

2020-21 SCHOOLS FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS

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

Recommendations

It is recommended that DEF:

- a) Specifically approve the proposals for the 2020-21 schools revenue funding formula as set out in section 1 and make recommendations to Cabinet.
All to vote
- b) Specifically agree the de-delegation proposals for maintained primary and maintained secondary schools as set out in section 2 and appendix D
Vote: Maintained primary representatives
Vote: Maintained secondary representatives
- c) Specifically agree the centrally held funding allocations as set out in section 3 and appendix E
All to vote
- d) Note the local authority's disapplication requests that have been applied for and awaiting approval
All to note

1. Schools Funding

- 1.1. 2020-21 is the third year since the introduction of the new National Funding Formula (NFF) for Schools. In autumn 2018 the DfE informed local authorities that the introduction of the NFF 'hard formula' would be delayed until after the spending review in 2020-21 and the local flexibility in setting the funding formula would remain for 2020-21.
- 1.2. While it remains the government's intention that a school's budget should be set on the basis of a single national formula, 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.
- 1.3. Schools across England are set for a cash boost after the Prime Minister announced he will invest over £14 billion in primary and secondary education between now and 2022-23.
- 1.4. The funding package for 5-16 schools includes £2.6 billion for 2020-21, £4.8 billion for 2021-22, and £7.1 billion for 2022-23 compared to 2019-20. This will bring the schools budget to £52.2 billion in 2022-23. Separate to this, the government have confirmed that the £1.5 billion each year will continue to fund additional pension costs for teachers as well as funding for the teachers' pay grant in 2020-21.
- 1.5. The 'Schools Revenue Funding 2020 to 2021' operational guidance was issued by the DfE in October 2019. As the authority retains local discretion for 2020-21 the factor values and parameters may continue to differ from those used in the NFF. However, Devon is proposing to make the transition to the national funding levels for 2020-21. See [CHANGES IN FORMULA FACTORS IN 2020-21](#)
- 1.6. In 2020-21 Devon has been given illustrative allocations with additional funding of £19.1 millions based on the 2018 October census data.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

- 1.7. In September 2018, the Government Actuary's Department completed their calculations to provide indicative results of the 2016 valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) to the DfE. The employer contribution rate of 16.48% increased to 23.68%, for the period 1 September 2019 until 31 March 2023.
- 1.8. In April 2019, the DfE confirmed they would fully fund increased pension contributions (16.48% to 23.68%) that schools would have to make in 2019-20 which is a total of £940 million.
- 1.9. The funding relating to pensions has been confirmed until 2022-23 and will continue to be paid separately from the NFF in 2020-21. The rates that determine the 2020-21 allocations will be published in due course by the DfE.

Teachers' Pay Grant

- 1.10. In July 2018, Education Secretary Damian Hinds confirmed an investment of £508 million (£187 million in 2018-19 and £321 million in 2019-20) to fully fund the deal which means 3.5% for classroom teachers on the main pay range, 2% for those on the upper pay range and 1.5% for those in leadership positions.
- 1.11. In July 2019, further funding of £105 million was given to cover the 0.75% over the level assessed as affordable by the department previously.
- 1.12. Schools will continue to determine how their staff are paid. The increase is funded by the government through the teachers' pay grant from the existing Department for Education budget.
- 1.13. For 2020-21 the teachers' pay grant will continue to be paid separately from the NFF. The rates that determine the 2020-21 allocations will be published in due course by the DfE. The ESFA have advised that the teachers' pay grant is included within the £4.8bn and £7.1bn additional funding packages for 2021-22 and 2022-23.

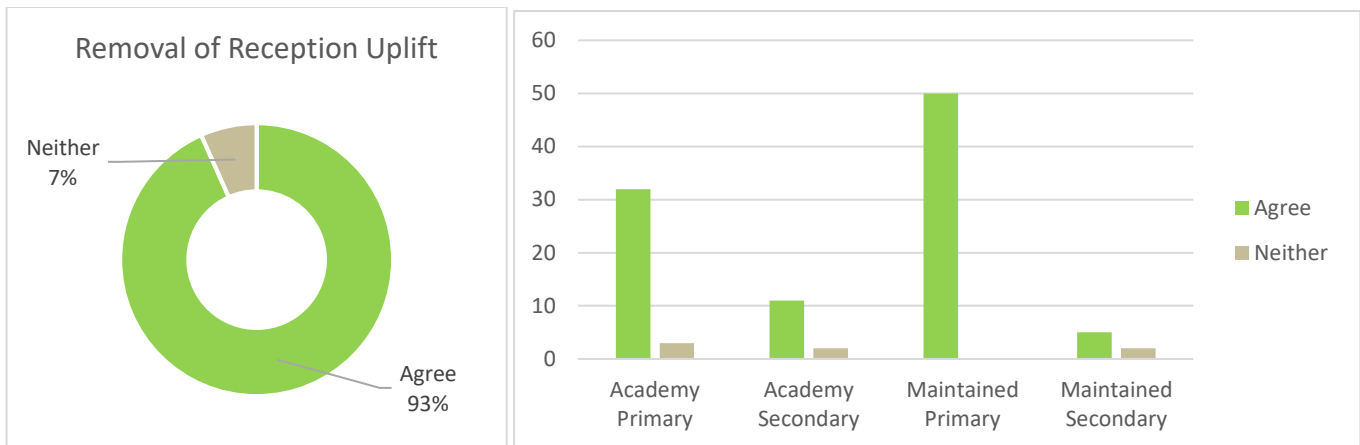
Consultation 2020-21

- 1.14. The local authority consulted on Devon's proposals for the 2020-21 schools revenue funding formula. Modelling was based on the Schools Block and the October 2018 census data. Note that the final DSG settlement will be based on the October 2019 census data.
- 1.15. In all, 105 schools responded to the consultation, 29% of all schools and compares to 155 schools, 43% in 2018. A full analysis of participation is attached to this report at [2020-21 SCHOOLS REVENUE FUNDING FORMULA](#)
- 1.16. All documents relating to the consultation can be viewed on the schools finance webpage: [CONSULTATIONS: SUPPORT FOR SCHOOLS](#)
- 1.17. In consulting with schools on designing the funding formula in 2020-21 we asked that schools considered transitioning fully to the NFF factors. This meant the following needed to be discussed.
 - Remove Reception Uplift
 - Primary lump sum increases to £110,000
 - Set the Minimum Funding Guarantee to at least plus 0.5%

Removal of reception uplift

1.18. Devon is proposing to follow the NFF in 2020-21 and not include the reception uplift in its local formula. The schools which have seen reception uplift will not be financially disadvantaged in the NFF calculations, as this funding will remain in their baselines. For schools going forward any pupil growth will be met from the growth fund where eligible

1.19. The response to the question shows that 98 out of 105 schools that responded (93%) agreeing to the proposal.

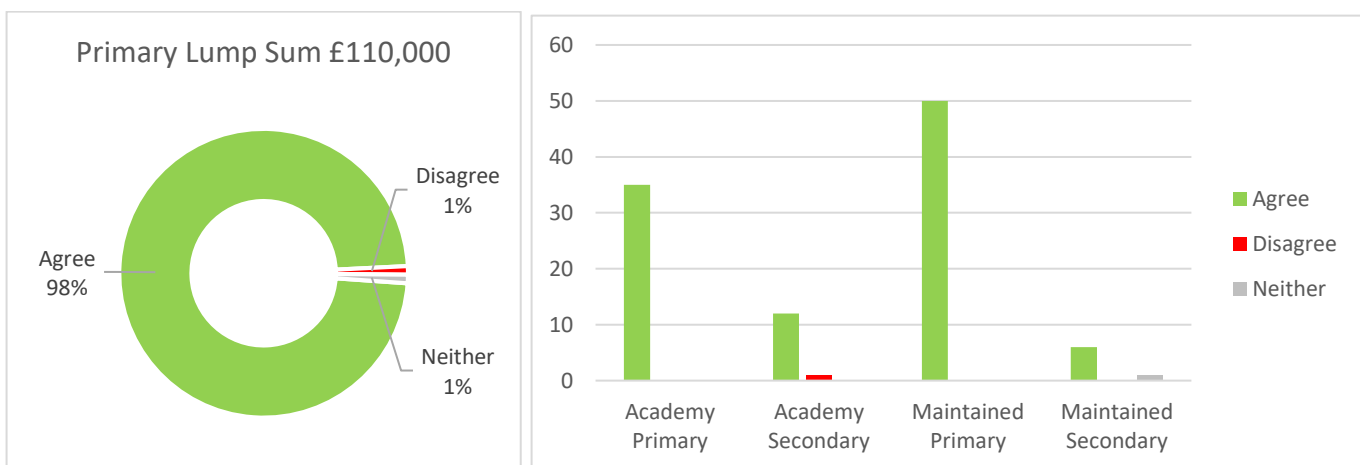


Primary Lump Sum

1.20. The lump sum contributes towards the minimum fixed costs of a school and considers such elements as leadership costs, premises and administration. The lump sum brings some stability to school budgets as it is not predicated on pupil numbers. Over 90% of the school's budget is now allocated on pupil-led factors.

1.21. For 2020-21 Devon is proposing to bring the primary lump sum up from £101,105 to the national funding level of £110,000. Secondary and All-through schools will remain at the national funding level of £110,000.

1.22. The response to the question shows that 103 out of 105 schools that responded (98%) agreeing to the proposal.

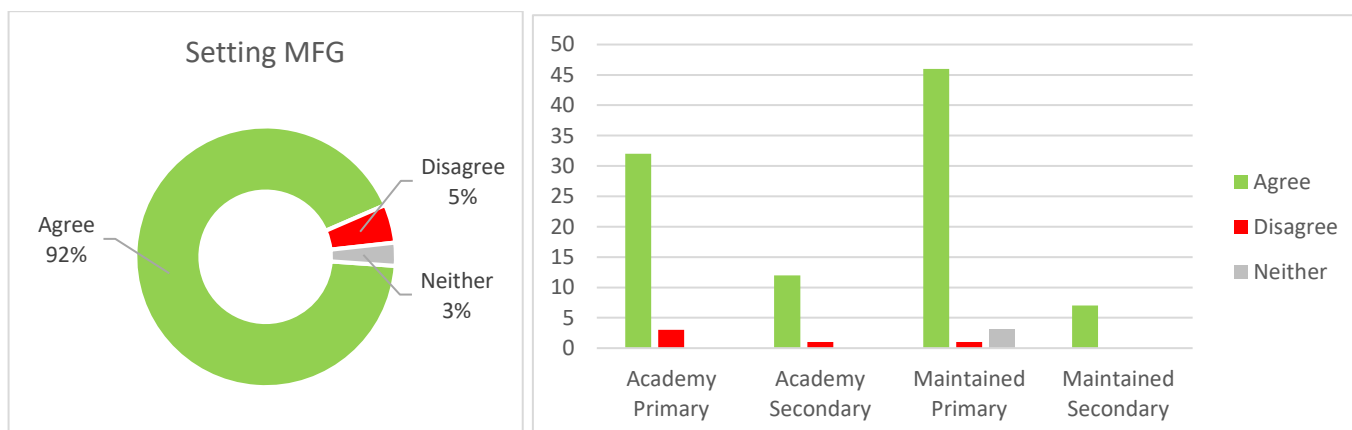


Minimum Funding Guarantee

1.23. Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) is a way to protect the funding on a per pupil rate. For 2020-21 the DfE have stated the MFG must be set at between plus 0.5% and plus 1.84% per

pupil compared against the previous year. **Note:** Budgets may still go down due to a reduction in non-pupil related factors or a drop in pupil numbers.

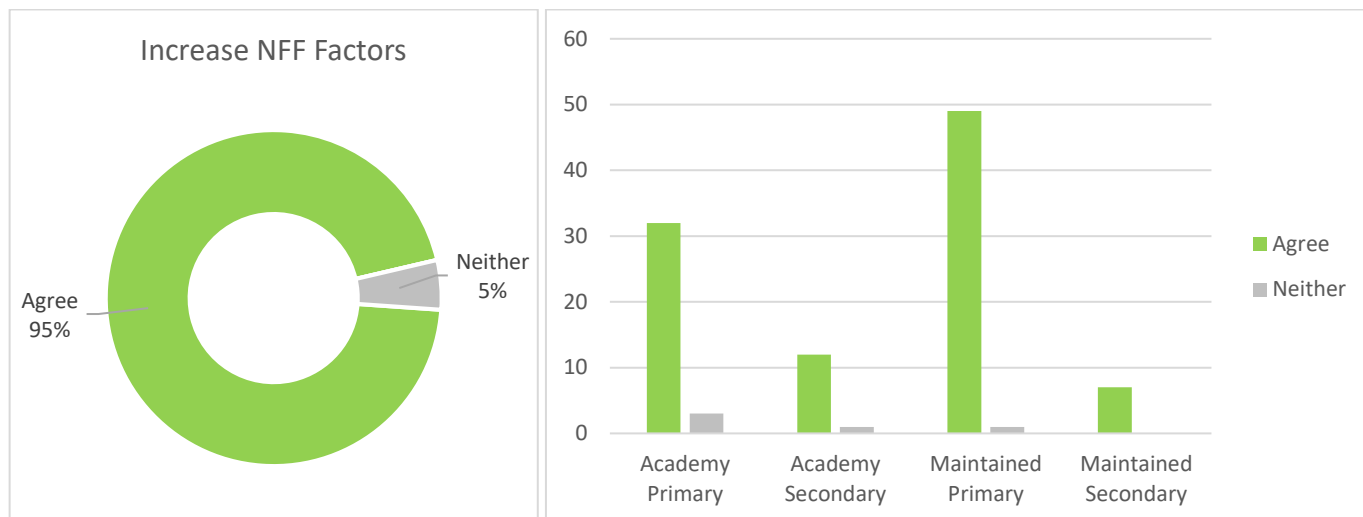
- 1.24. To assist schools plan for the minimum increase of the MFG factor the NFF has been modelled using an MFG of plus 0.5%, thus providing schools with an indicative 'worst case scenario' budget, which will assist with their planning for 2020-21 and beyond.
- 1.25. Devon proposes, to ensure affordability, to use the MFG factor by adjusting the percentage per pupil between plus 0.5% and plus 1.84%.
- 1.26. The response to the question shows that 97 out of 105 schools that responded (92%) agreeing to the proposal.



- 1.27. Clarification of the rate used will be brought to the January 2020 Schools Finance Group and Forum meeting for approval once the DSG allocations are known in December 2019.

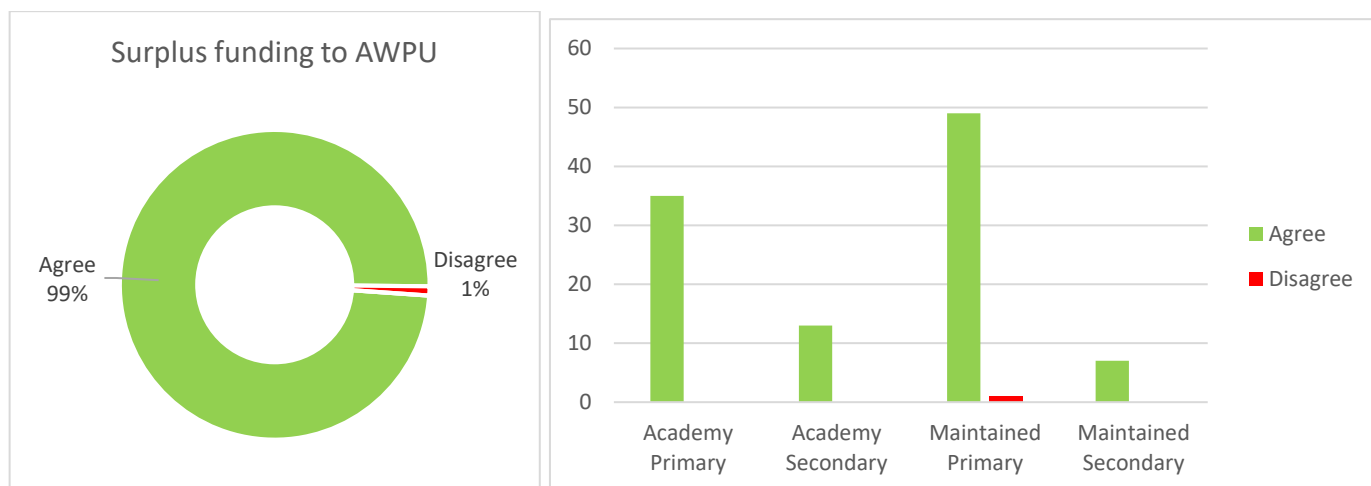
Increase Funding Factors Values

- 1.28. Additional money invested in schools for 2020-21 has meant that the DfE have increased all of the key factors in the NFF by 4%. Except for Free School Meals which will be increased by 1.84% in line with inflation as the factor value is based on an estimate of the actual cost of providing school meals.
- 1.29. Premises funding will continue to be allocated at local authority level on the basis of actual spend in the 2019 to 2020 APT, with the PFI factor increased in line with the RPIX measure of inflation (3.03%)
- 1.30. Devon proposes to increase to these funding factor values for 2020-21. The actual percentage increases do vary from the values stated above as they have been rounded to the nearest £5 ([CHANGES IN FORMULA FACTORS IN 2020-21](#))
- 1.31. The response to the question shows that 100 out of 105 schools that responded (95%) agreeing to the proposal to increase the funding factors.



Surplus Funding to AWPU

- 1.32. At the time of consultation, the DfE had not sent out the authorities illustrative funding. Devon proposed to seek views on any surplus funding, after looking at proposals 1 to 4, to be distributed through Basic Entitlement (AWPU).
- 1.33. The response to the question shows that 104 out of 105 schools that responded (99%) agreeing to the proposal to increase the Basic Entitlement (AWPU).



- 1.34. Schools have responded favourably to proposals 1 to 5 and with the release of the indicative settlement and changes to the core factors Devon is able to fund at the national funding formula for 2020-21. This is still dependent on the October 2019 census details and final settlement being confirmed in December 2019.

Movement between Blocks

- 1.35. The Local Authority's DSG consists of 4 blocks of funding: The Schools Block, Central School Services Block, High Needs Block and Early Years Block. The blocks are ring-fenced, but the LA retains limited flexibility to transfer up to 0.5% of the DSG to another block, with the approval of Schools Forum.
- 1.36. The DfE have confirmed that authorities have the option to transfer 0.5% from the schools block in 2020-21. This would be approximately £2 million or £23 per mainstream pupil for Devon.

- 1.37. The 2019 spending round includes £700 million extra for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) in 2020-21, so every pupil can access the education that is appropriate for them, and no pupil is held back from reaching their potential.
- 1.38. Devon has seen an additional £5.6million for Devon as per the Office of National Statistics (ONS) 2-18 year-old population.
- 1.39. As schools will be aware since the introduction of the new SEND code of practice in 2014, there has been a year on year increase in the demand placed on the High Needs Block due to increased numbers of children requiring support and Education, Health Care Plans (EHCP).
- 1.40. The SEN team have reviewed what additional saving could be sought for next year, but much is out of our direct control, for example, new provision opening dates, cost of provision in independent schools, number of requests for EHCPs. A request for capital funding for 300 additional places in maintained special schools has been made to the council to try and reduce continued pressure in this area.
- 1.41. Devon sought schools' views to gain an understanding regarding the authority seeking to transfer 0.5% to the High Needs Block from the Schools Block. The responses can be found in [ADDITIONAL COMMENTS TO PROPOSALS 1-5:](#)
 1. We agree with the above proposals provided that this does not disadvantage larger schools like ours which has happened in the past through the subsidies given to smaller schools. As a school that is over subscribed, lacking space and amenities for the children in our care we feel that we must have the appropriate funding to support the education of our children and their families
 2. Any increases will benefit our small school budget with regards to retaining experienced staff and the quality of teaching and learning
 3. We are aware that given the unusual times we find ourselves in, financial planning incredibly difficult and will need flexibility as a result.
 4. Proposal 5 ensures an equal and fair distribution of any surplus funding across all pupils
 5. The additional funding is very much needed as we have less and less people on the ground and higher and higher levels of need.
 6. The lump sum for secondary schools is inadequate and does not support the fact Devon's rural nature will always result in having small secondary schools with such a small lump sum. We believe that Devon is not supporting high educational standards in small secondary schools.

PROPOSAL 6 TRANSFER OF FUNDS: RESPONSES

- 1.42. The response to the question shows that 79 out of 105 are still not in favour of transferring funds from the DSG to High Needs, yet it has been useful to see the understanding of schools to the view.
- 1.43. **Recommendation:**
 - a. That Schools Forum recommends to Cabinet that:
 - i. Remove the reception uplift in line with the national funding formula factors
 - ii. Increase the primary lump sum to £110,000;
 - iii. Set the MFG at plus 0.5% rising to plus 1.84% depending on affordability
 - iv. Set all NFF factors at the new rates prescribed in the October 2019 operational guidance.
 - v. Increase AWPU for all pupils if funding permits.

Note that the final funding rates may change subject to affordability when the October 2019 pupil data and Schools Block DSG settlement is confirmed in late December 2019.

All to vote
 - b. That Schools Forum note the views expressed by schools regarding transferring 0.5% to the High Needs block.

All to note

2. Delegation and De-delegation

- 2.1. The following services were delegated in 2019-20 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.
- 2.2. 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.
- 2.3. Decisions taken on de-delegation in 2019-20 were for one year only, so decisions for each service will be required in 2020-21. As follows:
 - i. Behaviour support services
 - ii. Support to under-performing ethnic groups and bilingual learners
 - iii. 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)
 - iv. Trade unions
 - v. Jury Service / Magistrates duties
 - vi. Maternity
 - vii. Contingencies (including schools in financial difficulties and exceptional events)
- 2.4. The per pupil rates for these services are identified in the [SCHOOLS DELEGATION CALCULATOR](#) which are on the consultation webpage.
- 2.5. 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 2019-20 (Option 1) or whether monies should be delegated back to schools (Option 2). The consultation responses of the 57 maintained schools can be found at [DELEGATION AND DE-DELEGATION](#)
- 2.6. **Recommendation:**
Schools Forum Maintained schools representatives to decide, phase by phase, the delegation or de-delegation of the services listed in Section 2.3 and Appendix D
Vote: Maintained Primary Schools
Vote: Maintained Secondary Schools

3. Centrally Held Funding

- 3.1. 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 2019-20 for these services. The limit does not now apply to admissions or the servicing of schools' forum.
- 3.2. Locally, the relevant services are:
 - Emotional, Psychological & Social Wellbeing
 - Phase Associations
 - Schools Admissions Service
 - Termination of Employment Costs
- 3.3. 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 2018-19 (Option 1) or whether monies should be delegated back to

schools (Option 2). The consultation responses of the 105 schools can be found at [HISTORIC COMMITMENTS](#)

3.4. Recommendation:

That Schools Forum agrees:

- to continue to give £60,000 for the Emotional, Psychological and Social Wellbeing Service, co-produced by Public Health Devon and schools.
- to retain the funding centrally at the same level as 2019-20 for Phase Associations
- to retain the funding centrally at the same level as 2019-20 for Schools Admissions Service.

All to Vote

4. Disapplications

4.1. Joint Use

The 2019-20 baselines included one-off capital expenditure for dual use. We are seeking approval for the disapplication of these technical adjustments to exclude one-off expenditure from the 2019-20 baselines and adjust for the prior year adjustments.

4.2. Recommendation:

That SFG 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

APPENDIX A

CHANGES IN FORMULA FACTORS IN 2020-21

PRIMARY	Devon Formula Factors 2019-20	Proposed Factors 2020-21	Change	% Change
AWPU Primary	£2,747	£2,857	£110	4%
Free School Meals Primary	£440	£450	£10	2.3%
Free School Meals Ever 6 Primary	£540	£560	£20	3.7%
IDACI P Band F	£200	£210	£10	5%
IDACI P Band E	£240	£250	£10	4.2%
IDACI P Band D	£360	£375	£15	4.2%
IDACI P Band C	£390	£405	£15	3.8%
IDACI P Band B	£420	£435	£15	3.6%
IDACI P Band A	£575	£600	£25	4.3%
EAL3 (P)	£515	£535	£20	3.9%
Low Attainment (P)	£1,022	£1,065	£43	4.2%
Mobility Primary	£0	£875	£875	100%
Lump Sum Primary	£101,105	£114,400	£13,295	13.1%
Sparsity Funding Primary	£25,000	£26,000	£1,000	4%
Minimum per-pupil Funding Primary	£3,455	£3,750	£295	8.5%

SECONDARY	Devon Formula Factors 2019-20	Proposed Factors 2020-21	Change	% Change
AWPU KS3	£3,863	£4,018	£155	4%
AWPU KS4	£4,386	£4,561	£175	4%
Free School Meals Secondary	£440	£450	£10	2.3%
Free School Meals Ever 6 Secondary	£785	£815	£30	3.8%
IDACI S Band F	£290	£300	£10	3.4%
IDACI S Band E	£390	£405	£15	3.8%
IDACI S Band D	£515	£535	£20	3.9%
IDACI S Band C	£560	£580	£20	3.6%
IDACI S Band B	£600	£625	£25	4.2%
IDACI S Band A	£810	£840	£30	3.7%
EAL3 (S)	£1,385	£1,440	£55	4%
Low Attainment (S)	£1,550	£1,610	£60	3.9%
Mobility Secondary	£0	£1250	£1250	100%
Lump Sum Secondary	£110,000	£114,400	£4,400	4%
Sparsity Funding Secondary	£65,000	£67,600	£2,600	4%
Minimum per-pupil Funding Secondary	£4,755	£5,000	£245	5.1%

APPENDIX B

2020-21 SCHOOLS REVENUE FUNDING FORMULA

School Based By School Type	2019			2018			Variation from previous year	
	Total School Base	Total School Response	% Response	Total School Base	Total School Response	% Response	No of Schools	%age change
Maintained Primary	172	50	29%	179	67	37%	(17)	-8%
Maintained Secondary	8	7	88%	9	7	78%	0	10%
Maintained Special	10	1	10%	10	5	50%	(4)	-40%
Academy Primary	138	35	25%	129	59	46%	(24)	-20%
Academy Secondary	34	13	38%	33	17	52%	(4)	-13%
Academy Special	1	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	0%
	363	106	29%	360	155	43%		

By Phase	2019			2018		
	Total School Base	Total School Response	% Response	Total School Base	Total School Response	% Response
All Primary	310	85	27%	212	84	40%
All Secondary	42	20	48%	9	7	78%
All Special	11	1	9%	10	5	50%
	363	106	29%	231	96	43%

LIST OF RESPONDING SCHOOLS

[Alphabetical by School name within Phase within Status]

Maintained - Primary

Ashwater Primary School	8782201	Maintained Primary
Awliscombe Church of England Primary School	8783300	Maintained Primary
Bishops Nympton Primary School	8782210	Maintained Primary
Bishops Tawton Primary School	8782211	Maintained Primary
Bovey Tracey Primary School	8782404	Maintained Primary
Bradley Barton Primary School and Nursery Unit	8782472	Maintained Primary
Buckland Brewer Primary School	8782218	Maintained Primary
Chudleigh Church of England Community Primary School	8783105	Maintained Primary
Clyst St Mary Primary School	8782009	Maintained Primary
Cornwood Church of England Primary School	8783152	Maintained Primary
Doddiscombsleigh Primary School	8782417	Maintained Primary
East Anstey Primary School	8782223	Maintained Primary
Exminster Community Primary	8782420	Maintained Primary
Feniton Church of England Primary School	8783312	Maintained Primary
Halwill Community Primary School	8782228	Maintained Primary
Haytor View Community Primary School	8783779	Maintained Primary
Hazeldown School	8782448	Maintained Primary
Heathcoat Primary School	8782723	Maintained Primary

Holsworthy Church of England Primary School	8783063	Maintained Primary
Instow Community Primary School	8782233	Maintained Primary
Ipplepen Primary School	8782423	Maintained Primary
Langtree Community School and Nursery Unit	8782237	Maintained Primary
Marldon Church of England Primary School	8783607	Maintained Primary
Marwood School	8782238	Maintained Primary
Newton Poppleford Primary School	8782054	Maintained Primary
Parkham Primary School	8782241	Maintained Primary
Payhembury Church of England Primary School	8783016	Maintained Primary
Pinhoe Church of England Primary School	8783328	Maintained Primary
Rackenford Church of England Primary School	8783772	Maintained Primary
Shaugh Prior Primary School	8782618	Maintained Primary
Shaugh Prior Primary School	8782618	Maintained Primary
South Molton United Church of England Primary School	8783459	Maintained Primary
St Andrew's Church of England Primary School	8783752	Maintained Primary
St Catherine's CofE Nursery & Primary School	8783605	Maintained Primary
St Giles-on-the-Heath Community School	8782242	Maintained Primary
St Martin's CofE Primary & Nursery School	8783005	Maintained Primary
St Mary's Church of England Primary School	8783751	Maintained Primary
St Michael's Church of England Primary School	8783128	Maintained Primary
St Sidwell's Church of England Primary School and Nursery	8783323	Maintained Primary
Stoke Canon Church of England Primary School and Pre-School	8783024	Maintained Primary
Stokeinteignhead School	8782445	Maintained Primary
Swimbridge Church of England Primary School	8783460	Maintained Primary
Tavistock Community Primary & Nursery School	8782623	Maintained Primary
The Beacon Church of England (VA) Primary School	8783309	Maintained Primary
The Castle Primary School	8782720	Maintained Primary
The Grove School	8782461	Maintained Primary
Tipton St John Church of England Primary School	8783319	Maintained Primary
Upton Primary School	8782073	Maintained Primary
Whimple Primary School	8782074	Maintained Primary
Willand School	8782075	Maintained Primary

Maintained - Secondary

Cullompton Community College	8784010	Maintained Secondary
Dawlish College	8784101	Maintained Secondary
King Edward VI Community College	8784109	Maintained Secondary
Sidmouth College	8784011	Maintained Secondary
South Molton Community College	8784057	Maintained Secondary
St Luke's Science and Sports College	8784501	Maintained Secondary
Tiverton High School	8784192	Maintained Secondary

Maintained - Special / PRU

Devon Hospital School	8781110	Maintained Special
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Academy - Primary

Aveton Gifford CofE Primary School	8783100	Academy Primary
Black Torrington Church of England Primary School	8783056	Academy Primary
Blackpool Church of England Primary School	8783102	Academy Primary

Boasley Cross Community Primary School	8782601	Academy Primary
Bradford Primary School	8782212	Academy Primary
Bridestowe Primary School	8782602	Academy Primary
Bridgerule Church of England Primary School	8783057	Academy Primary
Brixington Primary Academy	8782051	Academy Primary
Chagford Church of England Primary School	8783151	Academy Primary
Chudleigh Knighton Church of England Primary School	8783106	Academy Primary
Chulmleigh Primary School	8782219	Academy Primary
East Worlington Primary School	8782224	Academy Primary
Exbourne Church of England Primary School	8783153	Academy Primary
Exwick Heights Primary School	8782022	Academy Primary
Gatehouse Primary Academy	8782044	Academy Primary
Hawkchurch Church of England School	8783012	Academy Primary
Highampton Community Primary School	8782255	Academy Primary
Lady Seaward's Church of England Primary School	8783307	Academy Primary
Lapford Community Primary School	8782260	Academy Primary
Lydford Primary School	8782613	Academy Primary
Musbury Primary School	8782053	Academy Primary
Newton Ferrers Church of England Primary School	8783156	Academy Primary
North Tawton Community Primary School and Nursery	8782615	Academy Primary
Northlew and Ashbury Parochial Church of England Primary School	8783157	Academy Primary
Okehampton Primary School and Foundation Unit	8782616	Academy Primary
Rockbeare Church of England Primary School and Pre-School	8783317	Academy Primary
Salcombe Church of England Primary School	8783124	Academy Primary
Sidmouth Church of England (VA) Primary School	8783318	Academy Primary
South Tawton Primary School	8782619	Academy Primary
St James Church of England Primary and Nursery School	8782082	Academy Primary
Uffculme Primary School	8782072	Academy Primary
Westcliff Primary Academy	8782064	Academy Primary
Whipton Barton Infants and Nursery School	8782039	Academy Primary
Whipton Barton Junior School	8782040	Academy Primary
Willowbank Primary School	8782084	Academy Primary

Academy - Secondary / All-Through

Axe Valley Academy	8784021	Academy Secondary
Braunton Academy	8784053	Academy Secondary
Chulmleigh Community College	8784054	Academy Secondary
Cranbrook Education Campus	8784013	Academy Secondary
Holsworthy Community College	8784056	Academy Secondary
Isca	8784006	Academy Secondary
Newton Abbot College	8785404	Academy Secondary
Okehampton College	8784183	Academy Secondary
St James School	8784016	Academy Secondary
Tavistock College	8784182	Academy Secondary
The King's School	8784005	Academy Secondary
Uffculme School	8785405	Academy Secondary
West Exe School	8784023	Academy Secondary
The King's School	8784005	Academy Secondary
Uffculme School	8785405	Academy Secondary

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS TO PROPOSALS 1-5:

7. We agree with the above proposals provided that this does not disadvantage larger schools like ours which has happened in the past through the subsidies given to smaller schools. As a school that is over subscribed, lacking space and amenities for the children in our care we feel that we must have the appropriate funding to support the education of our children and their families
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PROPOSAL 6 TRANSFER OF FUNDS: RESPONSES

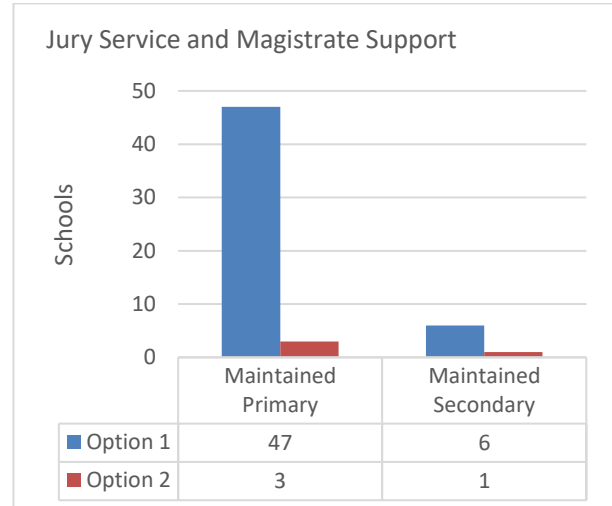
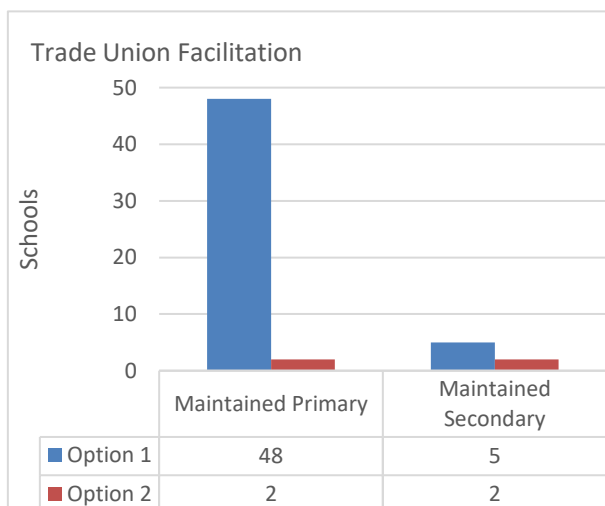
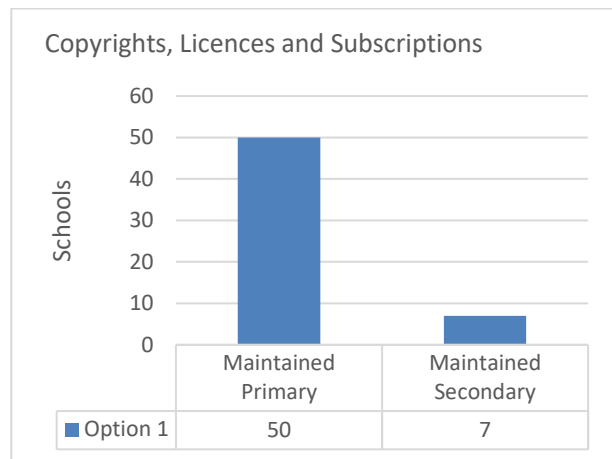
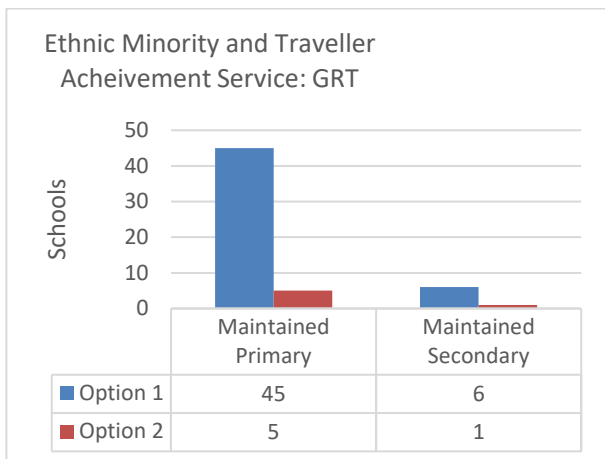
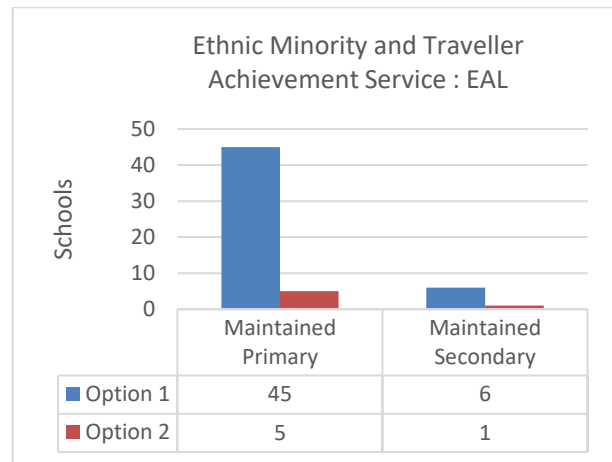
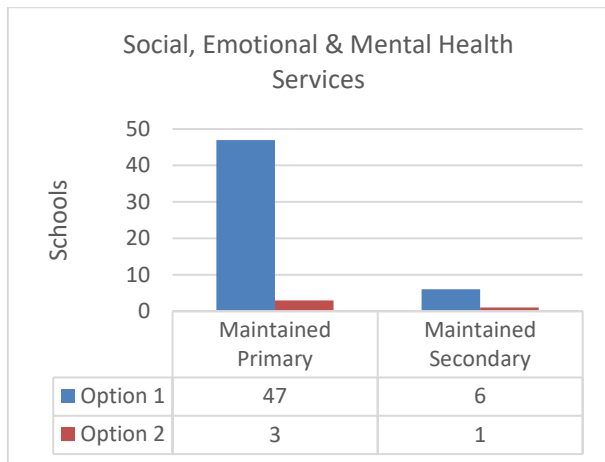
1. Agreed but trust the county will continue to lobby parliament with regard to SEND funding within the independent sector.
2. Yes, as long as this impacts on SEN provision at grass roots level, not just for clearing the overspend. We at crisis point to be able to for an above average number of SEN children who attend our school and the meagre amount which we are given even when an EHCP has been agreed together with the appropriate funding from the School Budget Share is insufficient to fully meet their individual and diverse needs. Other SEN children do not have the Teaching Assistant support in class which would enable them to reach their full potential. This is having a significant impact on staff morale, particularly our excellent SENCo.
3. I agree with this consideration. Schools are seeing recourse to 0-25 as the only way of securing additional support for pupils with additional needs so it seems fair that the money should go to High Needs as schools will benefit ultimately.
4. As we are a school that get a lot of funding from the High Needs block then we agree with this statement although long term this is not sustainable.
5. Last year, governors at the School agreed to the 0.5% transfer. Given the huge needs within this funding block, it seems a reasonable proposal. However, loss of funding in this area could be detrimental to the quality standard of education given to those children currently receiving this funding, so governors would seek assurance that additional funds would be made available through central government before supporting a higher figure.
6. Schools need to understand the impact of this on their budgets. If we don't agree will we have to agree it sometime in the future to pay off the deficit which is accumulating? How else will DCC be able to support the needs of our most vulnerable children and young people? I think we have no choice.
7. In favour but not sustainable long term
8. Prefer not to but financially could manage this year but going forward would impact being able to have a balanced budget.

9. The Trust's preference is full application of the NFF in line with national guidance to ease transition for our schools going forward. (Proposal 1, 2 and 4). We then feel it would be desirable to support schools that see little gain due to the loss of historical protection (ie. Proposal 3, increase the MFG within the allowed band of 0.5% to 1.84%). AWPU increases are desirable but because of the necessity to protect schools who could be damaged by low percentage increases would be our lowest priority (accepting all proposals have resonance with our Trust).
10. MFG - I think that maybe all schools should receive just 0.5% and if DCC have surplus that this be added to the High Needs Block, those schools who have traditionally had higher MFG will benefit from SEN funding to support their pupils. With schools with high MFG will be closer to the NFF which should have been introduced this year.
11. Yes agreed for expenditure on High Needs support within schools, stop spending on Private Sector.
12. Access to high need block is important. Spending review around costs of independent specialist providers have been welcomed and commissioning additional specialist school places in public sector has to be the long term solution to ease pressures.
13. We would support this as we have a disproportionately high % of SEND children and we are drastically underfunded currently.
14. High needs provision within school places a considerable strain on resources. Current EHCP banding rates do not cover the true cost of providing resources and staffing for the child in need. There is also the cost of the Sendco role within school. Schools are already required to fund the first £6000 from their budget. Should funds be diverted from the DSG to the HNB, the schools view is that there should be some reflection of this additional money within the high needs funding coming into schools. The school does recognise the strain the HNB is currently facing.
15. Although the high needs block is important, taking funding in this way has a big impact on schools and we see little in return for the investment. The idea that money is being spent on provision outside of county is concerning, as this is not a cost effective nor sustainable approach.
16. That any increase is seen at grass roots level and available to all children with SEN
17. At the moment being a small school with a tight budget we would find this difficult and would struggle to balance our budget. However, if all of the increases were to happen including the AWPU we would support it. We never benefit from the High Needs money and selfishly require this in our own small budget please.
18. This school would not support the transfer from the DSG to High Needs Block. The principle of the DSG is that this funding is for the education of all children, NOT to top up a funding gap created by the inadequacies of the 2014 code of practice.
19. We would not support that decision to move funds across. If the short fall is due to central Government not allocating enough funds to support SEN it should not then be propped up from the DSG. The 0.5% transfer will not effectively make a difference on the massive expected overspend anyway.
20. There appears to be an increasing number of children with a diagnosis of Autism, where the expectation is that a request is made for an EHCP. Given the provision needs for children with such a diagnosis, I wonder whether there needs to be further consideration of Universal and Wave 2 provision to meet the needs of children with autism prior to EHCP requests being submitted. Furthermore, if there was a transfer of funds to High Needs Block, we'd be interested for this to be targeted towards meeting the needs of children whose needs cannot be met within a mainstream setting over time.
21. We would not be in favour of such a transfer. Whilst we are very aware of the dilemma around High Needs Block, we believe that by transferring money from Dedicated Schools Grant to High Needs Block would only be a short term sticky plaster solution to what is a rapidly escalating issue which needs to be addressed more robustly by DfE.
22. This will increase the need of the High Needs Block because schools will not be able to afford to meet the needs of more students.
23. The funding gap in the high needs block is an issue which needs a government funded solution once the inadequacies of the 2014 Code of Practice have been rectified. I do not support a transfer from the DSG.
24. Our position is that we would not support any transfer from the DSG to the HNB.

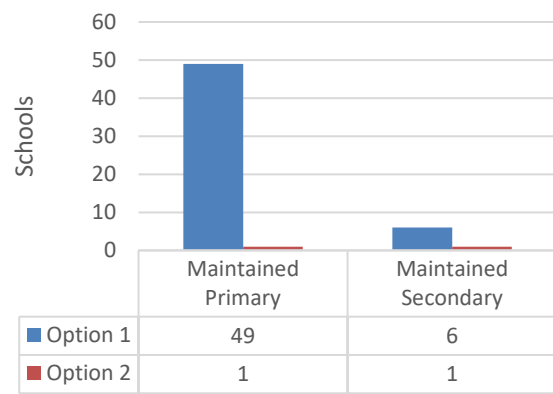
25. Schools have been waiting for this cash injection for many years. Given the timescale for increasing Special School places in Devon, schools may be asked in future years to carry on contributing to the High Needs Block, when funding is desperately needed in their own budgets. Should not the DSG funding be for schools?
26. We recognise the ongoing issue with under funding at High Needs Level alongside increasing complexity of need within our mainstream schools and so understand Devon's consideration of a transfer to the High Needs Block however we feel that this increase should be coming from central government and should not be impacting on the funding available to all other pupils.
27. I would not be in favour of this, as I feel schools have already been disadvantaged enough previously through this.
28. The school feels that this should not be done. Transferring funding in this way disguises the underfunding of High Needs and lets the Government off the hook.
29. I feel mainstream school SEND needs are increasing due to SEMH factors and we desperately need to protect mainstream funds despite the obvious high needs block funding concerns.
30. I would disagree with this proposal – 0.5% transfer would be equivalent to £18k for the Academy. With placements costing in excess of £40k within the private sector for individual students (as there are only 4 places left in county), the money would be better used in school to provide TA Support.
31. Although we feel that the high needs block is significantly underfunded and further government financial support is required, so to are maintained schools and they have little funds to manage their day to day needs let alone any to spare.
32. No. This should come from central government. Schools are already coping with exceptional needs and spending significantly above the allowances we have within the High Needs Block, SEND needs are increasing, there aren't Special School places available. We are giving everything we've got to support the children. Devon has a plan to address the overspend in time, Central Government should top up the gap to bring Devon to that point of predicted balance in time.
33. We would not want any more money taken from the budget to support the High Needs Block as the school budget is extremely tight.
34. We are strongly against this proposal. It appears that you are not giving the schools a yes or no vote to this proposal. We are therefore concerned that when this comes to schools forum it will not be meaningful.
35. The additional funding proposed by the DfE needs to stay in the DSG, to help support school budgets that have struggled to balance for many years.

APPENDIX D

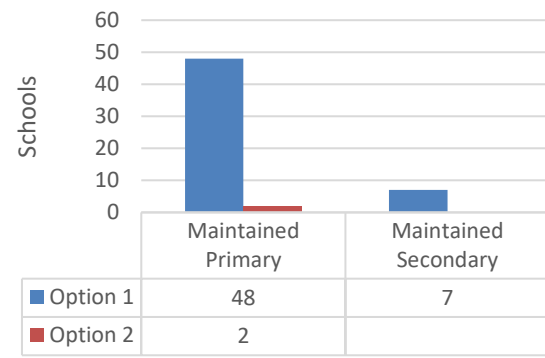
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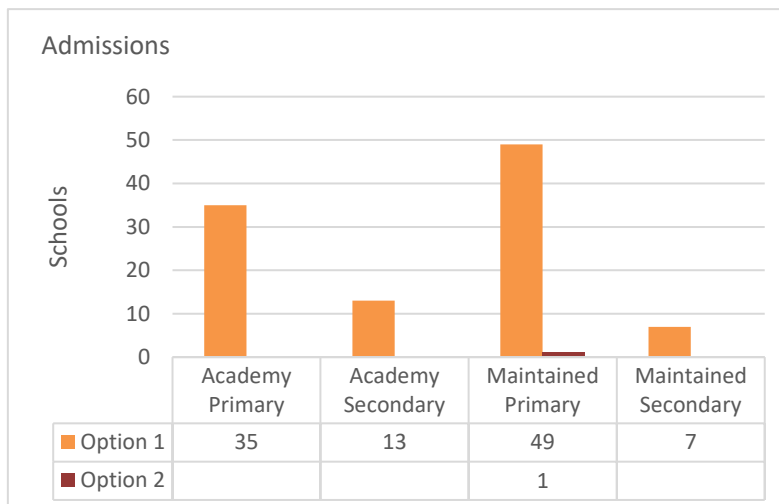
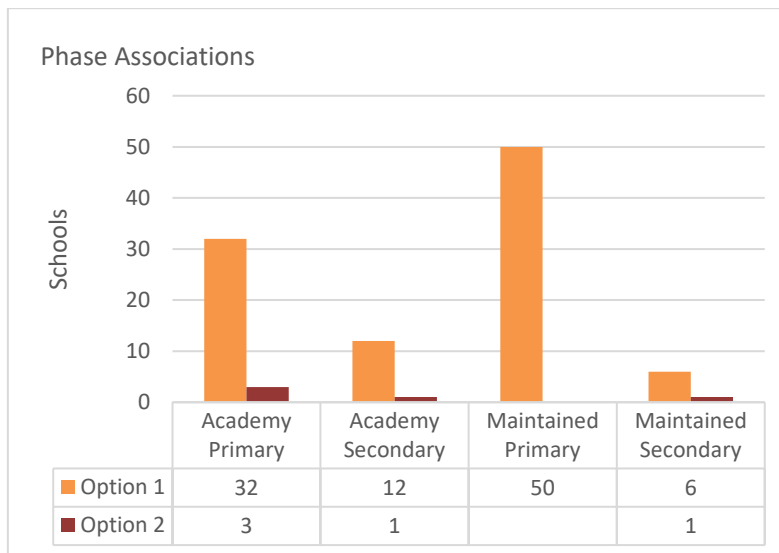
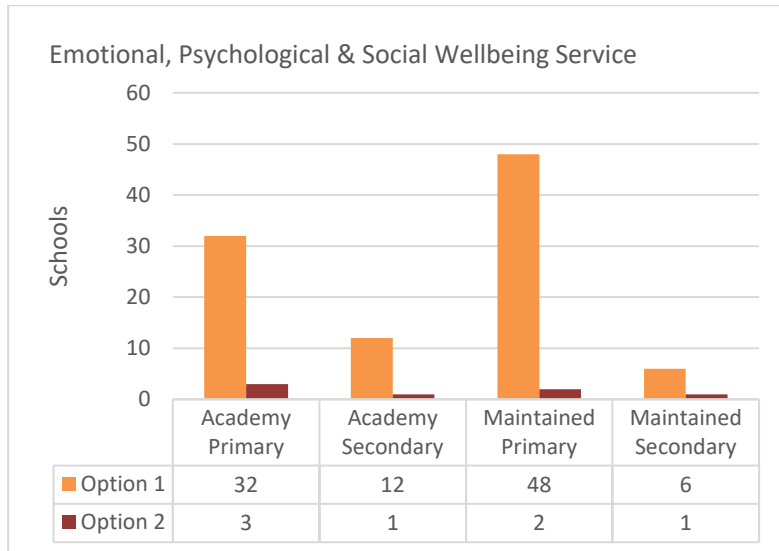


Schools in Financial Difficulties & Exceptional Events



APPENDIX E

HISTORIC COMMITMENTS



COMMENTS TO DELEGATED AND CENTRALLY RETAINED:

1. It is essential to maintain this raft of services for all Devon schools when they are needed. Whilst at present we do not access all of them other schools may need them and we do not know when we may need them in the future and we do not want them to disappear. It is extremely short sighted to let them cease now when we do not know what may happen at any time. They are an insurance policy for schools.
2. A single traded arm offer for all of DCC traded services
3. As a LA Maintained school, we are firmly committed to the benefits provided through centrally provide services.
4. Many of these services are ones which we as a school do not use, but I appreciate that is something that can change at any time. Equally there are schools who I am sure that these are vital services for and should be supported by all schools.
5. The school will be happy to take part in the survey due in December consulting about the value of services provided; which services (if any) are not needed; and what else could be included in a new contract (or amalgamated from existing). Likewise, recommissioning the LDP Babcock services.)
6. We strongly support the service admissions provide, which we consider to be excellent. We believe that the Phase association money should be paid via subs as we think it would make the phase association more responsive to the groups they represent.
7. We recognise the important contribution these services make and would find providing them difficult as a stand-alone purchaser.