



## Report to the Schools Forum

**Title:** School Budgets 2020-21– Consultation Results  
**Committee date:** 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2019  
**Author:** Liz Williams, Head of Finance Children’s Service  
**Contact officer:** Janaki Try, Finance Business Partner (Schools)  
[jtry@buckscc.gov.uk](mailto:jtry@buckscc.gov.uk)

### 1. Purpose of Supplementary Paper to Agenda Item 5 SCHOOLS BUDGETS 2020-21

1.1. This supplementary paper sets out the results of the consultation on ‘Local Schools Funding Formula – Principles for 2020-21’. In October Schools Forum agreed that the consultation on principles should take place over the autumn term. The consultation ran from 12<sup>th</sup> November to the 25<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

### 2. Summary of Results

2.1. There were 29 responses from the survey via schools bulletin and 21 results from email responses following reminder letters to schools. In total there were 50 answers, although 3 schools did not respond to question 3, as follows:

#### Question 1 – Principle b

*“Minimum level of per-pupil funding for primary and secondary schools. The purpose of this factor is for local authorities to provide the National Funding Formula minimum per-pupil funding levels to every school. We intend to make the use of this factor, at the NFF cash values, mandatory in local funding formulae this year. Local authorities and schools should plan on this basis.”*

b. Do you agree to: Adopt the minimum funding level of per pupil funding and prorate (scaling) of all other factors in the formula to match the available allocation of funding from the DfE?

Agree	46	92%	Disagree	4	8%
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**Question 2 – Principle c**

*“Local authorities will continue to set a minimum funding guarantee in their local formulae, to protect schools from excessive year-on-year changes”*

c. Do you agree to: Use a minimum funding guarantee factor **that brings the greatest number of schools closest to the National Funding Formula?**

Agree 39 78%

Disagree 11 22%

**\*Question 3 – Principle d**

*“It is likely that protection will still be required in some areas as a result of changes to formulae, so we will again allow overall gains for individual schools to be capped as well as scaled back to ensure that the formula is affordable...Capping and scaling must not take a school below the minimum per-pupil funding levels. “*

d. Do you agree to: Use capping of gains per pupil to pay for the cost of protecting schools where the formula reduces their budget by **more than the minimum funding guarantee, as required?**

Agree 35 70%

Disagree 12 24%

\*3 schools (6%) skipped this question in their response.

2.2. Comments made by schools on each question are given in Appendix 1 and 2

### 3. Recommendations

3.1. To note the outcome of the consultation as shown in this paper and the appendices

3.2. To note for discussion at the Schools Forum meeting in December, that the majority of schools responding have agreed with all 3 consultation questions.