

Schools Forum 23 February 2010

Report of the Director of Children's Services

14-19 Diploma Funding 2010/11

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to update Schools Forum of the latest developments relating to the 14-19 Diplomas and seek approval to the funding framework for the 2010/11 academic year.

Budget Working Group Discussed

2. No

Schools Forum Role and Responsibilities

3. Schools Forum should be consulted on the management of the Diploma funding after ratification by the 14-19 Partnership Board.

Action for Schools Forum

4. To consider the recommendation from the 14-19 Partnership in relation to the funding framework for the 2010/11 academic year.
5. The 14-19 Partnership met on 4 February 2010, and recommended to Schools Forum that funding continues to be distributed to Diploma consortia in order to support delivery of further Diploma qualifications.

Attachments to Report

6. Extract from Schools Forum minutes 24 February 2009 - Appendix A.
7. Student funding rates – Appendix B.
8. Diploma take-up timescales for Local Authorities – Appendix C.

Ian Curnow
14-19 Partnership Manager

8 February 2010

Schools Forum 23 February 2010

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Purpose of Report

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Background

2. Following a DCSF statement on 14- 19 Reforms in August 2007, Schools Forum were advised that "*ultimately decisions on school funding including Diplomas at Key Stage 4 will be made by local authorities after consulting the Schools Forum. From 08/09 14-19 Partnerships will be separately represented on forums to ensure those decisions are consistent with area plans*".
3. In accordance with DCSF requirements, the membership of Schools Forum was widened in February 2008 to include a representative from the 14-19 Partnership.
4. The matter of funding for Diploma delivery in Key Stage 4 was reported to Schools Forum on 24 February 2009 for a decision to be made in relation to 2009/10 delivery. Full details of the minutes of the meeting are attached at Appendix A, the resolution from this meeting being:

RESOLVED

- That the Forum support option 2 of the diploma funding framework for the 2009/10 academic year only subject to the model not setting a precedent for future years.
- That the funding framework be reviewed by the 14–19 Partnership for 2010/11 and that a further recommendation on this issue be made to the Forum, when appropriate.

2010/11 Academic Year

5. The 14-19 Partnership will consider on 4 February 2010 a proposal to continue the diploma funding methodology under option 2 for 2010/11 academic year.

6. For 2009/10 option 2 (partial delegation) was considered to be the best option since it was a compromise solution balancing certainty about budgets for schools with uncertainty about costs for schools.
7. The recommendation stemming from the February 2010 meeting of the 14-19 Partnership is to continue with the current funding methodology for the academic year 2010/11.
8. Guidance about the Diploma Grant was published by the DCSF on the 28 January 2009. This information being available in full at <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/14-19> 14-19 Funding/Diploma Funding. Taken from this guidance the 2009/10 funding levels are detailed in Appendix B.
9. Diploma funding is separated into two areas. The allocations for 2009/10 are:
 - o Diploma delivery grant – estimated £241k
 - o Diploma support grant – estimated £452k
10. Four of the five Dudley consortia will be delivering Diplomas from September 2010. See Table 1 for details.

Table 1 – Diploma Delivery in Dudley 2010/11

Consortium	Diploma Line/s
Central Dudley	Business Admin. & Finance Engineering Hair & Beauty Information Technology Manufacturing & Product Design Public Services Retail Sport and Active Leisure
North Dudley	Business Admin. & Finance Engineering Information Technology Manufacturing & Product Design Public Services Retail Sport and Active Leisure
Halesowen	Business Admin. & Finance Creative & Media Engineering (with Dudley North) Environment and Land Based Hair & Beauty Studies Hospitality Information Technology Public Services Retail Society Health & Development Sport and Active Leisure Travel and Tourism
Stourbridge	Construction & the Built Environment Information Technology

11. In order to access this funding Consortia/Local Authorities (LAs) are required to submit information about Diploma take-up, as detailed at Appendix C.

Finance

12. The funding of schools is prescribed by the DCSF through the School Finance (England) Regulations 2008.

13. Schools Forums are regulated by the School Forums Regulations 2002 as already amended by the Schools Forums (Amendment) Regulations 2004 the Schools Forums (Amendment) 2005 Regulations and the Schools Forums (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2008.

14. From 1st April 2006, the Schools Budget has been funded by a direct DCSF grant: Dedicated School Grant (DSG).

Law

15. Councils' LMS Schemes are made under Section 48 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998. The Education Acts 1996 and 2002 also have provisions relating to school funding.

Equality Impact

16. The Council's Equal Opportunities Policy is taken into account when considering the allocation of resources.

Recommendation

17. Schools Forum to:

- Support the recommendation of the 14-19 Partnership in relation to deployment of the Diploma Delivery funding for the 2010/11 academic year. The model sets no precedent for future years;
- The funding framework to be reviewed by 14-19 Partnership for 2011/12 and a further recommendation to schools forum made when appropriate.



Mark Wyatt

Director of Children's Services

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Extract From Schools Forum Minutes 24 February 2009

A report of the Interim Director of Children's Services was submitted setting out the latest developments relating to 14-19 Diplomas and which sought approval to the funding framework in connection therewith for the 2009/10 academic year. The Forum was reminded that, at its meeting held on the 18th March, 2008, on consideration of three alternatives, Option 2 (Partial Delegation) of the Diploma Funding Framework had been approved for the 2008/09 academic year only, subject to the model not setting a precedent for future years.

The report now submitted summarised 2009/10 funding levels for pupils who started their diplomas in 2008/09 and would do so in 2009/10, in accordance with renewed guidance from the DCSF issued on 28th January, 2009, and set out diploma take-up timescales for Local Authorities for 2009/10. In presenting the report, the 14-19 Partnership Manager (Early Years, Youth and Education Services) reported orally that the 14-19 Strategic Partnership, at its meeting held on the 11th February, 2009, had resolved to recommend the continuation of Option 2 as the funding methodology to be adopted for diploma funding for 2009/10.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the continuation of the current diploma funding model Option 2 framework for the 2009/10 academic year be supported, subject to the model not setting a precedent for future years.

 - (2) That the funding framework be reviewed by the 14-19 Strategic Partnership for 2010/11 and that a further recommendation to the Forum be made when appropriate
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APPENDIX B

Details of the 2009/10 funding levels from the guidance at <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/14-19>

For pupils who started their diplomas in 2008/09, DCSF will continue to use the same rates as we published in 2008/09, which are:

Diploma line	Level	Amount per place excluding ACA
Construction	Level 1	£957.21
	Level 2	£1,277.95
Creative and Media	Level 1	£736.30
	Level 2	£957.21
Engineering	Level 1	£957.21
	Level 2	£1,277.95
Society, Health & Development	Level 1	£824.74
	Level 2	£1,101.07
IT	Level 1	£824.74
	Level 2	£1,101.07

For those students starting a diploma in 2009/10, DCSF will be using the following rates:

Diploma line	Level	Amount per place excluding ACA
Construction	Level 1	£957.19
	Level 2	£1,289.03
Creative and Media	Level 1	£957.19
	Level 2	£1,289.03
Engineering	Level 1	£957.19
	Level 2	£1,289.03
Society, Health & Development	Level 1	£824.66
	Level 2	£1,110.55
IT	Level 1	£824.66
	Level 2	£1,289.03
Business Administration & Finance	Level 1	£736.30
	Level 2	£991.56
Hair & Beauty Studies	Level 1	£957.19
	Level 2	£1,289.03
Hospitality	Level 1	£957.19
	Level 2	£1,289.03
Land-Based & Environmental Studies	Level 1	£1,178.08
	Level 2	£1,586.50
Manufacturing & Product Design	Level 1	£957.19
	Level 2	£1,289.03

Note. As of 4.2.10 there is no information on the DCSF 14-19 website relating to diploma support and delivery funding for 2010/11. As such both funding levels and timescales are liable to change.

Diploma Take up Timescales for Local Authorities

Details of the 2009/10 funding levels from the guidance at
<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/14-19>

By 31 January 2009	DCSF informs LAs/Consortia of formula for 09/10 and indicative levels of funding per pupil for planning purposes; DCSF requests information on “best estimate” of take-up by LA/line/level, to be received by 6 March 2009.
6 March 2009	Deadline for “best estimate” returns from LAs/Consortia.
20 March 2009	DCSF issues <u>provisional</u> allocations to LAs on basis of March returns; DCSF requests “firm estimates” on take-up, on which final allocations will be calculated, to be received by 10 July 2009.
10 July 2009	Deadline for “firm estimate” returns from LAs/Consortia.
23 July 2009	DCSF confirms <u>final</u> allocations to LAs. Request to Consortia for data on actual starts to be received by 9 October (provisional date, to be confirmed).
4 September 2009	First payments to LAs of 09/10 grant
9 October 2009 (provisional date, to be confirmed)	Deadline for LA/Consortia returns on actual starts (including from Consortia breakdown by gender and other requirements).
5 March 2010	Second payments to LAs of 09/10 grant

Note. As of 18/1/10 there is no information on the DCSF 14-19 website relating to diploma support and delivery funding for 2010/11. As such both funding levels and timescales are liable to change.