



Directorate of Children's Services

Budget Fact Sheet

No. 3 – November 2013

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

The consultation in respect of proposed changes to the Local Funding Formula for Schools was discussed at the October 2013 meeting of Schools Forum. The Director of Children's Services can confirm that the changes for 2014/15 will be:

- Both the total value and method of funding for deprivation will be reviewed during 2014/15.
- The value of the Lump Sum for Dudley schools will be £130k for primary schools and £100k for secondary schools with a re-allocation of funding released in secondary schools to pupils in KS3 and KS4 through the basic per pupil funding.
- The methodology, as proposed within the consultation document to identify additional funding required for schools with a disproportionate number of High Needs pupils, will be implemented for 2014/15.
- The Minimum Funding Guarantee will be funded 50% from a claw-back of gains and 50% from all schools for 2014/15.

A summary of the responses to the consultation is available at:

http://insidedudley/education/library/childrensservic_1/fundingreforms_/consultationout/default.htm

- Dudley's Local Authority Funding Reform Pro-forma for 2014/15 mainstream school funding was submitted to the Education Funding Agency (EFA) for scrutiny by the statutory deadline of 31 October 2013 and confirmation was received on the 8 November to advise that this adheres to the Financial Regulations and satisfies the EFA criteria.

• **Estimated Budgets for Mainstream Schools 2014/15 and 2015/16**

In order to assist schools with strategic financial planning, mainstream school budgets for 2014/15 and 2015/16 have been produced which are based on estimated pupil numbers and are available at:

http://insidedudley/education/library/childrensservic_1/budgets_/schoolsbudgets_/201415budgets_/october2013_/default.htm

and

http://insidedudley/education/library/childrensservic_1/budgets_/schoolsbudgets_/201516budgets_/october2013_/default.htm

If schools wish to adjust these estimated budgets in order to reflect more accurate pupil numbers then the following approximate values per pupil should be applied:

	<u>2014/15</u>	<u>2015/16</u>
Primary	£3,128	£3,123
Secondary	£4,491	£4,484

• **Estimated Budgets for Special Schools 2014/15**

Once confirmation has been received of the proposed funded places for 2014/15 estimated school budgets will be made available to Dudley special schools.

- **Review of Dudley's Pupil Referral Units**

The review and restructure of Dudley's behavioural Short Stay School Service is ongoing. Regular updates are reported to Schools Forum. It is anticipated that the restructure will be effective from 1 September 2014.

- **Top-Up funding for Mainstream High Needs pupils**

Mainstream schools were notified in October of the values for top-up funding for High Needs pupils for the summer term. The data for the autumn and spring terms will be notified during spring 2014 and actual funding will be transferred to schools prior to the end of the financial year.

- **Scheme for Financing Schools**

Dudley's Scheme for Financing Schools has been reviewed and updates proposed. The proposed changes are currently published for consultation until 16 December 2013. The consultation document which contains a summary of the proposed changes is available at:

<http://www.dudley.gov.uk/about/directorates/children-services/consultation-documents/>

- **Free School Meals**

The government has announced funding for free school meals for all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 in state primary schools from September 2014. Further details on funding will be announced in the autumn statement on 4 December 2013.

- **Employment Status (HMRC Guidance)**

The employment status of an individual determines how the tax liability for both the individual and the engager is calculated and HMRC are increasingly scrutinising this area.

Full guidance & training is available from the VAT team at the link below -

http://insidedudley/finance/financial/info&res/taxandvat/_adviceandguidan_/selfemploy edvem/default.htm.

HMRC have an Employment Status Indicator (ESI) tool on their website which can be used and it will give a uniquely numbered decision sheet that can be printed and retained as evidence, which is available at

<http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/calcs/esi.htm>

- **Dudley's Schools Forum**

A Schools 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.

The website address will be: <http://www.dudley.gov.uk/community/community-forums/dudley-schools-forum/>

The next Schools Forum meeting will be on 10 December 2013 at which decisions will be taken in respect of de-delegation of mainstream schools funding for services in 2014/15.

- **Further Details**

Please contact sue.coates@dudley.gov.uk or telephone 01384 814217.

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