

SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL

Schools Forum – 17th November 2021

Report From: Virginia Newsom – Interim Finance Business Partner

STANDING ITEM: LA UPDATE ON DFE/EFA FUNDING

1. DSG Allocations for 2022-23

The current APT model (based on the October 2020 census) gives a school's block budget of £163,807k of which £68,879k is academy recoupment. These amounts are scheduled to be updated in December with data from the October 2021 census details

2. PFI Funding and MFG 2022-23

We have 3 PFI secondary schools with additional PFI premises costs of £738k. Under NFF these costs are not protected in the MFG calculation. As in previous years we will need to insert a technical adjustment in the APT model to disapply PFI costs in order that the PFI schools benefit from MFG protection like every other school.

A compensating 0.4% correction on average to other school balances (including academies) would be required to fund the adjustment.

Vote required from maintained and academy schools to approve a technical adjustment relating to PFI costs for use in the MFG calculation.

3. Trade Union funding

In previous years Schools Forum have agreed for maintained primary schools to allow the budget share to be reduced (de-delegation) for trade union fees. As the amount in this fund has accrued and should be sufficient for a year or so of costs we propose that no de-delegation is made for 2022-23.

Vote required from maintained and primary schools to agree no de-delegation for Trade Union dues in 2022-23.

4. Central in-year Growth Funding 2021/22

A central allowance for growth funding from the 2022/23 Schools Block allocation will be needed for identified growth in schools (maintained and academy) above operational PAN identified from the October 2021 census that met the eligibility criteria in our growth funding policy. Due to lagged funding, this is required to fund the additional pupils for the period Sep 2021 to Mar 2022 for maintained and the Sept 2021/22 academic year for academies. As per DFE guidance the amount will be top sliced from the school's budget allocation to provide a central growth fund. The growth fund policy has not increased the amount payable since 2019, although staff and resources costs have increased due to pay and pension changes. We propose increasing the lump sum

from £56,200 to £66,000 primary and from £72,500 to £88,300 secondary for these changes. The growth amounts are not confirmed until pupil numbers are known.

Vote required from maintained and academy schools to approve this increase.

5. Scheme for Financing Schools.

In the September Schools Forum a revised Scheme for Financing Schools was presented and subsequently sent to all maintained schools for comments. Two comments were received asking for clarification of a couple of points. No objections were received.

Vote required from maintained schools to approve the Revised Scheme for Financing Schools.