

Schools Forum 7 October 2008

Report of the Director of Children's Services

Proposed Changes to Dudley's Resource Allocation Formula for Schools

Purpose of Report

1. To update Schools Forum on the latest position relating to the draft consultation document shortly to be issued in respect of proposed changes to the mainstream schools resource allocation formula.

Budget Working Group (BWG) Discussed

2. Yes.

Schools Forum Action

3. To note the impending publication of the consultation document 'School Budgets 2009/10 – Proposed Changes to the Resource Allocation Formula for Schools'

Attachments to Report

4. Appendix A – Draft consultation document to be formally issued October 2008.
5. Appendix B – Financial Model of effects of proposed changes 2009/10.
6. Appendix C - Financial Model of effects of proposed changes 2010/11.

Sue Coates
Senior Principal Accountant
22 September 2008

Schools Forum 7 October 2008

Report of the Director of Children's Services

Proposed Changes to Dudley's Resource Allocation Formula for Schools

Purpose of Report

1. To update Schools Forum on the latest position relating to the draft consultation document shortly to be issued in respect of proposed changes to the mainstream schools resource allocation formula.

Background

2. During the last 18 months a number of formula factors have been discussed and reviewed by Head Teachers Consultative Forum – Budget Working Group (HTCF-BWG) to assess their effectiveness at targeting funding resources. Schools Forum has been kept informed of these discussions on an ongoing basis.
3. As a result there are now four formula factors which are proposed for amendment from April 2009.
4. It is requirement that all Head Teachers and Governing Bodies are consulted in the preceding financial year on any proposed variations to the Local Management of Schools (LMS) funding formula. A copy of the draft consultation document is attached at Appendix A, financial details of the proposed changes are attached at Appendices B and C.
5. The consultation period will be from October 2008 to January 2009. A final report will be presented to the Schools Forum meeting in February 2009 advising members of the outcomes and the resulting recommendations of the Director of Children's Services.

Finance

6. The funding of schools is prescribed by the DCSF through the School Finance (England) Regulations 2008.
7. 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.

8. From 1st April 2006, the Schools Budget has been funded by a direct DCSF grant: Dedicated School Grant (DSG). The ISB (Individual Schools Budget which covers the delegated budgets to schools) is a part of the Schools Budget.

Law

9. 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

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

Recommendations

11. Schools Forum:

- Note the consultation document in respect of proposed changes to the mainstream schools resource allocation formula which will be issued shortly.
- Note that any responses can be made through the formal consultation process outlined in the document.



John Freeman

Director of Children's Services

Contact Officer:

Karen Cocker, Children's Services Finance Manager

Karen.cocker@dudley.gov.uk Tel: 01384 815382