



Report to Schools Forum

Date: 5th December 2023

Title: De-Delegation Proposals 2024-25

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Recommendations:

To consider and agree the proposals for de-delegation in 2024-25 based on the recommendations of the Maintained Schools Committee.

Reason for decision: to set de-delegation levels for 2024-25.

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to set out the proposals for existing de-delegations and former ESG funded services de-delegations 2024-25 for consideration by Schools Forum. The DfE Operational Guide published in July 2025 makes no changes to the De-delegation definition or guidance. The guidance includes provision to allow the de-delegation of funds to support core and additional school improvement activity.
- 1.2. The Maintained Schools Committee met on 30th November 2023 with an open invitation to representatives from maintained schools. The recommendations from that meeting are attached to this report.

2. Maintained Schools Committee

- 2.1. The committee met on 30th November 2023. The notes of that meeting are attached to this report in Appendix A.
- 2.2. Supplementary information was provided to the committee including expenditure in previous years and a further update on the trade union facilities costs and educational visits service. All of this information was taken into account in the discussions in the group.
- 2.3. A separate report on proposals for the de-delegation of funding for school improvement activity was also presented to the meeting. This is attached at Appendix B. A detailed report on Trade Union de-delegation was also considered by the sub-committee.

2.4. Based on that information the committee made the following recommendations.

3. “Existing” De-delegated Services

3.1. It is recommended that de-delegation for “existing” de-delegated services across primary and secondary schools should be as follows:

- Contingency fund for schools in deficit - It is recommended that there is no de-delegation in 2024-25 due to the amount that has been rolled forward from previous years. This is to be reviewed on an annual basis.
- Contingency for deficits of closing schools – it is recommended that there is no de-delegation in 2024-25 and that this should be reviewed on an annual basis.
- Trade union facilities – it is recommended that funding is de-delegated at 50p per pupil.
- Supply cover for small schools – it is recommended that there is no de-delegation in 2024-25 and that this should be reviewed on an annual basis.

4. Former ESG funded Services

4.1. It is recommended that de-delegation for former ESG funded services is as follows:

- Finance support for schools in financial difficulties – £2.75 per pupil primary and secondary/ £11 per place Special and PRU
- Educational Visits Service - £1.22 per pupil for primary and secondary/ £4.88 per pupil Special and PRU

5. School Improvement Activity

5.1. It is recommended that de-delegation for school improvement activity is £3.48 per pupil for 2024-25. This would have been £4.00 if the decision remained in line with the stepped plan increase in school contributions discussed at School Forum in December 2023. The lower figure reflects the proposed removal of funding for Liaison Group Projects.

6. Recommended De-Delegation 2024-25

6.1. The total recommended de-delegation for 2024-25 is summarised as follows:



Service	Primary / Secondary per pupil	Special School per place
	£	£
Contingency Fund for Schools in deficit	-	-
Contingency for deficits of closing schools	-	-
Trade Union facilities	0.50	-
Supply cover for small schools	-	-
Finance Support for schools in financial difficulties	2.75	11.00
Educational Visits Service	1.22	4.88
School Improvement	4.00	-
School Improvement - removal of funding for Liaison Group Projects	- 0.52	-
Total proposed de-delegation per pupil / place	7.95	15.88