (albeit inquorate) Schools Forum meeting, a question was asked about school satisfaction. An undertaking was given to provide an update on the most recent survey data on this topic, which was 2nd December 2022.

4.2 The contract requires the contractor to undertake a bi-annual customer satisfaction survey. The survey focuses on the facilities management services such as caretaking, cleaning, and grounds maintenance. It is an opportunity for schools to have their say and to grade the services. Should a school grade the services poorly overall then the contractor is obliged to engage with the school to audit the services and put in place a plan of action to address the performance failures.

4.3 The last survey was taken in October 2022. It was issued online via Survey Hero and if requested schools were also provided with hard copies. Of the 42 schools that were surveyed 19 provided a full response, 23 a partial response, and one no response. Details of the responses are provided in Appendix B.

4.4 Apart from caretaking, which fell on average slightly below 'satisfactory', all average scores were satisfactory or better. However, in all cases there was a significant 'tail' of 'unsatisfactory' or 'poor' results. This is consistent with the pattern observed qualitatively – a minority of schools experiencing poor service. This has been pursued with NSL and Amey; performance appears to be improving but of course is not perfect.

4.5 Based on these results, nine schools met the threshold for requiring an audit and action plan. These schools were contacted seeking to meet to engage the school in the development of the action plan. Some schools subsequently determined that an action plan was not needed, so these were discontinued. Action plans are monitored through school service review meetings.

4.6 The next survey is due in 2024. Schools will be encouraged to use it to express their views, both positive and negative, on the services provided. However, this in no way prevents them from raising any concerns earlier and they are encouraged to do so.

## **5. Conclusions**

5.1 The Northampton schools' group PFI was an important tool to access funds to secure school places needed for Northampton. It remains an important contract, but the PFI structure also creates challenges. The Council is committed to working with schools to achieve the best overall outcomes from it.

5.2 Schools continue to be encouraged to raise any issues of concern so that they can be addressed.

5.3 It is hoped that providing the estimated PFI FM charges is helping schools to plan their budgets for 2024/25.

### **Report authors**

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## Appendix A: Assumed school charges 2024/25

School	£k	
	2023/24 actual charge (1)	2024/25 assumed charge (2)
Abbeyfield School	1,037	1,092
Abington Vale	169	178
Blackthorn	268	282
Boothville	367	386
Briar Hill	228	241
Bridgewater	333	350
Castle	371	391
Cedar Road	229	240
Chiltern	211	222
Delapre	336	354
Duston Eldean	234	246
Earl Spencer	228	240
Eastfield	169	177
Ecton Brook	428	450
Green Oaks	202	212
Greenfields School & Sports College (3)	464	488
Hopping Hill	276	291
Hunsbury Park	219	230
Kings Heath	242	254
Kingsley	241	253
Kingsthorpe College	1,035	1,088
Kingsthorpe Village	150	158
Lings	244	257

School	£k	
	2023/24 actual charge (1)	2024/25 assumed charge (2)
Lumbertubs	188	198
Lyncrest	160	168
Millway	260	273
Northampton School for Girls	1,169	1,230
Parklands	227	239
Queen Eleanor	173	182
Rectory Farm	153	161
Simon de Senlis	250	263
Spring Lane	272	286
St Luke's Primary	215	226
Standens Barn	236	248
Sunnyside	266	280
The Abbey	217	229
The Arbours	291	306
The Duston School	1,154	1,214
Weston Favell School	1,055	1,109
Whitehills	233	245
Woodvale	255	267
<b>Totals</b>	<b>14,456</b>	<b>15,207</b>

Notes:

1. 'Actual' figures for each school reflect the Council's expectations for the year, but without accounting for the special arrangements applying to schools which benefited from Wave 1 and Wave 2 works. These receive an adjustment to the annual sum part way through the year. Additionally, academy charges traditionally have been varied from September, but with the Council accruing for the inflated income between April and September.
2. 'Proposed' figures are subject to the same issues as 'actual' figures.
3. Greenfields as a special school has different funding and payment arrangements. The figures shown here reflect the total effective contribution from that school.
4. In addition to varying due to actual February 2024 inflation other factors, such as school changes, may affect the final 2024/25 figures.

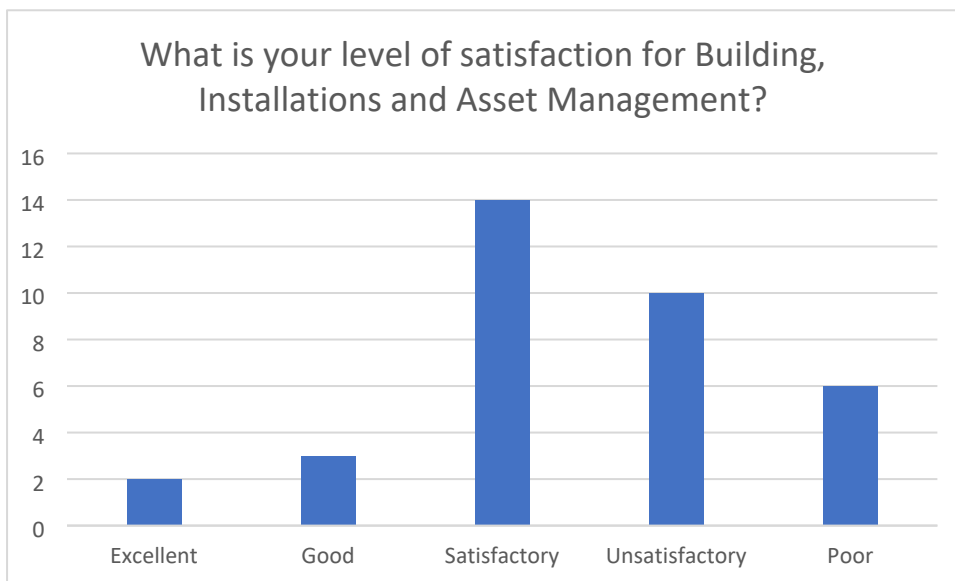


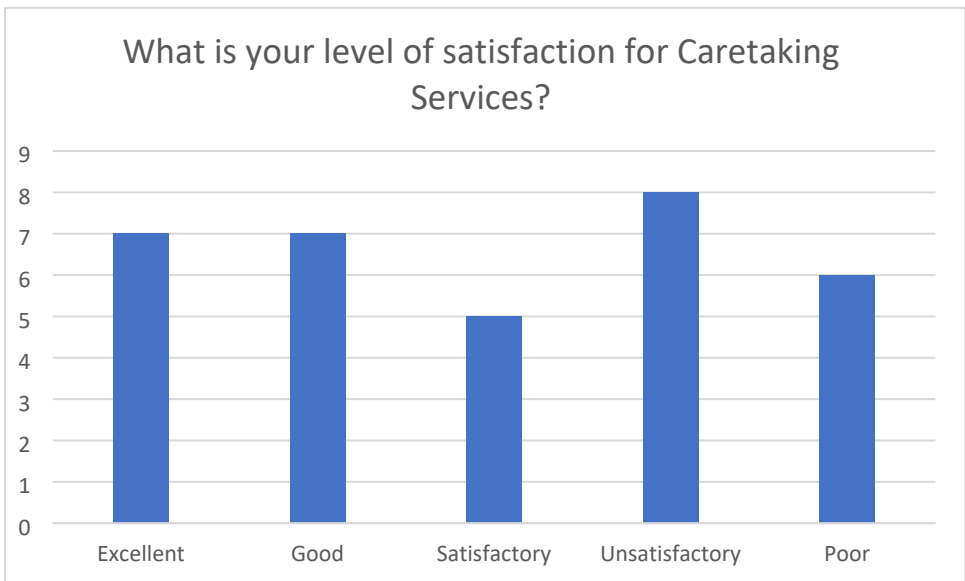
## Appendix B: 2022 Satisfaction Scores

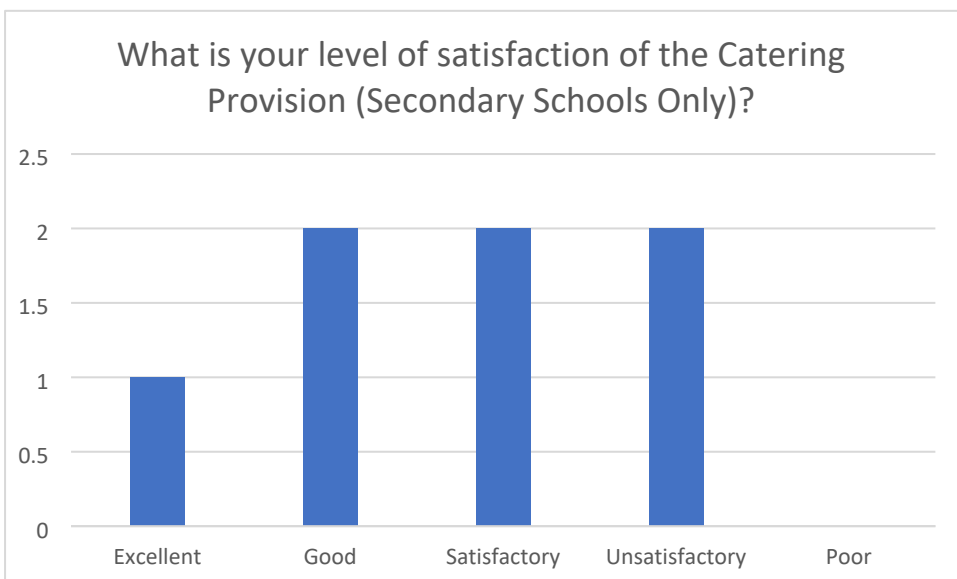
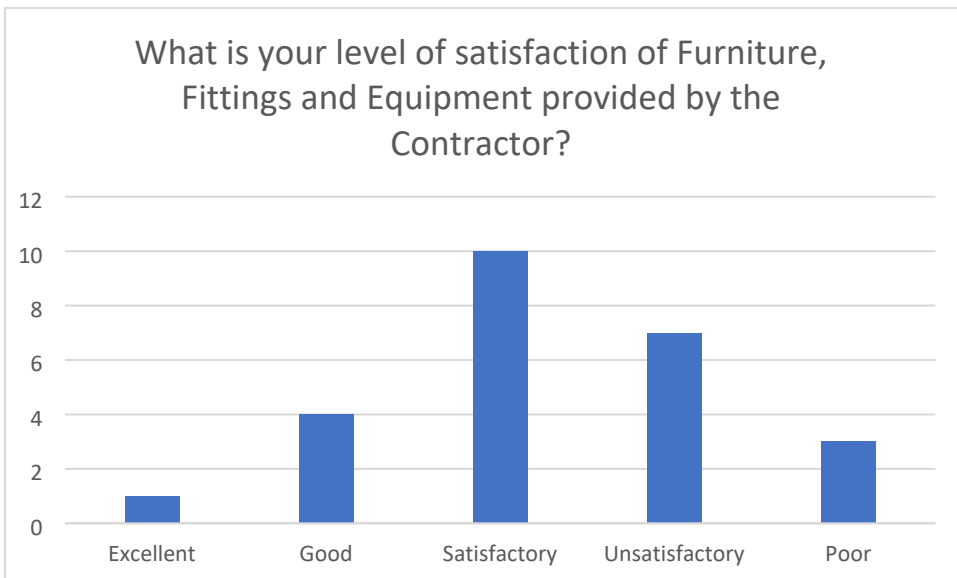
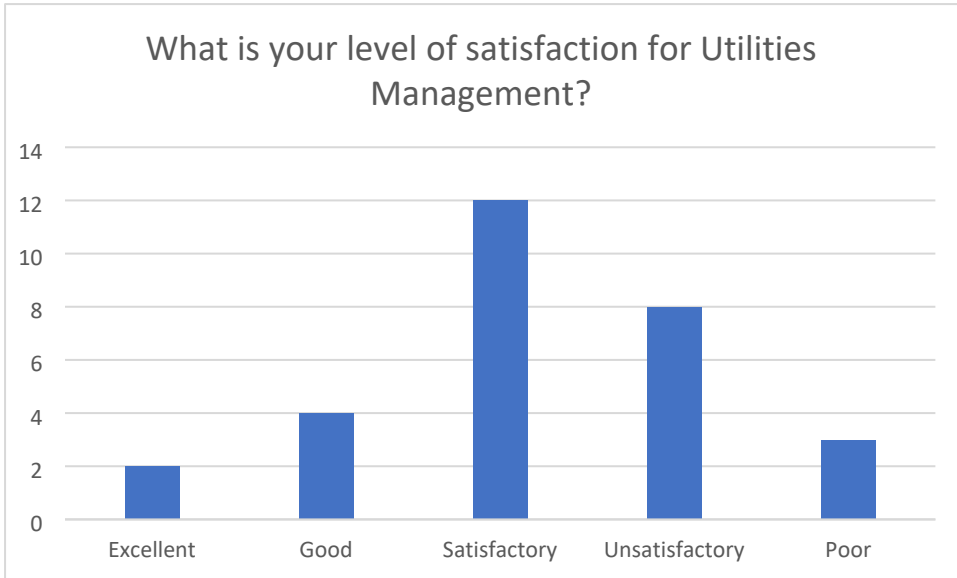
The 2022 survey asked eight questions, with satisfaction scored between 'excellent' (5) and 'poor' (0). An average score of 3 or better indicated overall more scores were 'satisfactory' or better.

Question	Average score
What is your level of satisfaction for Building, Installations and Asset Management?	3.43
What is your level of satisfaction for Cleaning and Waste Management?	3.71
What is your level of satisfaction for Grounds Maintenance?	3.60
What is your level of satisfaction for Security and Health and Safety?	3.39
What is your level of satisfaction for Caretaking Services?	2.97
What is your level of satisfaction for Utilities Management?	3.55
What is your level of satisfaction of Furniture, Fittings and Equipment provided by the Contractor?	3.95
What is your level of satisfaction of the Catering Provision (Secondary Schools Only)?	5.30

Details of responses to the questions are given below.







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**West  
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# Schools Forum SEND Update

18 October 2023



1. Joint SEND and Alternative Provision Strategy
2. SEND Ranges
3. Additional SEND Capacity
4. SEND Funding Project
  - Public Consultation
  - Project update

# Joint SEND & Alternative Provision Strategy

- The Strategy sets out the key priorities towards ensuring the West Northamptonshire Partnership better meets the needs of families over the next three years, and was co-produced with the involvement of more than 800 local people.



Integrated Care  
Northamptonshire



- Launch event on 26 September @ Icon Centre in Daventry
- Event planned and managed by students from Creating Tomorrow College
- Attended by more than 500 parents, carers, health, care and education professionals
- Next steps : action plan refinement and implementation

# Additional SEND Capacity : update

<u>Type</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>Provider</u>	<u>Age group</u>	<u>Improvement</u>	<u>Places #</u>	<u>Timing</u>	<u>Comment</u>
Units @ Mainstream Schools	1	Headlands	Primary	New	10	November 2022	Open
	2	Hunsbury Park	Primary	New	20	October / November 2022	Open
	2	Castle	Primary	New	10	January 2023	Open
	3	Hardingstone	Primary	New	10	January 2023	Open
	4	Moulton School	Secondary	New	30	January 2024	
	5	Hunsbury Park / Chiltern	Primary	New	55	October 2023 & January 2024	Phase 1 : Chiltern : Open Phase 2 : Hunsbury Park
	7	Millway	Primary	New	20	September 2024	
Special Schools	1	Kings Meadow	Primary	Expansion	16	January 2024	Phase #1
	2	Purple Oaks	All Through	Expansion	20	By June 2024	
	3	Northgate	Secondary	Expansion	36	September 2024	
	4	Fairfields	Primary	New	24	September 2024	
	5	Kings Meadow	Primary	Expansion	16	December 2024	Phase #2
	6	Gateway	Secondary	Expansion	54	December 2024	
	7	Billing Brook	All Through	Expansion	16	TBC	
	8	New School @ Tiffield	All Through	New	250	September 2025	
				Total	587		

Note : there are on-going discussions with additional Education Providers for more places



- Multi-disciplinary training for settings 0-25 including Early Years , Schools & FE settings plus WNC
  - Autumn program development & implementation
- Moderation sessions with 0-25 example reviews
  - Pilot group moderation in June
  - Moderation Training in March 2024 > dates to be shared by Half-Term
- Panel application administration being amended to align with the SEND Ranges
  - EHC : Request For Statutory Assessment Application Form & Annual Review Form
  - Non-EHC / Targeted SEND Funding : Application Forms
- Implement – Learn – Refine

# SEND Funding Public Consultation

## Consultation on the SEND Funding Principles

1 September to 1 October



[https://westnorthants.citizenspace.com/cet/have\\_your\\_say\\_on\\_send\\_funding](https://westnorthants.citizenspace.com/cet/have_your_say_on_send_funding)

# Promotion, Reach & Engagement

## Promotion

Corporate Consultation	Corporate Social Media	Local Offer	NPFG	Education Provider	Other Channels
Consultation Register	WNC Website article	Local Offer Facebook	NPFG Facebook	Early Years Connections	Council Members Bulletin
Residents Register	WNC Corporate Facebook	Local Offer Twitter	NPFG Instagram	Early Years Portal	WNC Staff Bulletin
e-residents newsletter	WNC Corporate Twitter		NPFG Twitter	Head West (Schools)	Other WNC Partners staff communication
			NPFG Mailing List	FE Providers email	Northamptonshire Integrated Care Board
					Northamptonshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

### Promotion Channels\*

- 47% Social Media / Local Offer
- 26% email
- 6% EY Connections / Head West

Reach

Engagement

Total\* 35,000+

Consultation Landing Page  
421 (1.2% apx)

Total Respondents  
257

Submitted  
172

Unsubmitted  
85

\*Final total still needs to be confirmed

\*Based on All Respondents @ 257 > Submitted @ 172 & Unsubmitted @ 85

# Consultation Headlines & Next Steps

<u>“Funding Principle” Questions</u>	<b>Submitted only</b> <u>Strongly Agree / Agree*</u>	<b>All</b> <u>Strongly Agree / Agree*</u>
1. To what extent do you agree or disagree that funding for children and young people with <b>SEND should be based on their level of need?</b>	91%	70%
2. To what extent do you agree or disagree that funding for children and young people with a <b>higher level of need should receive a higher level of funding?</b>	92%	71%
3. To what extent do you agree or disagree that there should be a <b>consistent methodology to allocate funding</b> for all children and young people with SEND?	85%	66%
4. To what extent do you agree or disagree that <b>children and young people with SEND, that do not have an EHC Plan, should receive funding</b> via their education setting?	69%	53%

## Respondents\*

- 54% Parents & Carers (139)
- 1% Students with SEND (3)
- 16% Education settings (40)

## Next steps

- Project Team visibility : share results summary with Steering Group, plus the 3 Education Sector Sub-groups
- Additional consultation responses : Quantitative & Qualitative (130+) > need to be collated, clustered and directed to the right WNC team and shared with the project team
- Post-consultation report : need to provide an overview of the main results to give some transparency to the councils business activities and provide detail to those interested of the main results

\*Based on All Respondents @ 257 > Submitted @ 172 & Unsubmitted @ 85

# Financial Modelling & Funding Recommendations : update

<u>Sector</u>	<u>Targeted SEND Funding</u>	<u>Education Banding Tool (RAS)</u>
Early Years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WNC funding options x4 consulted with Sub-group</li> <li>WNC evaluation of feedback</li> <li>Ben Pearson / Councillor Baker / CDMT review</li> <li>Recommendation to Sub-group @ 10 October</li> <li>Schools Forum consultation @ 18 October</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Banding values still being evaluated by WNC</li> <li>Ben Pearson / Councillor Baker / CDMT review</li> <li>Consultation &amp; feedback with Sub-group @ TBC</li> <li>Schools Forum consultation @ 13 December planned</li> </ul>
Mainstream Schools* > primary, secondary & 16+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WNC recommendation consulted with Sub-group</li> <li>WNC evaluation of feedback</li> <li>Ben Pearson / Councillor Baker / CDMT review</li> <li>Sub-group further discussion @ 11 October</li> <li>Schools Forum consultation @ 18 October</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Banding values still being evaluated by WNC</li> <li>Ben Pearson / Councillor Baker / CDMT review</li> <li>Consultation &amp; feedback with Sub-group @ TBC</li> <li>Schools Forum consultation @ 13 December planned</li> </ul>
Units & Mainstream Schools*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Same as Mainstream Schools above</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Banding values still being evaluated by WNC</li> <li>Ben Pearson / Councillor Baker / CDMT review</li> <li>Consultation &amp; feedback with Sub-group @ TBC</li> <li>Schools Forum consultation @ 13 December planned</li> </ul>
Special Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not applicable</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Phase 4 : Options to be reviewed in early Q1 2024</li> </ul>
Further Education**	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Funding options still being identified by WNC</li> <li>Ben Pearson / Councillor Baker / CDMT review</li> <li>Consultation &amp; feedback with Sub-group @ TBC</li> <li>Schools Forum consultation @ 13 December planned</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Banding values still being evaluated by WNC</li> <li>Ben Pearson / Councillor Baker / CDMT review</li> <li>Consultation &amp; feedback with Sub-group @ TBC</li> <li>Schools Forum consultation @ 13 December planned</li> </ul>

\*Independent Schools are not in scope

\*\*Excluding Specialist Post 16 Institutes

Note : CDMT = Children's Directorate Management Team

# Panel Terms of Reference & Application Forms : update

<u>Sector</u>	<u>Targeted SEND Funding</u>	<u>Education Banding Tool (RAS)</u>
Early Years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Panel TOR : need to finalise and share with sub-group</li> <li>Application Form : revised draft being tested</li> <li>Guidance notes / FAQs being developed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revised Requested For Statutory Assessment Form is being amended to align with the SEND Ranges</li> <li>Annual Review Form also being reviewed</li> </ul>
Mainstream Schools > primary, secondary & 16+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Panel TOR : need to finalise and share with sub-group</li> <li>Application Form : revised draft being tested</li> <li>Guidance notes / FAQs being developed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Same as Early Years</li> </ul>
Units & Mainstream Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Same as Mainstream Schools</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Same as Early Years</li> </ul>
Special Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not applicable</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Same as Early Years</li> </ul>
Further Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scope and timeline for review needs to be confirmed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Same as Early Years</li> </ul>

- SEND Funding Public Consultation
  - Results support the “Funding Principles” of the project
  - Further analysis of quantitative and qualitative results needed > integrate into project plan
- On-going review of SEND funding options with the principle that “the funding follows the needs, and is fair and transparent” plus WNC Budget impact is being evaluated
- Payment changes
  - Early Years from 1 April 2024
  - Mainstream Schools & Units from 1 April 2024
  - Further Education from 1 August 2024
- Process improvements & application documentation improvements to be launched after consultation / co-production with education sector sub-groups
  - Launch dates are flexible
  - Comprehensive guidance notes / FAQs are being developed
- Communication campaign is on-going & Training topics being identified

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## **Schools Forum**

Survey on future meeting arrangements

Summary of responses

18 October 2023



# Background

- Schools Forum members requested in July 2023 that members be surveyed about meeting arrangements and issues that could affect attendance.
- Members were surveyed in September using the Microsoft Forms online tool.
- Responses were received from 13 Schools Forum members:
  - 3/3 maintained primary school representatives
  - 1/1 maintained nursery school representative
  - 3/5 academy mainstream representatives
  - 1/1 academy special school representative
  - 1/1 academy alternative provision representative
  - 2/2 PVI representatives (plus 1 substitute)
  - 1/1 CofE diocesan authority representative

# Responses – barriers to attendance






If you find it difficult to attend Schools Forum meetings, what are the reasons for this?

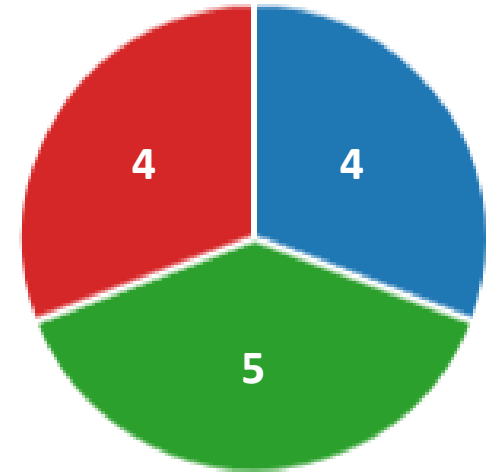
## Comments:

- Distance from school
- The meetings are nearly all on Tuesdays and this is not my working day
- Other commitments as a headteacher
- Only health issues
- Tuesday afternoon meetings clash with regular meetings in school
- Sometimes time and getting away from school
- Location and time of day
- Sometimes due to inspections
- Diary clashes occasionally
- Location, schedule pressures

# Responses – meeting format

What sort of meeting would you prefer?

 In-person	4
 Online	0
 Hybrid – both online and in-person	5
 Combination – e.g. most meetings online with key meetings in-person	4
 No preference	0







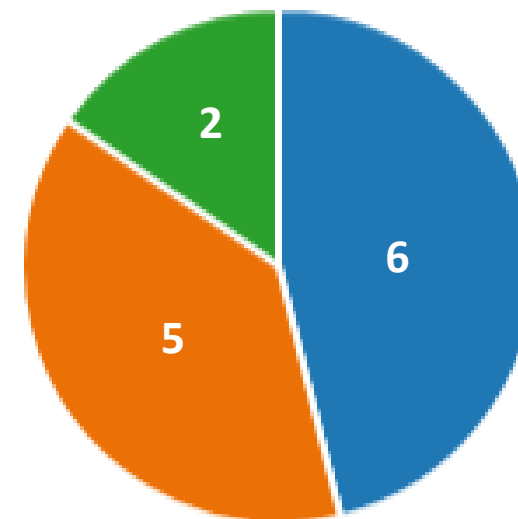
Additional comments:

- In person meetings are more effective and productive though taking time out of school is not always easy, particularly if you also teach. Online meetings may capture more people and avoid lots of apologies.
- I prefer in-person but there are times when I may only be able to attend online
- Environmental aspect and time out of the day makes hybrid working a necessity.
- Really the answer is a combination of 3 and 4 – most online with key meetings in person (where possible).

# Responses – meeting location

Where would you prefer any in-person meetings to be held?

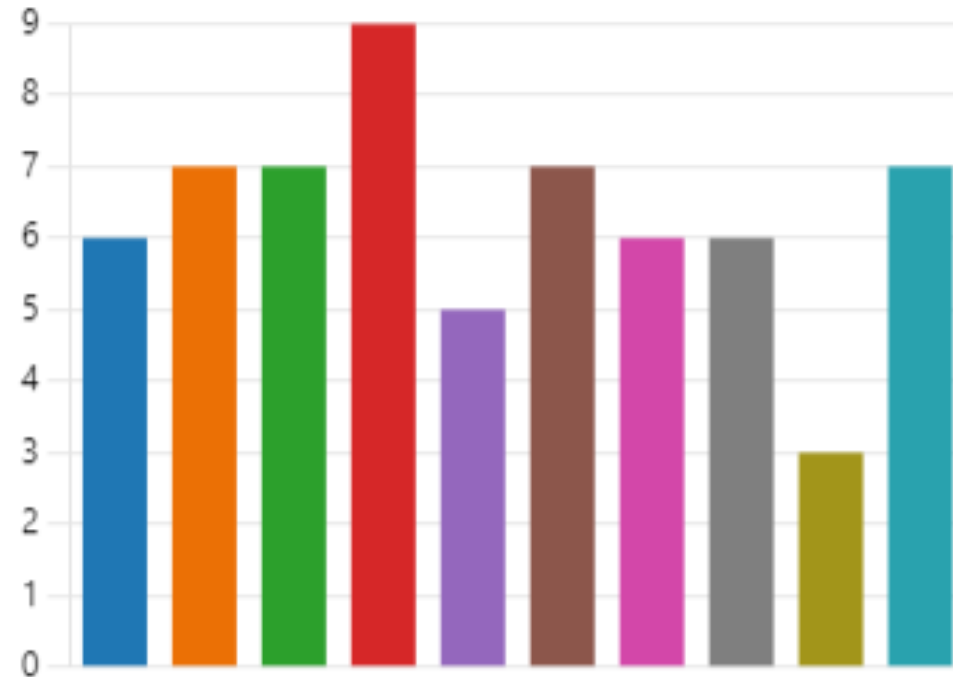
	The Forum, Towcester	6
	Northampton - eg The Guildhall	5
	No preference	2
	Other (please specify below)	0



# Responses – meeting day / time #1

Which days/times are you able to attend?

Monday am	6
Monday pm	7
Tuesday am	7
Tuesday pm	9
Wednesday am	5
Wednesday pm	7
Thursday am	6
Thursday pm	6
Friday am	3
Friday pm	7



# Responses – meeting day / time #2

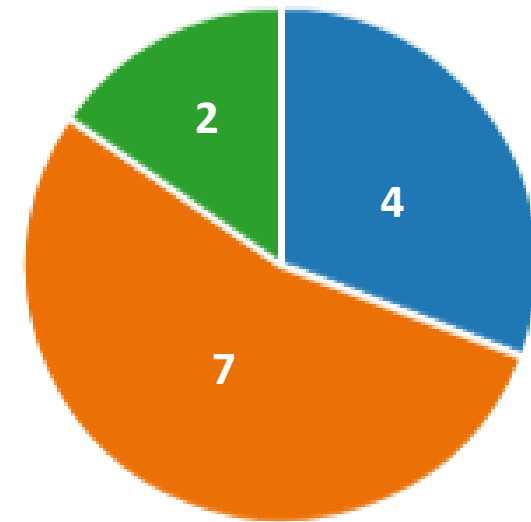
Of the days/times you are able to attend, which would you prefer? Are there other options we need to consider (such as after school meetings)?

- During school hours would be best.
- I would find after school meetings difficult due to the cycle of meetings we have after school.
- Any time in the selected hours is fine for me.
- An afternoon meeting means those who work in school miss a smaller proportion of the time when pupils are in school.
- I have some flexibility.
- Tuesday AM
- Tuesday or Thursday
- The time our current meetings finish mean travelling at rush hour – as someone who travels from East Northants this means navigating through Towcester and then Northampton.
- Afternoons are easier. After school not easy with governors and staff meetings.
- Afternoon after 2pm is best for us.
- Early afternoon
- Tuesday AM

# Responses – substitute members

Do you have someone who could substitute for you if you were unable to attend?

 Yes	4
 No	7
 Maybe	2





# Themes from responses

- There is no support for holding all meetings online only.
- There is similar support for hybrid meetings, for in-person meetings and for using a combination of approaches for different meetings.
- There is similar support for holding in-person meetings in Towcester or in Northampton, with no other locations suggested.
- There is no particular support for holding meetings outside of school hours due to clashes with other meetings that would result.
- Early afternoon meetings seem to work best for most members as this takes out a smaller proportion of the school day, although does mean travelling at rush hour afterwards.
- Tuesday PM received the most support as a meeting time, although it does not work for all members. There is a fairly even spread of support across every other slot between Monday AM and Thursday PM.

# Other considerations

- Remote participation has been offered at recent Schools Forum meetings when requested.
- A desktop survey of schools forum meeting arrangements in nearby local authorities indicates that online meetings are still most common:

Online meetings	Bedford Borough, Cambridgeshire, Central Bedfordshire, Leicestershire, Milton Keynes, North Northamptonshire
In-person meetings	Buckinghamshire, Derbyshire
Combination	Nottinghamshire, Warwickshire

- In-person meetings seem to be viewed as most effective but can be more difficult to attend due to travelling time. Hybrid meetings can be most challenging to manage.
- Schools Forum has certain meetings in the year that are higher priority in that decisions on Schools and Early Years funding proposals are required.
- The Schools Forum meetings on Wednesday 18 October and Wednesday 13 December 2023 will give experience of meeting at a different time in the week to normal.

# Areas for discussion

Schools Forum to use the results from the survey to consider and resolve:

- Future meeting format(s): in-person only; online only; hybrid; or a combination of formats.
- Any changes to the venue for in-person meetings: for example, rotating between The Forum, Towcester, and The Guildhall, Northampton.
- Any changes to the standard meeting day and/or start time.
- Any other actions that might be taken to support the effectiveness of Schools Forum meetings.

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