

Schools Forum

Title:	Schools Funding and National Funding Formula Update
Date:	Tuesday 16 January 2018
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Local members affected:	All

For press enquiries concerning this report, please contact the media office on 01296 382444

Summary

This provides an update to the Schools Forum on the school budgets for 2018/19. This after applying the agreed funding formula (see background paper) to the December 2017 data set for schools in Buckinghamshire.

For Information Only –no decision or recommendation

Details

Overall the funding per pupil in Buckinghamshire has increased by 3.9% per pupil in 2018/19 however this has several caveats:

1. The 2018/19 funding includes funding for pupils in Additional Resource Provision (ARP) units in schools which was previously funded by the High Needs Block (HNB) funding. In total this is c £0.9m of funding at £4k per pupil. This is matched by a reduction in ARP funding through HNB though.
2. £157k of the increase is due to changes in business rates which are funded fully and therefore costs will also be increased to match this.
3. Funding is before the impact of pay progression for staff, inflationary increases in pay costs and non-pay costs. Any cash increase will therefore be offset by increases in costs.

Next steps

- The modelling tool for each school is being published by 12th January 2018. This will include the current funding formula plus modelling for the next two years.
- Formal Individual School Budgets are being published on the Schools Web when the DfE approve the final Authority Proforma Tool submission. This is anticipated by the end of January. We are not expecting any fundamental issues in the calculations being raised by the Department for Education.
- We are still awaiting the disapplication request for exceptional premises costs for the smallest schools. Budget tables have been prepared on the basis that this is not agreed. If it is agreed the smallest schools would receive some additional funding.

Appendix

The appended table provides a comparison for every school. This can be used for the purposes of budget forecasting by schools.

Background Papers

Cabinet Member Decision on Dedicated Schools Grant and Schools Funding December 2017

<https://democracy.buckscc.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=6918>
