

Directorate of Children's Services

Budget Fact Sheet

No. 2 – June 2013

- **Review of 2013-14 School Funding Arrangements- Changes for 2014/15**

Full details of the DfE documentation issued on 5 June which summarise the findings from the review of 2013-14 funding arrangements and changes for 2014-15 are available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-funding-reform-findings-from-the-review-of-2013-to-2014-arrangements-and-changes-for-2014-to-2015>

The key issues:

- National benchmarking data has been produced by the DfE and is available at <http://media.education.gov.uk/assets/files/pdf/r/review%20of%20201314%20school%20funding%20arrangements%20-%20amended%20headings.pdf>
- Dedicated Schools Grant – Schools Block and Early Years Block unit values have been confirmed as cash limited at 2013/14 values. However, this could potentially mean a reduction in the High Needs Block funding if there are demographic changes in the pupil population nationally.
- Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) – a maximum reduction of -1.5% per pupil has been confirmed for 2014/15.
- Prior attainment – the DfE has confirmed that Early Years Foundation Stage Profiles will continue to be used for primary schools to identify prior attainment funding but for secondary schools will comprise of Key Stage 2 English **or** Maths at Level 3 or below (English **and** Maths criteria was used for 2013/14).
- Value of lump will be capped at £175,000 maximum.
- The DfE has prescribed minimum values of Basic per Pupil funding (£2,000 primary and £3,000 secondary) Dudley's Basic per pupil for 2013/14 was £3,125 for primary and £4,453 for secondary.
- The DfE has prescribed at least 80% of funding should be distributed through pupil led factors; in 2013-14 Dudley distributed 91.6% for pupil led factors.
- School budgets must be issued by 28 Feb 2014.
- While the DfE is not prescribing a minimum proportion of funding to be allocated through the deprivation factor they are continuing to ask Schools Forums and Local Authorities to their review deprivation funding arrangements.
- The DfE are awaiting outcomes of the Comprehensive Spending Review prior to confirmation of funding arrangements for 2015/16.

- **Dudley's Local Funding Formula Review for 2014/15**

A short consultation will take place from 2 September to 11 October 2013.

Discussions are currently underway with HTCF-BWG to review the following;

- Continuation of claw back of gains to fund the cost of MFG
- Value of the Lump Sum for Dudley schools
- Funding to be de-delegated
- Funds allocated to deprivation
- Notional SEN funding criteria for schools that have a disproportionate population of pupils with high needs;

Recommendations from these discussions will be reported to Schools Forum at 9 July meeting and included in the Autumn term consultation.

Decisions will be made by Schools Forum at the meeting on 24 October 2013.

- **Funding workshops**
Funding workshops are proposed for the Autumn term and dates will be circulated shortly. The workshops will cover an update on funding changes for 2014/15 and equal pay.
- **SEN Units in Mainstream Schools**
The funding methodology for 2014/15 is under review and will be reported in the Autumn term.
- **Review of Dudley's Pupil Referral Units**
The review of Dudley's behavioural Short Stay School Service is ongoing. Regular updates will be presented to Schools Forum.
- **Scheme for Financing Schools**
Dudley's Scheme for Financing Schools has been reviewed and updates proposed. The proposed changes will be published for consultation early in the Autumn term and be effective from January 2014.
- **Schools Forum**
Schools Forum Constitution will be updated shortly to reflect a new DfE requirement to include one elected representative from an institution (other than schools or academies) providing education beyond age 16, and to ensure academy representation is proportionate in the light of schools converting to academies since April 2013. Changes will be implemented in the Autumn term when the Schools Forum Regulations have been issued.

The final meeting for the current academic year will be 9 July 2013.

The future meetings scheduled for the 2013/14 academic year are: 17 September 2013, 24 October 2013, 20 November 2013, 10 December 2013, 21 January 2014, 25 February 2014, 18 March 2014, 3 June 2014 and 8 July 2014.

Schools Forum agendas and minutes of the meetings are available on the Council website together with details of Forum members as follows;
dudley.gov.uk / meetings and decisions / Committee Management Information System / Committees / Current Committees / Dudley Schools Forum / Meetings tab (minutes are available within the relevant meeting date).

A School Forum internet website for Dudley is to be implemented shortly and will provide useful information including DfE related consultations, regulations and guidance, member information, roles and responsibilities, dates of future meetings, current membership and the Constitution.

- **Further Details**

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