

Phil Norrey
Chief Executive

To: The Chair and Members of the
Devon Education Forum

County Hall
Topsham Road
Exeter
Devon
EX2 4QD

(See below)

Your ref :
Our ref :

Date : 15 November 2017
Please ask for : Fiona Rutley 01392 382305

Email: fiona.rutley@devon.gov.uk

DEVON EDUCATION FORUM

Thursday, 23rd November, 2017

A meeting of the Devon Education Forum is to be held on the above date at 10.00 am in the Committee Suite - County Hall to consider the following matters.

P NORREY
Chief Executive

***The meeting will be followed by a light buffet lunch.
It would be helpful if members were to confirm their attendance***

AGENDA

PART I - OPEN COMMITTEE

- 1 Apologies for absence
- 2 Minutes (Pages 1 - 6)
Minutes of the meeting held on 21 June 2017 attached.
- 3 Items Requiring Urgent Attention
Items which in the opinion of the Chair should be considered at the meeting as matters of urgency.
- 4 Matters Arising from the Last Meeting and Report back on Issues Raised with Cabinet
To consider any matters arising from the last meeting where no otherwise covered on this agenda and to report on items considered at the Cabinet.

5 Membership

SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS

ITEMS FOR DECISION

6 Finance Update (Pages 7 - 10)

Joint report of the Chief Officer for Children's Services and County Treasurer (DEF/17/12) attached

7 2018/19 Schools Revenue Funding Formula (and Consultation) (Pages 11 - 24)

Joint report of the Chief Officer for Children's Services and County Treasurer (DEF/17/13) attached

STANDARD AGENDA ITEMS

ITEMS FOR DEBATE AND INFORMATION

8 Head of Education & Learning Update (incl Early Help, SEND and Attainment) (Pages 25 - 66)

Reports from the Head of Education & Learning (DEF/17/14, DEF/17/15, DEF/17/16) attached.

9 Standing (and other) Groups (Pages 67 - 78)

To review action for the Forum from its groups and to receive minutes:-

(a) Schools' Finance Group

Minutes of the meeting held on 8 November 2017, attached

Also available at

<https://new.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/devon-education-forum/schools-finance-group>

(b) School Organisation, Capital and Admissions Forum

Minutes of the meeting held on 26 September 2017, attached

Also available at

<https://new.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/devon-education-forum/school-organisation-capital-and-admissions-group-soca>

10 Correspondence

11 Dates of Future Meetings

VOTING (see below)

FAILED AMENDMENTS AND VOTING FIGURES MAY BE RECORDED WHERE REQUESTED BY AN ASSOCIATION OR SINGLE MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE (for contentious issues)

Voting Representatives are Schools, Academies and Non-Schools Members, excepting Regulations restrict the voting arrangements by only allowing Schools and Academy members and the PVI private, voluntary and independent sector early years to vote on the funding formula. Additionally for de-delegation matters only the relevant maintained schools members may vote (primary and secondary, vote by phase). In relation to the scheme for financing schools all maintained schools members may vote (all phases).

Coloured voting cards for restricted voting:-
Schools members (maintained) primary - gold
Schools members (maintained) secondary - beige
Academies (mainstream and alternative provision) - blue
Special Schools, Nursery Schools – pink
PVI - orange

FORMAL OBSERVERS, ATTENDEES AND ANY SUBSTITUTE MEMBER ATTENDING IN ADDITION TO THEIR RESPECTIVE FULL MEMBER ARE EXEMPT FROM VOTING

MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO SIGN THE ATTENDANCE REGISTER

The Devon Education Forum web is www.devon.gov.uk/schoolsforum
The proceedings of this meeting may be recorded for broadcasting live on the internet via the Devon Education Forum's website. The whole of the meeting may be broadcast apart from any confidential items which may need to be considered in the absence of the press and public.

For information on travelling to County Hall please see <http://www.devon.gov.uk/travelling-to-countyhall.htm>

DEVON EDUCATION FORUM

21 June 2017

Present:-

Schools Members

Primary School Head teachers

Mr J Bishop

Mr A Dobson

Mr J Stone

Cornerstone Academy Trust (*Academy Member*)

Marwood Primary

Denbury Primary

Primary School Governors

Ms M Wallis

Mr A Walmsley

Whimble School (**Chairman**)

First Federation (*Academy Member*)

Secondary School Head teachers

Mr D Chapman

Mr R Haring

Ms M Marder

Mrs J Phelan

The Dartmoor Federation

Ivybridge CC (*Academy Member*)

The Ted Wragg Multi Academy Trust (*Academy Member*)

Culllompton CC

Secondary School Governors

Ms J Elson

Exmouth CC (*Academy Member*)

Nursery School

Mrs S Baker

Westexe

Special School HeadTeacher

Ms B Caschere

Exeter Southbrook School

Special School Governor

Mrs F Butler

Marland School

Non-Schools Members

Ms G Rolstone

Mrs T de Bernhardt Dunkin

Early Years Private, Voluntary & Independent

16-19 West England School & College

Observers

Councillor J McInnes

Mr P Walker

Cabinet Member, Children's Services & Schools

Genesis Academy Trust (*Academy Member*)

Apologies

Mrs B Alderson

Ms S Acland

Mrs A Blewett

Mr M Boxall

Mr M Dobbins

Mr M Juby

Teachers Consultative Committee

Devon Schools Academy (Alternative Provision)

Kings Nympton Primary

Exeter Countess Wear

Exmouth Marpool Primary

Braunton (*Academy Member*)

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DEVON EDUCATION FORUM
21/06/17

43 Minutes

DECISION:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 15 March 2017 be signed as a correct record.

44 Membership

DISCUSSION:

The Chairman reported on membership changes:-

Ms Sarah Pickering – Special Schools Headteacher (SHAD) elected as substitute member.

End of term of office wef 31.8.17:-

-Mrs Gemma Rolstone EY PVI was standing down and the Chairman thanked her for her service over recent years;

-Mrs Tracey de Bernhart Dunkin 16-19, eligible to stand for re-election.

The respective appointment/election processes were in progress.

ACTION:

County Solicitor (Fiona Rutley)

45 Head of Education & Learning Update

DISCUSSION:

The Head of Education & Learning reported on and had circulated documents for members' information on the following, some of which arose from corresponding minute (38, 15 March 2017):-

(a) Draft Governor Briefing Devon Support for Schools 2017/18, covering Devon Direct Services and Babcock LDP Commissioned Services;

(b) Final Draft Babcock LDP Commissioning framework Key Priorities 2017/18;

(c) Babcock LDP Annual Report 2015/16;

(d) Draft Babcock LDP/DCC JV Annual Report 2016/17;

(e) Devon Education & Learning Summary Performance Report , Key Performance Indicators covered the following and in most areas was better than statistical neighbours/nationally:-

-Take up of Early Years Funding for 2 year olds

-Attainment/Attainment Gaps Post 16

-School Admissions

- Attendance

-Special Educational Needs & Disabilities, SEND (ECHPs improving)

-Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETS) - continued work with colleges eg entry requirements

-Quality of Provision - role of Babcock LDP in supporting schools and role of all Devon schools;

(f) Inclusion – A Better Way of Working . A full briefing would be provided to all schools as the Council was looking for engagement from this sector. In particular, interest would be welcomed from more isolated rural schools to come forward for this schools led review/project for pupils unable to access mainstream education. Secondary schools were also willing to contribute; Members discussed SEN reintegration, Exmouth CC reach centre and the Troubled Families Programme. Schools commented that with budget challenges and a reduction in AWPU unfortunately some Early Help (and staffing) was planned to be cut. Government lobbying continued regarding universal funding being insufficient to remove deprivation.

(g) Public Health Briefing Early Help for Mental Health, May 2017.

On the wider issue of school budget reductions which arose the Head of Education and Learning advised on the Outturn report considered by Cabinet 14 June 2017 and Cabinet decision to earmark up to £700,000 from the Budget Management Reserve to support Maintained schools where the impact in the delay, due to late notification of the pension increase for support staff, would cause hardship. The Council recognised that this delay would mean that schools' ability to secure any necessary savings would also have been delayed. Cases would be looked at on an individual basis at the Financial Intervention Panel, Schools (FIPS).

ACTION:

Head of Education & Learning (Dawn Stabb - attendance by sector, post 16 examination retake data to DASH)

46

Finance Update

DISCUSSION:

The Forum considered the report of the Head of Education & Learning and County Treasurer (DEF/ 17/08).

The Forum also noted the respective minutes of the Schools Finance Group (SFG) of 24 May 2017.

The report (DEF/17/08) covered:-

(a) Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) 2016/17 Outturn (Section 1 of the report):-

In paragraph 1.4 High Needs example of a recent tribunal affecting the control of spend updated position was noted as referred to by the 16-19 representative. Devon's practice was to always try to settle prior to a tribunal and this was achieved more than by most other LAs.

(b) Allocation of Carry Forward from 2016/17 (Section 2):-

It was noted that the adjudication by the Secretary of State in respect of the Forum's declined carry forward (minute 40, 5 March 2017) was still awaited, with significant additional information requested by the Minister and supplied;

In paragraph 2.1 the second sentence should be deleted as this was now the consideration of the final proposals;

(c) Mutual Fund;

(d) 2017/18 Early Years Funding Formula Consultation and Proposals:-

Discussion and feedback from the Consultation indicated overall support for the proposals.

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DEVON EDUCATION FORUM
21/06/17

The proposal for the removal of the lump sum, as well as Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND) support and deprivation funding was to enable all settings to have a more accessible and fairer allocation as previously some funding could not be accessed by all sectors.

DECISION:

(a) that the DSG Draft Outturn position (subject to Statement of Accounts sign off) as set out in Section 1 be noted;

(b) that the allocation of the carry forwards from 2016/17 as set out in Section 2, Table 5 be noted/approved as follows:-

Table 5: Carry Forward from 2016/17

| Budget Line | Amount £'000 | Notes | Decision* |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|---|--------------|
| Mainstream School balances | 17,308 | Automatically carried forward in Individual School budgets | 2.2 noted |
| Total School balances | 17,308 | | |
| De-delegated budgets | 1,964 | Roll forward 2016/17 underspend into 2017/18 | 2.3 noted |
| Total de-delegated budgets | 1,964 | | |
| Special School Balances | 1,087 | These are school's balances and are automatically carried forward | 2.4 noted |
| Hospital Education | 57 | Specialised training for hospital staff and additional support in North Devon | 2.5 noted |
| Total High Needs | 1,144 | | |
| Early Years Pupil Premium | 159 | 2016/17 Ring fenced grant – DfE have confirmed can be spent in 2017/18 | 2.6 approved |
| Tresillian Nursery | (20) | Nursery deficit balance to be met from 2017/18 budget | 2.7 approved |
| Total Early Years | 139 | | |
| Total Carry forward requested | 20,555 | | |

***(Vote: all phases maintained and academy, PVI)**

(c) that the year-end Mutual Fund position as set out in Section 3 be noted;

(d) that Cabinet be recommended:-

that the proposal for the 2017-18 Early Years Funding Formula as set out in Section 4 and Appendix A be approved. ***(Vote: all phases maintained and academy, PVI)**

ACTION:

Head of Education and Learning (Dawn Stabb) and County Treasurer (Julian Dinnicombe)

47

Financial Intervention Panel (Schools) (FIPS) Annual Report 2016/17

DISCUSSION:

The Forum considered the Annual Report of the County Treasurer and Chief Officer for Children's Services (DEF/17/10). This included an analysis of submissions from schools to

FIPS. The trend for the main reason for submissions in 2016/17 was around redundancy with a rise of 180% from last year.

Funding from the Growth Fund which was under pressure, would be considered in detail at the next two Schools Finance Group meetings.

With the current uncertainty of the National Funding formula, continued challenging fiscal environment and a cash flat Dedicated Schools Grant settlement the role of FIPS was much more pro-active in identifying and engaging with schools with vulnerable budgets at an early stage.

48 **Standing (and other) Groups**

The Forum received the following minutes of its standing groups:-

(a) Schools' Finance Group (SFG)

Minutes of the meeting held on 24 May 2017 (considered under Finance Update minute 46 above)

DISCUSSION:

(i) It was noted that under note 4 Finance Issues (Growth Fund last bullet point) "*... where a school is part of a MAT, that support could be provided from within the Trust*" that the following wording was to be added on the end of text for clarification "*where growth criteria has not been met.*"

(ii) The Early Years PVI representative thanked the LA for its comprehensive engagement with the sector on the Early Years consultation and with NDNA/PVI nationally regarding extended entitlement.

ACTION: Head of Education & Learning (Heidi Watson-Jones)

(b) School Organisation, Capital and Admissions (SOCA)

Minutes of the meeting held on 6 June 2017.

49 **Dates of Future Meetings**

To be held at 10am at County Hall, Exeter:-

Wed 18 October 2017

Mon 15 January 2018

Wed 21 March 2018.

The Meeting started at 10.00 am and finished at 11.40 am

The Schools Forum web is www.devon.gov.uk/schoolsforum

Agenda Item 2

FINANCE UPDATE

REPORT OF THE COUNTY TREASURER AND CHIEF OFFICER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- i. Schools Forum is asked to note the month 6 DSG monitoring position as set out in section 1
All to note
- ii. Schools Forum to agree in-principle that any residual deficit balance be carried forward into 2018-19 and to be offset by possible increased High Needs funding, alongside continued management action to control spending.
All to vote

1. Month 6 DSG budget monitoring position

1.1 The Month 6 forecast for the DSG is a net over spend of £2.036millions. DEF and Cabinet have approved the £20.55millions in Carry forward from 2016-17 (£18.4millions of which is schools balances) and has been included as budget for 2017-18.

Table 1: Summary of Month 6 forecast position and major variations:

| Education and Learning (DSG) | | | | | |
|--|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | Final Approved Net Budget £'000 | Mth 6 Net Spend £'000 | Forecast at Mth 6 £'000 | Variance before MA £'000 | Movement from Month 2 £'000 |
| Schools delegated budget | 243,287 | 116,238 | 243,287 | 0 | 0 |
| DSG and School funding | (333,261) | (171,117) | (333,235) | 26 | 26 |
| Total DSG | (89,974) | (54,879) | (89,948) | 26 | 26 |
| De-delegated budgets | 6,293 | 1,756 | 5,531 | (762) | (622) |
| Central Provision within Schools Budget | 4,689 | 3,269 | 5,270 | 581 | 582 |
| High Needs Funding | 63,960 | 31,238 | 66,105 | 2,145 | 757 |
| Early Years & Childcare Services | 35,587 | 16,064 | 35,633 | 46 | (83) |
| Total DSG central budgets inc delegated | 110,529 | 52,327 | 112,539 | 2,010 | 634 |
| Overall Net DSG budget | 20,555 | (2,552) | 22,591 | 2,036 | 660 |

1.2 Schools and de-delegated budgets

In July the DFE confirmed the revised DSG settlement allocation of £305.75millions including Early Years (before recoupment for academies)

De-delegated budgets are forecasting an under spend of £762,000 due to anticipated savings against Maternity (£224,000); Schools and DSG Contingency (FIPS) (£351,000); Copyright Licences (£146,000) and Trade Unions (£20,000).

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Any surplus balance at year end in the past has a request presented to schools forum to be carried forward in to 2018-19. However, advice received from the DfE during the summer 2017 has stated if there is overspend at yearend within the DSG Central budgets, uncommitted surplus balances will go toward offsetting this position (excluding schools balances).

1.3 Central Provision within Schools

For month 6 we have introduced a £583,000 forecast overspend relating to planned School Growth commitments against known resource levels. This pressure was highlighted in the report in previous months but not previously entered into forecasts.

1.4 High Needs

Table 2 shows the High Needs budget is currently forecasting to over spend at year end by £2.14millions for 2017-18.

The High Needs service has seen a rise in forecast spending of over £3.3millions since budgets for 2017-18 were set.

Despite management action of £1.6m (included in forecasts above), the growing demand on services continues to exceed the funding allocated. The main factors behind the increased costs are:

- High cost placements in the independent sector
- Expansion of the Maintained Special schools to meet demand
- Increasing costs and numbers of personalised education packages, EHCPs and MyPlans
- Increased exclusions
- Demand for Medical AP and independent hospital placements

Table 2: Summary of High Needs budgets and forecast position as at Month 6

| Activity Description | Base budget 2017/18 £000 | Forecast spend at outturn £000 | Current Month Variance £000 |
|--|--------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| Alternative Provision incl Hospital school | 2,507 | 3,082 | 575 |
| LDP Inclusion & Safeguarding | 3,290 | 3,261 | (29) |
| Nursery Plus | 1,164 | 1,164 | 0 |
| SEN Mainstream | 11,003 | 11,378 | 375 |
| SEN Services | 924 | 924 | 0 |
| Independent Sp.Schools & Recoupment | 15,493 | 16,675 | 1,182 |
| Maintained Special Schools | 27,530 | 27,549 | 19 |
| Early Help | 118 | 118 | 0 |
| Support Centres and PSPs | 1,931 | 1,953 | 22 |
| TOTAL | 63,960 | 66,104 | 2,144 |

1.5 Early Years

At month 6 Early Years is projecting a small overspend of £46,000. This is due to increased costs of £82,000 in SEN and £158,000 for deprivation as a result of the roll out of the 30 hour offer. This has been offset by £130,000 adjustment to the Spring 2017 payments and £53,000 savings due to the low take up of the Disability Access Fund.

1.6 Central budget balance at year end

Advice from the DfE in respect of any overspend at year end for DSG Central budgets (of which High Needs forms part of), must first of all be to offset it in part or in total by any uncommitted surplus balances, including from De-delegated budgets as this is not considered to be 'ring-fenced' for schools use only.

Along with discussions with SFG representatives, County Treasurer and Leader of the Council we are not going to request a transfer of 0.5% from the Schools Block in 2018-19. We are requesting that the Forum make an in-principle agreement to any residual deficit balance being carried forward into 2018-19 and offset by possible increased High Needs funding, alongside the continuance of a management action plan to control spending.

1.7 2016-17 Carry Forward

In March 2017 the Authority put a disapplication case to the Secretary of State to request that they reverse the decision made by schools forum not to carry forward the Central Expenditure deficit (which included the High Needs deficit balance) to 2017-18.

A decision was received advising that we should use surpluses in the DSG prior to requesting a carry forward. For that reason they did not approve the disapplication and therefore did not overturn the schools forum decision.

1.8 Recommendations:

- iii. Schools Forum is asked to note the update as set out in section 1 above
All to note

- iv. Schools Forum to agree in-principle that any residual deficit balance be carried forward into 2018-19 and to be offset by possible increased High Needs funding, alongside continued management action to control spending.
All to vote

MARY DAVIS
County Treasurer

JO OLSSON
Chief Officer for Children's Services

Please ask for: Adrian Fox
Adrian.fox@devon.gov.uk

2018-19 SCHOOLS REVENUE FUNDING FORMULA

REPORT OF THE COUNTY TREASURER AND CHIEF OFFICER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Recommendations

It is recommended that DEF:

- a) Specifically approve the proposals for the 2018-19 schools revenue funding formula as set out in section 1 and make recommendations to Cabinet.
All to vote
- b) Agree to the proposal to option 2 to limit the plus package availability for up to 190 learners with lower funding to Level 3 learners.
All to vote
- c) Specifically agree the de-delegation proposals for maintained primary and maintained secondary schools as set out in section 3 and appendix A
Vote: Maintained primary representatives
Vote: Maintained secondary representatives
- d) Specifically agree the centrally retained services budget allocation as set out in section 4 and appendix A
All to vote
- e) Note the local authority's disapplication requests that have been applied for and awaiting approved.
All to note

1. Schools Funding

- 1.1 2018-19 is significant due to the introduction of national funding formulae for schools, high needs and central school services. The full funding formulae for 2018-19 and 2019-20 were confirmed in September along with the responses to the national funding formulae consultations. These blocks will sit alongside the early years national funding formula which was introduced in 2017-18.
- 1.2 The Education Secretary has confirmed that there will be an additional £1.3 billion for schools and high needs split across 2018-19 and 2019-20, in addition to the schools budget set at the Spending Review in 2015, as we transition to the national funding formula.
- 1.3 While it remains the government's intention that a school's budget should be set on the basis of a single national formula, in 2018-19 and 2019-20 local authorities will continue to determine final funding allocations for schools through a local formula, working with schools to help bring about the best outcomes for all children and young people.
- 1.4 For 2018-19 Devon has seen additional funding of £7.5millions and will see a further rise in 2019-20 of £3millions. The government have advised that authorities will not see a reduction from their 2017-18 funding (adjusted to reflect local authority's most recent spending patterns).
- 1.5 The LA consulted on the Devon proposals for the 2018-19 schools revenue funding formula. Modelling was based on the Schools Block and the October 2016 census data. Note that the final DSG settlement will be based on the October 2017 census data.

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- 1.6 The consultation events were well attended with over 60% of schools represented. In all, 103 schools responded to the consultation, 29% of all schools and represents 48% of Devon's pupils. This compares to 63 schools, 18% in 2016. A full analysis of participation is attached to this report at Appendix A
- 1.7 All documents relating to the consultation can be viewed on the schools finance web-page: [Schools Funding Reform Webpage](#)
- 1.8 The intention is to make the transition to the full NFF a smooth and straight forward one, and bring in as many of the NFF factor values and parameters that the funding within the Devon envelope allows for 2018-19.
- 1.9 For 2018-19 there will be four notional blocks of funding (schools, central school services, early years and high needs). The schools block will be ring-fenced from 2018-19, but the local authority will be able to transfer up to 0.5% of the schools block funding with the agreement of schools forum. The decision made by Schools forum cannot be overturned by Cabinet.
- 1.10 In consulting with schools on designing the funding formula in 2018-19 to move as much as possible to the National Funding Formula factors given by the DfE.

Appendix A sets out the responses to the consultation with 95 of the 99 schools that responded (96%) agreeing to the proposal.

- 1.11 Schools were also asked if they agreed to retain the reception uplift calculation in the local formula even though the NFF calculations had removed this for 2018-19.

Appendix A sets out the responses to the consultation with 98 of 100 schools that responded (98%) agreeing to the proposal.

- 1.12 Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) is a way to protect the funding on a per pupil rate and currently ensures no schools funding drops by more than 1.5% per pupil compared with the previous year. **Note:** Budgets may still go down due to a reduction in non-pupil related factors or a drop in pupil numbers
- 1.13 For 2018-19 there is allowed to be flexibility in the level of the MFG that can be set by the authority between 0% and minus 1.5%. We can apply for a disapplication to amend the MFG to plus 0.5% to enable all schools to see the minimum uplift of 0.5%. This decision will need to be agreed by the secretary of state
- 1.14 As part of the consultation we asked schools if they agreed to setting the MFG at 0% and if the LA was successful in putting a disapplication to the Secretary of State that we should set an MFG of plus 0.5% .

Appendix A sets out the responses with 95 of 102 schools that responded (93%) agreeing to the MFG at 0% and 81 of the 101 schools (80%) agreeing to the plus 0.5% if disapplication was agreed. It is worth noting that the Secondary Academies are against the plus 0.5% being implemented with only 38% in favour.

- 1.15 **Recommendation:**

That Schools Forum recommends to Cabinet that:

- i. The formula factors for distributing the funding to schools are accepted. Note that the final funding rates may change subject to affordability when the October 2017 pupil data and Schools Block DSG settlement are confirmed in late December 2017.
- ii. Agree to retain the reception uplift calculation within the local formula for 2018-19.
- iii. Agree to set the minimum funding guarantee at 0% for 2018-19.

- iv. Agree to set the minimum funding guarantee at plus 0.5% for 2018-19 if the disapplication is approved to amend the MGF rate.

All to vote

2. High Needs Funding Levels of Element 3

- 2.1 In Devon, as in many other authorities, the pressure on the High Needs budget continues to increase as the number of complex, high cost placements grows. There has not been any additional funding from central government to meet this growth with the additional costs having to be managed within existing resources.
- 2.2 Following consultation three funding levels of Element 3 will be implemented for all high needs learners with EHCPs from January 2018. Funding levels will be based around the current EHCP average of £3,352. This is to ensure we are able to apply a consistent and fair transparent model for funding like for like provision across all schools.
 - All EHCPs issued after 1/1/18 will be allocated funding level based on the personalised content of the plan
 - All EHCPs reviewed between 1/1/18 and 31/12/18 will be allocated a funding level at review date
- 2.3 In consulting with schools on the High Needs funding levels we asked whether they wished to remove the option of plus packages with higher levels of funding for Level 3 learners or limit the plus package availability for up to 190 learners with lower funding to Level 3 learners.

Appendix A sets out the responses showing that there is a split in the decision between the phases. For Primary 50 of 75 schools (67%) agreed with option 2, whilst for Secondary 17 of 25 schools (68%) agreed with option 1.

- 2.4 **Recommendation:**
That Schools Forum agrees to option 2 based on the schools consultation responses to limit the plus package availability for up to 190 learners with lower funding to Level 3 learners.
All to Vote

3. Delegation and De-delegation

- 3.1 The following services were delegated in 2017-18 but were able to be de-delegated from the primary and/or secondary maintained schools subject to Schools Forum decision by the representatives in each sector. De-delegation is not an option for academies, special schools, nurseries or PRUs.

Where de-delegation has been agreed for maintained primary and secondary schools, it is the Department's presumption that the local authority will offer the service on a buy-back basis to those schools and academies in their area which are not covered by the de-delegation. In the case of special schools and PRUs, the funding for such services, will be included in the top-up. Academies will continue to receive a share of funding for these services in their delegated budget.

- 3.2 Decisions taken on de-delegation in 2017-18 were for one year only, so decisions for each service will be required in 2018-19. As follows:
 - i. Contingencies (including schools in financial difficulties and exceptional events)
 - ii. Behaviour support services, Ethnic Minority Achievement and Gypsy Roma Traveller Achievement
 - iii. Support to under-performing ethnic groups and bilingual learners
 - iv. Free school meals eligibility

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- v. Maternity
- vi. Trade unions
- vii. Jury Service / Magistrates duties
- viii. Licences and subscriptions (note: All licensing is covered by a national licence and the DfE charge the local authority except CLEAPPS (LEA Provision of Science Services))

The consultation responses can be found at Appendix A

3.3 **Recommendation:**

Maintained schools representatives are asked to decide, phase by phase, the delegation or de-delegation of the services listed in Section 3.2 and Appendix A

Vote: Maintained Primary Schools

Vote: Maintained Secondary Schools

4. **Centrally retained services**

- 4.1 Only a limited number of services can be retained centrally and local authorities must seek approval from Schools Forums to retain central funding up to the value committed in 2017-18 for these services.
- 4.2 The full list of services that can be retained centrally before allocating formula can be found in the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) information document [Schools Funding Guidance for 2018 to 2019](#)

Locally, the relevant services are:

- Emotional, Psychological & Social Wellbeing
- Phase Associations
- Schools Admissions Service
- Termination of Employment Costs

Schools were asked to indicate whether they thought that for these relevant local services, funding should continue to be de-delegated to Devon County Council to commission services to the value committed for 2017-18 (Option 1) or whether monies should be delegated back to schools (Option 2).

4.3 **Emotional, Psychological & Social Wellbeing**

The bulk of the funding comes from the Public Health grant with schools being asked to make a financial contribution of £60,000 in 2015-16 which was by way of a top slice from the Local Learning Community Funding at that time.

Schools were asked to indicate whether they thought that they should continue to contribute £60,000 to supporting the service co-produced by Public Health Devon and Schools (Option 1) or whether monies to remain delegated to the schools budget (Option 2).

Appendix A sets out the responses to the consultation with 87 of the 98 schools that responded (89%) preferring Option 1.

4.4 **Phase Associations**

The role and partnership between the four Phase Associations and the LA are outlined within the Terms of Reference.

Schools were asked to indicate whether they thought that they should maintain Phase Association funding (Option 1) or whether monies should be delegated back to school (Option 2).

Appendix A sets out the responses to the consultation with 92 of the 100 schools that responded (92%) preferring Option 1.

4.5 Schools Admissions Service

The service provides a comprehensive admissions service to all maintained schools and to academies on a buy back basis. More information can be found at:

[Admission Webpages](#)

Schools were asked to indicate whether they thought that they should maintain the current level of service via a central Admissions Team through continuing to centrally retain funding (Option 1) or whether the Admissions Team's focus would be limited to statutory coordination only (Option 2).

Appendix A sets out the responses to the consultation with 96 of the 100 schools that responded (96%) preferring Option 1.

4.6 Termination of Employment Costs

In line with the Education Act 2002, costs incurred by the local education authority in respect of any premature retirement of a member of staff of a maintained school shall be met from the school's budget share for one or more financial years except insofar as the authority agrees with the governing body in writing that they shall not be met by the school.

The local authority currently has historic commitments of circa £8.5m, of which the schools budget contributes £873,000. This contribution from the DSG cannot increase above the 2012-13 expenditure levels but is necessary to continue to meet the historic commitment.

This is for clarification only. No further action required.

All to Note

4.7 Recommendation:

- i. That Schools Forum agrees to continue £60,000 for the Emotional, Psychological and Social Wellbeing Service, co-produced by Public Health Devon and schools
- ii. That Schools Forum agrees to retain the funding centrally at the same level as 2017-18 for:
 - Phase Associations
 - The Schools Admissions Service

All to Vote

5. Disapplications

5.1 Small Schools

Under funding arrangements from 2013-14 the Secretary of State agreed to allow some flexibility in the operation of the Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) for very small schools (fewer than 53 pupils at the time of the October 2012 census) that had previously been in receipt of additional local protection.

The local authority is applying to the EFA and awaiting approval for the same partial exclusion as in the past four years, where it applies the basic entitlement funding per pupil in the primary sector to the pupil number increase or reduction, rather than the school's individual per pupil value - which is significantly higher.

5.2 Dual Use

The 2017-18 baselines included one-off capital expenditure for dual use. We are seeking approval for the disapplication of these technical adjustments to exclude the costs from Minimum Funding Guarantee for 2017-18 baselines and add back the prior year adjustments

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5.3 **MFG at plus 0.5%**

As set out in the operational guidance, local authorities can set the local MFG between minus 1.5% and 0% to allow sufficient flexibility to set an appropriate limit to any losses that may arise from the local formulae. Losses may be necessary for a number of reasons, such as where a transfer has been made out of the schools block, additional funds are needed for growth or where pupil characteristics change.

After undertaking additional modelling and local consultation we have decided to apply to set a local formula with an MFG of plus 0.5% if

To do so will see no Devon school lose funding in 2018-19 and would see an MFG cost of £4.14 million (£2.43 million rise).

5.4 **Recommendation:**

That Schools Forum notes the local authority's planned disapplication requests.

All to Note

MARY DAVIS
County Treasurer

JO OLSSON
Chief Officer for Children's Services

Please ask for: Adrian Fox
adrian.fox@devon.gov.uk

2018-19 SCHOOLS REVENUE FUNDING FORMULA

Consultation response levels

| School Based | 2017 | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|------------|
| | Total School Base | Total School Response | % Response |
| By School Type | | | |
| Maintained Primary | 212 | 62 | 29% |
| Maintained Secondary | 13 | 12 | 92% |
| Academy Primary | 93 | 16 | 17% |
| Academy Secondary | 25 | 13 | 52% |
| Free Primary | 3 | 0 | 0% |
| Free Secondary | 4 | 0 | 0% |
| | 350 | 103 | 29% |

| | 2017 | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------------|------------|
| | Total School Base | Total School Response | % Response |
| By Phase | | | |
| All Primary | 308 | 78 | 25% |
| All Secondary | 42 | 25 | 60% |
| | 350 | 103 | 29% |

| Pupil Based | 2017 | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|------------|
| | Total Pupils Base | Total Pupils Response | % Response |
| By School Type | | | |
| Maintained Primary | 39791 | 14728 | 37% |
| Maintained Secondary | 12440 | 11873 | 95% |
| Academy Primary | 14887 | 3365 | 23% |
| Academy Secondary | 21448 | 13012 | 61% |
| Free Primary | 363 | 0 | 0% |
| Free Secondary | 408 | 0 | 0% |
| | 89337 | 42978 | 48% |

| | 2017 | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------------|------------|
| | Total Pupils Base | Total Pupils Response | % Response |
| By Phase | | | |
| All Primary | 55041 | 18093 | 33% |
| All Secondary | 34296 | 24885 | 73% |
| | 89337 | 42978 | 48% |

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LIST OF RESPONDING SCHOOLS

[Alphabetic by School name within Phase within Status]

Maintained - Primary

| | | |
|--|------|--------------------|
| Abbotskerswell Primary School | 2400 | Maintained Primary |
| Ashwater Primary School | 2201 | Maintained Primary |
| Awliscombe Church Of England Primary School | 3300 | Maintained Primary |
| The Beacon Church Of England Voluntary Aided Primary School, Exmouth | 3309 | Maintained Primary |
| Bickleigh Down Church Of England Primary School | 3768 | Maintained Primary |
| Bishops Nympton Primary School | 2210 | Maintained Primary |
| Bolham Community Primary School | 2717 | Maintained Primary |
| Bovey Tracey Primary School | 2404 | Maintained Primary |
| Broadhempston Village Primary School | 2408 | Maintained Primary |
| Chudleigh Church Of England Community Primary School | 3105 | Maintained Primary |
| Clawton Primary School | 2220 | Maintained Primary |
| Clyst Heath Nursery & Community Primary School | 3777 | Maintained Primary |
| Countess Wear Community School | 2025 | Maintained Primary |
| Decoy Primary School | 2431 | Maintained Primary |
| Denbury Primary School | 2416 | Maintained Primary |
| Doddiscombsleigh Community School | 2417 | Maintained Primary |
| East Anstey Primary School | 2223 | Maintained Primary |
| Exeter Road Community Primary School | 2043 | Maintained Primary |
| Exminster Community Primary | 2420 | Maintained Primary |
| Feniton Church Of England Primary School | 3312 | Maintained Primary |
| Fremington Community Primary & Nursery School | 2226 | Maintained Primary |
| Halberton Primary School | 2718 | Maintained Primary |
| Halwill Community Primary School | 2228 | Maintained Primary |
| Hatherleigh Community Primary School | 2605 | Maintained Primary |
| Haytor View Community Primary School | 3779 | Maintained Primary |
| Hazeldown School | 2448 | Maintained Primary |
| Heathcoat Primary School | 2723 | Maintained Primary |
| Highweek Community Primary & Nursery School | 2432 | Maintained Primary |
| Holsworthy Church Of England Primary School | 3063 | Maintained Primary |
| Honiton Primary School | 2048 | Maintained Primary |
| Horwood And Newton Tracey Community Primary School | 2231 | Maintained Primary |
| Ifracombe Church Of England Junior School | 3065 | Maintained Primary |
| Instow Community Primary School | 2233 | Maintained Primary |
| Kings Nympton Community Primary School | 2235 | Maintained Primary |
| Marwood School | 2238 | Maintained Primary |
| Montgomery Primary School | 2028 | Maintained Primary |
| Offwell Church Of England Primary School | 3015 | Maintained Primary |
| Payhembury Church Of England Primary School | 3016 | Maintained Primary |
| Rackenford Church Of England Primary School | 3772 | Maintained Primary |
| Sandford School | 2059 | Maintained Primary |
| Shebbear Community School | 2243 | Maintained Primary |
| Silverton Church Of England Primary School | 3022 | Maintained Primary |
| St Andrew's Church of England Primary School, Buckland Monachorum | 3752 | Maintained Primary |
| St Giles On The Heath Community School | 2242 | Maintained Primary |
| St Martin's Church Of England Primary and Nursery School | 3005 | Maintained Primary |
| St Michael's Church of England Primary School, Kingsteignton | 3128 | Maintained Primary |
| St Peter's Church of England Primary School, Budleigh Salterton | 3304 | Maintained Primary |
| Stoke Hill Infant & Nursery School | 2033 | Maintained Primary |
| Tavistock Community Primary School | 2623 | Maintained Primary |
| The Castle Primary School | 2720 | Maintained Primary |
| The Erme Primary School | 2609 | Maintained Primary |
| Tipton St John Church Of England Primary School | 3319 | Maintained Primary |

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| | | |
|--|------|--------------------|
| Trinity C of E Primary | 2046 | Maintained Primary |
| Uplowman Church Of England Primary School | 3026 | Maintained Primary |
| Uppottery Primary | 2073 | Maintained Primary |
| Whipton Barton Infants and Nursery School | 2039 | Maintained Primary |
| Whipton Barton Junior School | 2040 | Maintained Primary |
| Willand School | 2075 | Maintained Primary |
| Willowbrook School | 2724 | Maintained Primary |
| Withycombe Raleigh Church Of England Primary School, Exmouth | 3011 | Maintained Primary |
| Wynstream School | 3375 | Maintained Primary |
| Yeo Valley Primary School | 2256 | Maintained Primary |

Maintained - Secondary

| | | |
|---|------|----------------------|
| Cullompton Community College | 4010 | Maintained Secondary |
| Dawlish Community College | 4101 | Maintained Secondary |
| King Edward VI Community College | 4109 | Maintained Secondary |
| Okehampton College | 4183 | Maintained Secondary |
| Sidmouth College | 4011 | Maintained Secondary |
| South Molton Community College | 4057 | Maintained Secondary |
| St Luke's Science & Sports College | 4501 | Maintained Secondary |
| St Peter's Church of England Aided School | 4607 | Maintained Secondary |
| Tavistock Community College | 4182 | Maintained Secondary |
| The Park Community School, Barnstaple | 4059 | Maintained Secondary |
| Tiverton High | 4192 | Maintained Secondary |
| West Exe School | 4014 | Maintained Secondary |

Academy - Primary

| | | |
|--|------|-----------------|
| Aveton Gifford Church Of England Primary School | 3100 | Academy Primary |
| Blackpool Church Of England Primary School | 3102 | Academy Primary |
| Brixington Primary School | 2051 | Academy Primary |
| Chudleigh Knighton Church Of England Primary School | 3106 | Academy Primary |
| Chulmleigh Primary School | 2219 | Academy Primary |
| East Worlington Primary School | 2224 | Academy Primary |
| Gatehouse Primary School | 2044 | Academy Primary |
| Hawkchurch Church Of England School | 3012 | Academy Primary |
| Lady Seaward's Church of England Primary School, Clyst St George | 3307 | Academy Primary |
| Lapford Community Primary School | 2260 | Academy Primary |
| Musbury Primary School | 2053 | Academy Primary |
| Newton Ferrers Church Of England Primary School | 3156 | Academy Primary |
| Salcombe Church Of England Primary School | 3124 | Academy Primary |
| Sidmouth Church Of England (VA) Primary School | 3318 | Academy Primary |
| St Leonard's Church of England Primary School | 2013 | Academy Primary |
| Westcliff School | 2064 | Academy Primary |

Academy - Secondary

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|------|-------------------|
| Braunton School And Community College | 4053 | Academy Secondary |
| Chulmleigh Community College | 4054 | Academy Secondary |
| Clyst Vale Community College | 4009 | Academy Secondary |
| Colyton Grammar School | 5400 | Academy Secondary |
| Cranbrook Educaiton Campus | 4013 | Academy Secondary |
| Exmouth Community College | 4012 | Academy Secondary |
| Honiton Community College | 4004 | Academy Secondary |
| Isca | 4006 | Academy Secondary |
| Ivybridge Community College | 4184 | Academy Secondary |
| Newton Abbot College | 5404 | Academy Secondary |
| St James' School | 4016 | Academy Secondary |
| The King's School | 4005 | Academy Secondary |
| Uffculme School | 5405 | Academy Secondary |

Questions 1 – 4: Funding Formula

| Agree Objective | Q1 | | | Majority Percentage |
|------------------------|----------|-----------|-------------|----------------------------|
| School Type | NO | YES | Grand Total | |
| Academy Primary | | 13 | 13 | 100% |
| Academy Secondary | 2 | 10 | 12 | 83% |
| Maintained Primary | | 62 | 62 | 100% |
| Maintained Secondary | 2 | 10 | 12 | 83% |
| Grand Total | 4 | 95 | 99 | 96% |

| Reception Uplift | Q2 | | | Majority Percentage |
|-------------------------|----------|-----------|-------------|----------------------------|
| School Type | No | YES | Grand Total | |
| Academy Primary | | 16 | 16 | 100% |
| Academy Secondary | 1 | 12 | 13 | 92% |
| Maintained Primary | 1 | 60 | 61 | 98% |
| Maintained Secondary | | 10 | 10 | 100% |
| Grand Total | 2 | 98 | 100 | 98% |

| MFG to 0% | Q3 | | | Majority Percentage |
|----------------------|----------|-----------|-------------|----------------------------|
| School Type | no | Yes | Grand Total | |
| Academy Primary | | 16 | 16 | 100% |
| Academy Secondary | 1 | 12 | 13 | 92% |
| Maintained Primary | 4 | 57 | 61 | 93% |
| Maintained Secondary | 2 | 10 | 12 | 83% |
| Grand Total | 7 | 95 | 102 | 93% |

Question 1

As per the Operational Guidance the local factor values and parameters may continue to differ from those used in the NFF, as the authority retains local discretion in 2018-19 and 2019-20. However, Devon proposes making every effort to make a quick transition to the national funding levels that will be fixed from 2020-21

Do you agree with this objective?

Question 2

Reception uplift is not included in the NFF calculations. From 2018-19 Devon proposes to continue using the reception uplift factor. It should be noted that schools will not be financially disadvantaged in the NFF calculations as the funding will remain in the baselines.

Do you agree to retain the reception uplift calculation for 2018-19?

Question 3

Do you agree to the Minimum Funding Guarantee being set at 0% for 2018-19?

| MFG at plus 0.5% | Q4 | | | Grand Total | Majority Percentage |
|----------------------|----|-----|-----|-------------|---------------------|
| | No | Yes | | | |
| School Type | | | | | |
| Academy Primary | 3 | 13 | 16 | 81% | |
| Academy Secondary | 8 | 5 | 13 | 38% | |
| Maintained Primary | 5 | 55 | 60 | 92% | |
| Maintained Secondary | 4 | 8 | 12 | 67% | |
| Grand Total | 20 | 81 | 101 | 80% | |

Question 5: High Needs

| HNB Bandings | Q5 | | | Grand Total | Option 1 Percentage | Option 2 Percentage |
|----------------------|----------|----------|-----|-------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | Option 1 | Option 2 | | | | |
| School Type | | | | | | |
| Academy Primary | 3 | 13 | 16 | | 81% | |
| Academy Secondary | 9 | 4 | 13 | 69% | | |
| Maintained Primary | 22 | 37 | 59 | | 63% | |
| Maintained Secondary | 8 | 4 | 12 | 67% | | |
| Grand Total | 42 | 58 | 100 | 68% | 67% | |

| Question 4 |
|---|
| If disapplication agreed. Do you agree to the Minimum Funding Guarantee being set at plus 0.5% for 2018-19? |

| Question 5 |
|--|
| Which banding option would you prefer? |
| Option 1: To remove the option of plus packages whilst amending the banding rates for bands 2 and 3. |
| Option 2: Limited availability of plus packages for learners for 3 years with amended banding rates. |

Questions 6 – 13: De-delegation Responses

| Behaviour Support Services | | Q6 | | | Majority Percentage |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|------------|----------------------------|
| School Type Academy or Maintained | Option 1 | Option 2 | Grand Total | | |
| Maintained Primary | 56 | 5 | 61 | | |
| Maintained Secondary | 7 | 5 | 12 | | |
| Grand Total | 63 | 10 | 73 | 86% | |

Question 6:
Please indicate whether you think services should be :
Option 1: De-delegate monies to DCC to commission services
Option 2: Monies remained delegated to school budget

| Ethnic Minority Achievement | | Q7 | | | Majority Percentage |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|------------|----------------------------|
| School Type Academy or Maintained | Option 1 | Option 2 | Grand Total | | |
| Maintained Primary | 52 | 9 | 61 | | |
| Maintained Secondary | 8 | 4 | 12 | | |
| Grand Total | 60 | 13 | 73 | 82% | |

Question 7:
Please indicate whether you think services should be :
Option 1: De-delegate monies to DCC to commission services
Option 2: Monies remained delegated to school budget

| Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Achievement | | Q8 | | | Majority Percentage |
|--|-----------|-----------|-------------|------------|----------------------------|
| School Type Academy or Maintained | Option 1 | Option 2 | Grand Total | | |
| Maintained Primary | 54 | 7 | 61 | | |
| Maintained Secondary | 8 | 4 | 12 | | |
| Grand Total | 62 | 11 | 73 | 85% | |

Question 8:
Please indicate whether you think services should be :
Option 1: De-delegate monies to DCC to commission services
Option 2: Monies remained delegated to school budget

| Copyrights, Licences & Subscriptions | | Q9 | | | Majority Percentage |
|---|-----------|----------|-------------|-------------|----------------------------|
| School Type Academy or Maintained | Option 1 | Option 2 | Grand Total | | |
| Maintained Primary | 61 | 0 | 61 | | |
| Maintained Secondary | 12 | 0 | 12 | | |
| Grand Total | 73 | 0 | 73 | 100% | |

Question 9:
Please indicate whether you think services should be :
Option 1: De-delegate monies to DCC to commission services
Option 2: Monies remained delegated to school budget

| Trade Union Facilitation | Q10 | | | Majority Percentage |
|---------------------------------|-----------|----------|-------------|----------------------------|
| School Type | Option 1 | Option 2 | Grand Total | |
| Academy or Maintained | | | | |
| Maintained Primary | 55 | 6 | 61 | |
| Maintained Secondary | 9 | 2 | 11 | |
| Grand Total | 64 | 8 | 72 | 89% |

Question 10:
Please indicate whether you think services should be :
Option 1: De-delegate monies to DCC to commission services
Option 2: Monies remained delegated to school budget

| Jury / Magistrate | Q11 | | | Majority Percentage |
|--------------------------|-----------|----------|-------------|----------------------------|
| School Type | Option 1 | Option 2 | Grand Total | |
| Academy or Maintained | | | | |
| Maintained Primary | 61 | 0 | 61 | |
| Maintained Secondary | 10 | 2 | 12 | |
| Grand Total | 71 | 2 | 73 | 97% |

Question 11:
Please indicate whether you think services should be :
Option 1: De-delegate monies to DCC to commission services
Option 2: Monies remained delegated to school budget

| Maternity | Q12 | | | Majority Percentage |
|-----------------------|-----------|----------|-------------|----------------------------|
| School Type | Option 1 | Option 2 | Grand Total | |
| Academy or Maintained | | | | |
| Maintained Primary | 61 | 0 | 61 | |
| Maintained Secondary | 12 | 0 | 12 | |
| Grand Total | 73 | 0 | 73 | 100% |

Question 12:
Please indicate whether you think services should be :
Option 1: De-delegate monies to DCC to commission services
Option 2: Monies remained delegated to school budget

| Schools in financial difficulties | Q13 | | | Majority Percentage |
|--|-----------|----------|-------------|----------------------------|
| School Type | Option 1 | Option 2 | Grand Total | |
| Academy or Maintained | | | | |
| Maintained Primary | 59 | 2 | 61 | |
| Maintained Secondary | 11 | 1 | 12 | |
| Grand Total | 70 | 3 | 73 | 96% |

Question 13:
Please indicate whether you think services should be :
Option 1: De-delegate monies to DCC to commission services
Option 2: Monies remained delegated to school budget

Questions 14 - 16: Central Services

| Allocate £60,000 EPWS | | Q14 | | Grand Total | Majority Percentage |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| School Type | Academy or Maintained | Option 1 | Option 2 | | |
| Maintained Primary | | 56 | 4 | 60 | |
| Maintained Secondary | | 11 | 1 | 12 | |
| Academy Secondary | | 7 | 3 | 10 | |
| Academy Primary | | 13 | 3 | 16 | |
| Grand Total | | 87 | 11 | 98 | 89% |

Question 14
Please indicate whether you think service should be:

Option 1: £60,000 to continue to be allocated to the co-produced service by Public Health Devon and schools.
Option 2: Monies delegated to school budget

| Phase Associations | | Q15 | | Grand Total | Majority Percentage |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|----------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| School Type | Academy or Maintained | Option 1 | Option 2 | | |
| Maintained Primary | | 61 | 0 | 61 | |
| Maintained Secondary | | 10 | 2 | 12 | |
| Academy Secondary | | 8 | 3 | 11 | |
| Academy Primary | | 13 | 3 | 16 | |
| Grand Total | | 92 | 8 | 100 | 92% |

Question 15
Please indicate whether you think service should be:

Option 1: Maintain a central service
Option 2: Monies delegated to school

| School Admissions | | Q16 | | Grand Total | Majority Percentage |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|----------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| School Type | Academy or Maintained | Option 1 | Option 2 | | |
| Maintained Primary | | 58 | 3 | 61 | |
| Maintained Secondary | | 12 | 0 | 12 | |
| Academy Secondary | | 10 | 1 | 11 | |
| Academy Primary | | 16 | 0 | 16 | |
| Grand Total | | 96 | 4 | 100 | 96% |

Question 16
Please indicate whether you think services should be :

Option 1: Maintain a central Admissions Team
Option 2: Admissions Team focus on statutory only

Report of the Head of Education and Learning

EARLY HELP UPDATE

Background/Introduction

Early Help is the support given to children and families to help them to manage their own dilemmas, resolve problems and find solutions that build on their strengths and that deliver the best outcome for the individual child, young person and family. Effective Early Help will result in more children, young people and families being supported at an earlier stage and prevent the need for escalation to statutory and specialist services.

Devon's Early Help system, as reported in the 2015 Ofsted report, was not strong. Subsequently, work was undertaken to put in place new delivery structures and processes and to secure permanent leadership.

A service review was commissioned and took place in May 2017. Early Help was identified as a key area for further accelerated improvement.

Early Help is a priority for the Devon Children and Families Partnership. Improvements to Early Help are being progressed through the new multi-agency Early Help Improvement Board, previously known as the Multi-Agency Early Help Operations Group. This refreshed group is providing a strategic and coordinated overview of improvements and transformation of the Early Help system.

Early Help Self-assessment

In November 2016, the [Early Help Service Transformation Maturity Model](#) was published, by the Department for Communities and Local Government, with the expectation that partners in each local area make a robust self-assessment of their performance, using local evidence. The document provides a framework for local areas to assess their performance against six themes. Each area is assessed against four levels of maturity (each with its own set of descriptors)

Once local areas have completed their self-assessment they will undertake a 'peer review', with an area in a similar position on their transformation journey to inform their action plan. This cycle will be repeated on an annual basis.

Devon's Early Help self-assessment was started in June 2017 and has been updated over a period of time with input from a wide range of partners.

Overall, strategic leaders across the partnership have a positive view of progress in transforming Early Help services, which they are seeing in the development of the workforce, systems and practice. This has started to influence, but is not yet consistently translating, into frontline experience. However, there is strong commitment across the partnership, at all levels, to delivering change which improves the outcomes and experience for families. Devon's self-assessment (see Appendix 1) reflects feedback from frontline staff and managers in a multi-agency context.

On 6th November, the Early Help Improvement Board undertook an action planning session in light of the completed self-assessment to direct the improvement work required to reach a mature and effective early help system. The Early Help Improvement Plan will be published by the end of the year.

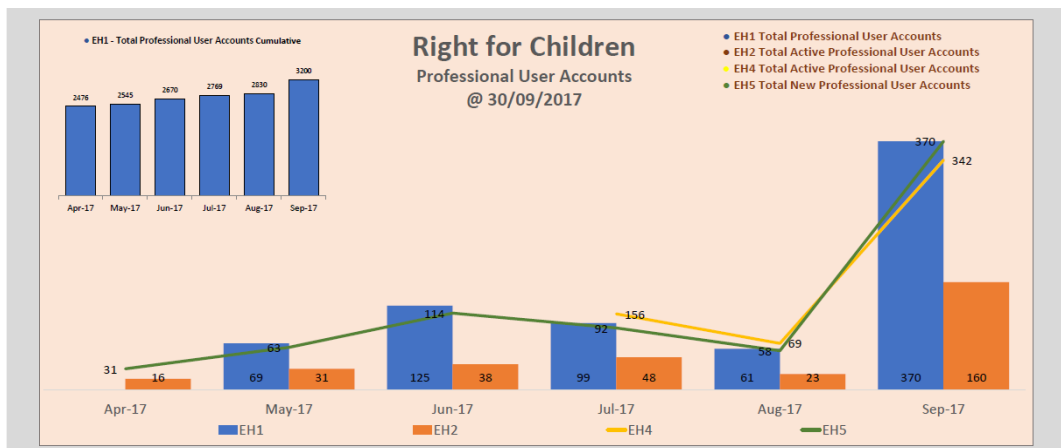
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Performance Monitoring

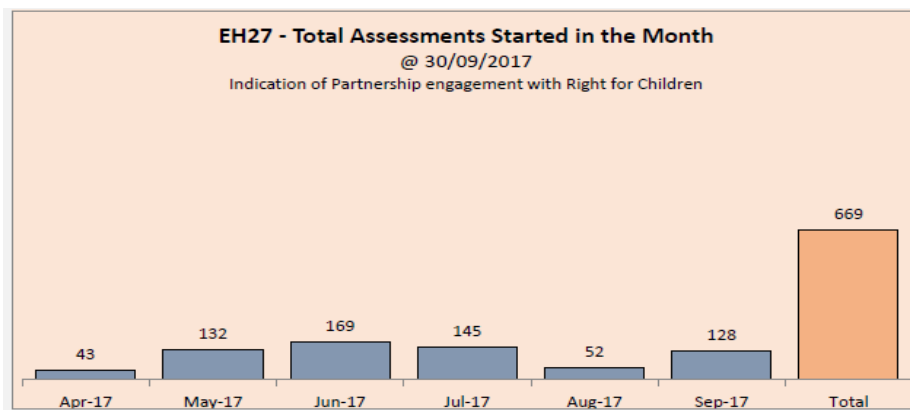
Right for Children

In April 2017, a new multi-agency case recording system, which supports information sharing, was launched called 'Right for Children'. The system design was widely consulted on across the partnership and feedback since launch has been positive.

A number of multi-agency user awareness sessions have been held across the county for practitioners to learn how to use the system. These sessions are being delivered on an ongoing basis. The number of users on Right for Children has been growing significantly since the launch – from May to September 724 new user accounts have been created on the system.



Activity is also increasing on Right for Children as reflected in the number of new Early Help Assessments started in each month since April.



Early Help Performance Scorecard

An Early Help Scorecard is in development and a number of draft measures have been produced, which will support the Early Help Improvement Board to monitor the impact and effectiveness of Early Help in Devon.

Communications

New information leaflets (see Appendix 2) have been produced to help explain Early Help in Devon to families. Alongside this a professionals' guide has also been produced. This can be personalised by individual agencies to reflect any relevant service specific information required.

Locality Partnership

The Locality Partnership exists to provide a local multi agency management structure. This is responsible for ensuring the delivery of Devon Children and Families Partnership (DCFP) priorities and, as part of the Early Help system, to be accountable for better outcomes for children, young people and families as defined in their Terms of Reference, by;

- Giving local operational leadership and direction
- Driving change
- Working in partnership to ensure improved outcomes for children, young people and families
- Promoting multi- agency participation
- Delivering the Partnership (DCFP) priorities on a locality basis
- To identify local priorities and facilitate response and inform the overarching partnership strategy
- To be the local conduit for Partnership information and priority working in relation to safeguarding
- To act as a vehicle for the identification of the developmental needs of the partnership workforce and to work with the Social Work Academy and Partnership Workforce Development group to ensure that those needs are met on a local and county level.
- To be engaged with multi agency case audits and quality assurance processes and to participate in a Learning and Improvement Framework required by Working Together 2015. To participate in *whole system quality assurance.
- To ensure service user feedback is consistently applied to performance learning and service provision

Across the county, the localities have seen a positive improvement over the last few months in partnership participation within meetings and also now include wider partners such as CAMHS and midwifery services.

There has been a good acknowledgement within the locality that networks and communication has improved due to attendance and opportunity to work together and increase learning and awareness of resources and other agencies roles and responsibilities.

Dawn Stabb
Head of Education and Learning
November 2017



**Devon
Children and
Families
Partnership**

**DEVON
EARLY HELP MATURITY MODEL
SELF-ASSESSMENT**

Version: September 2017

INTRODUCTION

In November 2016, the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) published a practical guide and toolkit, [Early Help Service Transformation Maturity Model](#), with the expectation that partners in each local area make a robust self-assessment of their performance, using local evidence. The Early Help Transformation Maturity Model provides a framework for local areas to assess their performance against six strands, The family experience of transformed services, Leadership, Strategy, Workforce Development, Delivery structures and processes and Culture. Each strand is assessed against four levels of maturity (each with its own set of descriptors)



Once local areas have completed their self-assessment they will undertake a 'peer review', with an area in a similar position on their transformation journey, which will result in a local action plan being developed to build on the current progress. This cycle will be repeated on an annual basis.

Devon's Early Help self-assessment was started in summer 2017 and has been updated over a period of time with input from a wide range of partners. The multi-agency Locality Children & Families Partnerships and the Early Help Improvement Board have contributed to a significant amount of the evidence included within this document. Agencies whose representatives have input into this self-assessment include;

- Children's Social Care
- Adult Social Care
- Education & Learning
- Youth Offending Team
- Public Health
- Early Years
- Devon & Cornwall Constabulary
- NEW Devon Clinical Commissioning Group
- South Devon & Torbay Clinical Commissioning Group
- Schools
- Action for Children
- Babcock LDP
- Virgin Care Ltd
- Job Centre Plus
- DYS Space Ltd
- District Councils
- Leading community & voluntary sector providers

Overall, strategic leaders across the partnership have a positive view of progress in transforming Early Help services, which they are seeing in the development of the workforce, systems and practice. This has started to influence, but is not yet consistently translating, into frontline experience. However there is strong commitment across the partnership, at all levels, to delivering change which improves the outcomes and experience for families. The below self-assessment reflects feedback from frontline staff and managers in a multi-agency context.

The Family Experience of Transformed Services

EARLY

Key Evidence

- All partners can access the Right for Children system, to share family information and support coordinated activity. The use of the system is increasing but not yet fully embedded. Further communication and promotion is planned.
- Families experience multiple interactions with different practitioners and multiple assessments rather than 'one family plan'. Those who have a TAF seem to have a better experience but feedback is not collected consistently.
- Specialist support is provided by the range of practitioners engaged in the Team around the Family (TAF).
- It is thought that the experience of families varies depending on geography, particularly for those on the border.
- Family feedback is regularly captured through individual agencies to shape delivery and service development. A consistent and embedded mechanism for gathering feedback from families about their complete experience of Early Help is being piloted in North Devon and will be rolled out across the county.
- It is thought that families are not consistently empowered by the workforce to choose what their support looks like; however there is limited evidence to support this either way.
- Families who have access to evidence based parenting programmes and clear agreed outcomes, take ownership of the changes in behaviour that need to be made.
- There have been multiple improvements made to the Early Help system over the past couple of years. This has sometimes meant confusion for families and professionals due to changes in staff, thresholds and services.
- There is growing evidence of partnership working to deliver evidence based parenting programmes which build resilience in families but this is not consistent across agencies.
- Pinpoint is a web based community directory for families to identify local support and provision. Some services offer support for families to access the information they need. Devon's SEND Local Offer contains information on education, health and care services/support for children and young people with SEN and disabilities (SEND).
- The Early Help leaflet for families provides information about what Early Help is and how to get support
- The new pathway for access to Babcock LDP Advisory Service includes information for parents and links to support groups

Source(s)

- Early Help Performance scorecard: EH30-EH34, EH37, EH39-EH54
- Family feedback template (North Devon)
- Programme of activities in Children's Centres
- Children's Centre Outcomes data
- Children's Centre Attendance data
- Pinpoint Community Directory - <https://www.pinpointdevon.co.uk/>
- SEND Local Offer - <https://new.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/special-educational-needs-and-disability-send-local-offer>
- Early Help leaflet for families
- Website analytics: Pinpoint, SEND Local Offer, DSCB
- Babcock LDP website

Leadership

Partnership working and governance

DEVELOPING

Key Evidence

- Overall governance for the children and families agenda is provided by the Devon Children and Families Partnership (DCFP) Executive (following the merger of the Children, Young People and Families Alliance and DSCB). The DCFP Executive is made up of senior leaders from core partners.
- The DCFP Executive has identified '5 Key Shifts' that all senior leaders are committed to – asset/strengths based practice, a commitment to strengthening the Early Help system, locality based models, an integration of systems and services, bespoke and personalised services for families.
- The Children and Families Partnership Commissioning Group provides the leadership for Devon's joint commissioning strategy and delivery of commissioning intentions, looking for opportunities for integrated service delivery and system leadership including the use of joint resources and pooled budgets wherever possible.
- There is a strong track record of focusing on outcomes through our commissioning processes; this is supported by co-production and engagement with children, young people, families and providers. Strategic provider organisations are providing some system leadership but this continues to be an area that requires improvement.
- Joint strategic needs assessments are used to routinely evidence the needs of the population, including thematic needs assessments which allow a 'deep dive' in to particular areas of need to better inform commissioning of services. Work is in progress to improve the use of management information, at service and partnership level, in order to triangulate needs analysis against demand data. Partners actively redesign systems to continue to protect investment and the skills of the workforce in relation to early intervention.
- Commissioning cycle for Babcock LDP is reviewed regularly and planned according to local area priorities. In year variances address shorter term high impact projects.
- Specific Early Help governance arrangements are in place. The Early Help Improvement Board (a sub group of the DCFP Executive) is in place and is made up of a range of senior officers who are committed to leading Early Help transformation
- Locality Children & Families Partnerships provide governance at a local management level. The relationship between the Early Help Improvement Board and the Locality Children & Families Partnerships is not yet fully

Source(s)

- DCFP Governance Structure
- DCFP Executive Terms of reference
- Children & Families Partnership Commissioning Group terms or reference
- Children's Community Health & Care Services Engagement Report
- Joint Strategic Needs Assessments
- Early Help Improvement Board terms of reference
- Locality Children & Families Partnership terms of reference
- Devon Early Help Outcomes Framework
- One Minute Guide to Early Help

established to support clear and consistent communication and drive whole system improvements.

- The 'Early Help for Families in Devon: Outcomes Framework' sets out how families who need support will be identified and what a good result or positive outcomes for families looks like. The outcomes framework is framed around six themes: crime and anti-social behaviour, education and attainment, specific support need, work and finance, being safe and physical and mental health
- Key senior partners are developing an understanding of integrating services to meet local need.
- There is a better understanding of the early help system and breadth and knowledge is growing, however expectations of each service are not consistently clear.
- Work is ongoing to increase the connectivity between leaders and communities which will inform local planning and delivery of services and also empower the community to take an increased interest and responsibility to support one another.
- There are many good examples of partnership working and engagement at a local level. Practitioners are committed to working together to achieve a common purpose; however this is not yet embedded across all agencies.
- Right for Children awareness sessions are being run continuously in localities to support practitioners and raise confidence in the system which is still fairly new.
- Shared ownership of target setting is not yet secure and provider contracts do not always specify requirements in relation to Early Help which can be monitored through KPIs. The risk of this is that provider resources are targeted elsewhere.
- Leadership and consistency in language is in early stages. Work is ongoing to embed consistent language which describes Early Help and associated systems, tools, outcomes, processes. Communication about Early Help is being explored to ensure messages are delivered to the whole partnership as a priority. A One Minute Guide to Early Help has been produced to support practitioners with basic information and signposting.

Strategy

Alignment with local area's broader strategic priorities

DEVELOPING

Key Evidence

- A 'commitment to strengthening the Early Help system' is a priority for the Devon Children and Families Partnership. Strategies relating to children and families are aligning with the Partnership's broader strategic priorities, within the Children's partnership Delivery Plan, as the golden thread through the local areas approach to improving outcomes for children and families.
- The Troubled Families Programme is included in Devon's overarching Early Help Programme, rather than a stand-alone programme.
- The Children's Partnership Delivery plan reinforces the focus on strengthening the early help system. A number of DCC and partner strategies and strategic plans refer to Early Help – SEND, Neglect, Domestic and Sexual Violence & Abuse
- The development of a new Children and Families Partnership Plan from 2018 will ensure an overarching clear plan of strategic priorities, divided into modules, one of which will be Early Help. The new partnership plan will also contain Devon's commissioning strategy, setting out commissioning intentions for the next three years. The partnership plan will be co-produced with the Expert reference Group and monitored by the DCFP Executive.
- Whilst there are good examples of joint commissioning focused on outcomes, a wider system level commissioning strategy has not been described to ensure that commissioning intentions of partner organisations deliver coherent joined up services for children, young people and families. This will be resolved by the development of the Children and Families Partnership Plan.
- Commissioners routinely identify best practice and research evidence based interventions. Options appraisals are cross referenced with needs analysis and demand data. This has led to a very broad range of interventions being available across the county and a workforce with a wide range of skills; however this becomes difficult to maintain, develop and expand. Joint working with the partnership workforce development group will look to consolidate this approach.
- There is a broad spectrum of contracted and local plans in place for services to deliver early help, assess needs of children and young people and engage families with programmes of support. These plans need further integration into the overall plan to ensure that duplication and consistency across the whole of Devon is addressed.

Source(s)

- Children's Delivery Plan 2017-2018
- Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy 2016-2019
- Early Help Strategy 2013
- Devon Neglect Strategy 2017-2020
- Domestic & Sexual Violence and Abuse (DSVA) Strategy and Action Plan 2016 – 2021
- Devon Special Educational Needs & Disabilities Strategy 2017-2020
- Commissioning Strategy for children's community health and care services
- Early Help for Mental Health Summary Report May 2017
- Devon JSNA Community Profiles 2017
- Early Years profile data
- Early Help Performance Scorecard
- Children's Centre Outcome Star
- Right for Children Worry Scale

- Health and wellbeing profiles are developed for local areas in Devon and include a snapshot of a wide range of different areas. Health and Wellbeing profiles, alongside the Devon Overview are part of the evidence base for the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy. The profiles are not routinely used by localities to support local needs assessments.
 - Local profiling is completed by Early Years services to inform and monitor the Children's centres contracts and set revised targets each year.
 - The Early Help performance scorecard has been developed which aims to evidence the impact of Early Help at a local and strategic level.
 - Outcome models are recognised and owned by DCC and partners. The Outcome Star is used by Children's Centres, the Right for Children worry scale is monitored by DCC and the Public Health Nursing Team and Youth Services uses their own.
 - Through engagement and co-production we continue to focus on whether or not services deliver outcomes as specified in contracts/agreements. This is triangulated with complaints, compliments and management information as well as feedback from families' and voluntary organisations.
 - Devon's direction of travel is for families to access personalised services in communities and at home wherever possible, therefore tailoring to the needs of the local population rather than a one size fits all approach. Designing services in that way means a locally differentiated offer dependent on local needs and resources, examples of this include Children's Centres and Children's Community Health & Care service specifications. A review of infrastructure this year supports this direction of travel.
 - Children's Centres, Devon Health Visitors in Partnership programme (DHViP) and Y-SMART provide good examples of a whole family approach
 - Education for All Programme supports and challenges schools and settings to develop Inclusive Practice which focuses on positive outcomes for education and attainment
- Individual service outcome models
 - Service complaints/compliments data
 - Children's Centre service specifications
 - Children's Community Health & Care service specification
 - Public Health Nursing service specification
 - Babcock contract reporting

Workforce Development

Skills, capabilities and performance objectives

DEVELOPING

Evidence

- The DCFP Executive has identified a need to focus on workforce development. Work has begun to look at multi-agency workforce development opportunities; this includes voluntary and community sector representatives.
- Training themes identified by the Locality Children and Families Partnerships are based on local needs and determined by each area.
- Right for Children awareness sessions are delivered by Early Help Operations Managers across the county to practitioners from all organisations. Dates/venues are advertised on DSCB website for multi-agency practitioners.
- An understanding of whole family working, and its importance, is developing across the county
- Practitioner forums are in place in each of the local areas (North, Exeter, East/Mid, South/West) for those working directly with families. They provide opportunities to share knowledge, best practice and learning.
- DSCB multi-agency training encompasses information about Early Help
- Many staff across children's community services are trained in the THRIVE approach to support emotional development and wellbeing of children. This needs further development.
- VOYC deliver DSCB approved safeguarding training to the voluntary and community sector which encompasses Early Help. In 2016/17, training was delivered to 331 participants from 82 different organisations
- Strength based practice workshops provide good opportunities to look at ways to manage risks
- Practitioners have performance objectives relating to their individual organisations. There is not yet a set of shared performance objectives for practitioners across agencies.
- Job Centre Plus delivered Welfare Reform upskilling events to key workers across Devon. A presentation was delivered to childrens' centre leads which led to further events for all children's centre staff and private child minders to increase knowledge of how to support families and where to signpost them to. Attendee numbers - Exeter 71, North Devon 49, South Devon 56
- Joint multi agency training for practitioners is delivered across Devon focused on the Education Health and Care needs assessment & planning processes, this includes information about Early Help

Source of Evidence

- DCFP Workforce Development Group
- Right for Children countywide awareness sessions
- Forward plans for practitioner forums
- Devon Safeguarding Children's Board training and events
- VCS Training: VOYC Annual Report 2016/17
- SEND Workforce Development report

Delivery Structures and Processes

DEVELOPING

Evidence

- Devon’s Early Help Assessment provides a single agreed tool to complete high quality whole family assessments, electronically enabled by Right for Children system
- Through objective setting in annual appraisals teams/services are required to be competent and confident in the use of Right for Children, however this is not consistent across all organisations
- Right for Children, a system which holds family information and supports coordinated activity, is operational and can be accessed by a wide range of practitioners from different organisations. The system supports effective data sharing between professionals.
- Working practice agreements support effective data sharing. There is better understanding and more confidence of information sharing between professionals, resulting in fewer agencies raising issues.
- There are four Early Help Operations Managers and four, increasing to eight, Early Help Locality Officers in place and dedicated to one of four local areas – Exeter, East/Mid, North, South/West.
- Locality Children & Families Partnerships provide a multi-agency structure to coordinate approaches, these are aimed at managers to share best practice and improve service practice .
- Practitioner forums are in place and led by locality officers for those working directly with families. These enable practitioners to discuss any issues or obtain support and advice on cases.
- Weekly triage meetings are held in local areas to consider requests for additional services (RfAS). The RfAS is designed for practitioners to access targeted services (DCC). Requests for funding are also considered by triage.
- Parenting programmes are evidence based programmes delivered through Family Intervention Team (FIT, Social Care, Children’s Centre’s and Youth Intervention Team among many others. There is a wide range of different parenting programmes offered in Devon, rather than a consistent coordinated approach using an agreed model.
- A wide range of data is available but not yet pulled together to show a complete picture, it is predominantly used by individual agencies to improve the delivery of their services or monitor single contracts.
- Work has begun to look at developing locality early help hubs, in four locality areas, which will support a centrally

Source of Evidence

- DSCB website information on Early Help systems and processes
- Working Practice Agreements
- Early Help Operations Manager job description
- Early Help Locality Officer job description
- Locality Partnership terms of reference
- Partnership forum terms of reference
- RfAS template/process
- Early Help Performance scorecard: EH1, EH7-EH11, EH28, EH34-EH37, EH68-EH79, EH87, TF3-TF5
- Evidence based practice through Family Intervention Team
- MASH Front Door Scrutiny Paper
- DCC Early Help Structure Chart

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retained MASH and improved access to early help. Improving access to Early Help and reducing contacts with the MASH, that do not need a safeguarding or statutory service, would provide a more effective and less costly service, improve outcomes for children, young people and their families and help improve efficiency and effectiveness of the MASH in responding to those most in need of statutory services.

- Services within the local authority have been brought together under the targeted Early Help offer – Family Intervention, Youth Intervention, Family Solutions, Y-SMART
- More innovative approaches to integrated working and attendance at meetings need to be explored e.g. use of Skype to protect travel time

Culture

Shared vision and ambition and openness to challenge and change

EARLY

Evidence

- There is a shared vision and ambition from DCFP Executive and from services working with children and families in relation to strengthening the Early Help system, however this is yet to filter down and become embedded consistently within all agencies
- There is a strong commitment to embed a strengths based approach across the partnership. This has begun to roll out in some services but further work is needed to embed this as common practice.
- There are some real champions and examples of good practice in schools and across different services i.e. Children’s Centres which needs to be communicated and encouraged so we see more of what we want to see.
- Culturally there is a lack of confidence in managing high levels of risk within the Early Help system
- There is an improved understanding of roles and responsibilities in some agencies with less resistance to change across agencies, who are motivated to improve outcomes for families.
- Communication about Early Help is not consistently clear or targeted. Early help Improvement Board beginning to drive communication to agencies following each meeting.

Source of Evidence

- Children’s Delivery Plan 2017-2018
- MASH referral outcome data

What is Early Help?

Devon's Early Help offer is there to support families from pre-birth to 19 years old (25 for young people with SEND).

You might need support from Early Help if:

- You are struggling with parenting or your child / young person's behaviour
- There are arguments or violence in your family
- You are experiencing an abusive relationship
- Somebody in your family is abusing substances
- You or someone in your family are making unhealthy choices
- Your child has special educational needs or a disability

Early Help is **all services** that work with children, young people and families, offering the right support when you need it most. Talk to someone you know or trust (i.e. a GP or support worker) who will connect you with organisations which could offer you support. Your voice and views will be central throughout.

I was 14, not attending school and smoking weed every day. I was referred to a support group through Early Help. Now I'm back in school and not using.

How do you access it?



You may already have a good relationship with someone, i.e. a support worker, health worker or youth worker. They will be able to sit with you and your child or young person to talk about any issues or concerns that you have.

You may think you or your family are struggling, but every family has strengths and we want to help you build on yours.

Firstly, you have to agree that you want to work with the agencies involved to plan how to support you. This is called giving consent.

If you have a range of difficulties that mean you need more than one organisation to work with you, you may need an Early Help assessment. The worker supporting you (ideally the person who knows you best) will help you with this. This person will be called the Lead Practitioner and will be the person who you will be able to contact.

You might benefit from a 'Team Around the Family' meeting (TAF) where you and other agencies can decide on the support you may need.

The Team Around the Family (TAF) meeting was such a breakthrough, for me, my daughter and my partner.

Who will know about this?

Generally, information you and your family provides will only be shared with people who need to know about it. Most importantly, it will only be shared with your permission, unless anyone is at risk of being harmed, or if a serious crime can be prevented or solved.

There are a range of services which can help you. The Lead Practitioner can support you to identify which services you would like and support you to access them.

If you're not sure who to talk to, speak to any practitioner you are involved with (i.e. a GP or school). You can also visit Pinpoint www.pinpointdevon.co.uk which provides information on different services and support groups.

I had a 1-year old who wouldn't sleep - I was referred to a children's centre and did a parenting course. Now my child is 3, he's sleeping much better and I feel I have somewhere to go if I need support.

Contact info/website:

<http://www.devonsafeguardingchildren.org/workers-volunteers/early-help/>

<https://new.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/special-educational-needs-and-disability-send-local-offer>

<https://www.pinpointdevon.co.uk/>



EARLY HELP

Early Help is offered by ALL agencies that work with children, young people and families



If you need further information or a different format phone 0845 155 1015 or email customer@devon.gov.uk

Produced July 2017

Devon Children and Families' Partnership
Working together to help support you and your family

My son had been going to pre-school for a few weeks when they told me his speech was delayed. They suggested a 'Let's Talk More' assessment.

I didn't realise until I spoke to other parents that the way I was feeling was common and I could get support through my children's centre.

My son was out of my control - he was getting involved in criminal activity and I felt lost. The help and support that he and I have received has helped get things back on track. It was transformational.

I was experiencing mental health difficulties. My husband was misusing drugs and my two year old had developmental delays. I give thanks to all the agencies that have helped my whole family.

I thought all relationships were like mine; I was confused between love and abuse. Thanks to my Domestic Violence Support Worker both my children and I are now safe.

A One Minute Guide to Early Help in Devon

What is Early Help?

When a child/young person/family needs something extra, Early Help is the initial response offered by all services in contact with children, young people and families. This builds an understanding to address extra needs and prevent situations from getting more difficult for children and young people. The aim of Early Help is to build on people's capacity and resources to manage their own dilemmas, resolve their own difficulties and prevent further problems in the future.

Early Help is not a designated team it is the way that EVERYONE works together to support the needs of families.

The Early Help Assessment

The Early Help Assessment is the tool used by all practitioners in Devon to assess the needs of a family and individual family members. It enables information to be gathered about a family from a range of practitioners so their needs can be understood and the right support can be put in place. All Practitioners involved complete the relevant sections of the assessment, in consultation with families, and record this on to the Right for Children system.

Right for Children system

Right for Children is an IT system that enables practitioners from a range of agencies to input and share information about the families they are working with, with the families consent. Training is not necessary, but awareness sessions are being held for practitioners to gain further information. Dates/venues of sessions and further information can be found at:

www.devonsafeguardingchildren.org/workers-volunteers/early-help

Any questions about the Right for Children IT System can be sent to: rightforchildren@devon.gov.uk

Team Around the Family (TAF)

The family and relevant agencies working with them are known collectively as the 'Team around the Family' (TAF) (sometimes also known as the 'Team around the Child' or TAC).

A TAF meeting, engages effectively with the family and relevant professionals to produce a plan of coordinated support that enables a child or young person and their family to achieve agreed outcomes within specified timescales.

Lead Practitioner

A Lead Practitioner is the person who, on behalf of the child, young person or family will coordinate the Early Help Assessment and plan. The person deemed most appropriate is usually someone who is a trusted adult/worker who wants the best for the child or young person. What is important is that where someone takes on the role of Lead Practitioner, this does not create a new burden as everyone should be committed to doing the right thing for the child/young person to offer better co-

Request for Additional Services

The Request for Additional Service can be used to access additional targeted support for families, where unmet need has been identified through an assessment. Practitioners are required to consult and use the [DSCB's Threshold Tool](#), and have started an Early Help Assessment on Right for Children, to get an understanding of the family's needs, before completing a 'Request for Additional Service'. Practitioners must complete as much information as possible on the Request for additional Service form. Any gaps in information may lead to delay, or result in requests being returned.

Requests for Additional Service are discussed by multi-agency partners at weekly Early Help Triage meetings held in each of the four localities across Devon (North, South, East/Mid and Exeter). Multi-agency partners make decisions on requests and signpost to appropriate services. More information can be found at; <http://www.devonsafeguardingchildren.org/workers-volunteers/early-help/>

Where can I find out more?

There are four **Locality Early Help Officers** in Devon that cover different areas. Their role is to offer support, advice and guidance to all practitioners on the early help system. Contact details:

North Devon: earlyhelpnorthsecure-mailbox@devon.gcsx.gov.uk

Exeter: earlyhelpexetersecure-mailbox@devon.gcsx.gov.uk

Mid & East: earlyhelpmideastsecure-mailbox@devon.gcsx.gov.uk

South Devon: earlyhelpsouthsecure-mailbox@devon.gcsx.gov.uk

Pinpoint is an online search tool that can be used to find up-to-date and accurate information about thousands of community services and groups available in Devon <https://www.pinpointdevon.co.uk>

Practitioner forums are held across the county, for practitioners from all organisations to attend, to seek support and advice about their work, listen to speakers from different organisations and join in themed sessions around specific topics i.e. mental health, domestic violence. Dates/venues can be found at: <http://www.devonsafeguardingchildren.org/workers-volunteers/early-help/>

Local Alliance meetings are held in four areas (North, South, East/Mid and Exeter) on a monthly basis. These are aimed at managers (or similar positions) who can champion Early Help, ensure change is embedded within their organisation and participate in discussions about local issues. Dates/venues can be found at: <http://www.devonsafeguardingchildren.org/workers-volunteers/early-help/>

6 KEY THEMES

CRIME/ASB

COMMITTED ASB / OFFENCE IN LAST 12 MONTHS

SUBJECT TO PROBATION ORDER, COMMUNITY ORDER OR SUSPENDED SENTENCE

HOUSEHOLD WITH HIGHER THAN AVERAGE POLICE CALL OUTS

EDUCATION AND ATTAINMENT

ATTENDANCE IS LESS THAN 90%

1 PERMANENT OR 3+ FIXED TERM EXCLUSION IN 3 TERMS

PART-TIME EDUCATION PACKAGE

NOT IN EDUCATION EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

SEND

SPECIFIC SUPPORT NEEDED

EHA/CP/CIN INTERVENTION, 2 OR MORE MASH ENQUIRES

REFERRED TO YOUNG CARERS,

REFERRED TO CHILDREN CENTRE FOR TARGETED SUPPORT

HOMELESS YOUNG PERSON

WORK / FINANCES

CLAIMING OUT OF WORK BENEFITS

AT RISK OF NEET/ HOMELESSNESS/ EVICTION

UNMANAGEABLE DEBT

BEING SAFE

CHILDREN OR ADULT EXPERIENCED OR PERPETRATED DOMESTIC ABUSE

MISSING PERSON

RISK OF CSE

PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH

ADULT OR YOUNG PERSON REQUIRES MENTAL HEALTH OR SUBSTANCE MISUSE SUPPORT

CHILD SUBJECT TO ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FROM HEALTH VISITORS

INDICATOR

OUTCOME

REDUCTION IN YOUNG PERSONS OFFENDING 33% OVER LAST 6 MONTHS

REDUCTION IN ADULTS OFFENDING 60% OVER LAST 12 MONTHS

NO ASB OR ESCALATION OVER LAST 6 MONTHS

NO BREACH OF ORDER IN LAST 12 MONTHS OR OVER LENGTH OF ORDER

50% REDUCTION IN POLICE CALL OUT IN PAST 6 MONTHS

ATTENDANCE ABOVE 90%

NO PERMANENT OR > 3 FIXED TERM EXCLUSIONS OVER 3 TERMS

ENGAGED IN FULL-TIME TABLE OR REINTEGRATION PLAN IN PLACE

ENGAGED IN CONTINUOUS EDUCATION TRAINING OR EMPLOYMENT 3 TERMS/12 MONTHS

ENGAGED IN EDUCATION 3 TERMS/12 MONTHS

CLOSURE OF SUPPORT & NO RE-REFERRAL WITHIN 12 MONTHS

TAKE UP OF EARLY YEARS FUNDING SUSTAINED FOR 6 MONTHS

ADULT IN WORK OR ENGAGED IN EDUCATION OR TRAINING

MAINTAINED SUITABLE HOUSING FOR 6 MONTHS

DEBT MANAGED FOR 6 MONTHS

REDUCTION IN RISK ASSESSMENT SCORE SUSTAINED FOR 6 MONTHS

REDUCTION IN POLICE CALL OUTS BY 25% OVER 12 MONTHS

REDUCTION IN MISPEERS BY 80% OVER 6 MONTHS

REDUCTION IN CSE RISK OVER 6 MONTHS

ADULT OR YOUNG PERSON HAS IMPROVED ASSESSMENT SCORES FOR 6 MONTHS

DE-ESCALATION OF SUPPORT SUSTAINED FOR 6 MONTHS

TROUBLED FAMILIES IN DEVON. Our Early Help system in Devon is made up of service users, community resources, and universal service providers and targeted services working together to enable families to manage their own dilemmas and solve their own problems. Our Early Help offer is underpinned by the expanded **National Troubled Families programme 6 Key themes** that are embedded within our Devon Early Help systems and processes and take **a whole family approach to support**;

1. Parents or children are involved in crime or anti-social behaviour. **Crime and ASB**
2. Children not attending school regularly or are being excluded. **Education and Attainment**
3. Children who need help (Vulnerable Children). **Specific Support Needed**
4. At least one adult is out of work, young people are at risk of unemployment, and families are experiencing financial exclusion. **Work /Finances**
5. There is domestic violence and abuse, risk of CSE or missing children and young people. **Being Safe**
6. Individuals have a range of health problems, physical or mental health. **Physical and Mental Health**

To be eligible for the Troubled Families programme a family needs to meet at **least 2 out of the 6 key themes** which could increase as further needs is uncovered. Success need to apply to **ALL** family members. The new Right for Children Early Help case recording system, Early Help tools, Assessment and Plan/Review, are designed to support the expanded Troubled Families programme and ensure families receive co-ordinated multi-agency support. Improving outcomes for families also enables Devon to access additional funding through payment by results claims (PBR) that go towards supporting the Early Help system and on-going support to families. We need to evidence **successful outcomes for all members of a family.** These need to be sustained. Families for whom a PBR claim is being made must also meet **4 key Principles** that include:

1. There will have been an Assessment that takes into account the needs of the whole family;
2. There is an Action Plan that takes account of all (relevant) family members;
3. There is a Lead Worker that is recognised by the family and other professionals involved with the family;
4. The objectives in the family action plan are aligned to those in the area's Troubled Families Outcomes Plan (Early Help Outcomes Plan).

SO WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR YOU THE PRACTITIONER?

Think - **WHOLE FAMILY**

Think - **THE 6 KEY THEMES**

Think - **RIGHT FOR CHILDREN, ASSESSMENT AND PLAN**

Think - **LEAD PRACTITIONER**

Think - **SIGNIFICANT & SUSTAINED ENGAGEMENT /OUTCOMES**

FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE DEVON EARLY HELP SYSTEM, OFFER, EARLY HELP LEAFLET FOR FAMILIES AND THE FULL DEVON TROUBLED FAMILIES OUTCOMES PLAN CAN BE FOUND AT THE DEVON SAFEGUARDING CHILDRENS BOARD WEBSITE UNDER EARLY HELP:

<http://www.devonsafeguardingchildren.org/workers-volunteers/early-help/>

Report of the Head of Education and Learning

SEND IMPROVEMENT BOARD UPDATE REPORT

SEND Improvement Board

In April 2016, governance arrangements for implementing the SEND reforms were refreshed and the SEND Improvement Board (previously the Disabled Children's Improvement Board) emerged with new membership ensuring that local partners, including parent/carers were fully represented. The SEND Improvement Board reports directly to the Devon Children and Families Partnership Executive.

An LGA Peer Review was undertaken in November 2016 and offered validation of the strengths and areas for development held by the SEND Improvement Board. The key findings were included in the updated local area self-evaluation and have informed the strategic priorities outlined below.

The Chair of the SEND Improvement Board, (the Head of Education and Learning), continues to ensure that the work undertaken by the Board and the workstreams is raised at key boards and groups within the local authority and across partners. All the Board members take responsibility for sharing information on this area of work with the sector/organisation they represent. This is ensuring that SEND remains a key priority for all partners, particularly the Local Authority and the CCGs.

Devon Multi-Agency [SEND Strategy & Implementation Plan](#)

Devon's SEND strategy aims to set out six priorities across Education, Health and Care and is centred on the collaboration required across partners to improve outcomes for children and young people with SEND and their families; this directly aligns with the [Devon Children, Young People and Families Plan 2015–2020: My Life, My Journey](#).

The six strategic priorities, set out in the SEND Strategy, have been informed by Devon parents and carers, the local area self-evaluation, feedback from a range of groups and individuals and the findings from the Local Government Association (LGA) Peer Review, undertaken in November 2016.

Consultation on the SEND Strategy launched on 17 January 2017 and ended on 17 March 2017. All responses were considered and the findings were used to inform the final strategy document and associated implementation plan.

The SEND Implementation Plan aims to set out the various objectives the local area will achieve, under the six priorities set out in the SEND Strategy. It has been produced in connection with a range of other programmes and initiatives to ensure its objectives align with those of the wider partnerships and share a common ambition e.g. Transforming Care Partnership, Local CAMHS Transformation Plan

SEND Workstreams

In order to support the delivery of the Strategy the SEND Improvement Board put in place five workstreams to focus on the areas of improvement it identified and the development of key aspects of the SEND Reforms. Progress is monitored through highlight reports linked to the implementation plan. Updates from each of these 5 workstreams are provided below:

Engagement – Parent/carer engagement has been developing with support from [In-Control](#). Parent/carers developed Devon’s vision which is included in the SEND Strategy as well as family performance indicators to monitor impact from a parent/carer perspective. Work is ongoing to identify examples of best practice and learning in relation to engagement of children and young people. An engagement framework has been developed and further work is in progress to support understanding of this. The engagement workstream is also supporting the engagement element of the SEN Strategic Review Project. (This project is funded by the DfE and looks specifically at the capacity of provision across the county and in neighbouring Local Authorities.)

Operational Delivery – The new multi-agency Education, Health & Care assessment and planning process was launched on 20 February 2017. Supporting guidance and tools are available on the [practitioner support page](#) of the SEND Local Offer. Quality assurance guidance and a supporting toolkit has been developed and is awaiting implementation. The focus of this group remains on improving performance against statutory timescales and support for the transfer of Statements to EHCPs, as well as robust quality assurance.

A key challenge for this group currently is issuing EHCP plans on time, within the current staffing resource. This is because there has been a very significant increase in the number of assessments being undertaken (478 from Jan to July 2017 compared to 255 in the whole 2016 calendar year). A review of staffing has taken place and additional staff are shortly to be recruited to better manage the additional pressures.

Choice & Control – A single definition of [personal budgets](#) has been agreed and is on the SEND Local Offer, this has been reviewed by parent/carers to ensure understanding. Existing policies and processes across education, health and care have been mapped and work continues to look at moving to integrated personal budgets for children and young people with EHCPs. The local authority is currently completing a desktop exercise to look at how personal budgets could work in practice for a number of children who have been identified. A review of current panel processes is also in progress to look at decision making and how funding is agreed.

Workforce Development - 20 sessions of multi-agency EHCP training were delivered across the Spring and Summer terms. 394 professionals attended the training. Feedback from the training has been analysed and will inform plans for future sustainable training moving forward. The group have, with the support of parent/carers, developed a SEND Core Competency Framework outlining the minimum standards expected of professionals who work with children and young people with SEND and their families. The workforce has recently completed a survey to identify preferences for workforce development and key skills/knowledge required, this will feed into a sustainable training model.

In addition to support the recent changes to funding processes the following actions have been taken:

- Autumn term SENCO briefings for this term been attended by a senior manager from SEN to ensure the changes are covered in full. The changes have also been covered at Babcock SENCO networks.

- A SENCo key facts document has been completed and available on the [Local Offer website](#).
- Bursar/School business manager briefings have been run in all areas of Devon.

- The Strategic Lead for SEN has also attended the Headteacher liaison group and provided further information and answered questions from Headteachers.
- The SEND Operational delivery group, which is part of SEND improvement board, have also been updated and can provide reassurance and communication.
- THE SEND improvement board has been updated.

Preparing for Adulthood – A new partnership board has been established to drive forward improvements in this area. Management Information teams across children and adults have been working together to improve intelligence and complete financial modelling for those likely to transition into Adult Social Care. A communication strategy is being developed and will be linked with the overall SEND communication strategy. A business case for a ‘Young Adults Team’ has been drafted and will be presented to senior leaders imminently. Preparing for Adulthood has been identified as an area where the Corporate Purposeful Systems methodology will be used.

Every Workstream has sought representation from Parent/Carers forums to ensure that they are actively involved in the developments and are able to feedback information on the SEND Reforms to their forums. Work continues to maintain this as parent/carers leave and other join.

Devon SEND Local Offer

In addition Devon has developed SEND Local Offer Reference Group, which is made up of parent/carers of children and young people with SEND. The SEND LORG arranged a morning event at which parent carers could provide feedback on the user experience of the SEND Local Offer website. The ‘user journey’ approach was used, which is a goal oriented approach to information. Parents spent a short time looking at the way the information is organised on the site.

Following further consultation and feedback from parents, partners and providers and a peer review led by Mott MacDonald, the SEND Local Offer has been refreshed. The ‘We are listening’ page shows Devon is using the views of parent carers and families to inform its decision-making and communicate key messages. Search engines generate the SEND Local Offer page as the top result in google searches. The page gets updated regularly and you can sign up for email alerts when this happens. The number of people viewing the site increases every month (+46% in a year).

There will be on-going monitoring of the site, by the Local Offer & Participation Officer, in order to ensure it is working effectively and meeting the needs of children, young people, parent/carers, partners and providers.

SEND Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)

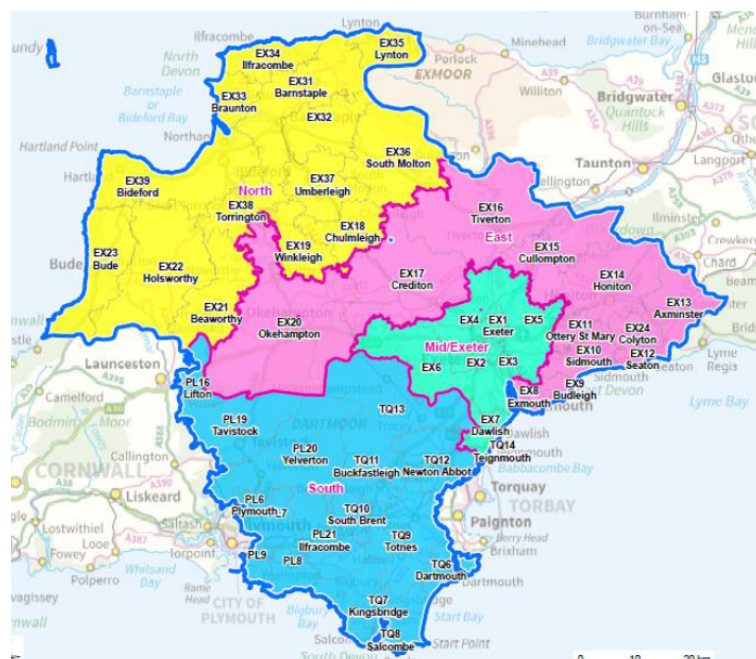
This [SEND JSNA](#) was commissioned by the SEND Improvement Board in spring 2017. The report aims to bring together information about children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities in Devon, and identify gaps in knowledge and areas for improvement.

Headlines include;

- Devon has a higher than average proportion of children with SEN; and especially of children identified as having SEN relating to social, emotional, behavioural and mental health needs.
- Overall, children & young people in Devon with SEN do better at school than the national average.
- The proportion of young people with SEN who are in education, employment or training in Devon is similar to the national average.
- There are some gaps in what we know about outcomes for children and young people with SEND. Much information is about activities. Providers and commissioners need to work together to continue to improve data on needs and outcomes to drive improvement.
- In terms of future need, based on population projections, there may be approximately 400-600 more children with disabilities in 2021 than there are at present in Devon.
- Local challenges are in line with the national position. Currently, there is no routine and complete national dataset available which includes information on the diagnoses and conditions of children known to community services, or on assessments and outcomes such as standardised assessments of functioning.

Reshape of 0-25 SEN Team

Following the appointment of a new SEN Senior Manager the SEN 0-25 Team has been reshaped and is now organised in line with the locality model used by wider children's services. There are now four area teams with SEN Officers allocated based on child/young person's home postcode.



The system used by the 0-25 SEN Team is undergoing some adaptations to focus on more robust performance monitoring. This new way of working aims to ensure the young person and family has one key worker from the SEN team allocated to their case from the beginning of the EHCP process right through to final placement regardless of what type of setting that is. This was previously not the case

Transfers from Statement of SEN to EHC plan

Following some focused work and an increase in resource, there has been a significant increase in the workload and completion rate of transfers of Statements transferred to EHCPs in Devon. The rate at which this is now happening, if sustained, would enable the transfer completion date of end of March 2018 to be met. Out of the original 3564 statements to be transferred there are now just 549 left to write.

Devon Information Advice & Support Service (DIAS) – Parent Information Events

DIAS is currently running information sessions for parent/carers in the autumn term, hosted at local schools. These events will provide parent/carers will clear information about Early Help, the changes to the new EHC assessment process locally and Devon's SEND Local Offer. They also offer a telephone support service to provide independent advice and guidance.

Re-commissioning of community health and care services

Children's health and care services are currently commissioned jointly by NEW Devon and South Devon and Torbay Clinical Commissioning Groups, Devon County Council, and NHS England. The services include specialist Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), Public Health Nursing Service, and specialist services for Children with Additional Needs or Complex Needs, such as physical and learning disabilities.

The contracts to provide services for children and young people in Devon are due to be renewed from 1 April 2019. Over the last few months local health and social care professionals, clinicians, partner organisations and patient representatives have been developing ideas and formed a proposal which has recently been consulted on.

A wide range of engagement work has been carried out across Devon which has already influenced these developments. A report has been produced to show [how feedback has helped to shape services for children and young people across Devon](#).

SEN Funding in schools

Whilst SEN funding is provided within every schools budget (44 million in 2017/18) this is not ring-fenced and is therefore coming under significant pressure as schools face ever challenging budgets. To support schools understanding of what funding is allocated to support children with SEN, additional financial information has been provided this year showing the breakdown across all areas of need. (Information on how SEN funding works in schools and the EHCP process and current challenges is being provided in the SEN Masterclass).

High Needs Funding

In September 2017 the Government provided its response to the Stage 2 consultation on High Needs Funding which took place between December 2016 and March 2017. Whilst in their response the Government state they are providing additional funding for high needs in 2018-19 and 2019-20 to date we have only had confirmation within Devon of an increase of £300k. This will hardly impact on the current overspend within the High Needs Budget. These increased costs have arisen as a result of the introduction of the new code of practice including the increased age range and population growth which have not seen comparable additional funding from government. Examples of these pressures are provided below.

- An increase in the number of learners with individually funded plans from 3572 in 2014 to 4103 in Sept 17.

- A 99% increase in the number of assessments which meet statutory thresholds and therefore need a joint assessment (255 from Jan to Dec 2016, 478 from Jan to end July 2017).
- A 33% increase in the past 3 years in the average charge made by independent special schools residential placements and a 54% increase in day placement average costs of the same time scale.

- The number of learners age 16 – 19 in Further Education with statutory funding has risen from 122 in 2015/16 to 262 in Sept 2017. As EHCPs unlike old statements can now continue to post 16 this number is likely to rise rapidly. In total there are now 713 young people aged 16 to 19 with funded Education Health and Care Plans compared to 452 in 2016.
- In addition requests for first assessment can also be made up to the age of 25 and the number of post 19 learners funded by the Local Authority has risen from 92 in 2015/16 to 147 as of 31.8.17.
- A increase the number of pupils medically unable to attend school (also funded by the High Needs Budget)

Whilst continuing to campaign for fairer funding for Devon schools we also need to put increased emphasis on securing adequate funding for the High Needs Block as the two budgets go hand in hand in providing inclusive provision for Devon Children.

The sheet below provides a brief summary of some of the work that has been complete by the SEND improvement board this year and the work currently in progress.

Dawn Stabb
Head of Education and Learning
November 2017

Devon's progress towards full implementation of the SEND Reforms September 2017

| Progress to date | Work in progress |
|---|--|
| <p>Page 51</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Well established multi-agency SEND Improvement Board reporting directly to Devon Children & Families Partnership Executive • 5 workstreams commissioned to deliver transformation • Multi-Agency SEND Strategy – consulted on and published • SEND Strategy Implementation Plan in place and monitored • SEND Joint Strategic Needs Assessment published • Updated SEND Local Offer developed with parents & professionals • Dedicated Local Offer & Participation Officer role • New multi-agency EHC assessment process • Reshape of 0-25 SEN Team in line with locality model • Designated Medical Officers in post and effective • Wide ranging engagement with parent/carers • LGA Peer Review completed • EHCP training for multi-agency professionals • EHC Quality Assurance guidance and toolkit developed • Preparing for Adulthood workers visiting all young people with EHCPs in Year 10 • Educational attainment for children/young people with SEN is good | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing capacity within 0-25 SEN Team to respond to rise in demand and performance against statutory timescales • DIAS running parent information events • Re-commissioning of community health and care services • Implementation of multi-agency quality assurance for EHC process • Re-development of annual review process • Ongoing transfer of Statements to EHCPs • Systems and process to support integrated personal budgets • Engagement of children and young people with SEND • More effective preparation for Adulthood – transition planning and monitoring outcomes • Development of a young adults team within Adult Social Care • Strengthening the tracking of outcomes for children & young people with SEND • Devon Inclusion Project • SEN Strategic Review • Increase take up of community based short breaks to promote inclusion therefore reducing the need for residential short breaks • Improving timely access to the right support and reducing waiting times for specialist services |

Devon Education and Learning

Education and Learning

2016/17 Attainment Report v1

Report of the Head of Education and Learning

Please note that the following recommendations are subject to consideration and determination by the Cabinet (and confirmation under the provisions of the Council's Constitution) before taking effect.

Recommendation:

To note the report and discuss

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## Overview

### Attainment:

Recently published results for Early Years Foundation Stage indicate that Devon is performing in line with nationally and regionally. Phonics Year 1 results indicate that Devon's performance has improved and is above national average. The attainment gap for FSM in Phonics Year 1 has risen slightly but Devon is in line with the national average and is performing better than regionally.

Provisional results at KS2 indicate that the percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard in Reading, Writing and Maths is slightly better than nationally and regionally. The Devon outcomes for some individual subjects are below the National Average. At Key Stage 4, provisional results indicate that Devon is performing significantly better than nationally and slightly better than regionally in attainment of English and Maths. Devon's pupils also have a slightly better Attainment 8 average score than the national and regional picture.

Information on the attainment of disadvantaged groups at Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4 is due to be published by the end of January 2018.

Attainment information for Devon's Children in Care will be available in the Virtual School annual report, available from

<https://new.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/young-people/children-in-care/education-of-children-in-care/information-for-schools-and-settings>

|         |                                            | Devon | National | Regional | Devon<br>FSM Gap |
|---------|--------------------------------------------|-------|----------|----------|------------------|
| FS      | Good Level of Development in FSP           | 71    | 70.7     | 70.5     | *                |
| KS1     | Phonics Year 1                             | 83    | 81       | 81       | ↑                |
|         | Phonics Year 1 FSM                         | 69    | 68       | 65       |                  |
| KS2     | expected standard Reading, Writing & Maths | 62    | 61       | 60       | *                |
| KS4     | Attainment in English & Maths              | 64.2  | 58.5     | 63.4     | *                |
|         | EBACC                                      | 21.5  | 21.7     | 21.5     | *                |
|         | Attainment 8 average score                 | 46.0  | 44.2     | 45.9     | *                |
|         | Progress 8 average score                   | -0.12 | -        | -0.13    | *                |
| Post 16 | 3+ A grades at GCE/Applied GCE A Level     | 12.3  | 13.0     | 10.7     |                  |

#### Key:

\* information due by Jan 2018

↑↓ Improving Performance

↑ Worsening Performance

↔ Maintaining Performance

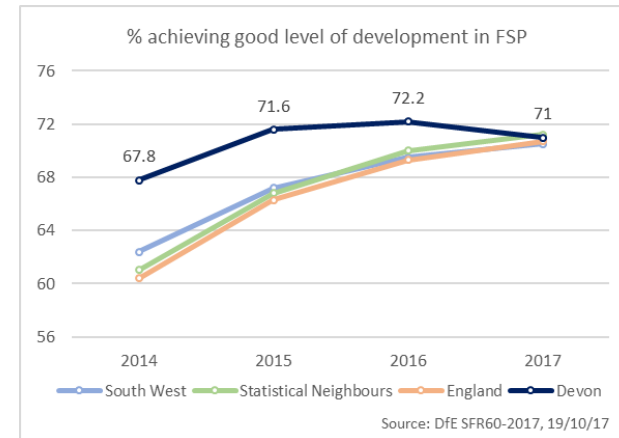
Note: KS2 and KS4 attainment information for disadvantaged groups is due to be published in January 2018.

**EYFS Good Level of Development**

The percentage of children achieving a good level of development in Devon has dropped slightly (71% compared to 72.2% last year). However Devon continues to perform better than both nationally (70.7%) and regionally (70.5%).

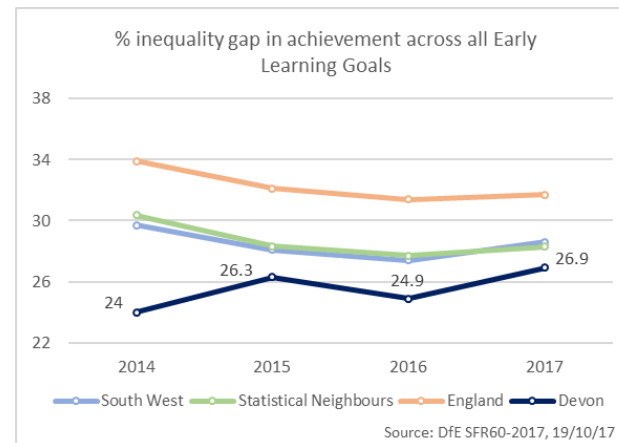
Girls outperform boys both in Devon and nationally. Devon girls performed better than nationally with 78.7% achieving a good level of development (77.7% nationally). Devon boys are performing in line with the national average, with 63.9% achieving a good level of development (64% nationally).

Information on the outcomes of disadvantaged groups is due to be published by the end of the calendar year.



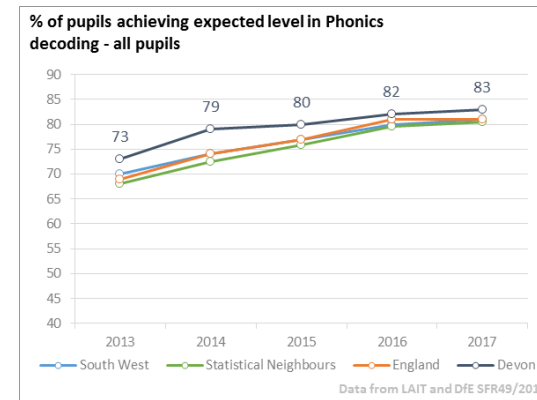
**EYFS Attainment Gap**

Published data shows that the attainment gap between the lowest achieving 20% and their peers in Devon has widened slightly (from 24.9% in 2016 to 26.9% in 2017). However Devon's gap remains smaller than the regional and statistical neighbours average and is well below the national average.



**Phonics Screening**

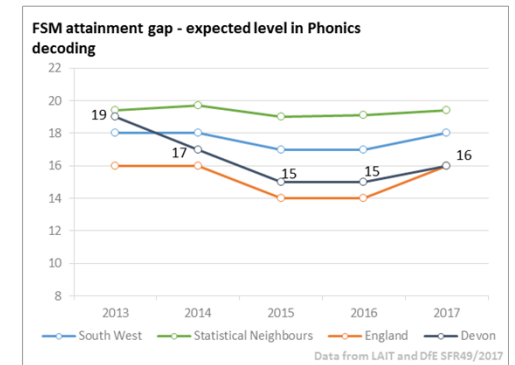
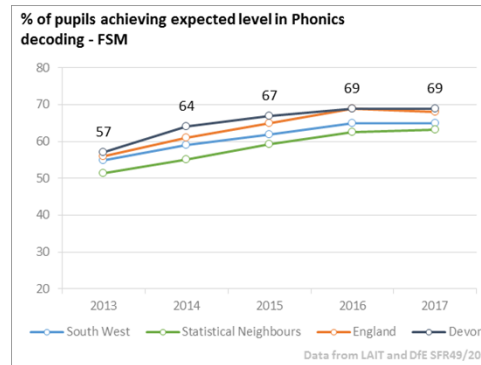
Recently published national information indicates that more than 4 in 5 (83%) pupils in Devon met the expected standard in year 1 (6 year olds) in 2017. This continues the upward trend in Devon over the last five years. Devon continues to perform better than the national picture (81%) and its statistical neighbours (80%).



**Free School Meal Children**

More than two thirds of Devon's free school meal children (69%) continue to meet the expected standard. Devon is performing slightly better than nationally (68%) and significantly better than its statistical neighbours (63%) .

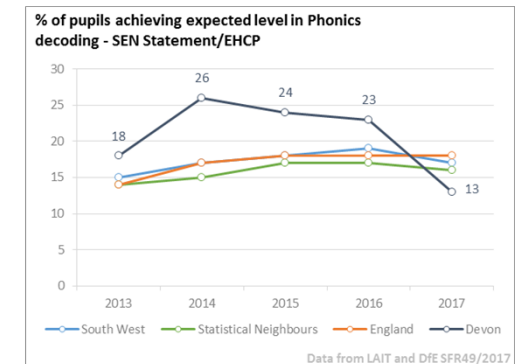
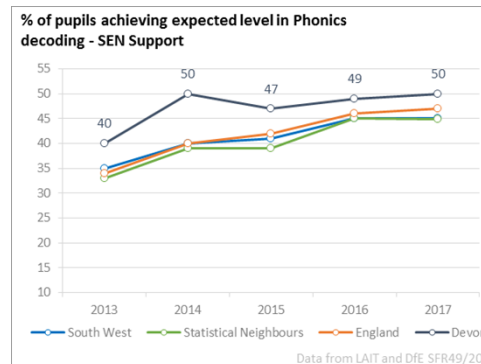
Devon's attainment gap has widened slightly but is in line with the national picture and continues to be better than regionally (18%).



**Children with SEN**

Half of pupils in Devon with SEN Support have met the expected standard (50%), this is a slight increase on the previous year. Devon continues to perform better than both the national picture (47%) and its statistical neighbours (45%).

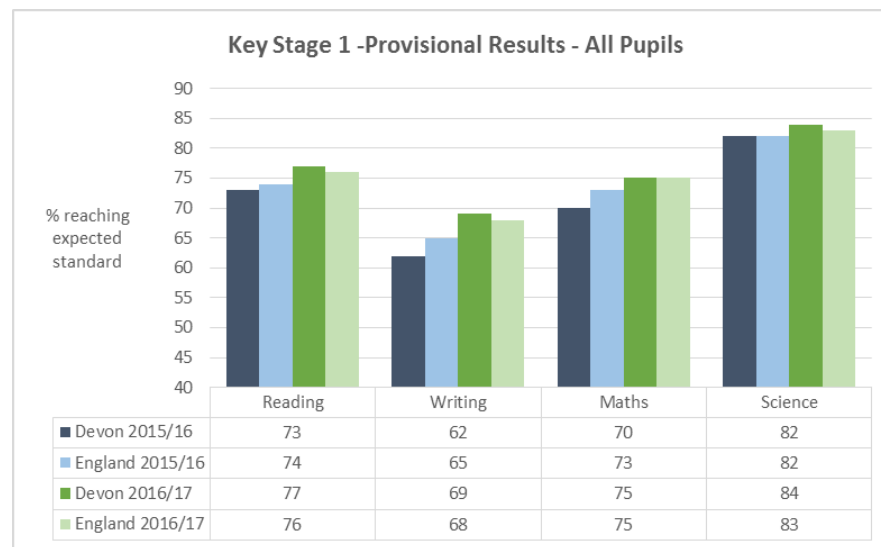
Provisional results indicate that the percentage of pupils in Devon with an SEN Statement/EHCP who met the expected standard has fallen (13%) and is now below the national picture (18%). However it should be noted that these are provisional figures and the DfE have advised that the results will be updated to include pupils who have not been matched to pupil cohorts in the census.



## Key Stage 1 Meeting Expected Standard – All Pupils

Provisional results indicate that Devon’s performance has significantly improved across all subject areas. Writing has seen the greatest improvement with an increase of 7 percentage points (compared to 3 nationally). Devon is now performing better than nationally in Reading, Writing and Science and is in line with the national average in Mathematics.

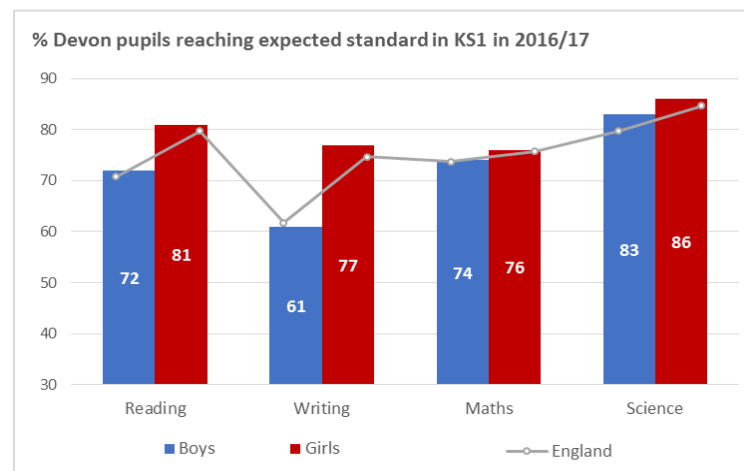
In Devon, 3 in 4 pupils achieved the new expected standard in Reading (77%) and Mathematics (75%), whilst 2 in 3 achieved the expected standard in Writing (69%).



Data Source: SFR49/2017: National curriculum assessments at key stage 1, 2017 (published 26/10/17)

## Key Stage 1 Meeting Expected Standard - Gender

Girls perform better than boys in Devon and nationally. Devon girls perform significantly better than boys in Writing (16 percentage points) and Reading (9 percentage points). Devon girls have performed better than nationally in Reading, Writing and Science.

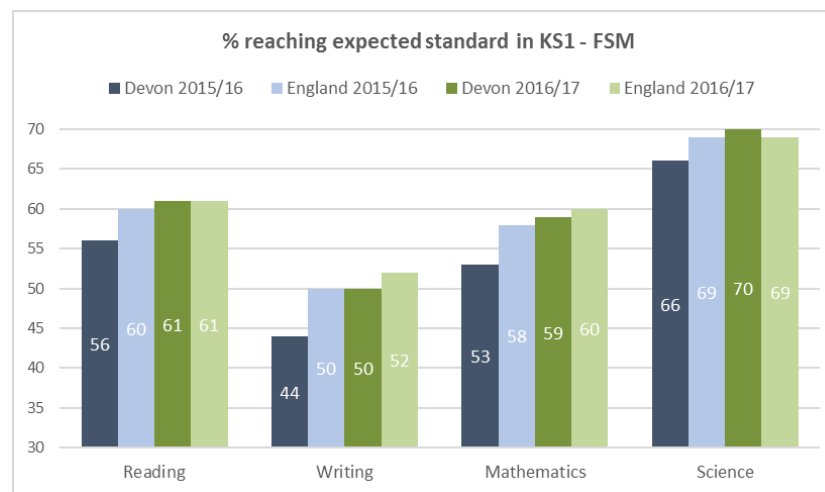


Data Source: SFR49/2017: National curriculum assessments at key stage 1, 2017 (published 26/10/17)

### Key Stage 1 Meeting Expected Standard - FSM

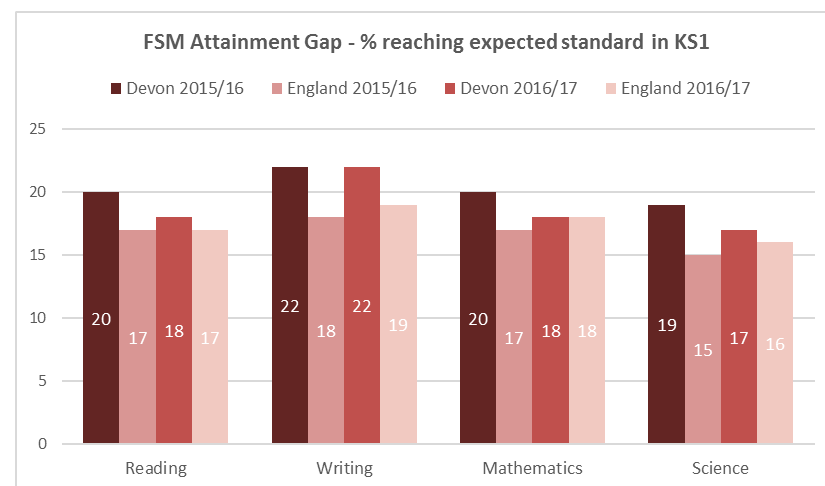
Provisional results indicate that the performance of Devon FSM pupils has significantly improved across all subject areas. Writing and Mathematics have seen the greatest improvement, both increasing by 6 percentage points (compared to 2 nationally).

More than half of free school meal children met the expected standard in reading (61%) and Mathematics (59%), whilst two thirds met the expected standard in Science (70%). Devon's performance in Science is now above the national average whilst performance in Reading is in line with nationally (61%). Performance in Writing and Mathematics is now closer to the national picture.



### Key Stage 1 FSM Attainment Gap

The attainment gap of FSM pupils in Devon (compared against non FSM) has improved in Reading, Mathematics and Science (dropping by 2 percentage points) and remains stable in Writing. The gap in Mathematics is now in line with the national picture (18%) whilst the gaps in Reading, Writing and Science are now slightly smaller than seen nationally.

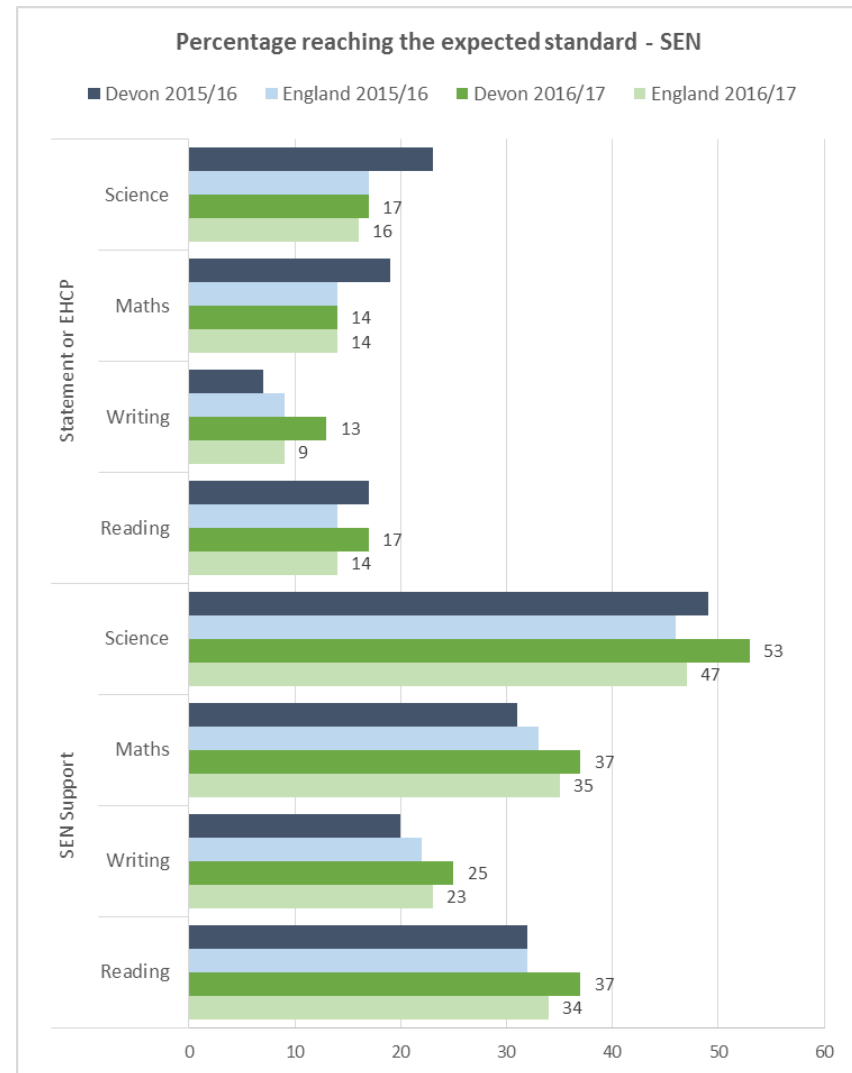


Data Source: SFR49/2017: National curriculum assessments at key stage 1, 2017

**Key Stage 1 Meeting Expected Standard - SEN**

The performance of Devon pupils with SEN Support has improved across all subject areas. Devon is now performing better than nationally in each subject. Mathematics has seen the greatest improvement with an increase in 6 percentage points whilst Writing and Reading have both improved by 5 points. The percentage of pupils with SEN support in Devon meeting the expected standard continues to be highest in Science (53%).

Provisional results indicate that the performance of pupils with Statements or EHCPs has significantly improved in Writing and remains stable in Reading. Performance has fallen in Science and Mathematics. Devon is performing significantly better than national in Writing (13% compared to 9% nationally) and also performs better in Reading (17% compared to 14% nationally). Devon is slightly better than the national average in Science (16%).

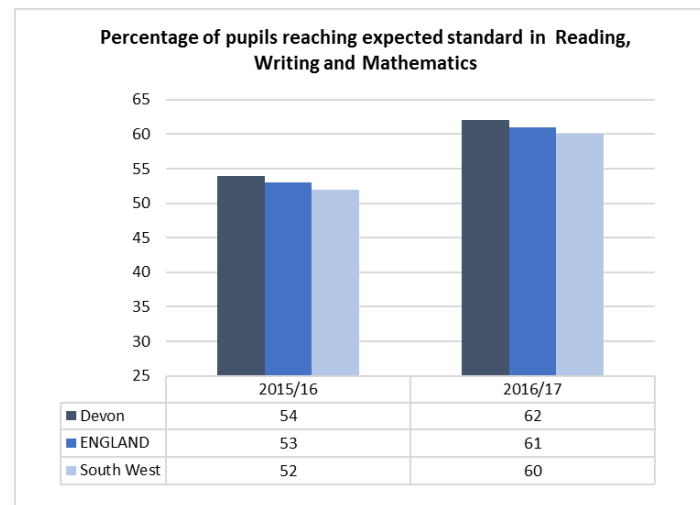


Data Source: SFR49/2017: National curriculum assessments at key stage 1, 2017 (published 26/10/17)

## Key Stage 2 Provisional Results

Provisional results indicate that 62% of pupils in Devon reached the expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics. This is a substantial increase on the previous year (54%) and remains slightly higher than this year's national picture (61%).

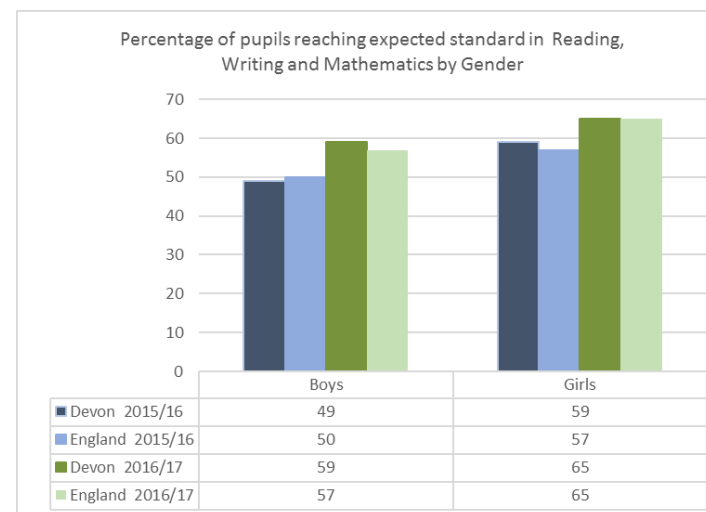
Note: Because of the changes in assessment, figures for 2016 and 2017 are not comparable to those for earlier years.



## Key Stage 2 Results by Gender

Attainment has increased for both genders in the last year. 59% of boys in Devon have reached the expected standard, which is a significant increase on the previous year when 49% reached the expected standard. Devon boys are now performing better than nationally (57%).

Girls continue to outperform boys with 65% of girls in Devon reaching the expected standard compared to 59% of boys. This balance is also reflected nationally. Devon girls are performing in line with the national picture (65%).





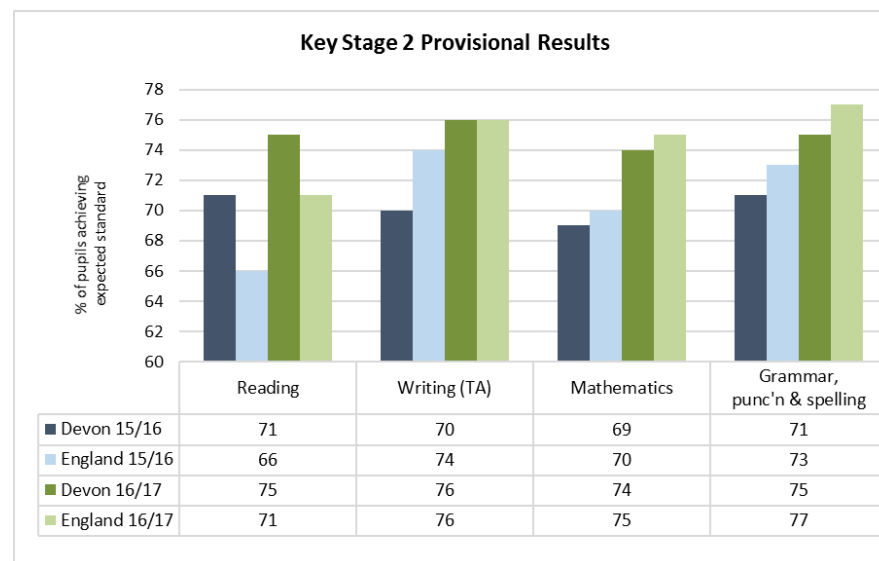
## Key Stage 2 Results by Subject

Provisional results indicate that Devon's performance in each of the KS2 subjects has seen significant improvements. Devon continues to perform significantly better than the national average in Reading (75% compared to 71%).

Attainment at the expected standard in Writing has seen a massive improvement as predicted (increasing by 6 percentage points on last year) and is now in line with the national picture (76%).

Mathematics and Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling continue to be slightly below the national average and plans are in place to secure an improvement in these areas.

Note: some cases are currently in appeal and so the outcome may improve further.



## Key Stage 4 - Provisional Results

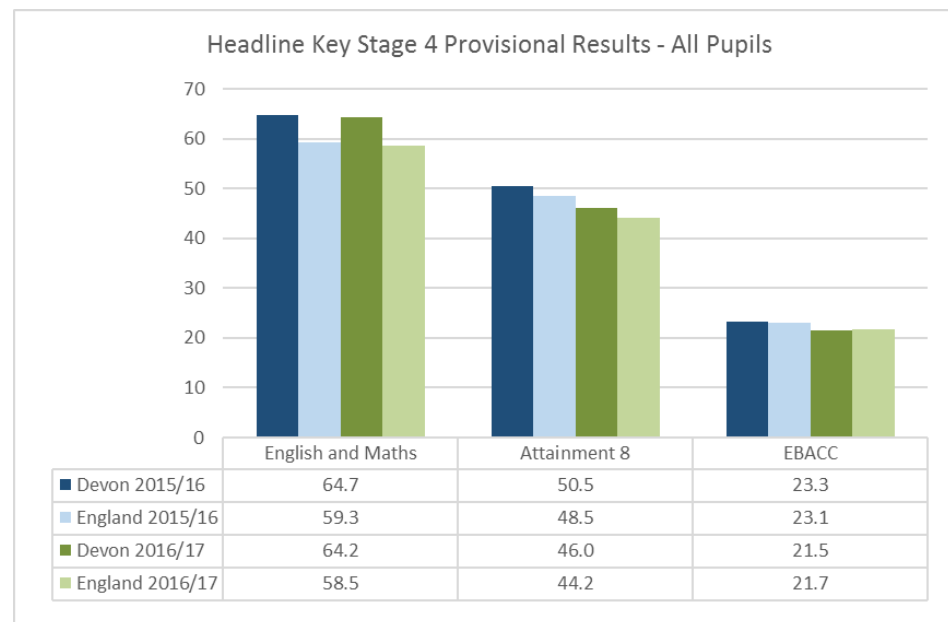
In 2017, pupils sat reformed GCSEs in English language, English literature and Mathematics for the first time, graded on a 9-1 scale. The DfE have advised that the decrease in Attainment 8 score per pupil is as expected, following the changes to the 2017 point scores assigned to grades due to the introduction of 9-1 GCSEs. Please note that due to these changes comparison with previous years is not possible.

Recently published provisional results indicate that Devon has maintained its performance compared to nationally. Devon continues to perform better than nationally in the new Maths and English and Attainment 8 performance measures at Key Stage 4;

- **Attainment in English and Maths** - the percentage of pupils in Devon achieving grades 9 to 4 in both English and Maths is significantly higher than the national picture (64.2% in Devon compared to 58.5% nationally).
- **Attainment 8<sup>1</sup>** - Devon is performing better than the national picture with an average Attainment 8 score per pupil of 46 compared to 44.2 nationally. Devon is also performing better than its statistical neighbours (45.6) and is in line with regionally (45.9).
- **English Baccalaureate** - the percentage of pupils achieving the English Baccalaureate in Devon is close to the national picture (21.5% compared to 21.7% nationally). Devon is in line with the regional average (21.5%) and is performing better than its statistical neighbours (20.9%).
- **Progress 8<sup>2</sup>** - Devon pupils are making average progress, with an average Progress 8 score per pupil of -0.12. Devon compares favourably against the average Progress 8 score per pupil in the South West which is -0.13.

<sup>1</sup> This measures the average achievement of pupils in up to 8 qualifications, including English, Maths, 3 qualifications that count in the English Baccalaureate and three further qualifications.

<sup>2</sup> This new measure captures the progress a pupil makes from the end of Key Stage 2 to the end of Key Stage 4. A Progress 8 score of above 0 means a school is making above average progress.

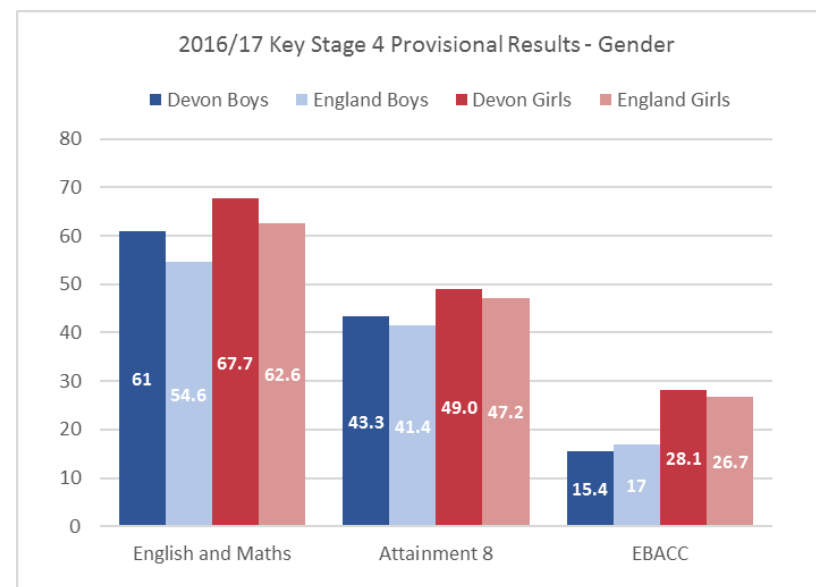


Data Source: SFR57/2017: GCSE and equivalent results in England 2016/17 (provisional), Oct 2017

### Attainment Outcomes – Gender

Girls perform significantly better than boys, both in Devon and nationally. Devon girls are performing better than nationally in the three new performance measures, whilst boys perform better than nationally in English and Maths.

- **Attainment in English and Maths (A\*-C)** – Devon boys perform better than nationally by 6.4 percentage points, whilst Devon girls perform better by 5.1 percentage points.
- **Attainment 8** - Devon boys and girls perform better than nationally by similar amounts (boys are better by 1.9 points with girls better by 1.8 points).
- **English Baccalaureate** – Devon girls perform better than nationally (28.1% compared to 26.7%) but Devon boys do not perform as well as nationally (15.4% compared to 17%).
- **Progress 8** – Devon girls are making above average progress, with an average Progress 8 score per pupil of +0.12. Devon girls are making similar progress to regionally which has an average score of +0.10. Devon boys are not making as much progress, with an average Progress 8 score per pupil of -0.35, but are making similar progress as regionally (-0.34). Boys' progress and attainment will be a key focus for the coming year.



Data Source: SFR57/2017: GCSE and equivalent results in England 2016/17 (provisional), Oct 2017

### Provisional Gap Information

The table below clearly indicates that alongside improving attainment outcomes, the gaps for key cohorts have either remained the same or narrowed. This shows that outcomes for pupils in the groups below have improved in line with or better than the universal group of students.

|                 | Outcomes<br>All | Gender<br>Gap | Disadvantaged<br>Gap | SEND<br>Gap |
|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------------|-------------|
| KS1 Reading Exp | 77% ↑           | 9.4% ↓        | 16% ↓                | 31% ↓       |
| KS1 Writing Exp | 69% ↑           | 15.5% ↔       | 20% ↔                | 40% ↓       |
| KS1 Maths Exp   | 75% ↑           | 2.6% ↔        | 17% ↓                | 31% ↑       |
| KS2 RWM Exp     | 62% ↑           | 7% ↓          | 21% ↓                | 38% ↔       |
| KS4 level 4+    | 65% ↑           |               | 18%                  |             |

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The table above is currently based on data provided by school and may be subject to change.

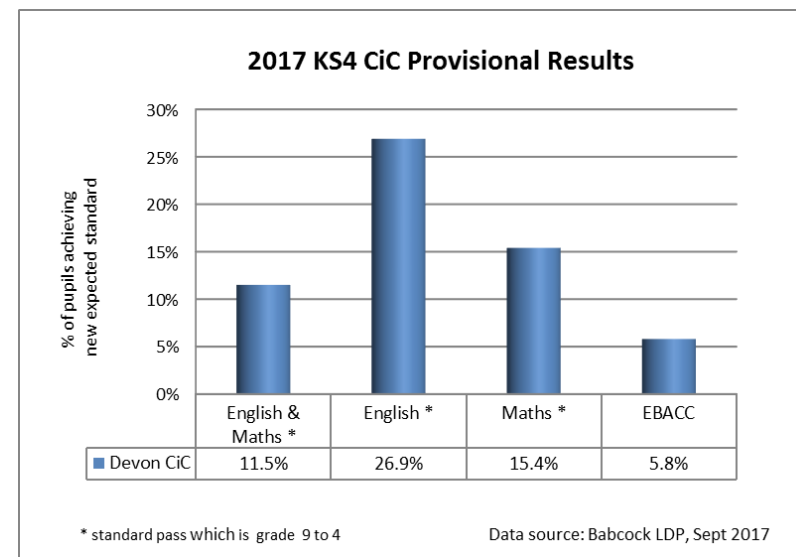
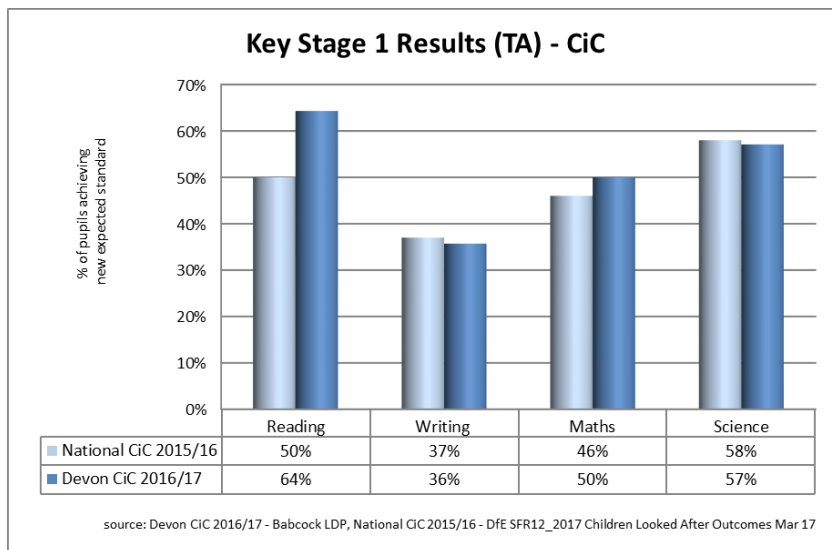
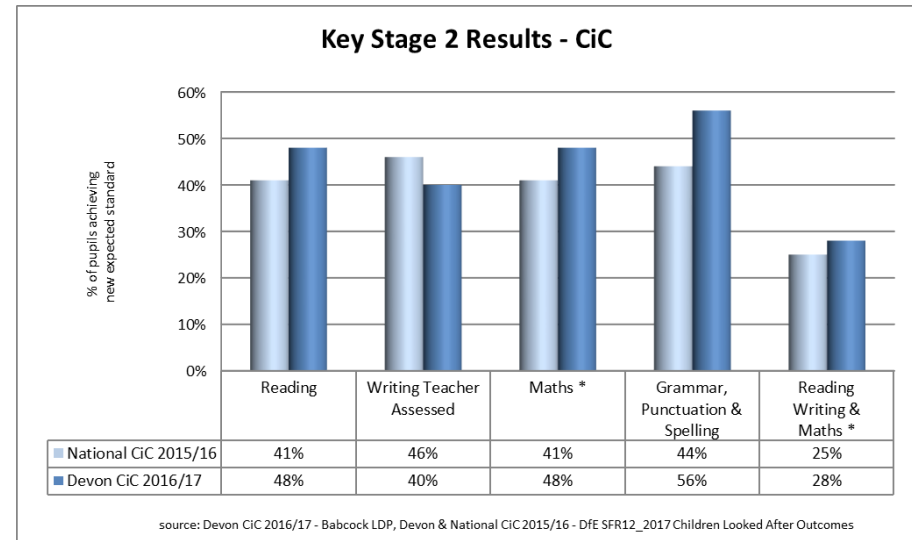
Disadvantaged pupils include Children in Care and Ever 6 pupils in addition to those on Free School Meals.

**Children in Care Provisional Results**

Initial results provided by schools indicate an improvement on last year's performance. A full analysis will be provided later in the year in the annual Children in Care report.

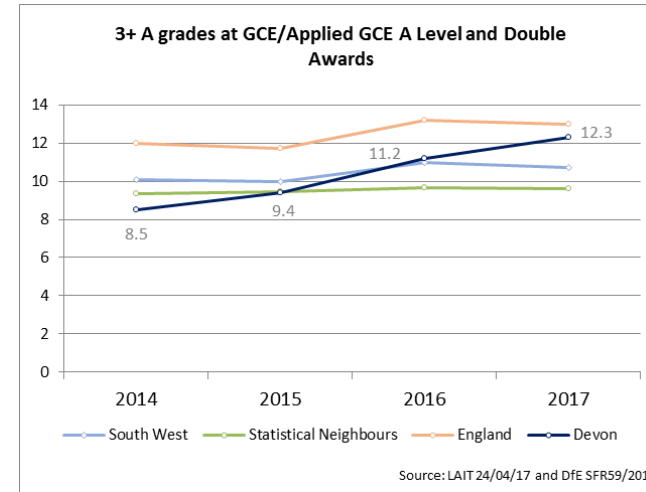
At Key Stage 1, local information indicates that outcomes in Reading and Maths are above last year's national average (latest available data is 2015/16). Devon's Children in Care are also performing above last year's national average in the Key Stage 2 combined measure of Reading, Writing and Maths.

At Key Stage 4, data from schools indicate that Children in Care have performed best in English. As this is the first year of the new exam system and introduction of the 9-1 GCSE grading, comparisons to previous years cannot be made.



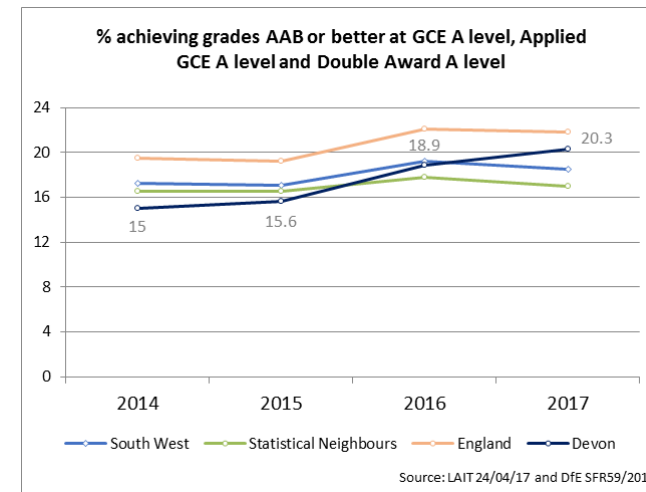
**3+ A Grades at A Level**

Provisional results indicate that Devon’s performance continues to improve with 12.3% of pupils achieving 3+ A grades in 2017 compared to 11.2% in 2016. Devon’s performance (12.3%) is now significantly better than the regional picture (10.7%) and continues to be better than its statistical neighbours (9.6%). Devon is now less than 1 percentage point below the national picture (13%).



**Achievement of grades AAB or better**

The percentage of Devon pupils achieving grades AAB or better continues to improve, with 20.3% achieving in 2017 compared to 18.9% in 2016. Devon is now performing better than the regional picture (18.5%) and continues to be better than its statistical neighbours (17.0%). Whilst Devon remains below the national picture (21.8%) it is now only 1.5 percentage points below (previously 3.2 points below).



## SCHOOLS FINANCE GROUP Notes of meeting on 8 November 2017 at Larkbeare House

|                                           |                                           | Attendance |           |           |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|
|                                           |                                           | 8/11/17    | 12/7/17   | 24/5/17   |
| <b>DCC</b>                                |                                           |            |           |           |
| Adrian Fox (Chair)                        | Head Accountant<br>(Education & Learning) | ✓          | ✓         | ✓         |
| Heidi Watson-Jones                        | Executive Personal Assistant              | ✓          | ✓         | ✓         |
| Olivia Mitchell                           | Apprentice Personal Assistant             | ✓          |           |           |
| <b>DAPH – PRIMARY HEADS</b>               |                                           |            |           |           |
| Jonathan Bishop                           | Broadclyst Primary                        | ✓          | Apologies | Apologies |
| Alun Dobson                               | Marwood Primary                           | ✓          | ✓         | ✓         |
| Jamie Stone                               | Denbury Primary                           | ✓          | ✓         | ✓         |
| Paul Walker                               | First Federation                          | ✓          | ✓         | ✓         |
| <b>DASH – SECONDARY HEADS</b>             |                                           |            |           |           |
| Daryll Chapman                            | Okehampton College                        | ✓          | Apologies | ✓         |
| Lorraine Heath                            | Uffculme College                          | ✓          | Apologies |           |
| Gareth Roscoe                             | The Park Community School                 | ✓          |           | Apologies |
| Matthew Shanks                            | Education South West                      | ✓          | ✓         | Apologies |
| <b>SHAD – SENIORITY (SPECIAL SCHOOLS)</b> |                                           |            |           |           |
| Keith Bennett                             | Marland School                            | ✓          | Apologies | Apologies |
| Jacqui Warne                              | Learn to Live Federation                  | ✓          | Apologies | ✓         |
| <b>DAG – GOVERNORS</b>                    |                                           |            |           |           |
| Faith Butler                              | Special                                   | ✓          | Apologies | ✓         |
| Malcolm Dobbins                           | Primary                                   | ✓          | ✓         | ✓         |
| Jill Larcombe                             | Secondary                                 |            | Apologies | ✓         |
| Alex Walmsley                             | Secondary                                 | ✓          | ✓         |           |
| <b>EARLY YEARS PROVIDERS</b>              |                                           |            |           |           |
| Gemma Rolstone                            | Early Years – NDNA for PVI providers      |            | ✓         | ✓         |
| Sandra Barnett                            | Early Years / for PVI providers           | ✓          |           |           |
| <b>In Attendance:</b>                     |                                           |            |           |           |
| Julia Foster                              | DCC - SEN Strategy Manager                | ✓          | ✓         |           |
| Katrina Callcutt                          | DCC – Finance                             | ✓          |           |           |
| Dawn Stabb                                | Head of Education & Learning              | ✓          |           |           |

### 1. Item/Focus: Minutes and Matters Arising from meeting on 12 July 2017

#### Discussion:

- Congratulations to Adrian Fox on his appointment to Head Accountant, Education & Learning
- AF outlined criteria for extended Early Years entitlement for working families.

**Key Decision/ Issues for DEF:** Minutes were agreed as an accurate record.

**Action:**

### 2. Item/Focus: Growth Fund

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|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Discussion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Secondary Growth criteria discussed at previous meeting. Additional pressures on Growth Fund as a result of use of DSG balances to address High Needs Block deficit.</li> <li>• Reiterated that Secondary Growth payable only if 80% of incoming year 7 pupils are from within catchment (except Exeter, Barnstaple and Newton Abbot due to ease of migration).</li> <li>• Considered pressures and additional contributions required for 2019/2020.</li> <li>• If agreed, proposed new policy would come into effect from April 2018.</li> <li>• AF confirmed that Growth Fund was not included within the recent consultation as the timing was not appropriate given uncertainties around the NFF, and outlined that this would be a Schools Forum decision and did not need to go to all schools.</li> <li>• DfE guidance indicates that uncommitted DSG surpluses, including de-delegated budgets, are directed to cover any deficit. Growth Fund is a topslice from within Schools Block. Growth allocation is paid to the LA as historic planned spend in 2018-19, but looking at guidance suggests a lagged basis, according to published growth criteria and agreed future plan.</li> <li>• Understood that a Devon Academy school had recently been allocated growth funding directly from the DfE as DCC growth criteria had not been met. SFG interested to learn what route was taken to achieve this.</li> <li>• The group discussed the criteria relating to year 7 joiners and year 11 leavers.</li> <li>• <b>Phase Associations</b> to discuss with their membership to gauge how effectively the revised criteria may be implemented, given specific cases have recently been raised at SFG and FIPS.</li> <li>• The group considered growth in growing schools which doesn't fall within the stated 3-year period (e.g. due to delayed or long-term development projects). Noted that a new school is still deemed to be 'growing' until all year groups are at capacity, and will attract termly payments until either 70% capacity met, or, 3 years after all year groups are full. <b>AF</b> to confirm position.</li> <li>• Noted that newly-built schools do not immediately have a recognised catchment area.</li> </ul> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <p><b>Key Decision/ Issues for DEF:</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report noted</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <p><b>Actions:</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>AF</b> to clarify DfE position on lagged payment of growth allocations, to gauge how DCC growth criteria are benchmarked against national expectations,</li> <li>• <b>AF to clarify</b> issues around funding timeframe for growing schools in areas of development.<br/><b>AF</b> to seek clarity from Simon Niles on points 11 and 12. <b>N.B.</b> SN has confirmed that the 80% relates to the Year 7 cohort admitted to the school.</li> <li>• <b>Phase Associations</b> to discuss proposal with their schools for further discussion at next SFG</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>3. Item/Focus: SEND/High Needs Update (Julia Foster)</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <p><b>Discussion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Noted that a new contract for Specialist Units (CAIRBs) has been signed by all but one provider, and alternative arrangements are being made to re-locate that provision.</li> <li>• Communications have been sent to schools around non-statutory Element 3 funding, clarifying timeframes around funding and reviews.</li> <li>• High Needs Block Spending profile (at month 5) recently discussed at SFG task group. Key issues were: Independent placements, alternative provision and maintaining SEN children in mainstream schools.</li> <li>• Exceptional increase in number of requests for EHCP assessment. Noted legal threshold for undertaking an assessment is now lower, and has led to an increase in assessment requests. Wider age range, increased volume of assessment requests, and static HNB funding envelope all leading to acute difficulties in managing the HNB resources.</li> <li>• Noted very high parental request rate compared to neighbouring LAs, often with no reference to or advice from schools. Need to raise parental confidence in schools' ability to manage SEN without a statutory plan.</li> <li>• JF tabled information outlining HNB spending profile across school sectors from 2014/15 to 2017 actual position.</li> <li>• Devon had flagged with the DfE difficulties in managing SEN within the available budget. Non-</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |



statutory funding allocations being phased out as a result of that discussion, to better demonstrate the difficulties to meet statutory local need.

- SEN Strategic review to be completed by April 2018; Simon Niles leading. Will include a parental survey and mapping of provision and need. Capital funding available but unlikely to be sufficient to meet demand.
- Pleased that a recent Tribunal found in favour of LA decision thanks to robust evidence, provided by headteachers on behalf of DCC, that needs could be met within a mainstream school.
- Considered level of spend on school transport provision for SEN children; some maintained special schools now providing their own transport which can be more cost effective.
- The group discussed concerns around the disparity of costings across maintained schools to meet SEN needs.
- Heads suggested that the LA should carefully identify and evidence costs associated with effective delivery of each EHCP and broker a placement amongst 'preferred provider' schools within the child's locality. **Julia Foster** to investigate possible progress towards this.
- Heads sought reassurance that Health and Care contributions are being made. Noted that health and care funding is most often realised where independent placements are needed. Discussed how some health assessments are described as an education need within the Code.
- Noted that Dawn Stabb has already raised issues with Public Health and CCGs around provision of care assistants rather than teaching assistants to support a child to remain in the school environment. Public Health Nursing recommissioning (which includes school nursing) should specify that health care plans should have public health nurse sign-off therefore opening up further funding streams.
- JF outlined targeting selected providers with costed plans, and understand that a review of funding for maintained special schools is currently ongoing. £740k built into this year's budget, although not yet passed on to schools.
- JF has met with FE Sector providers to discuss implications for ongoing funding of SEND pupils aged 16-25 remaining in education or training.
- Schools to be updated on strategic management action for SEND.

|                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Key Decision/ Issues for DEF:</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Action:</b>                       | <p><b>JF</b> to investigate possible progress towards brokerage process for identifying SEN placements across a range of schools, on the basis of a costed EHCP.</p> <p><b>JF/DS</b> to look into provision of funded care plans for children requiring care assistance and intimate care within school.</p> |

#### 4. Item/Focus: DSG Month 6 Monitoring (Adrian Fox)

**Discussion:**

- Forecast net overspend of £2.036m, of which High Needs accounts for £2.145m (increase of £757k from mth 2).
- Carry Forwards (£20.555m) from 16/17 now approved by Cabinet.
- Group discussed which budget lines constituted 'uncommitted balances' which could be used against the deficit. Committed funding may be rolled forward, uncommitted surpluses will be used to offset overspend or allocated to other lines.
- Heads requested clarity in advance of DEF of which budget lines might be subject to a ring-fenced carry forward (e.g. maternity and FIPS contingency).
- Clarity requested around surplus balances within Phase Association budgets. AF to investigate further to accurately identify traded income which should remain ring-fenced. **Clare Coates** to provide evidence around DAPH income generation. Discussed importance of clearly presenting and processing year-end adjustments.
- De-delegated budget currently forecasting £762k underspend.
- High Needs budget profiles circulated, which Heads found helpful. Noted placement numbers are currently slightly above expected. Heads requested that month 8 profile be circulated electronically.
- Noted Secretary of State statement outlining that the local authority should use surpluses in the DSG prior to requesting a carry forward. Consideration of forecast year end position, and which elements would be included in a ring-fence will be at March DEF. Confirmation of carry

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forward position to be considered at June DEF. Heads requested as early notification as possible during the Spring Term.

- AF reiterated expected process for carry forward of current year's budgets. Should DSG underspends not cover expected HNB deficit, LA will then seek in principle agreement by DEF to carry forward outstanding deficit, assuming that the budget will be brought back into balance during the coming financial years.
- SFG discussed consulting with schools on a possible one-year transfer of up to 0.5% of DSG funds from Schools Block to High Needs Block for 2018/19. According to national guidance, this must be consulted on separately. Should additional funding into HNB be required, the LA would not be able to action any transfer to alleviate ongoing HNB pressures without the prior agreement of Schools Forum. Any transferred amount would be reinstated to the schools' block at 2019/20.
- SFG were concerned that such a significant question might be perceived as being 'via the back door'. The group anticipated that Headteachers would request evidence of how the £33 AWPU transfer had already impacted positively on the High Needs position.
- AF explained that time constraints were such that full evidence was not available prior to the consultation period. The disapplication process dictates that any additional consultation should be completed by 30 November. Sufficient dedicated time will be required at DEF to allow members to properly consider the implications.
- Heads suggested that the schools budget calculator be set up to illustrate possible impact on individual school budgets of a further AWPU reduction of up to 0.5%.
- Should schools vote against the proposal, the issue would be referred to the County Treasurer to determine further recourse to Secretary of State.
- **Post meeting note:** Following discussion with the County Treasurer and the Leader of the Council, Dawn Stabb and Adrian Fox have confirmed that schools will not be asked to transfer funds from the Schools Block to support the High Needs Block in 2018/19. The Local Authority will however be requesting that the Schools Forum make an in-principle agreement to allow the transfer of any residual deficit balance to be carried forward to 2018/19, and offset by possible increased high needs funding, alongside the continuance of a management action plan to control spending.

|                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Key Decision/ Issues for DEF:</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>SFG agreed</b> that additional consultation question be circulated to all schools by email prior to DEF if necessary.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Action:</b>                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>DAPH</b> (Clare Coates) to provide evidence of traded income into DAPH and commitments against the 2016-17 year-end surplus balance.</li> <li>• <b>Finance</b> to separately identify ringfenced carry forwards within the DSG monitoring statements.</li> <li>• <b>Finance</b> to circulate month 8 HNB spend profile electronically when available.</li> <li>• <b>DS / Finance</b> to circulate additional consultation question to all schools regarding an in-principle agreement to transfer up to 0.5% from Schools block to High Needs block for 2018/19. <b>Post meeting note:</b> Following discussion with the County Treasurer, the need for a further consultation question to schools has now been removed.</li> </ul> |

## 5. Item/Focus: Consultation Responses

### Discussion:

- 103 schools (29%) responded, accounting for 43% of all Devon pupils. More schools attended consultation events than provided responded.
- SFG considered consultation responses in turn and made recommendations to DEF as outlined below:

#### Q1. Quick transition to national funding levels

Yes (96%)

#### Q2. Retain reception uplift calculation

Yes (98%)

#### Q3. MFG set at 0%

Yes (93%)

**Q4. MFG set at plus 0.5%**

Yes (80%)

Schools responding 'no' indicated they would rather go with NFF projections than MFG proposals

**Q5. Banding:**

**Option 1: remove plus packages/amending banding rates 2 & 3**

**Option 2: limited availability of plus packages for 3 years with amended banding rates**

SFG discussed the difference in responses between Primary (option 2 preferred) and Secondary (option 1 preferred). Overall, 58% of schools voted for Option 2.

SFG recommended option 2, as represented the majority of school responses.

**Following questions 6-12:**

**Option 1: de-delegate monies to DCC to commission services**

**Option 2: monies remain delegated to school budget**

**Q6. Behaviour Support Services**

De-delegate

**Q7. Ethnic Minority Achievement**

De-delegate

**Q8. Gypsy, Roma & Traveller Achievement**

De-delegate

**Q9. Copyrights, Licences & Subscriptions**

De-delegate

**Q10. Trade Union Facilitation**

De-delegate

**Q11. Jury/Magistrate**

De-delegate

**Q12. Maternity**

De-delegate

**Q13. Schools in financial difficulties (FIPS)**

De-delegate

**Q14. £60k EPWS –**

**Option 1 - continue to be allocated (EH4MH) (89%)**

Noted that HLG had recently requested additional information regarding ongoing provision of EH4MH services following the end of the current contract on 31 August 2018. Discussions have taken place with Public Health and Safer Devon Partnership exploring potential additional funding opportunities. Current information suggests that schools would support ongoing £60k investment, but further discussion at DEF required prior to making a decision on this area.

**Q15. Phase Associations:**

**Option 1 - maintain a central service**

Yes (92%) – subject to further clarification around carry forward position of self-generated traded income.

**Q16. School Admissions:**

**Option 1 - Maintain central admissions team**

Yes (96%)

**Key Decision/  
Issues for DEF:**

SFG recommends that DEF votes as above.

**Action:**

DS to provide further update on planned ongoing service delivery of EH4MH programme past August 2017.

**6. Item/Focus: Mutual Fund Board**

**Discussion:**

- Fund showing surplus forecast.
- £247k potential rebate at year end to member schools.

**Key Decision/  
Issues for DEF:**

Report noted

**Action:**

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| <b>7. Item/Focus: Items for DEF on 23 November 2017</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |  |
| <b>Items for inclusion in the Finance Report to DEF</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• DSG month 6 position</li><li>• Schools funding consultation outcomes (Q5. Adjustment)</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |  |
| <b>Key Decision/ Issues for DEF:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |
| <b>Action:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |
| <b>8. Item/Focus: Any Other Business</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |  |
| <b>AnyComms</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Heads had queried with Finance the statutory requirement for the local authority to securely transfer data to schools. Noted the LA's statutory responsibility does not cover the transfer of a detailed breakdown of data, only headline figures.</li><li>• Schools are expected to purchase access to the secure data transfer system AnyComms.</li><li>• Noted that DEF had previously agreed that SecureNet would be the preferred method of secure data transfer which has now be superceded, prompted by corporate changes. Egress does not have sufficient capacity.</li></ul> <b>Clawback of school funding following an exclusion</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Principles around funding clawback following an exclusion of a pupil have been explained to a small primary school enquiring about a specific case. SFG had been asked to consider overriding the DCC clawback policy in favour of the school in question.</li><li>• SFG felt that the lump sum amount should not form part of the calculation, as the effect would be more keenly felt in a small school, however this could not be actioned in advance of the policy change which is to take place from next financial year.</li><li>• SFG agreed to uphold the current DCC policy.</li></ul> |  |

## Next meetings:

**Wednesday 3 January 2018** from 9.15am – Larkbeare (Exe Room)

**Wednesday 7 March 2018** from 9.15am – Larkbeare (Exe Room)

**Wednesday 23 May 2018** from 9.15am – Larkbeare (Exe Room)

**SCHOOLS ORGANISATION, CAPITAL AND ADMISSIONS GROUP**  
**Notes of meeting**  
**on 26 September 2017 at Larkbeare**

|                                 |                                      | <b>Attendance</b> |                  |                  |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
|                                 |                                      | <b>26/9/17</b>    | <b>6/6/17</b>    | <b>28/2/17</b>   |
| <b>DCC</b>                      |                                      |                   |                  |                  |
| Chris Dyer (Chair)              | Head of Built Environments           | ✓                 | ✓                | ✓                |
| Andrew Brent                    | Policy Officer                       | ✓                 | ✓                | ✓                |
| Fran Butler                     | EY Childcare Sufficiency Lead        | ✓                 | ✓                | ✓                |
| Christine McNeil                | School Organisation Policy Manager   | <b>Apologies</b>  | ✓                | ✓                |
| Heidi Watson-Jones              | Service Support Officer (Education)  | ✓                 | ✓                | ✓                |
| <b>DAPH</b>                     |                                      |                   |                  |                  |
| Hilary Priest                   | The Grove Primary                    | ✓                 | ✓                | ✓                |
| Caroline Boothe                 | Hatherleigh Primary                  | ✓                 | <b>Apologies</b> | ✓                |
| Alun Dobson                     | Marwood Primary                      | ✓                 | ✓                | ✓                |
| Jan Reid                        | Yeo Valley Primary                   | ✓                 | ✓                | <b>Apologies</b> |
| <b>DASH</b>                     |                                      |                   |                  |                  |
| Daryll Chapman                  | Okehampton College                   |                   | ✓                |                  |
| Paul Cornish                    | Newton Abbot College                 | <b>Apologies</b>  | <b>Apologies</b> | ✓                |
| Rob Haring                      | Ivybridge Community College          |                   | ✓                | ✓                |
| <b>SENTient Heads</b>           |                                      |                   |                  |                  |
| Karen Rogers                    | Lampard School                       |                   | <b>Apologies</b> | <b>Apologies</b> |
| Sarah Pickering                 | Mill Water School                    | ✓                 | ✓                |                  |
| <b>DAG</b>                      |                                      |                   |                  |                  |
| Ian Rogers                      | DAG                                  | ✓                 | ✓                | ✓                |
| <b>Diocesan Representatives</b> |                                      |                   |                  |                  |
| Mary Cox                        | Plymouth CAST                        | <b>Apologies</b>  | <b>Apologies</b> | <b>Apologies</b> |
| Christina Mabin                 | Exeter Anglican Diocese (Admissions) | ✓                 | ✓                | ✓                |
| Richard Power                   | Exeter Anglican Diocese (Capital)    |                   |                  |                  |
| <b>Union Representatives</b>    |                                      |                   |                  |                  |
| John Staddon                    | TCC                                  | <b>Apologies</b>  | <b>Apologies</b> | <b>Apologies</b> |
| Steve Ryles                     | JCC                                  |                   | ✓                | -                |
| <b>In Attendance</b>            |                                      |                   |                  |                  |
| Nigel Coleman                   | NPS                                  | ✓                 | -                | -                |
| Simon Niles                     | DCC                                  | ✓                 |                  |                  |

**1. Item/Focus: Minutes and Matters Arising from meeting on 6 June 2017**

**Discussion:**

- Information on first and second preference admissions had been circulated. Noted 96% first preference, and 99% any preference achieved with September 2017 admissions.
- Noted complex issues around Foundation Stage framework. FB will issue signposting through DAPH and the Digest, and is available for schools who wish to discuss directly.
- Noted Alun Dobson is representing Schools on sponsor selection process for new Okehampton Primary.

**Key Decision/ Issues for DEF:**

- Minutes of previous meeting agreed as an accurate record.

**Action:**

- Phase Associations** to repeat reminder to schools re. timeframe for Governor determination of admissions arrangements
- FB** to reissue information re. Foundation Stage Statutory Framework through DAPH and the EY Digest

## 2. Item/Focus: SEND Strategic Review (Simon Niles)

### Discussion:

- Questionnaire being prepared, and will be circulated as soon as finalised.
- It was felt that the DfE recognises the SEND Code of Practice has been particularly challenging for all LAs and schools.
- Funding has been made available by the DfE for LAs to carry out their SEND strategic review. This is being used for demographic modelling (particularly for ASC and Speech & Language), reviewing the special schools estate, and commissioning an accessibility strategy, supporting Devon Inclusion Project.
- Noted that in Devon, children with SEND are performing and achieving above national average. Data for post 16 students not as comprehensive, and post 19 is patchy.
- Devon will still aim to retain most SEND learners within mainstream schools where possible, although mindful of capacity constraints.
- Will look closely at out of county placements, costs, curriculum offer and physical buildings capacity.
- Strategic Plan will require annual approval, on a rolling programme, with capital funding attached to it. Likely to have recommendations for future areas of review.
- The group discussed funding challenges, which will be highlighted within the review.
- Noted schools are particularly challenged where learners whose SEND includes behavioural issues, and those with complex home situations.
- Noted work in Exmouth area focusing on speech and language progression.
- Noted negative impact on recruitment and retention of good quality school staff is already being felt; this is a national issue.

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| <b>Key Decision/ Issues for DEF:</b> | Report noted<br>SOCA/Phase Associations agreed to support the consultation process. |
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| <b>Action:</b> | <b>SN</b> to circulate questionnaire via SOCA when available.<br><b>SN</b> to provide update at next SOCA meeting. |
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## 3. Item/Focus: School Organisation Update (Simon Niles)

### Discussion:

- LA receiving conflicting advice on priorities for new Free School development. SN to meet soon with Regional director for Free Schools.
- Funding for Charlton Lodge (Special Free School) has been approved by DCC – funded 100% through basic need. SENtient Heads have been approached re. partnership arrangement.
- RSC looking at process re. Route 39's Inadequate Ofsted outcome.
- Noted Burrington Primary has closed.
- Noted outstanding capital shortfall re. Tipton St John Primary
- SOCA congratulated the LA on securing additional capacity across the maintained Special Schools. Expected to be particularly beneficial for post 16 provision (Bodley House).
- Greater Exeter Strategic Plan will benefit from engagement with Phase Associations who were encouraged to take part in consultations. This will cover Exeter, Teignbridge, Mid and East Devon.
- Considered provision for excluded pupils. Expecting to exceed 124 (total for 16/17) permanent exclusions this year. Serena Worth is Inclusion officer assigned to Schools Company provision, SOCA welcomed the appointment to this temporary role. Primary provision for excluded pupils in Exeter to be reviewed, to remove the youngest learners from Stansfield Centre to more appropriate environment. Discussed how an overarching review of placements into Schools Company is required; noted that processes are now being looked at.

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| <b>Key Decision/ Issues for DEF:</b> | Report noted |
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| <b>Action:</b> |  |
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#### 4. Item/Focus: Fair Access Protocol 2017 (Andrew Brent)

##### Discussion:

- Fair Access Protocol in place to enable vulnerable pupils to access a local school place as quickly as possible. Children with EHCPs and Children in Care are not included under the Protocol as the Admissions Code requires them to be admitted.
- Two elements: fair access and fair distribution to schools.
- Protocol introduces clearer expectations around primary schools accepting up to 2 additional children into each class (Primary). Expectations unchanged for secondary schools.
- LA would expect to confirm a decision under the Protocol within a week's timeframe although most cases should be resolved more quickly.
- Noted exemptions would be schools opened within 2 years, and schools within Special Measures.
- Agreed it would be helpful to convene a task group of SOCA members to include their views.
- Schools would not be asked to go over admission number if there is a school closer to the student's home with vacancies.
- Considered circumstances where schools are encouraging parents to consider alternative schools, further away from the child's home, if they felt unable to meet the child's needs. Heads were encouraged to contact the Admissions team when this happens to enable the LA to contact the catchment school to address what support would need to be put in place to facilitate admission into the closer school.
- Concerns around transport issues, including lengthy journeys for young children admitted to schools further from home and increasing costs for the LA.
- DAPH recognised that there were some difficult issues, particularly for KS1 classes, and understood fair access would be a permitted exception for ICSL.
- Considered what categories constitute 'a challenging child'.

##### Key Decision/ Issues for DEF:

Report noted

##### Action:

**AB** to contact Phase Association colleagues to convene a task group to consider the issues raised within the Fair Access Protocol. *Meeting with DAPH on 11/10/17 with DAG & CE Diocese on 9/10/17; DASH tbc.*

#### 5. Item/Focus: Admission Arrangements & School Websites (Andrew Brent)

##### Discussion:

- Draft documents have been circulated to C of E, VA and former VA Academies to confirm and agree 2019/2020 admission arrangements with the Diocese. Christina Mabin will need these by early October 2017.
- Consultation 1 Nov – 5 Jan. Schools will need to confirm that the PAN is sustainable and that the arrangements have been considered.
- Policy documents will be available on DCC Sharepoint for all schools to check. <http://devon.cc/schoolpolicy>
- Admissions information including policies should be easily accessible on school websites. Governors' meeting for own admissions authority schools must take place before 28 February 2018 to determine policies for 2019-20.
- Guidance and advice available from Policy Officer and Admissions Team.
- Separate sixth form admissions arrangement policies are advised.

##### Key Decision/ Issues for DEF:

Update noted

##### Action:

- **Schools** to check documents on Sharepoint and confirm to Admissions Team that PANs and Catchments are sustainable and workable.
- **Schools** to note Governing Body meeting to take place by end February, with notification to Diocese where applicable

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| <b>6. Item/Focus: Admissions- Composite Prospectus (Andrew Brent)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Discussion:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Schools Information website will now enable all schools to review admissions details alongside general school details at any time.</li> <li>Entries for individual schools and admissions guides should be updated regularly . Statutory requirement to inform the LA by 8 August annually.</li> <li>Notice sent in Schools Communications to ask schools to check their own entries and use the Update button as necessary.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Key Decision/ Issues for DEF:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Action:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Schools to check their entries at <a href="https://new.devon.gov.uk/schools/school/">https://new.devon.gov.uk/schools/school/</a>                                        |
| <b>7. Item/Focus: LA Annual Admissions Report (Andrew Brent)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Discussion:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Note that impact of Fair Access is changing and this will be reflected in the annual report.</li> <li>Invitation to Members to consider whether any particular issues should be explored during the coming year. Suggestions by January SOCA meeting.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Key Decision/ Issues for DEF:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Action:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>8. Item/Focus: Nursery Admissions Policy (Fran Butler)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Discussion:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nursery Admissions Policy has been updated to reflect increased 30 hour entitlement.</li> <li>There has further consideration around the need for parents to fill out the full declaration form when applying for a nursery place as this includes a lot of detailed personal information. FB to review the parent declaration and application forms.</li> <li>Proposed implementation from January 2018. Will be considered at DEF on 23 November.</li> <li>Noted that schools need to be increasingly aware of need for parity across nursery and reception application forms.</li> <li>Noted that 34% of group EY provision is now within schools, and there are 48 schools with EY provision on site.</li> </ul>                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Key Decision/ Issues for DEF:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Report noted                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Action:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | FB to prepare revised application forms for circulation to SOCA.<br>FB and AB to discuss aligning nursery applications with forms already in place for other Key Stages. |
| <b>9. Item/Focus: Early Years Update (Fran Butler)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Discussion:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Noted new Early Years representative to be appointed for Devon Education Forum and Schools Finance Group.</li> <li>Extended Entitlement – EY team has been in touch with a range of partners to ensure information is shared on how parents may use the available hours, and the process to follow.</li> <li>Note LA is being monitored on how quickly the 11-digit codes are being validated.</li> <li>Assuming that almost all providers who have responded to accept the funding will be offering some provision under the extended entitlement.</li> <li>Noted difference between Universal and Extended entitlement, which may be taken throughout the year, not just during term time.</li> <li>Looking at sustainable provision in rural areas, and sustainability of provision for 2 year olds.</li> </ul> |                                                                                                                                                                          |



- Encouraging schools to increase capacity through extending hours, or working with a partner provider during school holidays.
- LA targeting parents with an 'unable to find suitable childcare' form to enable them to be contacted directly.
- Noted 'right to request' giving parents right to request that schools set up childcare or for providers to request the use of school premises. LA would like schools to inform them where this is happening.
- Discussed Delayed Entry to School – where children are staying in a pre-school setting and not taking up a reception place. Expect that the child will then move into Year 1. FB to prepare updated delayed entry report to be circulated to SOCA.

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| <b>Key Decision/ Issues for DEF:</b> | Report noted |
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| <b>Action:</b> | <b>DA PH</b> to remind schools of the Right to Request, and to notify the LA (Fran Butler) team if they are approached.<br><b>AB/FB</b> to update delayed entry report and circulate to SOCA |
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### 10. Item/Focus: NPS Update report (Nigel Coleman)

- Discussion:**
- Noted DCC has reviewed estate following Grenfell Fire. There are no high-rise buildings, but some high risk buildings (e.g. residential schools and training centres). Noted Chris Dyer to sit on DfE working group to look at implications.
  - MATs and Academies had been asked separately to submit reports to DfE on this as the responsible body.
  - Noted small increase in number of academies subscribing to Devon Academies Maintenance Agreement.
  - Noted DMP Maintenance Scheme Dashboard, where NPS manages the maintenance contracts; supporting information is available to explain RAG ratings.
  - DAMA dashboard indicates that 53% of academies are contacting service providers directly, and not through the scheme, therefore information is not available.
  - Noted new Air Conditioning contractor to be appointed. DAPH queried whether air source heating systems are monitored under Air Conditioning or Heating:
  - *NPS have subsequently confirmed that the schemes cover air source heat pumps where the installation provides the primary source of heat. These are covered under the provisions in the scheme for the servicing of heating but the servicing would be undertaken by the contractor appointed to DCC's Air Conditioning Service Term Contract. There are currently a good number of installations that are already covered in this way as these installations have increased in popularity as a means of heating.*
  - Schools reminded to keep in touch with NPS regarding maintenance works.

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| <b>Key Decision/ Issues for DEF:</b> | Report noted |
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| <b>Action:</b> | <b>NC</b> to clarify definitions around use of air source heating / AC in schools and circulate to SOCA |
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### 11. Item/Focus: Capital Maintenance Programme Update (Chris Dyer)

- Discussion:**
- Noted that %age of projects completed during the summer is lower than in previous years, partly due to team working on Early Years capital projects. Outstanding projects to take place over the remainder of the financial year.
  - NPS has been requested to commence planning for schemes during the 2018/19 year, mindful that funding may not be announced until later in the spring.
  - DfE formula for capital maintenance funding is due to change.
  - Grenfell Tower – Aluminium Composite Material (ACM) cladding identified as risk. DfE requested LAs check for this material in all school buildings. NPS did not find any Devon schools within scope which were affected. Noted DfE are increasingly engaging with schools and LAs.

- All Devon special schools were also checked during the summer, no ACM found.
- Noted that at 2 residential schools, fire doors had been found to be removed, and other issues found including failing fire seals and the like . These will be highlighted in the schools' conditions reports, some of which will be delegated issues which the schools will need to address.
- Fire-safety will now be included within quinquennial inspections of maintained schools by NPS. Schools will be notified of any findings.
- Discussed DfE building survey data collection conducted during the summer. Noted that DfE is behind schedule on processing and releasing reports.

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| <b>Key Decision/ Issues for DEF:</b> | Update noted |
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| <b>Action:</b> |  |
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**11. Item/Focus: Timeframes for SOCA meetings**

**Discussion:**

- The group was asked to consider key times of the year when SOCA discussions will be required, to ensure that the DEF cycle is most effective.

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| <b>Key Decision/ Issues for DEF:</b> |  |
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| <b>Action:</b> | Responses directly to Heidi Watson-Jones please. |
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**NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 9 January 2018  
9.30am at Larkbeare (Exe Room)