

DECISION PAPER

SUBJECT: Secondary Falling Rolls Contingency 2014-15

DATE: 10th July 2013

RECIPIENT: Schools Forum

SUMMARY

This paper considers the introduction of a fallings rolls contingency fund from financial year 2014-15.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Forum:

- i. Decides whether to hold a fund for falling rolls in 2014-15 and if so recommends the method for allocating the funding.

REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Local authorities are required to gain the approval of the Schools Forum to hold any central contingencies in the Schools Block.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

2. There is no alternative option – as the use of DSG is defined in statute.

BACKGROUND and BRIEFING DETAILS:

3. Local authorities may topslice the DSG in order to create a small contingency to support good schools with falling rolls where local planning data show that the surplus places will be needed in the near future:
 - Support is only available to schools judged good or outstanding at their last Ofsted inspection.
 - The falling rolls fund should be restricted to population increases expected in 2-3 years.
 - Local authorities are required to produce criteria on which any falling rolls fund will be allocated.
4. The table below details the projected numbers on roll for secondary schools over the next 5 academic years. As can be seen from this data, most schools will not be seeing significant growth in the next 2 to 3 years.
5. The DfE recommended options for distributing funding are:
 - An amount per vacant place, up to a specified maximum places with the value based on the amount funded per pupil (AWPU).
 - A lump sum payment with clear parameters for calculation (estimated cost of providing an appropriate curriculum or costs equivalent to the number of staff who would otherwise be made redundant)

6. **An amount per vacant place**

This option would allow funding to be targeted to schools with falling rolls on a per pupil basis based on the AWPU. The analysis in **Appendix A** has been calculated on the assumption that schools would qualify if they fall below 75% of net capacity and are good or outstanding at their latest Ofsted inspection. Using this criteria for funding only one school, Chamberlayne Park, would qualify. However the school is not forecast to expand in the next 2 to 3 years.

7. Other options to consider would be to reduce the level of funding. Appendix A shows the allocation that would be made if a rate of 10% of the AWPU is used. This would still target funding on a per pupil basis but reduce the size of the contingency needed.

8. **A Lump sum payment**

A lump sum can be difficult to quantify and the DfE proposed criteria require an understanding of the various cost drivers. This could be time consuming and subjective to calculate and is therefore not recommended.

Appendices/Supporting Information:

Appendix A - Secondary School Falling Rolls Contingency

Further Information Available From:

Name: Chris Tombs

Tel: 023 8083 3785

E-mail: chris.tombs@southampton.gov.uk

DECISION PAPER

Appendix A

Secondary School Falling Rolls Contingency

School Data						Academic year 2013/2014	% of Net Capacity	75% of Net Capacity	Variance to Projected NOR	Secondary AWPU	10% of Secondary AWPU		2014 / 2015	2015 / 2016	2016 / 2017	2017 / 2018
DfEE	School Name	Ofsted Status	Date Inspected	School Net Capacity	NOR Oct 2012	Projected NOR Oct 2013		0.75		£4,131.42	£413.14		Total	Total	Total	Total
4262	Regents Park Community College	Good	Jun-10	942	762	720	76.4%	707	0	£0	£0		716	724	734	750
4264	The Sholing Technology College	Good	Oct-11	1,005	1039	1,037	103.2%	754	0	£0	£0		1,041	1,034	1,037	1,046
4270	Redbridge Community School	Outstanding	Dec-08	1,084	993	974	89.9%	813	0	£0	£0		959	948	948	993
4271	Chamberlayne College for the Arts	Good	Mar-13	1,007	540	473	47.0%	755	282	£1,166,093	£116,609		441	393	372	378
4275	Upper Shirley High School	Good	May-11	750	704	705	94.0%	563	0	£0	£0		693	714	734	785
4278	Bitterne Park School	Outstanding	Mar-06	1,500	1495	1,474	98.3%	1,125	0	£0	£0		1,476	1,497	1,503	1,536
4306	Woodlands Community School	Satisfactory	Nov-09	1,144	642	589	51.5%	858	269	£0	£0		597	597	596	626
4311	Cantell Maths and Computing College	Satisfactory	Feb-12	1,477	884	834	56.5%	1,108	274	£0	£0		829	859	874	937
5415	St George Catholic College	Good	Sep-11	686	526	534	77.8%	515	0	£0	£0		552	571	575	593
5417	St Anne's Catholic School	Good	Feb-12	1,079	1004	984	91.2%	809	0	£0	£0		984	993	1,019	1,048
6905	Oasis Academy Lord's Hill	Satisfactory	Sep-10	900	563	547	60.8%	675	128	£0	£0		562	616	657	707
6906	Oasis Academy Mayfield	Satisfactory	Mar-12	900	616	655	72.8%	675	20	£0	£0		709	765	847	942
	Secondary Total			12,474	9,768	9,526		9,356	973	£1,166,093	£116,609		9,559	9,711	9,896	10,341