



Schools Forum

Wednesday 17 June 2020 at 5.30 pm*

This will be held as a virtual online meeting

*Please note the earlier start time for the meeting

Membership

Representing

SCHOOL MEMBERS

Nursery

Lesley Benson
Vacancy

Head
Governor

Primary

Martine Clark (**Vice-Chair**)
Michelle Ginty
Melissa Loosemore
Raphael Moss
Vacancy
Geraldine Chadwick
Michael Maurice
Narinder Nathan
Tim Jones

Head
Head
Head
Head
Governor
Governor
Governor
Governor
Governor

Secondary

Vacancy

Head (Maintained)

Special Education Needs

Russell Davey

Head

Pupil Referral Unit

Vacancy

Head

ACADEMY MEMBERS

Primary

Vacancy
Jo Jhally

Head
Governor

Secondary

Andy Prindiville	Head
Gill Bal	Head
Gerard McKenna	Head
Martin Beard	Governor
Mike Heiser (Chair)	Governor
Titilola McDowell	Governor

Special Education Needs

Jayne Jardine	Head
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NON-SCHOOL MEMBERS**Early Years PVI**

Paul Russell
Vacancy

Trade Union

John Roche / Jennifer Cooper

16-19 Provider Representative

Mark Stacey

For further information contact: James Kinsella, Governance Officer
Email: James.Kinsella@brent.gov.uk; Tel: 0208 937 2063

For electronic copies of minutes, reports and agendas, and to be alerted when the minutes of this meeting have been published visit: www.brent.gov.uk/committees

The press and public are welcome to attend this as an online virtual meeting. The link to attend and view the meeting is available [HERE](#)

Notes for Members - Declarations of Interest:

If a Member is aware they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest* in an item of business, they must declare its existence and nature at the start of the meeting or when it becomes apparent and must leave the room without participating in discussion of the item.

If a Member is aware they have a Personal Interest** in an item of business, they must declare its existence and nature at the start of the meeting or when it becomes apparent.

If the Personal Interest is also significant enough to affect your judgement of a public interest and either it affects a financial position or relates to a regulatory matter then after disclosing the interest to the meeting the Member must leave the room without participating in discussion of the item, except that they may first make representations, answer questions or give evidence relating to the matter, provided that the public are allowed to attend the meeting for those purposes.

***Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:**

- (a) **Employment, etc.** - Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit gain.
- (b) **Sponsorship** - Any payment or other financial benefit in respect of expenses in carrying out duties as a member, or of election; including from a trade union.
- (c) **Contracts** - Any current contract for goods, services or works, between the Councillors or their partner (or a body in which one has a beneficial interest) and the council.
- (d) **Land** - Any beneficial interest in land which is within the council's area.
- (e) **Licences** - Any licence to occupy land in the council's area for a month or longer.
- (f) **Corporate tenancies** - Any tenancy between the council and a body in which the Councillor or their partner have a beneficial interest.
- (g) **Securities** - Any beneficial interest in securities of a body which has a place of business or land in the council's area, if the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body or of any one class of its issued share capital.

****Personal Interests:**

The business relates to or affects:

- (a) Anybody of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management, and:
 - To which you are appointed by the council;
 - which exercises functions of a public nature;
 - which is directed is to charitable purposes;
 - whose principal purposes include the influence of public opinion or policy (including a political party or trade union).
 - (b) The interests of a person from whom you have received gifts or hospitality of at least £50 as a member in the municipal year;
- Or

A decision in relation to that business might reasonably be regarded as affecting the well-being or financial position of:

- You yourself;
- a member of your family or your friend or any person with whom you have a close association or any person or body who is the subject of a registrable personal interest.

Agenda

Introductions, if appropriate.

Item	Page
1 Apologies for Absence and Membership	
2 Declarations of Interest	
3 Deputations (if Any)	
4 Minutes of the previous meeting	1 - 10
To approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday 26 February 2020 as a correct record.	
5 Actions arising	
To consider any actions arising from previous meetings.	
6 Dedicated Schools Grant Financial Outturn 2019/2020	11 - 22
This report sets out the final Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) outturn against the budget set for 2019/20.	
7 Update on Split Site Funding Allocations & Early Years Deprivation Funding Adjustments	23 - 28
This report provides further information to the Schools Forum on the early years funding adjustment applied in 2020-21 to ensure no provider rate drops by more than 1.5% compared to 2019/20. The report also demonstrates how the criteria for split site funding has been met for the schools in receipt of this funding for 2020-21, and illustrate the impact of introducing a cap on this funding.	
8 Dates of Future Meetings	
The Forum is asked to note the schedule of dates for future meetings during 2020/2021, which are as follows:	
Date of the next meeting: Wednesday 4 November 2020 at 6pm	
Date of Future Meetings for 2020/21:	

Wednesday 9 December 2020 at 6pm
(additional date, if required)
Wednesday 20 January 2021 at 6pm
Wednesday 24 February 2021 at 6pm

At this stage, all Forums are scheduled to be held as online virtual meetings.

9 Any Other Urgent Business

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MINUTES OF THE SCHOOLS FORUM Wednesday 26 February 2020 at 6.00 pm

Membership

Representing

PRESENT:

Governors

Mike Heiser (Chair)
Geraldine Chadwick
Jo Jhally
Tim Jones
Titilola McDowell
Michael Maurice
Narinder Nathan

Headteachers

Martine Clark (Vice-Chair)
Gill Bal
Lesley Benson
Russell Davey
Michelle Ginty
Gerard McKenna
Raphael Moss
Andy Prindiville

Trade Union

John Roche

Early Years PVI

Paul Russell

16-19 Provider

Mark Stacey

Leader of the Council

Councillor M Butt

Lead Member

Councillor Agha

Officers

Dena Aly
Olufunke Adediran
Brian Grady
Kunwar Khan
Andrew Ward

1. Apologies for Absence and Membership

Jayne Jardine (Special Headteacher), Vivien Dean (Pupil Referral Unit) and Martin Beard (Secondary Governor)

Kunwar Khan (Governance Officer, Brent Council) informed the Schools Forum that the Forum now had the following vacancies in total:

- 1 Nursery Governor
- 1 Primary Governor
- 1 Academy (Primary) Headteacher
- 1 Maintained (Secondary) Headteacher
- 1 Early Years PVI Representative

Kunwar Khan indicated that these vacancies to represent the respective sector would be advertised via Headteachers Bulletin and Governors Bulletins to all schools.

Introduction and welcome

The Chair welcomed the Leader of the Council, Councillor M Butt. The Chair stated that the Cabinet Member responsible, Councillor Agha, had been regularly attending the Schools Forum meeting and he was glad to have the Leader of the Council attending this meeting as well.

Councillor M Butt thanked the Brent Schools Forum and appreciated the role, efforts and contribution of its members. He added that the Council shared the pain of cuts the Schools Forum was facing and reiterated his desire to continue to work together in order to do the best for Brent children.

2. Declarations of Interest

None.

3. Deputations (if Any)

None.

4. Minutes of the previous meeting

RESOLVED that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 15 January 2020 be approved as an accurate record of the meeting, subject to the names of Tim Jones and Jo Jhally being added to the list of those present.

5. Actions arising

Action 52: The consultation on schools funding had taken place, and would be reported on at this meeting. This action was now **concluded**.

Action 54: To review the change in the split of terms for NEG payments. This had been followed up separately. This action was now **concluded**.

Action 55: To consider feedback from forum members that some parents were waiting until a child was three years old to start their early years education journey; to discuss the challenges of high maintenance costs for early years providers in meeting the demands of delivering the 30-hours free childcare offer; and to provide more information about the Nursery Education Grant (NEG) would be considered at the next Early Years Sub Group. Andrew Ward (Head of Finance, Children & Young People, Brent Council) stated that the date for the Early Years Group meeting had not yet been arranged, but would be timetabled between January and February

Schools Forum. Meeting had now been held, where the early years block budget (report included in the agenda pack) was discussed. This action was now **concluded**.

Action 56: To review the split-site funding to confirm how allocation met the stipulated Brent criteria. Dena Aly (Senior Finance Analyst, Children & Young People, Brent Council) confirmed that the checks had been undertaken and would be evidenced in a future Schools Forum report. This information was on the agenda included in the report on the updated schools funding formula. This specific action was **concluded**. *{The Schools Forum under the agenda item 9, which would be recorded as a new action 62 below, requested an overall review of split-side funding mechanism.}*

Action 57: A member of the Forum referred to the suggestion made at the last meeting that there should be a cap on split site funding due to economies of scale. Andrew Ward stated that the methodology would be brought in a future paper and that any change would not require consultation with all schools but would be subject to a Schools Forum vote. A member of the Forum responded that they would like to see the financial impact of any proposed change. Andrew Ward to revisit and if appropriate, to bring an update to the January Schools Forum. **This action was being looked at in conjunction with Action No 56 and was anticipated to be covered in June 2020. (Action 57: Dena Aly)**

Action 58: Members of the Schools Forum were requested to support the option set out in paragraph 4.3.5 to secure the continuation of the BCA Champion role in Brent schools for a further two years. It was likely that this would be achieved through schools own budgets. In relation to this an update to be provided as part of the next six monthly update. **This would be covered at the June meeting. (Action 58: Brian Grady / Farzana Aldridge)**

6. **DSG Deficit**

The Schools Forum received a report from Andrew Ward, Head of Finance - CYP informing them of the Department for Education's response and direction following the consultation on DSG deficits.

In considering the report and during the discussion, the following key points were noted:

- Many Councils including most London Boroughs were forecasting a deficit on their DSG by the end of 2019/20. The DfE had consulted on how to treat these deficits and thereon responded that DSG deficits could be carried forward against future year's DSG allocations.
- Having allocated additional High Needs block funding for 2020/21, the expectation was that councils work towards balancing their in-year position on the High Needs block and recover any accumulated deficits over a multi-year period. There was a risk that this would not be possible if the number of Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) continued to increase.
- The current position, as reported to the Schools Forum in January 2020, was that overall the Brent DSG would go into a deficit of approximately £4m at

the end of the 2019/20 financial year. This was due to the rising demand on the High Needs block driven by the significant increase in the number of children and young people with EHCPs.

- The £4m deficit was the forecast position after reserves had been used and eliminated. Expenditure on the High Needs block was forecast to exceed income by £7m in 2019/20.
- The DfE announced in January 2020 that the terms and conditions would be amended to make it clearer that Local Authorities could recover DSG deficits from future DSG allocations.
- DSG funding had increased for 2020/21, including an additional £5m for the High Needs block. The additional High Needs block funding, plus a £0.9m transfer from the Schools Block, and measures to contain expenditure meant a balanced budget would be set for the High Needs block.
- The DSG budget being set would not attempt to recover any of the deficit incurred in 2019/20, so longer-term actions were required in addition to continued lobbying for sustained further increases in funding. A task group was being set up by the council to coordinate and monitor these actions, details of which were stipulated in paragraphs 4.5.1 to 4.5.6 of the report.
- The Association of Directors of Children's Services has requested that the DfE provide feedback to local authorities on what were the effective actions in the council recovery plans that have been reviewed.
- The consultation response did not mention the production of recovery plans. The Council was setting a balanced DSG budget for 2020/21 with the £5m increase in High Needs funding being allocated against the pressures in the block in consultation with the Schools Forum. It would not reduce the deficit, which would carry forward into 2021/22. A combination of longer-term recovery actions and anticipated funding increases would reduce the deficit in the medium term. The main and clearest risk to this strategy was that the number of EHCPs would continue to rise.
- Collaborative work was underway to find more capacity/resources under the joint working arrangements through the West London Alliance (WLA) – two more authorities were in the process of joining the WLA.
- A Schools Forum Member raised a query whether there was a scope for more congruence between the financial assumptions between the local authority and the central government.
- Once the local authority's DSG was in deficit, it usually came under the purview of the Council/S151 matter but the DfE might want to retain the ownership with a view to possibly influence a future spending review.

RESOLVED that:

1. The Schools Forum notes the contents of the report.

2. To draft a letter, on behalf of the Schools Forum, signed by the Chair, to raise the relevant issues with appropriate authorities.

(Action 59: Olufunke Adediran/Andrew Ward)

7. Early Years National Funding Formula 2020-21

The Schools Forum received a report from Dena Aly, Senior Finance Analyst - CYP informing that following the confirmation of the provisional Early Years Block DSG funding for Brent, the local Early Years Funding Formula needed to be set for 2020/21.

In considering the report and during the discussion, the following key points were noted:

- There had been increases to the funding rates allocated to Brent for 2-year-old, and 3 and 4-year-old provision. The LA continued to retain 5% of the total allocated to Brent, with 95% allocated to providers.
- The base funding rate to providers made up 90% of allocated funding. The deprivation factor allocated the remaining 10%, based on the IDACI index, which was updated in 2019.
- It was recommended that for 2020/21, the following were applied to the Early Years National Funding Formula:
 - a) A universal base rate for Brent providers for 3 and 4 year old funding of £4.53 per hour. This had increased from £4.46 in 2019/20
 - b) An allocation for deprivation for 3 and 4 year funding of 10%
 - c) A base rate for Brent providers for 2-year-old funding of £6 per hour
 - d) A cap on centrally retained funding by the local authority to 5%
 - e) The funding previously allocated under a misapplication for the 2017/18 academic year for additional 15-hour places for some 3 and 4-year-old based on local eligibility continued to be allocated to the Under 5s' Nursery Panel. Both PVI and maintained providers could apply for this, to ensure the funding continued to be targeted at vulnerable children
- The Schools Forum noted the details concerning the funding from central government to the local authority; a universal base rate for Brent providers for 3 and 4-year-old funding; specialist nursery panel, additional resources for maintained nursery schools; centrally retained funding by the local authority; a base rate for Brent providers for 2-year-old funding; and early years funding based on DfE provisional allocations.
- The paragraph 4.2, Table 1 of the report, provided a summary of the change.
- Section 10, Table 4 of the report, laid out how the funding would be spent. The additional spend of 8p in the two year old rate was covered by increased funding in July due to increased take up. Section 10 of the report provided the total Early Years budget.

- The Schools Forum requested that setting-by-setting information; how much was being spent; who received the money and how the money was being distributed be provided at a future meeting.
- PVI representative felt that minimum wage for Private, Voluntary and Independent (PVI) sector, pensions for teachers and others factors and restrictions presented a massive cost pressure and providers in PVI were pushed to the wall. Brent needed to be more proactive and there had been a massive underestimation of cost pressures on PVIs.
- Early Years education was one of the most vital moments in a child's education and the point at which attainment and life chances could be set. However, not all early years provisions were equal. Children, especially those from disadvantaged backgrounds, make the best progress when taught by highly qualified early years professionals but this came at a cost. The 30 free hours offer risked negatively affecting quality and this was affecting the poorest, most vulnerable and deprived children.
- Leader of the Council, Councillor M Butt, commented that given the overall impact of cuts on Brent's children, he would like to see more noise and efforts from stakeholders outside of this room. He stated that the Forum might wish to examine how Brent fared vis-à-vis with other relevant boroughs and its neighbouring authorities. He was of the view that the Council drastically depleted its own reserves, S151 officer, auditors and the DCLG would be vigorously pursuing the leadership team to explain and put in place measures to tackle any underlining issues. Councillor M Butt added that if the central government funding situation concerning schools in the Borough continued, Brent would fall further behind amidst medium and long-term problems despite its excellent progress and efforts therefore Brent could not just accept the situation as a fait accompli. Councillor Butt informed the Schools Forum that he would raise this issue at the executive meeting of London Councils to start the conversation and raise the profile of this issue.

RESOLVED:

1. The Schools Forum endorsed Brent's Early Years Funding Formula for 2020/21.
2. The Schools Forum requested average setting-by-setting information, how much was being spent, who received the money and how the money was being distributed.

(Action 60: Dena Aly/Olufunke Adediran)

8. High Needs Block 20-21

The Schools Forum received a report from Andrew Ward, Head of Finance – CYP informing them of the detailed High Needs Block budget for adoption in 2020/21. Following the discussion theme under the previous item, in considering the report and during the discussion, the following key points were noted:

- The High Needs block budget for 2020/21 was set to balance to available resources including the £0.9m Schools Block transfer. The total budget stood at £62.2m.
- The High Needs block funding had been confirmed at £61.3m for 2020/21. This was £5m more than that received in 2019/20 but only represented a 9% increase compared to the national increase in High Needs funding of 11%.
- In addition, the Schools Forum had approved a Schools block transfer of 0.4% totalling £0.9m. Total funding for the High Needs block in 2020/21 was £62.2m.
- The Schools Forum sub-group for High Needs met on 12 February 2020 to discuss the High Needs block budget and any changes and the final detailed budget was provided in appendix 1 of the report.
- In terms of risks:
 - The budget allocated the available resources within the constraints of the funding that was available for the provision of SEND. The budget aimed to achieve an in-year balance between expenditure and income and did not reduce the forecast deficit that would be brought forward from 2019/20.
 - Given the increased demand for SEND provision, there were some clear risks and challenges to the aim of achieving a balanced outturn in 2020/21.
 - The main risk was that the number of children and young people with EHCPs continued to grow at the same rate as in recent years, rather than the growth levelling off. With in borough special provision becoming full, greater use would have to be made of out of borough and independent settings.
 - There was also the risk of price inflation for SEND provision in out of borough and independent settings. This could be partly mitigated by effective commissioning arrangements such as using the WLA.
- Appendix 1 to the report provided the line-by-line details.
- The Special School Headteacher, Russell Davey, highlighted that the Special School High Needs funding rates had been frozen for the last 10 years, and officers responded that there was an uplift two years ago. Russell Davey undertook to provide the relevant detail to the officers directly.
- Concerning EHCPs in general as well as the assumption about levelling off made in paragraph 6.3 that stated that *'The main risk is that the number of children and young people with EHCPs continues to grow at the same rate as in recent years, rather than the growth levelling off. With in-borough special provision becoming full, greater use will have to be made of out of borough and independent settings.'* A fruitful discussion was had on this issue and a majority of Headteachers collectively felt that there was lack of

clarity and support on this issue and a better way of articulating 'levelling-off' ought to be found given the unprecedented demand and incredible pressure, complex needs, together with, a holistic approach to this area.

- The overall system was reviewed in the last year's OFSTED inspection and was, overall, doing well. There were a few delays/drag around therapies and a few other areas, which could be improved and become more effective. With this in mind, to increase the capacity of the relevant panels with more expertise from the schools.

RESOLVED that:

1. The Schools Forum notes the contents of the report.
- 2 To set up a task and finish group to review the situation concerning High Needs and the EHCPs with increased expertise from the schools.

(Action 61: Dena Aly/Olufunke Adediran)

9. Updated 2020/21 Schools Funding Formula

The Schools Forum received a report from Andrew Ward, Head of Finance – CYP confirming the final schools funding formula allocations as well as the split site funding allocations against the stipulated Brent criteria.

In considering the report and during the discussion, the following key points were noted:

- In January 2020, Schools Forum approved the schools funding formula allocations. This followed a consultation with schools on changes to the funding formula in order to address financial pressures caused by rising costs, pupil mobility, and to provide funding to support rising pupil rolls in secondary schools.
- Following submission to the DfE for compliance checks an error was identified with the pupil numbers included in the funding formula. Finance officers had corrected the error by adjusting the calculations to fit within the available funding whilst continuing to adhere to the same principles agreed for the 2020/21 funding formula.
- Subsequent to the January Schools Forum meeting, some adjustments were necessary to the funding formula to correct errors in the entered pupil numbers. The revised school level allocations were shown in Appendix 1 of the report.
- Once the DfE checks on this were complete, the school level allocations would be published for all schools by the end of February (in addition to the school level High Needs Block allocations and Early Years Block estimates).
- Table 1 of the report titled '2020/21 Funding Formula Changes' showed the overall value of the changes made since the January Schools Forum.

- Table 2 of the report detailed the assessment of schools against split site Funding Criteria.
- Table 3 of the report provided details about split site funding allocations for 2020/21.
- Appendix 1 of the report provided School Level Allocations for 2020-21.
- Appendix 2 highlighted the 2020-21 Funding Formula Rates with Pupil Funding Factors.
- More money was now being given to the Shires and North East including places like Sussex – further details and data was available on the DfE's website.
- A Secondary Headteacher highlighted that there was a big drop of £728,000 in the secondary finding overall. He felt that this was a huge adjustment not a minor one and was not highlighted in the report analysis. He added that every single Secondary school in Brent was affected. It was commented that this could be due to minimum funding guarantee (MFG). The Secondary Headteacher further enquired whether this was mentioned in January papers as he would not have voted for the budget in January had he known about this. The Chair asked for clarity and more analysis based on why and how things changed between January and February reports, particularly how it affected the primary and secondary schools.
- Another Headteacher reiterated to a previous request whether the upper cap should be considered for split-site funding.
- The Chair added that the upper cap could not randomly be applied without looking at the whole process and split site funding criteria.
- The Leader of the Council, Councillor M Butt, supported the request to review the overall split-site funding arrangements with more specific and clearer criteria. The Schools Forum agreed to receive a split-site review report at the June 2020 meeting. The review report would take into account views by the Headteachers.

RESOLVED:

1. Schools Forum recommends the final schools mainstream funding formula for 2020/21.
2. The Schools Forum to receive a split-site review report at the June 2020 meeting.

(Action 62: Dena Aly/Olufunke Adediran)

10. Updated Scheme for Financing Schools & Schools Financial Regulations

The Schools Forum received a report from Dena Aly, Senior Finance Analyst - CYP detailing the changes to be implemented to the Scheme for Financing Schools and the Schools Financial Regulations.

In considering the report and during the discussion, the following key points were noted:

- All changes applied in the revision were in line with the Department for Education's Scheme for Financing Schools – Statutory Guidance issued to all local authorities, changes to the Local Authority's own regulations, and all other relevant regulations.
- The Scheme for Financing Schools was being updated to reflect changes to contract procurement values, to clarify tendering arrangements, and clarify pension administration responsibilities.
- The 2020-21 Scheme for Financing Schools was attached as Appendix A to the report, with the summary of changes being detailed in Appendix B of the report. These changes would be effective from 1st April 2020.
- The Schools Financial Regulations was being updated to reflect changes to contract procurement values and to clarify tendering arrangements.
- The 2020-21 Schools Financial Regulations is attached as Appendix C of the report, with the summary of changes being detailed in Appendix D of the report. The changes would also become effective from 1st April 2020.

RESOLVED:

All proposals to revise the Scheme for Financing Schools were approved by the Schools Forum.

The Schools Forum was requested to approve the amendments to the Scheme for Financing Schools 2020-21. **(CARRIED)**

All proposals to revise the Schools Financial Regulations must conform to the Local Authority's Constitution encompassing the Financial Regulations and Contract Standing Orders approved by the S.151 officer. **(CARRIED)**


Schools Forum is requested to note the amendments made to Schools Financial Regulations 2020-21. **(CARRIED)**

11. Any Other Urgent Business

None.

The Schools Forum noted that this was Andrew Ward's last meeting as he was moving on to another area within the Council. Members recorded their thanks for the work and support provided by Andrew to the Schools Forum.

The meeting closed at 7.53 pm

	Schools Forum 17 June 2020
	Report from the Strategic Director of Children and Young People
Dedicated Schools Grant Financial Outturn 2019/20	

Wards Affected:	All
Key or Non-Key Decision: (only applicable for Cabinet, Cabinet Sub Committee and officer decisions)	N/A
Open or Part/Fully Exempt: (If exempt, please highlight relevant paragraph of Part 1, Schedule 12A of 1972 Local Government Act)	N/A
No. of Appendices:	Appendix A: DSG Outturn 2019/20 Appendix B: Maintained School Balances
Background Papers:	None
Contact Officer(s): (Name, Title, Contact Details)	Olufunke Adediran Head of Finance – Children & Young People Tel: 0208 937 1196 Email olufunke.adediran@brent.gov.uk Dena Aly, Senior Finance Analyst – Children & Young People Tel: 0208 937 2179 Email: dena.aly@brent.gov.uk

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1. This report sets out the final Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) outturn against the budget set for 2019/20 and provides detail on the overall £4.9 million deficit.

2. Recommendation(s)

- 2.1. Schools Forum is asked to note this report.

3. Summary

- 3.1. The DSG budget is in deficit by a total of £4.9m in 2019/20 after the use of planned DSG reserves of £2.5m. This position was primarily due to a £3.8million deficit on the High Needs block mainly due to demand led pressures

on top-up funding to mainstream settings, residential and independent settings, and post-16 providers. There is a £1.0m deficit against the Schools' block due to a pressure on the growth budget and a £0.6m pressure against the Early Years block due to the impact of maintaining 2-year-old provision at a higher rate of funding than that provided by the DfE. These pressures were offset by underspends in the Central Services block and the Sixth form funding.

- 3.2. The School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2020 make clear the requirement for any DSG deficit balance to be held within the local authority's overall DSG and carried forward to be recovered from future years funding and/or recovery plans agreed with the DfE.

4. 2019/20 DSG Outturn

Table 1

Funding Blocks	DSG Funding (£m)	Outturn £m	Over/ (Under)spend £m
Schools Block	229.9	230.9	1.0
Sixth Form funding	3.6	3.4	(0.2)
High Needs Block	58.7	62.5	3.8
Early Years Block	24.6	25.2	0.6
Central Block	2.3	2.0	(0.3)
Total DSG	319.1	324.0	4.9

- 4.1. The schools funding formula for 2019/20 was set in December 2018 and the final DSG budget was confirmed in February 2019. The DSG expenditure budget totals £319m, which is supported by £316m of grant income and £2.5m of DSG reserves released in consultation with Schools Forum as one off funding.
- 4.2. The £319m represents the total cost of funding education to early years and school age pupils in the borough before recoupment of funds by the Department for Education (DfE) to fund the borough's Academies and free schools. In 2019/20, the DfE from the Schools Block and the High Needs block income recouped £122m. In addition, £3.6m of sixth form funding is received and passed onto maintained schools that have sixth form provision. The budget is detailed in Appendix A.
- 4.3. At the end of 2019/20 overall the DSG is in deficit of £4.9m largely due to pressures on the High Needs block and the pupil growth fund. The deficit will need to be recovered from future years funding and/or through recovery plans agreed with the DfE.

5. Schools Block

- 5.1. Of the £230m Schools block budget, £111m was allocated directly to Brent maintained schools, £115m has been recouped and allocated directly to academies, leaving a remaining expenditure budget of £4m to fund centrally retained items.
- 5.2. The schools block is in deficit of £1m which is mainly due to a £1.4m pressure against the growth budgets, which covers the cost of the Choice and Fair Access panel (CAFAI) arrangements for new arrivals to Brent schools, as well as the impact of rising rolls in schools. The growth in pupil numbers has mainly been within the secondary school phase and in 2020-21, this budget has been increased in line with forecast secondary growth following a consultation with schools and with the agreement of Schools Forum.
- 5.3. The pressure was offset by underspends in other schools block funded budgets, including a £0.2m underspend on the funds allocated to schools, mainly due to changes to National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR) allocations. The original allocations were prudently estimated to ensure there was enough funding overall to cover any NNDR rate increases. Following a revaluation in 2019/20, schools funding has been updated to account for these changes.

6. High Needs Block

- 6.1. The High Needs Block budget is £58.7m and the allocation includes a contribution of £1.1m (or 0.5%) of Schools Block income and £1.5m of DSG reserves. Of this allocation, £7.1m was recouped by the DfE to allocate directly to academies.
- 6.2. The block supports high needs pupils in specialist provision, in mainstream settings, and provides specialist support services and is reporting a deficit of £3.8m with the main cost driver being the significant growth in the number of children with Education, Health & Care plans (EHCPs). The High needs expenditure exceeded the allocated block income from the DfE by £6.7m.
- 6.3. The growth identified in EHCPs is a national challenge and the Ofsted Annual Report 2018 stated that the level of demand for local authorities to undertake EHC needs assessments had increased by over 50% since 2015. This trend over the last 5 years evidenced locally in Brent has seen a 35% growth in the number of EHCPs. As at the end of 2018/19, there were 2,173 EHC plans and at the end of 2019/20, this number increased by 12% to 2,435 despite the overall pupil population remaining broadly the same.

- 6.4 There have been notable increases in Post 16 EHCPs where young people with SEND can remain in education provision until they are 25 years of age. This has led to a pressure of £1.7m following an increase from an average number of 182 in 2018/19 to an increased average number of 256 EHCPs in 2019/20. Also included in this pressure is approximately £0.5m of '£6k place funding' charged as an additional cost to the High Needs block by further education colleges. The DfE has recently clarified that colleges should no longer make this charge and confirmed that the commissioning local authority should not incur the charge. It is therefore expecting that this will be a significant cost avoidance in 2020-21.
- 6.5 There are also increased overspends on Out of Borough mainstream top ups of £1.9m and on residential and independent educational settings of £0.5m, principally due to increased numbers of pupils, but also because of increases in the prices charged by external providers.
- 6.6 The increased demand has had knock on effects on other areas of the High Needs Block such as the speech and language therapy budgets and the Education Psychology service budget, which are reflecting pressures of £0.9m. The rise in EHCPs has also had an impact on the council's general fund budgets and has resulted in increased demands for children's social work and occupational therapy services.
- 6.7 Officers are working on proposals to increase the amount of special provision within the borough, notably for secondary pupils and 16-25 year old SEND students. Work is continuing with Special schools on developing lower cost but good quality post-16 High Needs provision.
- 6.8 The 2020/21 High Needs Block allocation for Brent includes an additional £5m of funding, but current expenditure will need to be reduced to achieve a balanced in-year budget, ahead of a medium term plan to recover the DSG deficit.

7. Early Years

- 7.1. The Early Years Block budget is £24.7m and includes a £1m contribution from reserves. The block's funding allocation is calculated based on the prior year's January census data and the DfE make retrospective census adjustments annually. Therefore due to take up of places being lower than anticipated, this led to an underspend position in 2018/19 hence the reserve balance was created.
- 7.2. 95% of the funding received is passed on to providers, with 5% funding centralised support for early years. The Nursery Education Grant budget

allocations for 2-year-old provision (NEG 2) and for 3 and 4-year-old provision (NEG 3 & 4) are set at the start of the year according to estimated take up. Payments are then made according to actual pupil numbers each term.

- 7.3. This block is reporting a deficit of £0.6m due to the amounts paid to providers exceeding the income allocation because of supporting providers by maintaining 2-year-old provision at £6 per hour, a higher rate of funding than that received by the DfE.

8. Central Items

- 8.1. The Central Block allocation of the DSG, which totals £2.3m, funds central services for schools and the final outturn showed an overall underspend of £0.3m on these budgets. The underspend was mainly due to underspends on in the school effectiveness and school admissions teams caused by in-year staffing vacancies.

9 DSG Balances

- 9.1. The DSG Reserves opening balance at the start of the year was £2.5m. Of this, there was a planned use of £1.5m of reserves as part of the 2019-20 High Needs Block budget setting, approved by Schools Forum. The remaining £1m of reserves was depleted due a prior year adjustment to the Early Years Block Budget (which is consistent with the £1m early years block underspend in 2018-19), and a remaining in-year DSG overspend of £4.9m (Appendix A). Therefore, at the end of 2019-20, there is a DSG deficit of £4.9m.

10 School Balances

- 10.1 Due to the closure of schools in March because of the COVID-19 pandemic, not all schools had finalised their accounts and submitted their outturn in time for the year-end closure deadlines. Therefore, in the absence of finalised accounts, balances have been consolidated based on latest estimates provided by schools.
- 10.2 Of the 56 maintained schools in Brent, 11 schools had not finalised their 2019/20 accounts, therefore estimated reserves balances previously provided have been used.
- 10.3 Overall school balances have decreased by £2.5million from £16.1million in 2018/19 to £13.6 million in 2019/20 (Appendix B). Of the 56 maintained schools, 27 have increased their overall reserves balance and 29 decreased their balance over the financial year.

- 10.4 Of the 47 maintained primary schools, 28 (60%) decreased their reserve balance by an average of £165k, and 19 (40%) increased their reserve balance by an average of £73k. There are six primary schools which are now in a deficit position. Of the 47 maintained primary schools, 29 have closed with balances of 8% or less, and 18 have balances of 8% or more.
- 10.5 There are only 2 maintained secondary schools. One has a relatively low reserve balance and one has a reserves balance of 9% of income.
- 10.6 Special Schools and PRUs mostly increased their reserves balances in 2019/20, and Nursery Schools balances increased, with 3 of the 4 nursery schools finishing with healthy reserves balances, and one in a deficit.
- 10.7 In summary, whilst there is a mixed picture in how individual schools are managing their financial position, the figures suggest that in 2019/20 schools in Brent have mostly been able to manage pressures without significant deterioration of their financial position. However, many schools have reduced their reserves balance over the year, and it is not yet known if they can continue to do so in 2020/21 and beyond.
- 10.8 The funding and expenditure pressures will persist, and are likely to require schools to take action to balance their budgets. Of the 7 schools in deficit, the majority are expected to set a balanced budget for 2020/21, whilst a small number may require a licensed deficit agreement to recover the deficit over a 3 year period. The schools in deficit will be monitored closely throughout the year.

11 Financial Implications

- 11.1 The overall DSG budget is reporting a £4.9m deficit for the first time. This is the same challenge faced by most Councils including most London Boroughs that had forecasted to be in deficit positions at the end 2019/20. The DfE regulations (the School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2020) make clear the requirement for any DSG deficit balance to be held within the local authority's overall DSG and carried forward to be funded from future years funding and/or recovery plans agreed with the DfE. This also means that authorities cannot fund a deficit from the general fund without the Secretary of State's approval.
- 11.2 Longer-term actions will be required to recover the deficit and a task group will be set up by the council to coordinate and monitor these actions. Some of these actions to reduce costs and mitigate the deficit include developing Alternative Provision education in the borough; increasing the amount of special provision within the borough for secondary phase pupils and 16-25 year old SEND students; developing new Additionally Resourced Provisions (ARPs); utilising

the West London Alliance (WLA) of Local Authorities to develop its commissioning arrangements to address cost pressures for the High Needs block and a full and comprehensive banding review of EHCP funding. A combination of these longer-term recovery actions and anticipated funding increases will reduce the deficit.

- 11.3 The depletion of the DSG reserves in 2019/20 removes the availability of contingency funds to deal with one-off emerging pressures and planned investments.

12 Legal Implications

- 12.1 There are no legal implications for this report.

13 Equality Implications

- 13.1 Not applicable.

14 Consultation with Ward Members and Stakeholders

- 14.1 Not applicable.

15 Human Resources/Property Implications (if appropriate)

- 15.1 Not applicable.

Report sign off:

Gail Tolley

Strategic Director of Children and Young People

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S251 Line	Budget Heading	Description	Budget	Reserves	Net Budget	Outturn	Variance	Comments
Income								
	Early Years Block	Early Years Block- Income	(23,638,000)		(23,638,000)	(22,100,000)	1,538,000	Include as prior year adjustment for £1m underspend in 18/19
	Schools Block	Schools Block - Income	(229,872,000)		(229,866,000)	(229,845,000)	27,000	
	Central School Services Block	Central Services Block- Income	(2,320,000)		(2,326,000)	(2,374,000)	(54,000)	
	High Needs Block	High Need Block- Income	(57,207,000)	(1,460,260)	(58,667,260)	(57,541,000)	(334,000)	Import/ Export adjustment
	Sixth Form Funding	Sixth Form Funding- Income	(3,581,000)		(3,581,000)	(3,750,000)	(169,000)	
	Total Income		(316,618,000)		(318,078,260)	(315,610,000)	1,008,000	
Expenditure: Early Years Block								
1.0.1	Early Years Block	2 year old Nursery Education Grant			3,593,000	3,942,901	349,901	Higher take-up
1.0.1		3 and 4 year old Nursery Education Grant			18,305,000	18,545,164	240,164	Higher take-up
1.0.1		EY Pupil premium			74,000	37,194	(36,806)	
1.0.1		Early Years Panel Funding			542,000	232,195	(309,805)	Includes disability access fund
1.3.1		Early Years Central Expenditure			1,124,000	970,318	(153,682)	
	Total Expenditure: Early Years Block				23,638,000	23,727,771	89,771	
Expenditure: Schools Block								
1.0.1	Schools Block	Primary Schools			115,042,717	114,936,153	(106,564)	NNDR adjustments,
1.0.1		Secondary Schools			95,192,413	94,825,747	(366,666)	NNDR adjustments,
1.0.1		All Through Schools			17,017,736	17,017,735	(1)	
	DSG CONTR	Contribution to combined budgets			675,071	642,159	(32,912)	
1.1.1	De-delegated Items	Contingencies - Schools in Difficulty			257,263	159,062	(98,201)	
1.1.4		Free school meals eligibility			26,158	26,158	0	
1.1.8		Staff costs – supply cover excluding cover for facility time			244,293	345,680	101,387	
1.4.10	Pupil Growth and Infant Class Sizes	Expansion and rising rolls funding			1,400,000	2,826,208	1,426,208	Budget increased for 2020-21 in consultation with schools and SF
	Total Expenditure: Schools Block				229,855,651	230,778,902	923,251	
Expenditure: Central School Services Block								
1.4.1	Central School Services Block	Contribution to combined budgets - Schools Effectiveness, Gordon Brown Activity Centre, Wembley Lear			803,573	1,063,807	260,234	
1.4.13		Licences/subscriptions			219,687	219,839	152	
1.4.2		School Admissions			688,982	238,716	(450,266)	
1.4.3		Servicing of schools forums			10,000	744	(9,256)	
1.4.4		Termination of employment costs			603,580	603,580	0	
	Total Expenditure: Central School Services Block				2,325,822	2,126,687	(199,135)	DFE reducing CSB in future
Expenditure: High Needs Block								
1.0.1/1.2.1	HN Block	Place funding in Brent Special Schools and ARPS			8,082,745	8,173,637	90,892	
1.0.1/1.2.1		Top up funding in Brent Speical Schools and ARPs			15,753,282	16,322,639	569,357	Increase in EHCPs
1.2.1		Top ups to mainstream settings in Brent			10,275,610	10,037,743	(237,867)	budget to be realigned for 2020-21
		Targeted Funding			120,000	120,000	0	
1.2.1		Post 16 Top ups			2,050,266	3,778,555	1,728,289	Increase in EHCPs
1.2.1		Out of Borough top ups			1,823,116	3,739,931	1,916,815	Increase in EHCPs
1.2.3		Residential and independent settings			8,314,886	8,858,599	543,713	Increase in EHCPs
		Pupil Referral Units			2,997,485	2,901,021	(96,464)	
		Education Otherwise/ Awaiting Placement			775,114	508,088	(267,026)	
		Recoupment Income			(306,636)	(1,560,366)	(1,253,730)	budget increased in 2020-21 to reflect higher recoupment income
1.2.1		Early Years Inclusion Fund			1,128,000	1,407,593	279,593	
		Support for Inclusion			1,000,480	1,164,448	163,968	
1.2.5- 1.2.13		SEN services			6,663,055	7,335,299	672,244	Increase in EHCPs causing increased demand for these services
	Total Expenditure: High Needs Block				58,677,404	62,787,187	4,109,783	
Expenditure: Sixth Form Funding								
1.0.1	6th Forms	Sixth Form Funding- Secondary Schools			3,581,383	3,563,584	(17,799)	
	Total Schools Block				3,581,383	3,563,584	(17,799)	
DSG Outturn (A)								
							5,913,871	
Prior Year Adjustment (B)								
	Early Years Block						(985,481)	
DSG Reserves Balance								
							4,928,390	
Opening DSG Reserves (D)								
							(2,445,741)	


Closing DSG Reserves (C + D)	4,928,390	Deficit Balance
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16,174,903 13,668,295 -2,506,608 24,053

DfE No	Cost Centre	Establishment Type	School	2018-19 Total Reserves C/Fwd	2019-20 Total reserves C/Fwd	Increase / (Decrease) in reserves	RESERVES as a % of 2019-20 Total Income	Pupil nos on Roll (Oct 19)
3041003	B71003	Nursery	College Green Nursery School and Services	118,271	147,963	29,692	14.1%	92
3041000	B71000	Nursery	Curzon Crescent Nursery School	162,064	184,147	22,083	16.1%	116
3041001	B71001	Nursery	Fawood Children's Centre	313,538	445,400	131,862	35.4%	71
3041004	B71004	Nursery	Granville Plus Nursery School	-20,984	-37,697	-16,713	-3.6%	85
3042000	B72000	Primary	Anson Primary School	333,615	186,589	-147,026	8.3%	375
3043603	B73603	Primary	Torah Temimah Primary School	1,981	302	-1,679	0.0%	207
3042049	B72049	Primary	Barham Primary School	748,083	872,820	124,737	17.3%	937
3042003	B72003	Primary	Brentfield Primary School	376,039	192,992	-183,047	5.6%	507
3042006	B72006	Primary	Byron Court Primary School	631,514	105,555	-525,959	2.4%	724
3042007	B72007	Primary	Carlton Vale Infant School	153,856	43,785	-110,071	4.2%	88
3042068	B72068	Primary	Chalkhill Primary School	1,139,068	298,620	-840,449	9.5%	440
3043301	B73301	Primary	Christ Church CofE Primary School	71,892	47,413	-24,479	3.7%	188
3043507	B73507	Primary	Convent of Jesus and Mary RC Infant School	26,704	-12,282	-38,987	-0.7%	292
3042056	B72056	Primary	Donnington Primary School	574,437	580,601	6,164	39.2%	222
3042055	B72055	Primary	Elsley Primary School	210,877	117,235	-93,642	3.2%	623
3042074	B72074	Primary	Fryent Primary School	846,153	663,680	-182,473	13.8%	738
3042017	B72017	Primary	Harlesden Primary School	356,675	4,955	-351,719	0.2%	386
3045949	B75949	Primary	Islamia Primary School	114,245	115,599	1,354	4.1%	420
3043302	B73302	Primary	John Keble CofE Primary School	189,885	157,877	-32,008	6.2%	404
3045204	B75204	Primary	The Kilburn Park School Foundation	80,004	-14,339	-94,342	-1.2%	152
3042024	B72024	Primary	Kingsbury Green Primary School	256,191	145,261	-110,930	3.5%	636
3042028	B72028	Primary	Leopold Primary School	638,249	239,231	-399,018	4.6%	768
3042031	B72031	Primary	Lyon Park Primary School	58,851	-390,091	-448,942	-8.1%	902
3042033	B72033	Primary	Malorees Infant School	35,565	-2,154	-37,719	-0.2%	198
3045202	B75202	Primary	Malorees Junior School	8,789	-59,274	-68,064	-3.3%	255
3042066	B72066	Primary	Mitchell Brook Primary School	68,273	148,810	80,537	3.5%	632
3042073	B72073	Primary	Mora Primary School	377,265	488,128	110,864	18.6%	413
3042019	B72019	Primary	Mount Stewart Infant School	24,809	5,924	-18,885	0.3%	268
3042018	B72018	Primary	Mount Stewart Junior School	25,370	4,840	-20,530	0.2%	334
3042064	B72064	Primary	Newfield Primary School	78,545	113,790	35,245	5.2%	291
3042034	B72034	Primary	Northview Primary School	390,533	398,166	7,632	27.3%	225
3042071	B72071	Primary	Oliver Goldsmith Primary School	431,054	572,821	141,766	21.7%	451
3043508	B73508	Primary	Our Lady of Lourdes RC Primary School	95,015	109,224	14,209	7.3%	212
3042038	B72038	Primary	Park Lane Primary School	481,034	557,789	76,755	20.7%	465
3042039	B72039	Primary	Preston Park Primary School	57,907	14,672	-43,235	0.3%	671
3043303	B73303	Primary	Princess Frederica CofE Primary School	216,140	291,072	74,932	11.5%	418
3042042	B72042	Primary	Roe Green Infant School	258,881	286,824	27,943	8.8%	548
3042041	B72041	Primary	Roe Green Junior School	86,238	61,528	-24,710	2.3%	479
3042070	B72070	Primary	Salusbury Primary School	229,074	114,419	-114,655	3.1%	639
3043601	B73601	Primary	Sinai Jewish Primary School	2,615	-90,295	-92,910	-2.3%	599
3043509	B73509	Primary	St Joseph's RC Infant School	871,400	905,980	34,580	61.1%	261
3043501	B73501	Primary	St Joseph RC Junior School	914,480	947,894	33,414	61.0%	280
3045203	B75203	Primary	St Joseph's Roman Catholic Primary School	137,987	222,388	84,402	6.7%	505
3043308	B73308	Primary	St Mary's CofE Primary School	107,441	66,614	-40,827	3.7%	253
3043505	B73505	Primary	St Mary Magdalen Catholic Junior School	251,262	387,375	136,113	18.3%	338
3043602	B73602	Primary	St Mary's RC Primary School	331,984	637,462	305,478	34.3%	270
3043506	B73506	Primary	St Robert Southwell RC Primary School	225,608	284,287	58,679	11.0%	462
3042057	B72057	Primary	The Stonebridge School	682,625	468,961	-213,664	15.7%	374
3042020	B72020	Primary	Uxendon Manor Primary School	293,169	128,044	-165,125	3.8%	657
3043605	B73605	Primary	Wembley Primary School	531,417	554,438	23,021	11.1%	864
3042053	B72053	Primary	Wykeham Primary School	364,954	168,198	-196,756	5.4%	511
3041110	B00086	PRU	Ashley College	638,070	651,940	13,871	56.4%	0
3041105	B00462	PRU	Brent River College	85,587	208,265	122,677	9.8%	45
3044033	B74033	Secondary	JFS	27,477	27,495	18	0.2%	2,015
3045407	B75407	Secondary	Newman Catholic College	178,276	546,692	368,416	9.0%	697
3047005	B77005	Special	Phoenix Arch School (KS1 and KS2)	284,852	350,361	65,510	23.4%	50

Type of Establishment	No. of Schools	2018-19 Total Reserves C/Fwd	2019-20 Total reserves C/Fwd	Increase / (Decrease) in reserves	RESERVES as a % of 2019-20 Total Income
TOTALS					
Nursery	4	572,889	739,813	166,924	-
Primary	47	14,387,752	11,143,728	-3,244,024	-
PRU	2	723,657	860,205	136,548	-
Secondary	2	205,753	574,187	368,434	-
Special	1	284,852	350,361	65,510	-
AVERAGES					
Nursery	4	143,222	184,953	41,731	16.5%
Primary	47	306,122	237,101	-69,022	8.5%
PRU	2	361,829	430,102	68,274	26.2%
Secondary	2	102,877	287,094	184,217	2.4%
Special	1	284,852	350,361	65,510	23.4%

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 Brent	Schools Forum 17 June 2020
	Report from the Strategic Director of Children and Young People
Update on Split Site Funding Allocations and Early Years Deprivation Funding Adjustments	

Wards Affected:	All
Key or Non-Key Decision:	N/A
Open or Part/Fully Exempt: <small>(If exempt, please highlight relevant paragraph of Part 1, Schedule 12A of 1972 Local Government Act)</small>	N/A
No. of Appendices:	Appendix 1: Model on Split Site Funding
Background Papers:	None
Contact Officer(s): <small>(Name, Title, Contact Details)</small>	Olufunke Adediran Head of Finance – Children & Young People Tel: 0208 937 1196 Email olufunke.adediran@brent.gov.uk Dena Aly, Senior Finance Analyst – Children & Young People Tel: 0208 937 2179 Email: dena.aly@brent.gov.uk

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1. To provide further information to the Schools Forum on the early years funding adjustment which has been applied in 2020-21 to ensure no provider rate drops by more than 1.5% compared to 2019/20.
- 1.2. To demonstrate how the criteria for split site funding has been met for the schools in receipt of this funding for 2020-21, and illustrate the impact of introducing a cap on this funding

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. That Schools Forum notes the information provided on early years and split site funding.
- 2.2. That Schools Forum votes on whether to introduce a cap on split site funding, and if applicable, the value of this cap.

3. Early Years Funding Rates- Minimum Funding Adjustment

- 3.1. The local Early Years Funding Formula has been set for 2020/21 with the endorsement of Schools Forum in February 2020. This includes increases to the

funding rates allocated to Brent for 2-year-old, and 3 and 4-year-old provision. The LA continues to retain 5% of the total allocated to Brent, with 95% allocated to providers.

- 3.2. The base funding rate to providers makes up 90% of allocated funding. The deprivation factor allocates the remaining 10%, based on the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI), which was updated in 2019. Before this, the index was not updated since 2015. This means that individual provider rates would have changed more significantly compared to recent years. Therefore, for 2019-20, the deprivation allocation has been adjusted to ensure that no provider rate drops by more than 1.5% compared to 2019/20, while ensuring that 10% of the rate is still allocated for deprivation overall. This adjustment is for one year only.
- 3.3. Table 1 below illustrates the value of this adjustment for all early years providers. All providers can request information on this impact on their individual setting by emailing schools.financeteam@brent.gov.uk

Table 1: Summary Impact of Early Years Minimum Funding Adjustment

Number of providers receiving an increased rate due to minimum funding level	36
Percentage of providers receiving an increased rate due to minimum funding level	19%
Sum of money redistributed for minimum funding adjustment	£91,657
Average £ increase in <u>funding</u> for schools receiving minimum funding adjustment	£2,435
Average % increase in <u>funding rate</u> for schools receiving minimum funding adjustment	3.5%
Average £ decrease in <u>funding</u> for schools <u>not</u> receiving minimum funding adjustment	(£623)
Average % increase in <u>funding rate</u> for schools <u>not</u> receiving minimum funding adjustment	(0.7%)

4. Split Site Funding- Current Allocations and Criteria

- 4.1. The Schools Funding Formula is set annually by local authorities and their Schools Forums, and the DFE requires that the formula must include clear and objective criteria for allocating funding to schools. The formula must be used for all maintained schools and academies in the borough.
- 4.2. Local authorities can include a funding factor to provide additional support to schools operating on more than one site, providing the criteria is clear, transparent and objective.
- 4.3. Schools sharing facilities, federated schools and schools with remote sixth forms or remote early years provision are not eligible for split site funding.
- 4.4. The current criteria and funding allocation in Brent were agreed in 2016, and comprises a lump sum of £151,847, plus £113.70 per pupil. Where schools partially meet the criteria, they may attract a reduced lump sum of £50,000. There are currently four schools receiving full split site funding, and one school in receipt of partial split site funding.

Table 1: Assessment of Current Split Site Funding Allocations against Criteria

	The sites are more than half a mile apart, separated by public roads	It is necessary for staff to move between the sites in order to teach on both sites in support of the principle of a whole school policy and to maintain the integrity of the delivery of the National Curriculum.	Each site is occupied by a large proportion of the school (more than one year group).	
Alperton	Yes	Yes	Yes	Full split site funding
Islamia	No- approximately 200metres	Yes	Yes	Partial split site funding
KHS	Yes	Yes	Yes	Full split site funding
Leopold	Yes	Yes	Yes	Full split site funding
Roe Green Infant	Yes	Yes	Yes	Full split site funding

4.5. The current split site funding factor does not include a cap on the level of split site funding that can be allocated to one school. If a cap were included in order to account for economies of scale in larger schools, this would need to include clear transparent and objective criteria.

4.6. Appendix 1 shows the current split site allocations, and models the funding at a cap of £200k, £250k or £300k if it had been applied in the 2019-20 financial year. The saving/ funding reductions shown are therefore for illustrative purposes only, and would vary in each financial year depending on the pupil numbers. The model assumes the same lump sum and per pupil funding as the current funding formula, with the cap applied providing a maximum level of funding.

5. Financial Implications

5.1. The financial implications have been detailed in the body of this paper.

6. Legal Implications

6.1. There are no legal implications for this report.

7. Equality Implications

7.1. Not applicable.

8. Consultation with Ward Members and Stakeholders

8.1. Not applicable.

9. Human Resources/Property Implications (if appropriate)

9.1. Not applicable.

Related documents:

Prior Financial reports to Schools Forum.

Report sign off:

Gail Tolley

Strategic Director of Children and Young People

Appendix 1- Model of Cap on Split Site Funding Allocations

	Lump Sum	Number on Roll	Per pupil funding (£113.7 per pupil)	Total split site funding	Total Schools Block Budget 2020-21
Alperton	151,847	1,355	154,064	305,911	8,824,862
Islamia	50,000	421	47,868	97,868	2,270,850
KHS	151,847	1,657	188,401	340,248	10,505,098
Leopold	151,847	749	85,161	237,008	4,170,421
Roe Green Infants	151,847	452	51,392	203,239	2,450,401
Total Split Site Funding				1,184,274	

Model: Capped funding at £200k, £250k, £300k:

Cap on Funding	£200,000	£250,000	£300,000
Split Site Funding Allocations			
Alperton	£200,000	£250,000	£300,000
Islamia	£97,868	£97,868	£97,868
KHS	£200,000	£250,000	£300,000
Leopold	£200,000	£237,008	£237,008
Roe Green Infants	£200,000	£203,239	£203,239
	£897,868	£1,038,115	£1,138,115
SAVING/ Funding reduction:			
Alperton	-£105,911	-£55,911	-£5,911
Islamia	£0	£0	£0
KHS	-£140,248	-£90,248	-£40,248
Leopold	-£37,008	£0	£0
Roe Green Infants	-£3,239	£0	£0
	-£286,406	-£146,158	-£46,158
Value of Cap as a % of total school budget:			
Alperton	1.2%	0.6%	0.1%
Islamia	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
KHS	1.3%	0.9%	0.4%
Leopold	0.9%	0.0%	0.0%
Roe Green Infants	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%

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