

DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT MONTH 1 (High Needs) - REPORT OF THE COUNTY TREASURER AND CHIEF OFFICER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that DEF:

- a) Note month 1 DSG monitoring position as set out in section 1.

1. Budget Monitoring Report - Month 1 (2018/19) - DSG

For Month 1 we have reviewed the High Needs Block only, this gives an early indication of the budget pressure to be resolved. This includes the deficit carry forward of £1.6millions from 2017/18 and has the agreed management actions built in to the projections.

Table 1: Summary of Month 1 forecast position and significant variations

Education and Learning (DSG)			
	Net Budget £'000	Forecast at Mth 1 £'000	Variance £'000
Schools delegated budget	427,530	427,530	0
DSG and School funding	(540,953)	(540,953)	0
De-delegated budgets	4,391	4,391	0
Total DSG/delegated budgets	(109,032)	(109,032)	0
Central Provision within Schools Budget	5,540	5,540	0
High Needs Funding	63,323	64,450	1,127
Early Years & Childcare Services	40,169	40,169	0
Total DSG central budgets	109,032	110,159	1,127

Table 2: Summary of High Needs budgets and forecast position as at Month 1

	Budget £'000	Month 1 Forecast £'000	Variance £'000	Notes
Carry forward from 2017/8 DEFICIT	0	1,637	1,637	
Alternative Provision	2,273	2,804	531	1.1
Children in Care and Exclusions	1,527	1,527	0	
Closing the Gap	1,500	1,500	0	
Inclusion	349	349	0	
Nursery Plus	1,164	1,164	0	
Safeguarding Every Learner	144	144	0	
SEN Mainstream	10,949	10,280	(669)	1.2
SEN Services	924	924	0	
Maintained Special Schools	27,199	26,321	(878)	1.3
Hospital Education Services	292	292	0	
Recoupment	404	404	0	
Other Special School Fees	15,274	15,878	604	1.4
Support Centre Funding	1,324	1,226	(98)	1.5
TOTAL	63,323	64,450	1,127	

1.1 Alternative Provision £531,000

- £657,000 pressure on top up budget as forecast assumes average of 165 placements per annum (as per 2017/8), which is 52 above the budgeted level.
- (£126,000) Saving as commissioned outcomes funding will not be payable for the Summer Term

1.2 Special Educational Needs (SEN) Mainstream (£669,000)

This covers personalised education packages, Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) and MyPlans, including the central SLAs which support them.

- (£488,000) anticipated one-off saving at budget prep time, however budget has not been reassigned as required for growth in 2019/20.
- (£242,000) overstated growth and other variances in Element 2 & 3 forecasts.
- (£204,000) Ceased commissioning SEN R placements from Schools Company, forecast assumes that planned place funding will cease from September.
- £157,000 SEN therapies, demand exceeds budget
- £10,000 Additional resources
- £60,000 Increase in FE college placements (to avoid more costly ISP placements)
- £38,000 HN Contingency – includes digitalising of records

1.3 Maintained Special Schools (£878,000)

- (£218,000) Charlton lodge now opening September 2019
- (£381,000) Reduction in planned residential placements.
- (£205,000) Contribution from Social Care budgets for residential Children in Care placements.
- (£104,000) Other savings regarding top up ,budget allowed for all places to be full.
- £30,000 Lump sums agreed following budget reduction.

1.4 Independent Special Schools £604,000

- £884,000 Due to placement numbers being 61 above the budgeted level for Summer term. Forecast assumes that Management Action will see a drop in numbers back to the budgeted level for the next Academic year.
- (£280,000) Children's Social Care budgets contribution to residential care costs.

1.5 Support Centres (£98,000)

- Various support centre changes. Funding currently not finalised but forecast allows for Communication and Interaction Resource Base (CAIRBS) to be funded in full regardless of placements.

1.6 Support Centres (£98,000)

- Various support centre changes. Funding currently not finalised but forecast allows for CAIRBS to be funded in full regardless of placements.

1.7 Recommendation

That DEF note month 1 DSG monitoring position as set out in section

All to Note

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