

BRIEFING PAPER

SUBJECT: INTERVENTION FUND
DATE: 6TH MARCH 2015
RECIPIENT: SCHOOLS FORUM

THIS IS NOT A DECISION PAPER

SUMMARY:

Intervention Fund

At the January 2015 meeting of Schools Forum, a revised figure for the de-delegated Intervention Fund of £100k for 2015/16 was agreed.

It was also agreed that a set of criteria governing the use of this fund should be presented to the next meeting of Schools Forum, given that past use had included a wide variety of support from the full costs of an Interim Executive Board to relatively minor amounts to cover unplanned expenditure.

The purpose of this fund also appeared to be unclear in that it has been described as (and used as) a fund to support both intervention in schools and to support schools in financial difficulties.

Since that meeting, we are also able to report on the projected underspend on this fund in 2014/15 and the possible roll-forward of those funds, amounting to approximately £200k.

Proposals

1. Given that the creation of an IEB is estimated to cost in the region of £70k, the ability to meet this cost needs to be retained as part of the overall funds available. To ear-mark this amount within the agreed 15/16 Intervention Fund, would reduce the balance of that fund to £30k.

It is therefore suggested that an element of the 14/15 underspend is set aside for the specific purpose of resourcing one IEB per year and that this sum continues to be rolled forward if unused.

2. Other intervention support, linked to the outcomes/conclusions of Schools Monitoring Group meetings or the outcome of inspections may also be needed for individual schools. It is assumed that in the first instance an application should be made by one of the teaching schools to enable them to provide this support and if resources cannot be accessed by this way, then this fund could be used to provide additional support in those circumstances.

