

**Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council**

**Schools Forum**

**7 February 2006**

**Report of the Director of Children's Services**

**Distribution of Funding for Workforce Reform: Primary Schools**

**Purpose of Report**

1. To advise Schools Forum of the DfES targeted allocation in respect of Workforce Reform for primary schools and to propose a funding methodology in respect of the 2006/07 LMS formula.

**Background**

2. Since the last meeting of Schools Forum the DfES has announced a number of targeted funds for 2006/07 and 2007/08; one of which is Workforce Reform for Primary schools. This funding is within the Dedicated Schools Grant.
3. For 2006/07, Dudley has received an allocation of £450,000 in respect of the final phase of workforce reform from September 2005.
4. The DfES has distributed the funding to local authorities on the basis of the numbers of primary aged pupils in each authority.
5. For 2005/06, the growth in the delegated budget in respect of workforce reform was distributed via the Age Weighted Pupil Unit (AWPU). It is proposed, therefore, that this method of distribution is used again to target the additional £450,000 for 2006/07.
6. Targeting £450,000 via the AWPU for primary pupil numbers will have the affect of increasing the AWPU for Nursery, Reception, KS1 and KS2 by 0.8% for 2006/07.
7. The DfES has confirmed that this targeted funding should be directed to special schools also.
8. At its meeting on 18 January 2006, Budget Working Group recommended acceptance of the proposed methodology for allocation of Workforce Reform funding for 2006/07.

## **Proposals**

9. It is proposed that Schools Forum note the contents of the report regarding the proposed distribution of targeted funding for Workforce Reform in primary schools for 2006/07, via the AWPU and advise the Director of Children's Services in respect of this proposal.

## **Finance**

10. The funding of schools is prescribed by the DfES through the School Finance (England) Regulations 2006.
11. From 1<sup>st</sup> April 2006, the Schools Budget will be funded by a direct DfES grant: Dedicated School Grant (DSG).

## **Law**

12. 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.

## **Equal Opportunities**

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

## **Recommendation**

14. That Schools Forum note the contents of this report, and advise the Director of Children's Services in respect of the distribution of Workforce Reform funding for 2006/07, as set out in the proposals.



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