

2022-23 SCHOOLS FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS CONSULTATION RESPONSES

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND CHIEF OFFICER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that DEF:

- a) Specifically approve the proposals for the 2022-23 schools revenue funding formula and make recommendation to Cabinet.
 - i. as set out in section 3.1
 - ii. to set the MFG at plus 2% with the option to review in December 2021 after settlement received.
 - iii. to allocate surplus funding to the Additional Educational Needs Factors (FSM, FSM Ever 6 and Low Prior Attainment)

Note that the final funding rates may change subject to affordability when the October 2021 pupil data and Schools Block DSG settlement is confirmed in late December 2021

All to Vote

- b) Specifically approve to propose no transfer between blocks for 2022/23 and make recommendation to Cabinet.
All to Vote
- c) Specifically agree the de-delegation proposals for maintained primary and maintained secondary schools as listed in Section 3.8 and appendix 2
Vote: Maintained primary representatives
Vote: Maintained secondary representatives

- d) Specifically agree the central services funding allocations
 - i. to continue to contribute £60,000 for the Emotional, Psychological and Social Wellbeing Service.
 - ii. to top slice £223,000 from the Schools Block to fund the Phase Association (Devon SLS and DAG) for one year.
 - iii. to retain the funding centrally at the increased £5.35 rate per pupil (£490,000) for Schools Admissions Service.

All to Vote

1. Consultation 2022-23

- 1.1. The consultation documents 'Schools Funding Arrangements 2022-23' was published on the Devon County website and 2 online consultation events held. All schools were invited to respond to the proposals contained within the document by 17 October 2021.
- 1.2. This report should be read in conjunction with the consultation documents. [Consultations: Support for Schools](#)

2. Responses

- 2.1. In all, 125 representatives attended the 2 online events from 131 schools.
- 2.2. Only 68 individual schools (19% of all schools) completed the consultation which is a lower turnout than previous years and compares to 99 schools (27%) in 2020 and 155 schools (43%) in 2018. A full analysis of participation is attached to this report at [Appendix 1](#)

3. Proposals

Schools Funding

- 3.1. Devon will make the following changes to the Schools Funding for 2022-23
- Increase sparsity values maximum has by £10,000 for primary, secondary and all-through schools .
 - 3% to Basic entitlement, free school meals at any time in the last 6 years (FSM6), IDACI, Low prior attainment, English as an additional language (EAL) and the lump sum.
 - 2% to the floor, the minimum per pupil levels and free school meals (FSM)
 - Introduce split site ceiling of £121,300 (equivalent to an additional lump sum)
 - Increase the Notional SEN to compare to other authorities.
- 3.2. In addition to the changes stated above we consulted with schools and proposed to
- Set the Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) to at plus 2% with the option to review in December 2021
 - Allocate funding above that to fulfil the complete introduction of the National Funding Formula through the FSM, FSM Ever6 and Low Prior Attainment factors.
- 3.3. Schools responded with 65 schools (96%) agreeing to setting the MFG at plus 2% with a review in December 2021 once the settlement has been confirmed and 44 schools (65%) agreed to the surplus allocation going to the AEN factors.

Movement between Blocks

- 3.4. In 2022-23, the block transfer reverts to being up to 0.5% of the Schools Block into another block, with Schools Forum approval.
- 3.5. The maximum amount that Devon could request to transfer from the schools' block, with schools' forum approval is £2.35 million. Within the proposals we were only seeking a maximum of £1.7 million or 0.36%.
- 3.6. 43 Schools (63%) responded with the view to not transferring funds between blocks with 20 schools (29%) opting to transfer 0.25%.
- 3.7. Additional comments made around the proposals can be found in [Appendix 1](#)
- 3.8. It is proposed that no transfer between blocks will take place for 2022/23.

Delegation and De-delegation

- 3.9. The following services are to be de-delegated in 2022-23 from the primary and secondary maintained schools subject to Schools Forum decision by the representatives in each sector.
- Contingencies (including schools in financial difficulties and deficits of closing schools)
 - Behaviour support services
 - Support to under-performing ethnic groups and bilingual learners
 - Maternity
 - Trade unions and public duties
 - Licences and subscriptions (not covered by a national licence which DfE charge the local authority)
- 3.10. De-delegation is not an option for academies, special schools, nurseries or PRUs, but 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.

- 3.11. The 41 maintained primary and 4 secondary schools responded to these proposals. Both phases responded favourably to all of these services continuing in their present state. However, there were 8 or 9 primaries that did not wish to continue with Behaviour Support or Ethnic Minority and Traveller Achievement Services.
- 3.12. The consultation responses of the 45 maintained primary and secondary schools can be found at [Appendix 2](#) Delegation and De-delegation

Central School Services Block

- 3.13. The Central School Services Block (CSSB) provides funding for local authorities to carry out central functions on behalf of maintained schools and academies.
- ongoing responsibilities
 - historic commitments
- 3.14. Devon was successful in 2021/22 by obtaining from the DfE a protection from having a reduction that took the total historic commitments funding below the total value of our ongoing Termination of Employment costs, in recognition of the lead in times required for such costs to unwind. It is expected to be received again for 2022/23.

Central Services

- 3.15. The consultation responses detail be found at [Appendix 2](#) Central Services

Emotional, Psychological & Social Wellbeing Services

- 3.16. It is proposed that Schools will make the annual contribution of £60,000 for 2022/23 as 59 schools (87%) of the 68 agreed to continue to contribute to this area of work.

School Admissions

- 3.17. It is proposed that Schools Admissions funding will increase to £490,000 (£5.35 per pupil) as schools unanimously to do this.

Phase Associations

- 3.18. For 2022-23 it is proposed that Phase Associations will be funded by way of top slice arrangement of £223,000 from the Schools Block for Devon SLS and DAG and £47,000 pooled from the High Needs Block for SENTient Heads.
- 3.19. Of the 68 schools which responded 57 schools (84%) agreed to continue to fund the Phase Associations with 36 schools (53%) wanting to continue with the one-year agreement.
- 3.20. It is therefore proposed to top-slice the Phase Associations funding of £223,000 for 2022-23 by a one-year agreement and be consulted again as part of the next funding consultation.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1. Specifically approve the proposals for the 2022-23 schools revenue funding formula and make recommendation to Cabinet.
- i. as set out in section 3.1
 - ii. to set the MFG at plus 2% with the option to review in December 2021 after settlement received.
 - iii. to allocate surplus funding to the Additional Educational Needs Factors (FSM, FSM Ever 6 and Low Prior Attainment)

Note that the final funding rates may change subject to affordability when the October 2021 pupil data and Schools Block DSG settlement is confirmed in late December 2021

All to Vote

- 4.2. Specifically approve to propose no transfer between blocks for 2022/23 and make recommendation to Cabinet.

All to Vote

- 4.3. Specifically agree the de-delegation proposals for maintained primary and maintained secondary schools as listed in Section 3.8 and appendix 2

Vote: Maintained Primary representatives

Vote: Maintained Secondary representatives

- 4.4. Specifically agree the central services funding allocations

- i. to continue to contribute £60,000 for the Emotional, Psychological and Social Wellbeing Service.
- ii. to top slice £223,000 from the Schools Block to fund the Phase Association (Devon SLS and DAG) for one year.
- iii. to retain the funding centrally at the increased £5.35 rate per pupil (£490,000) for Schools Admissions Service.

All to Vote

ANGIE SINCLAIR
Director of Finance (Designate)

MELISSA CASLAKE
Chief Officer for Children's Services

Please ask for: Adrian Fox
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Appendix 1

Responses and Attendees

School Based By School Type	2018			2019			2020			2021			Variation from previous year	
	Total School Base	Total School Response	% Response	Total School Base	Total School Response	% Response	Total School Base	Total School Response	% Response	Total School Base	Total School Response	% Response	No of Schools	%age change
Maintained Primary	179	67	37%	172	50	29%	162	45	28%	162	41	25%	(4)	-9%
Maintained Secondary	9	7	78%	8	7	88%	6	3	50%	6	4	67%	1	33%
Maintained Special	10	5	50%	10	1	10%	9	1	11%	9	3	33%	2	200%
Academy Primary	129	59	46%	138	35	25%	149	38	26%	149	7	5%	(31)	-82%
Academy Secondary	33	17	52%	34	13	38%	36	12	33%	36	13	36%	1	8%
Academy Special	0	0	0%	1	0	0%	1	0	0%	2	0	0%	0	0%
	360	155	43%	363	106	29%	363	99	27%	364	68	19%		

By Phase	2018			2019			2020			2021		
	Total School Base	Total School Response	% Response	Total School Base	Total School Response	% Response	Total School Base	Total School Response	% Response	Total School Base	Total School Response	% Response
All Primary	212	84	40%	310	85	27%	311	83	27%	311	48	15%
All Secondary	9	7	78%	42	20	48%	42	15	36%	42	17	40%
All Special	10	5	50%	11	1	9%	10	1	10%	11	3	27%
	231	96	43%	363	106	30%	363	99	27%	364	68	19%

List of Responding Schools

[Alphabetical by School name within Phase within Status]

Maintained - Primary

Ashwater Primary School	8782201	Maintained Primary
Bickleigh Down CE Primary School	8783768	Maintained Primary
Bishops Tawton Primary School	8782211	Maintained Primary
Bishopsteignton Primary School	8782402	Maintained Primary
Buckland Brewer School	8782218	Maintained Primary
Castle Primary School	8782720	Maintained Primary
Chudleigh Primary School	8783105	Maintained Primary
Clyst St Mary Primary School	8782009	Maintained Primary
Cornwood C of E Primary	8783152	Maintained Primary
Decoy Primary	8782431	Maintained Primary
Denbury Primary	8782416	Maintained Primary
Doddyscombsleigh Primary School	8782417	Maintained Primary
Exminster Community Primary	8782420	Maintained Primary
Georgeham CofE Primary School	8783059	Maintained Primary
Great Torrington Bluecoat Primary School	8783061	Maintained Primary
Horwood and Newton Tracey Primary School	8782231	Maintained Primary
Ilfracombe C of E Junior School	8783065	Maintained Primary

Instow Community Primary School	8782233	Maintained Primary
Ipplepen Primary School	8782423	Maintained Primary
Marldon C of E Primary School	8783607	Maintained Primary
Marwood School	8782238	Maintained Primary
Parkham Primary School	8782441	Maintained Primary
Pilton Infants' School	8782205	Maintained Primary
Rackenford C of E Primary School	8783772	Maintained Primary
Shaugh Prior	8782618	Maintained Primary
St Catherine's C of E Primary School	8783605	Maintained Primary
St Giles on the Heath Primary School	8782242	Maintained Primary
St Martins C of E Primary School	8783005	Maintained Primary
St Mary's C of E Primary School	8783751	Maintained Primary
St Michael's C of E Primary School	8783128	Maintained Primary
St Peter's Primary School	8783304	Maintained Primary
Stoke Canon C of E Primary School	8783024	Maintained Primary
Stokeinteignhead School	8782445	Maintained Primary

Maintained - Secondary

Cullompton Community College	8784010	Maintained Secondary
Sidmouth College	8784011	Maintained Secondary

South Molton Community College	8784057	Maintained Secondary
Tiverton High School	8784192	Maintained Secondary

Maintained - Special School

Ellen Tinkham School	8787002	Maintained Special
Bidwell Brook School	8787044	Maintained Special

Marland	8787088	Maintained Special

Academy - Primary

Chulmleigh Primary School	8782219	Academy Primary
East Worlington Primary School	8782224	Academy Primary
Exwick Heights Primary School	8782022	Academy Primary
Lapford Community Primary School	8782260	Academy Primary

Uffculme Primary	8782072	Academy Primary
Whipton Barton Infants & Nursery School	8782039	Academy Primary
Whipton Barton Junior School	8782040	Academy Primary

Academy - Secondary / All-Through

Axe Valley Academy	8784021	Academy Secondary
Braunton School & Community College Academy	8784053	Academy Secondary
Chulmleigh Community College	8784054	Academy Secondary
Cranbrook Education Campus	8784013	Academy Secondary
Exmouth Community College	8784012	Academy Secondary
Honiton Community College	8784004	Academy Secondary
Isca Academy	8784006	Academy Secondary

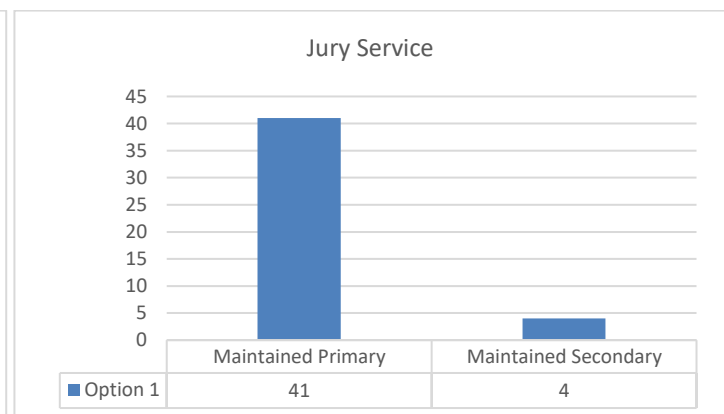
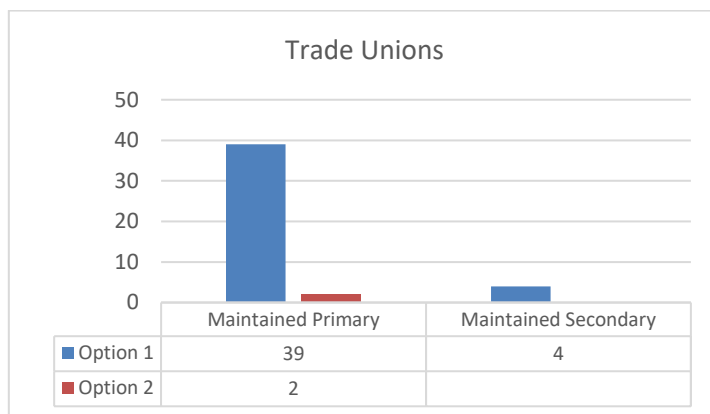
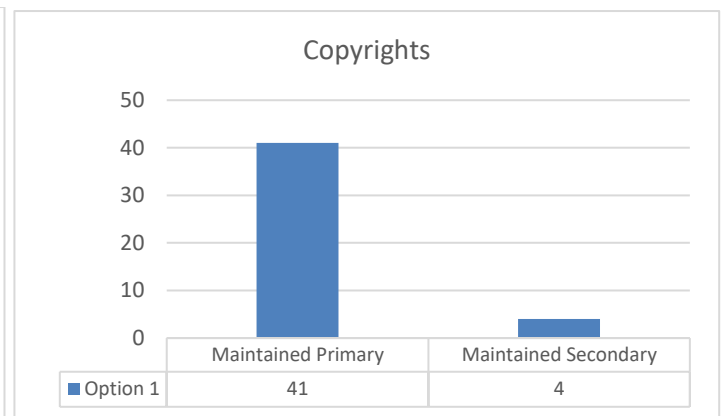
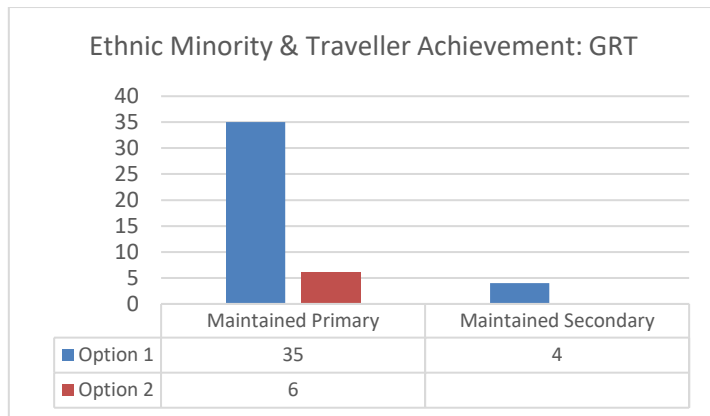
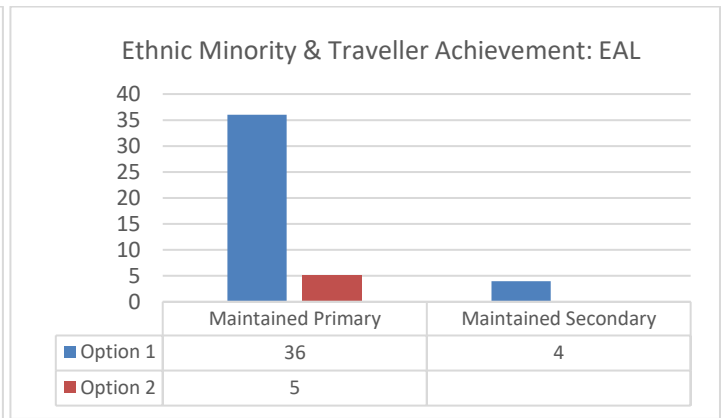
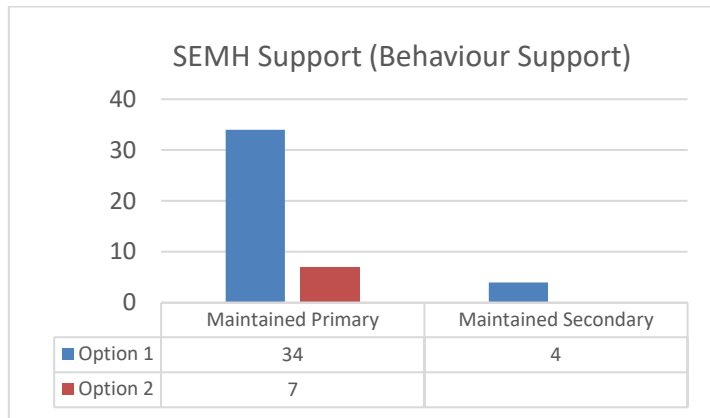
Newton Abbot College	8785404	Academy Secondary
Queen Elizabeth's	8784003	Academy Secondary
St James School	8784016	Academy Secondary
St Luke's Church of England School	8784028	Academy Secondary
Uffculme School	8785405	Academy Secondary
West Exe School	8784023	Academy Secondary

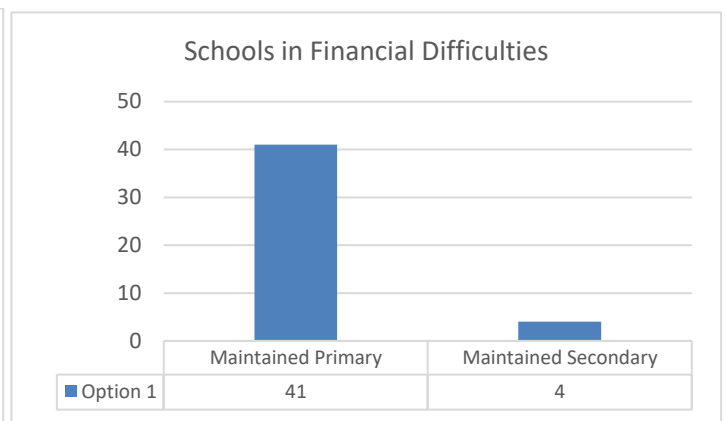
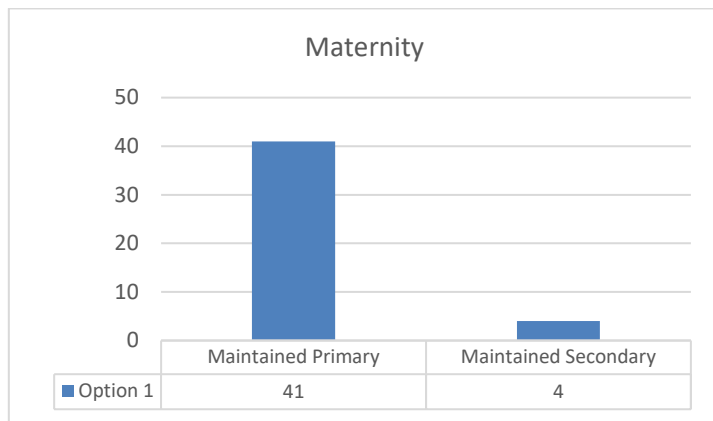
Additional Comments made within the responses

- *HNB Transfer proposal - Within the limited resources available we believe schools are in the best position to decide how to meet the needs of their SEND students most effectively.*
- *The issue of transferring money from Schools Block to HNB occurs every year in the consultation. Greater management response is required to address this issue.*
- *We appreciate that HNB need more funding as more and more schools have a growing amount of EHCP pupils due to parents requesting for their SEND pupils to be in a mainstream setting.*
- *Funding for schools needs to remain within the Schools Block. Spending pressures are as severe as they have ever been, and schools need the maximum amount of funds possible to fulfil learning needs.*
- *Please could you pursue the issue of pupils receiving specialist provision in maintained schools (Resource Bases) receiving the higher level of catch-up funding which is due to them. Currently their right to access this funding is not being recognised.*
- *If there is an opportunity to boost HNB whilst meeting the NFF then this should be taken. Putting the right support in place for SEND and enabling a more efficient process to support children and families will ultimately save money and improve the provision offered by schools. Tackling issues sooner and reducing the reliance on the private sector would be a significant step forward. Redirecting funds, however, should not be a long term option. With continued pressure on budgets, schools need to see an increase in funding but addressing the issues around SEND provision is a good strategy with long term benefits for all schools. Although additional funding for disadvantaged students is always welcome, currently, with the impact of Covid, support is needed across all demographics. The issues around engagement, attainment levels and behaviour that are often associated with children living in families with economic pressures, are now being witnessed across entire cohorts. The impact of prolonged lockdowns, on families struggling to work and home school, should not be underestimated.*

Appendix 2

DELEGATION AND DE-DELEGATION





Additional Comments included in the response to the consultation:

- *These services are well used by schools and are invaluable.*
- *We continue to support the de-delegation of all these services for the benefit of all schools*
- *Support we get from LA services continues to be supportive of provision*

Central Services

