

Dear Colleague

LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS' FORUM

I would like to invite you to a meeting of the Leicestershire Schools' Forum to be held on **Monday, 25 September 2017 at 2.00 pm at Beaumanor Hall, Beaumanor Drive, Woodhouse, Leicestershire** with the room being available from **** am/pm.

Please see below for the agenda for the meeting.

Yours sincerely

Karen Brown / Bryn Emerson (Tel. 0116 305 6432)

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AGENDA

<u>Item</u>	<u>Paper</u>
1. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair	
2. Apologies for absence/Substitutions.	
3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 June 2017 (previously circulated) and matters arising.	3
4. 2016/17 Maintained School Balances	4
5. 2018/19 School Funding	5
6. Any other business.	
7. Date of next meeting.	

Monday 4 December 2017

Monday 22 January 2018 (provisional)

Wednesday 28 February 2018

All at 2.00 – 4.00 pm at Beaumanor Hall

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Minutes of a meeting of the Leicestershire Schools' Forum held at Beaumanor Hall on Monday 12 June 2017 at 2.00 pm

Present

Sonia Singleton	Secondary Academies Headteacher
Kath Kelly	Secondary Academies Headteacher
Callum Orr	Secondary Academies Headteacher
Nick Goforth	Secondary Academies Headteacher
Suzanne Uprichard	Secondary Academies Governor / PRU
Steve McDonald	Secondary Academies Governor
Bill Nash	Secondary Maintained Governor
Karen Rixon	Primary Academy Headteacher
Jane McKay	Primary Academy Headteacher
Kathryn McGovern	Primary Academy Headteacher
David Thomas	Primary Academy Governor
Jean Lewis	Primary Academy Governor
Karen Allen	Primary Maintained Headteacher
Heather Hall	Primary Maintained Headteacher
Jo Blackburn	Primary Maintained Headteacher
Michael Wilson	Primary Maintained Governor
Tony Gelsthorpe	Primary Maintained Governor
Ros Hopkins	Special Maintained Headteacher
Chris Davies	Roman Catholic Representative
Graham Bett	DNCC Representative

In attendance

Jenny Lawrence, Finance Business Partner, Corporate Resources
 Ivan Ould, Lead Member, Children and Family Services
 Jane Moore, Assistant Director, Education and Early Help
 David Atterbury, Head of Service, Education Sufficiency
 Sue Wilson, Service Manager, 0-5 Learning
 Martin Turnham, Primary Maintained Headteacher

		Action
1.	Apologies for Absence/Substitutions	
	Apologies for absence were received from Dave Hedley, Mark Mitchley,	

	<p>Stephen Cotton and Catherine Drury.</p> <p>The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p>	
<p>2.</p>	<p>Minutes and Matters Arising</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 9 February 2017 were agreed as a true and accurate record subject to the following amendments:</p> <p><u>Apologies for Absence/Substitutions</u> Heather Sewell should read 'Heather Hall'.</p> <p><u>2017/18 Schools' Budget</u> The fifth paragraph should read "The High Needs transfer is slightly below the estimated £3M at <u>£2.85 million</u>".</p> <p><u>2017/18 Schools' Budget</u> Page 7 – Pupil Premium, second paragraph should read "Mr Ould chaired the recent F40 meeting attended by Nick Gibb, only organisation disagreed with proposals was F40".</p> <p><u>2018/19 Dedicated Schools Grant and Schools National Funding Formula</u> The first paragraph of page 9 should read "Karen Allen commented on high amount allocated to additional factors"</p>	
<p>3.</p>	<p>Membership Update</p> <p>Jenny Lawrence introduced a report which sets out actions arising as a result of current membership reaching their term.</p> <p>Jenny reported that in 2016 there were a number of terms of office coming to an end and a decision was made to extend time expired membership by one year. The Association of Leicestershire Governors was previously used as the route to appoint governor representatives but this did not exist anymore.</p> <p>Jenny asked the Forum members if they wish to be re-elected or would members prefer the current membership to continue. Jenny was unsure as to the future role of the Schools' Forum and could look at an alternative method but was asking members to look at the role of the Forum.</p> <p>Callum Orr made the comment that Nigel Leigh represented the FE sector rather than the wider post-16 sector. Jenny said that there was a statutory seat at Schools' Forum for the post-16 provider but acknowledged this area was wide and varied so difficult to represent all views.</p> <p>Karen Allen commented that there did seem to be a mechanism and suggested groups go back to ask how they wanted to be represented.</p> <p>Tony Gelsthorpe commented that he was no longer representing a</p>	

	<p>maintained school. Michael Wilson confirmed he was no longer a governor so his vacancy would come up.</p> <p>Jean Lewis made the comment that the membership roll forward as it was and make a positive effort to go for new election process and to look at a new pattern of representation.</p> <p>Suzanne Uprichard suggested asking Governor Development Service to pick up the governor elections through their weekly bulletin. Jane Moore agreed that the Governor Development Service would pick up the role of the Association of Leicestershire Governors with regard to governor elections onto the Schools' Forum.</p> <p>Karen Allen commented that there are some issues that need decisions on in the absence of a national formula.</p> <p>Kathryn McGovern commented that it would be helpful to have more information who is representing what area.</p> <p>It was agreed that Jenny would speak to Governor Development Service in terms of governors whose expiry date was end of September 2017. Jenny would also inform LPH and LSH for them to take the necessary actions with their groups to secure the appropriate membership from September 2017.</p>	<p>JL</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Extension of Free Entitlement to Early Education</p> <p>Sue Wilson introduced a report on 'Extension of Free Entitlement to Early Education' which provided an overview of the department's work in the implementation of the extended offer to parents of 30 hours free childcare as required by the Childcare Act 2016.</p> <p>Sue explained that estimates for the number of parents in Leicestershire eligible for the extended offer was between 4,500 and 4,900; 4,700 parents actually called in to the service. The DfE had been impressed with the 82% of take up and the opportunities given by Leicestershire to parents.</p> <p>To ensure Leicestershire was ready to implement the extended offer from 1 April, the Early Learning and Childcare Service developed a clear plan with a number of workstreams as outlined in the report. Sue went through the workstreams and explained the work carried out for each of them.</p> <p>Leicestershire had been approached to become an early implementer and implement the extension in April in advance of the statutory requirement from September and 71% of Leicestershire providers would be prepared to offer additional hours. The DfE has praised the quality of the planning and promotional materials. The implementation of the 30 hours provision was funded by participation funding so there was no new risk to LA funding. In spite of challenging timescales good progress had been made in the early implementation of the extended offer for free early education.</p>	<p>SW</p>

	<p>A Forum representative made the comment that there was a suspicion at one point that schools with pre-schools had been left out. Kathryn McGovern said that the funding would not cover the two year in pre-schools even though recognise the need. Kathryn added that a year ago she had invited business people from Early Years to look at private and school providers working together but had not heard anything. Sue Wilson agreed to follow this issue up.</p>	
5.	<p>High Needs Block Inclusion Project</p> <p>Jane Moore introduced a powerpoint presentation report which provided an overview of the High Needs Block Inclusion Project.</p> <p>Jane reported that by the end of 2016/17 the High Needs block budget was overspent by £2.5M which was a reduction from the projected £3.8M. Jane explained the aim of the High Needs Project and outlined its objectives, some of which had now been completed. However, Jane acknowledged that a lot of this work would take time and the key objective was to make sure it led to a sustainable solution.</p> <p>Jane updated the meeting on the work being carried out against the project's workstreams as outlined in the powerpoint. To help guide SEND development the workstreams were being overseen by a newly established SEND Strategy Board. The Board meets every six weeks and had representatives from key stakeholders.</p> <p>Janet reported that savings had already been made through case reviews of pupils in independent provision at key transition points. Jane commented that progress to date was going really well and detailed some of the training and provision being provided.</p> <p>Jane outlined key project risks in particular the financial position and seeking political approvals to change by Cabinet.</p> <p>Jane commented that a SEND inspection of the local authority was highly likely and the department is in the process of writing a plan to prepare for this. Jane updated the meeting on other SEND developments such as changes to the local offer, work being carried out on short breaks, looking at transition and robust conversations being held with health. There was good news that additional capital funding had been received and would be available for the 2018/19 financial year to help develop local provision.</p> <p>David Atterbury reminded representatives that there had been significantly more capital investment to help develop SEND provision, for example, the £11M allocated to the new building for Birkett House in Wigston opening in September. He also commented that changes had been made to the LA developer contributions policy in order to seek Section 106 funds for SEND provision relative to new housing proposals.</p> <p>Graham Bett enquired if the impact of the new area special school had been assessed yet. Jane commented that every initiative was costed. A significant number of children had been taken out of independent</p>	

	<p>provision and placed elsewhere.</p> <p>David advised that the new school will provide additional places helping to future proof against further demand.</p> <p>A comment was made regarding the importance of cross agency working to access services and funding – to get the high needs spend under control.</p> <p>Suzanne Uprichard referred to ASD SEMH provision on page 24 of the paper and asked if this new area special school would specialise in these two areas. Jane explained that further work was in progress with mainstream schools regarding the development of local provision.</p> <p>David said that it was unfortunate that the main thrust of meeting ASD demand based on the MacIntyre bid for a free school had now been withdrawn by MacIntyre and the local authority is now progressing on smaller solutions in mainstream schools/academies schools but it is not to say there may not be another free school bid which is outside the control of the LA.</p> <p>Kathryn McGovern enquired about our ability to negotiate with independent providers, and suggested working through MATs may offer a more suitable solution. Jane said that this was part of the workstream. Both Callum Orr and Heather Hall emphasised the need for a solution to be found soon to help ease the pressure on schools.</p> <p>Karen Rixon emphasised the need for more expansion at primary level for the ASD issue.</p> <p>Jean Lewis enquired if work on the 19-25 provision had stopped. Jane confirmed it has not disappeared but needs to be considered in the context of post-16 education provision which is likely to be a further workstream for the HNIB project.</p>	
6.	<p>2016/17 School Budget Outturn</p> <p>Jenny Lawrence introduced a report which presented the 2016/17 Schools Budget outturn position and confirms the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Reserve and its intended use.</p> <p>Jenny referred to the table on page 38 which indicated overspends and underspends for both the local authority but that overall the DSG was overspent. There was no information on individual schools' budgets, this was being collected for maintained schools but the authority sees no financial data on academies..</p> <p>Jenny referred to the table in paragraph 9 and explained that the DSG grant reserve position was presented at the last Schools' Forum meeting based on the financial forecast at period 9. The table presents the movement from that position which shows a finished year end of £32,000 which was less than originally thought.</p>	

	<p>Jenny outlined paragraph 11 which showed the challenges faced in terms of the High Needs Block budget and whether the current forecasting method worked. The appendix to the report sets out the volume and unit costs of all High Needs budgets.</p> <p>Discussion took place on the Oakfield Graduated Response offer which helps to reintegrate primary pupils with significant SEMH needs into mainstream provision. Karen Allen commented that this approach had reintegrated children back into mainstream instead of going to high cost placements, as they used to, making a saving of £420,000. The meeting noted the overspend for the Specialist Teaching Service was around placements costs with ASD.</p> <p>Kath Kelly referred to paragraph 12 on page 41 and asked if the savings requirement for the high needs block indicated a significant risk on the schools' budgets taking into consideration no financial contribution from the Council. Jenny commented that it was one of the risks on the County Council's register in terms of threat and likelihood and in terms of the £2M DSG reserves this was a difficult one because the local authority have a statutory responsibility to meet the needs of children and young people with SEND yet the funding was provided through grant which did not reflect needs. Kath asked if the current strategy was robust. Jenny commented that Period 3 would be the next stock take although the first real sight of how robust the strategy was would be once all pupil destinations are known at the beginning of the 2017/18 academic year. Jenny said that any changes would be reported to Members and Schools' Forum. Kath asked Jenny whether mid-year projections were available, Jane added that a lot was not predictable especially around staffing – talking about placements or provision. – welcome the challenge on this.</p> <p>Nick Goforth commented about the low level of funding Leicestershire receives from the Government and the need to lobby for more resources.</p> <p>Discussion took place on the current situation regarding the position of the F40 Group and Mr Ould briefed the meeting on this.</p> <p>Sonia Singleton commented that if funding is taken off AWPU there are going to be headteachers across Leicestershire stressing over their financial situation and academies would be issued with notices to improve by the ESFA.</p> <p>Schools' Forum noted the financial outturn for the 2016/17 Schools Budget (paragraphs 4-8).</p> <p>Schools Forum noted the level of DSG reserve and its deployment (paragraphs 9 – 10).</p>	
7.	<p>2018/19 School Funding</p> <p>Jenny Lawrence introduced a report which sets out the expectations in relation to 2018/19 school funding and 2018/19 school funding formula. The report also sets out a proposed new approach from the local</p>	

	<p>authority to develop strategic financial planning in schools.</p> <p>Jenny reported that it was expected that the Department for Education would introduce a national formula in 2018/19. However giving consideration to the General Election announcement this may halt the process of the national funding formula being introduced, if at all. As a result of this it is therefore necessary for the local authority to set its intentions out in terms of the high needs formula. If there was not a national funding formula in 2018/19 the local authority would address this by proposing no change to the current funding formula.</p> <p>With regard to school strategic financial planning Jenny commented that the nationally projected £1bn gap in school funding would be a cost pressure on schools between 8% and 11%. The local authority would be running a series of conferences in the autumn term to bring together a number of professionals to develop a tool kit. Jenny would obviously keep up to date with developments from the Government and respond accordingly.</p> <p>Kath Kelly asked if there was some movement in terms of school funding allocation if we were to move some of the school funding and what would be the timeline to consult. Jenny was unable to give a definite answer but could explore pushing for any changes in 2017/18 but the challenge would be for proposals for consultation as any change would purely redistribute current funding levels and be restricted by the operation of the Minimum Funding Guarantee and ultimately achieve very little.</p> <p>Nick Goforth said that as a group we should be lobbying the Government to put the group's views across to them. It was agreed at the LSH meeting on 23 June a draft letter to parents from heads outlining the funding issues would be put together. Karen Allen commented that this could also be carried out for primary schools through LPH.</p> <p>Schools' Forum noted and commented on the content of the report.</p>	
8.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>There was no further business.</p>	
9.	<p>Date of Next Meetings</p> <p>Monday 25 September 2017 Monday 4 December 2017 All dates from 2.00 – 4.00 pm at Beaumanor Hall</p>	

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SCHOOLS FORUM

2016/17 Maintained School Balances

25 September 2017

Content Applicable to;		School Phase;	
Maintained Primary and Secondary Schools	X	Pre School	
Academies		Foundation Stage	X
PVI Settings		Primary	X
Special Schools / Academies	X	Secondary	X
Local Authority	X	Post 16	
		High Needs	

Purpose of Report

Content Requires;		By;	
Noting	X	Maintained Primary School Members	X
Decision		Maintained Secondary School Members	X
		Maintained Special School Members	X
		Academy Members	
		All Schools Forum	

1. This report sets out the position in regard to school balances for all schools that were maintained by the local authority on 31 March 2017 and the individual school balances in advance of the national publication by the DfE

Recommendation

2. That Schools Forum note the position on the 2016/17 school balances for local authority maintained schools.

Introduction

3. This report presents the annual position on school balances, it provides that information at individual school level for each school maintained by Leicestershire County Council on March 31st 2017.

4. Whilst local authorities are required to report maintained school balances there is no such requirement for the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) to do the same for academies (concerns have been raised about the lack of visibility of the financial position of academies.) Academies are required however to publish an annual statement of accounts which can be 6 -9 months after the financial year closure. (Different financial years for maintained schools and academies do not allow for easy comparison if additional information were to be made available.)
5. This report relates to 124 (44%) of the 280 schools in Leicestershire This is 51% of primaries, 4% of secondary's, 50% of special school with the addition of 3 maintained nurseries and 1 pupil referral unit.
6. With a large number of academies in Leicestershire, it is not possible for the local authority to undertake an overall financial assessment of all Leicestershire Schools

Background

7. School balances are formally measured by the local authority at the closure of the financial year. Balances are taken from the Consistent Financial Reporting return submitted by individual schools to the local authority, as such the balances are school declared and not local authority calculated.
8. Reporting locally is the first stage of publication of school balance information. Once all school returns are consolidated that information is submitted to the Department for Education (DfE) who subsequently publish that information on a national basis at both local authority and individual school level.
9. Schools Forum agreed at its meeting on 20 June 20 2013 to remove the mechanism for controlling maintained school revenue balances given no such mechanism exists for academies. However national controls remain on Devolved Formula Capital (DFC) which remains limited to use over three years. Unused grant after this period is returned to the DfE.

2016/17 Maintained School Balances

10. The analysis of school balances is shown in Appendix 1. The figures include all schools that were local authority maintained schools for the full financial year i.e. between 1 April 2016 and 31 March 2017.
11. Given the exclusion of balances for converted academies during 2016/17, therefore balances reported here will not match those reported at the end of 2015/16 but do show movement between years.
12. The total level of maintained school balances at 31st March 2017 was £9.7m. This is a decrease of £0.4m from the comparative 2015/16 position of £10.9m. The gross revenue position of £8.5m is a decrease of £1.6m from 2015/16.
13. Generally the position shows reducing revenue balances, only 38 primary schools recorded an increase in revenue balances over this period. Whilst all 3 special schools saw an increase in revenue over this period the general budget performance is skewed as a result of two special schools being midway through deficit recovery plans.

14. Care needs to be taken when analysing school balances as they only show a position at a single point in time. It is the responsibility of the governing body to set a school budget that does not exceed the funding available. The finance team analyse the budget intention returns from schools to identify whether any of the schools currently reporting a surplus expect to move to deficit and if necessary that those schools are operating with an appropriate and agreed deficit recovery plan. The local authority has limited resources and tools to undertake this type of exercise and is fully dependent upon schools sharing accurate and timely information and responding to requests for information.. The local authority is not responsible for monitoring school budgets, that responsibility is delegated to governing bodies.
15. The local authority is working both with schools that have recorded a deficit or are forecasting one for 2017/18. Work is also being undertaken to develop a strategic financial management approach for schools, this has been set out in the autumn term governor briefings and will be presented at a conference organised by Leicestershire Primary Heads in December. Additionally workshops have been arranged for small groups of maintained school headteachers looking at strengthening medium to long term financial planning which may be rolled out further, if successful.
16. Where a maintained school is in a deficit position the local authority will agree a deficit recovery plan that minimises any negative impact on school performance. This may result in a school being in a deficit position for a number of years. In such instances the finance service rigorously monitors the financial position of the school to ensure the actions agreed to reduce expenditure are implemented. This may include a Financial Notice of Concern being issued.

Conclusions

17. Whilst the information in this report is presented to Schools Forum to note, it isn't possible to form any conclusion from it on the financial health of schools in Leicestershire. The data covers less than 50% of schools 18. Balance information is a snapshot in time and as such provides no information on how funding will be deployed or whether resources have been accumulated for particular reasons. A school budget provides the resources to provide for pupils over the period for which it is allocated, however schools should at all times plan over a 3 – 5 year period. Employing effective strategic financial management is essential to ensure effective planning.

Resource Implications

18. Resource implications are included throughout this report.

Equal Opportunity Issues

19. Non arising directly from this report

Background Papers

None

Officer to Contact

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Maintained School Balances 2016/17

School	2015/16 Balance					2016/17 Balance				2016/17 Movement			
	Total Balance b/fwd from 2015-16	B01 B02 Revenue Balance	B03 Devolved Capital Balance	B05 Other Capital Balance	B06 Community Focused Extended School balance	Actual 2016-17 Total Balance	B01 B02 Revenue Balance	B03 B04 Capital Balance	B06 Community Focused Extended School balance	Actual 2016-17 Total Balance	B01 B02 Revenue Balance	B03 B04 Capital Balance	B06 Community Focused Extended School balance
All Saints Church of England Primary School	11,097	11,097	0	0	0	-231,091	-231,092	0	0	-242,188	-242,188	0	0
Croft Church of England Primary School	16,199	-35,487	13,811	0	37,876	12,177	-40,709	7,615	45,272	-4,022	-5,222	-6,196	7,395
Burbage Junior School	276,070	271,473	4,595	0	0	-24,994	-24,996	0	0	-301,064	-296,469	-4,595	0
Desford Community Primary School	32,764	27,000	0	5,765	0	-16,915	-21,832	4,921	0	-49,679	-48,832	-844	0
Long Whatton Church of England Primary School	117	47	70	0	0	-12,436	-12,506	70	0	-12,553	-12,553	0	0
Swannington Church of England Primary School	3,488	2,084	1,403	0	0	-3,987	-9,729	5,741	0	-7,475	-11,813	4,338	0
Kilby St. Mary's Church of England Primary School	-8,315	-8,314	0	0	0	-13,949	-6,037	0	-7,911	-5,634	2,277	0	-7,911
Saint Francis Catholic Primary School, Melton Mowbray	16,344	16,343	0	0	0	-4,768	-4,769	0	0	-21,112	-21,112	0	0
St Botolph's Church of England Primary School	29,979	17,545	12,434	0	0	4,571	1,938	2,633	0	-25,408	-15,606	-9,801	0
Belton Church of England Primary School	62,940	57,993	4,945	0	0	7,518	5,268	2,250	0	-55,422	-52,725	-2,696	0
Heather Primary School	35,229	28,042	7,185	0	0	17,327	5,443	11,882	0	-17,902	-22,599	4,696	0
Claybrooke Primary School	24,587	18,147	6,439	0	0	10,567	7,015	3,551	0	-14,019	-11,132	-2,888	0
St Margaret's Church of England Primary School	20,313	20,314	0	0	0	7,968	7,969	0	0	-12,345	-12,345	0	0
Thurnby, St Luke's Church of England Primary School	56,377	47,793	8,584	0	0	10,612	9,640	973	0	-45,764	-38,153	-7,611	0
Thorpe Acre Infant School	18,754	18,752	0	0	0	10,022	9,942	79	0	-8,731	-8,810	79	0
Swinford Church of England Primary School	-530	-529	0	0	0	11,787	11,788	0	0	12,317	12,316	0	0
Sharnford Church of England Primary School	20,652	20,652	0	0	0	12,052	12,052	0	0	-8,601	-8,600	0	0
Hathern Church of England Primary School	80,057	69,781	10,277	0	0	16,101	12,080	4,022	0	-63,956	-57,700	-6,255	0
Worthington School	49,794	44,756	5,038	0	0	18,735	16,161	2,575	0	-31,058	-28,595	-2,463	0
Blaby Thistly Meadow Primary School	24,304	24,303	0	0	0	17,881	17,117	764	0	-6,422	-7,186	764	0
Harby Church of England Primary School	63,680	50,709	12,972	0	0	31,105	19,213	11,894	0	-32,575	-31,496	-1,078	0
Kegworth Primary School	61,368	61,367	0	0	0	23,481	21,874	1,606	0	-37,887	-39,492	1,606	0
Sherard Primary School & Community Centre	-7,436	-40,941	7,060	0	26,443	39,863	22,129	0	17,734	47,299	63,070	-7,060	-8,709
Breedon on the Hill, St Hardulph's C of E Primary	53,042	53,042	1	0	0	22,153	22,154	1	0	-30,889	-30,888	0	0
South Kilworth Church of England Primary School	104,464	42,993	8,780	46,391	6,299	92,855	23,698	48,993	20,164	-11,608	-19,295	-6,178	13,865
Ellistown Community Primary School	45,481	44,658	823	0	0	35,381	28,861	6,520	0	-10,100	-15,797	5,697	0
Hallaton Church of England Primary School	40,505	39,510	996	0	0	33,698	29,108	4,591	0	-6,807	-10,402	3,595	0
Oxley Primary School, Shepshed	66,284	60,698	5,585	1	0	37,662	30,532	7,130	0	-28,621	-30,166	1,544	0
Buckminster Primary School	49,790	49,788	0	0	0	20,936	30,868	0	-9,933	-28,853	-18,920	0	-9,933
Billesdon Parochial Primary School	37,926	32,359	5,567	0	0	34,633	31,263	3,371	0	-3,293	-1,097	-2,196	0
Hinckley Parks Primary School	294,213	278,246	15,967	0	0	147,617	33,503	114,114	0	-146,596	-244,743	98,147	0
Arnesby Church of England Primary School	32,770	28,141	4,629	0	0	38,685	34,067	4,619	0	5,915	5,926	-10	0
Saint Charles's Catholic Primary School, Measham	41,862	41,862	0	0	0	34,173	34,173	0	0	-7,689	-7,689	0	0
St Denys Church of England Infant School, Ibstock	101,159	82,804	16,587	1,769	0	48,163	35,275	12,889	0	-52,996	-47,529	-5,467	0
Foxton Primary School	41,306	43,541	3,222	0	-5,458	38,546	36,501	8,257	-6,214	-2,760	-7,040	5,035	-756
Snarestone Church of England Primary School	29,247	29,243	0	0	0	37,272	37,269	0	0	8,025	8,026	0	0
Warren Hills Community Primary School	38,606	24,404	14,203	0	0	44,165	38,301	5,865	0	5,559	13,897	-8,337	0
St Peter's Church of England Primary School, Whetstone	39,636	39,636	0	0	0	38,659	38,659	0	0	-977	-977	0	0
Diseworth Church of England Primary School	45,223	43,084	2,140	0	0	38,776	38,777	0	0	-6,448	-4,308	-2,140	0
Thorpe Acre Junior School	32,334	22,303	4,625	5,406	0	54,785	39,280	15,504	0	22,450	16,977	5,474	0
Orchard Church of England Primary School	58,098	56,613	1,485	0	0	46,500	39,415	7,084	0	-11,598	-17,197	5,599	0
St Edwards Church of England Primary School	59,297	54,532	4,764	0	0	40,142	40,139	0	0	-19,155	-14,393	-4,764	0
All Saints Church of England Primary School, Sapcote	108,336	108,336	0	0	0	41,430	41,430	0	0	-66,906	-66,906	0	0
Sheepy Magna Church of England Primary School	34,586	34,586	0	0	0	47,455	42,229	5,226	0	12,869	7,643	5,226	0
Thurlaston Church of England Primary School	39,592	39,592	0	0	0	46,000	46,001	0	0	6,409	6,408	0	0
Griffydham Primary School	63,778	63,777	0	0	0	46,863	46,863	0	0	-16,915	-16,914	0	0
Scalford Church of England Primary School	86,882	77,508	9,374	0	0	54,764	48,500	6,264	0	-32,117	-29,008	-3,110	0
Newton Burgoland Primary School	49,907	49,905	0	0	0	49,613	49,418	193	0	-294	-487	193	0
Dunton Bassett Primary School	70,028	63,554	6,474	0	0	60,761	50,190	10,571	0	-9,266	-13,364	4,096	0
Congerstone Primary School	85,553	77,437	8,117	0	0	56,276	51,186	5,091	0	-29,277	-26,251	-3,026	0
Hemington Primary School	51,531	44,208	7,322	0	0	56,134	51,187	4,946	0	4,603	6,979	-2,376	0
Donisthorpe Primary School	80,038	80,036	0	0	0	51,245	51,243	1	0	-28,792	-28,793	1	0
Woodland Grange Primary School, Oadby	169,984	169,984	0	0	0	156,407	51,924	104,483	0	-13,577	-118,060	104,483	0
Newbold Church of England Primary School	70,552	62,041	8,510	0	0	60,895	53,426	7,468	0	-9,658	-8,616	-1,042	0

Maintained School Balances 2016/17

School	2015/16 Balance					2016/17 Balance				2016/17 Movement			
	Total Balance b/fwd from 2015-16	B01 B02 Revenue Balance	B03 Devolved Capital Balance	B05 Other Capital Balance	B06 Community Focused Extended School balance	Actual 2016-17 Total Balance	B01 B02 Revenue Balance	B03 B04 Capital Balance	B06 Community Focused Extended School balance	Actual 2016-17 Total Balance	B01 B02 Revenue Balance	B03 B04 Capital Balance	B06 Community Focused Extended School balance
Great Glen St Cuthbert's Church of England Primary	66,887	66,887	0	0	0	56,540	53,850	2,689	0	-10,348	-13,037	2,689	0
Martinshaw Primary School, Groby	71,319	71,320	0	0	0	60,344	54,173	6,171	0	-10,975	-17,146	6,171	0
St Mary's Church of England Primary School Bitteswell	139,002	132,503	0	6,500	0	58,095	58,096	0	0	-80,908	-74,407	-6,500	0
Greenfield Primary School	57,037	55,240	1,798	0	0	69,670	59,836	9,831	0	12,633	4,596	8,033	0
Church Langton Church of England Primary School	40,943	40,942	0	0	0	61,863	61,862	0	0	20,920	20,920	0	0
Thythorn Field Community Primary School	47,003	40,068	6,934	0	0	67,296	62,002	5,294	0	20,294	21,933	-1,640	0
Burton on the Wolds Primary School	120,071	111,058	9,013	0	0	65,595	65,596	0	0	-54,476	-45,462	-9,013	0
Stathern Primary School	92,374	90,473	1,899	0	0	73,169	66,392	6,777	0	-19,205	-24,081	4,878	0
Witherley Church of England Primary School	82,759	72,743	10,017	0	0	76,246	66,780	9,467	0	-6,513	-5,962	-550	0
All Saints Church of England Primary School, Coalville	143,852	137,860	5,991	0	0	76,054	70,063	5,991	0	-67,798	-67,798	0	0
Ravenhurst Primary School	144,124	129,020	15,104	0	0	92,390	71,126	21,264	0	-51,734	-57,894	6,160	0
Ullesthorpe Church of England Primary School	52,945	48,705	4,239	0	0	72,760	72,760	0	0	19,815	24,055	-4,239	0
Long Clawson Church of England Primary School	118,699	103,495	15,205	0	0	74,573	74,574	0	0	-44,125	-28,922	-15,205	0
Swithland St Leonard's Church of England Primary School	94,301	81,513	12,789	0	0	86,843	76,593	10,250	0	-7,459	-4,920	-2,539	0
Dove Bank Primary School Nailstone	101,705	89,326	12,381	0	0	86,869	78,514	8,357	0	-14,836	-10,812	-4,024	0
Little Bowden School	63,362	46,972	0	16,392	0	95,493	80,605	14,889	0	32,130	33,633	-1,503	0
Burbage Church of England Infant School	114,582	113,845	736	0	0	81,722	81,721	0	0	-32,860	-32,124	-736	0
Woodhouse Eaves, St Paul's Church of England Primary	64,672	64,210	462	0	0	88,797	81,973	6,824	0	24,125	17,762	6,363	0
Water Leys Primary School	115,193	98,980	16,213	0	0	104,132	84,925	19,207	0	-11,061	-14,055	2,994	0
Packington Church of England Primary School	52,238	41,942	10,297	0	0	91,318	85,298	6,022	0	39,080	43,356	-4,275	0
Houghton on the Hill Church of England Primary School	66,469	55,787	10,682	0	0	90,705	88,571	2,134	0	24,236	32,784	-8,548	0
Sir John Moore Church of England Primary School	73,927	73,927	0	0	0	91,582	91,582	0	0	17,655	17,655	0	0
The Latimer School, Anstey	110,961	105,294	5,669	0	0	97,796	92,131	5,668	0	-13,164	-13,163	-1	0
John Wycliffe Primary School	66,937	62,998	3,940	0	0	100,735	92,431	8,304	0	33,797	29,433	4,364	0
Wymeswold Church of England Primary School	72,123	66,706	0	5,418	0	104,058	93,042	11,016	0	31,934	26,336	5,598	0
Highgate Community Primary School	91,886	85,794	1,602	4,491	0	106,750	102,399	4,350	0	14,863	16,605	-1,743	0
Blackfordby, St Margaret's C of E Primary School	74,842	74,843	0	0	0	105,938	105,939	0	0	31,096	31,097	0	0
Sherrier Church of England Primary School	113,021	102,404	50	10,565	0	122,242	105,989	16,254	0	9,221	3,585	5,638	0
Ibstock Junior School and Special Unit	108,166	108,168	0	0	0	110,859	110,855	0	0	2,694	2,687	0	0
Bishop Ellis Catholic Primary School, Thurmaston	96,301	96,302	0	0	0	112,119	112,120	0	0	15,818	15,819	0	0
St Mary's Church of England Primary School, Hinckley	166,935	165,317	1,618	0	0	123,416	121,005	2,412	0	-43,519	-44,312	794	0
Old Mill Primary School, Broughton Astley	180,540	168,426	12,115	0	0	130,579	122,147	8,433	0	-49,961	-46,279	-3,683	0
Fleckney Church of England Primary School	129,920	129,919	0	0	0	123,516	122,315	1,200	0	-6,404	-7,604	1,200	0
Elizabeth Woodville Primary School	124,820	110,766	14,055	0	0	122,494	122,494	0	0	-2,327	11,729	-14,055	0
Booth Wood Primary School	169,564	169,566	0	0	0	126,539	126,541	0	0	-43,025	-43,024	0	0
Westfield Infant School, Hinckley	153,698	153,699	0	0	0	127,682	127,681	0	0	-26,016	-26,018	0	0
Barwell Infant School	113,588	113,588	0	0	0	128,149	128,149	0	0	14,561	14,561	0	0
Cossington Church of England Primary School	107,708	97,773	9,935	0	0	137,052	128,659	8,394	0	29,344	30,886	-1,541	0
Moira Infant School	138,409	132,445	5,964	0	0	129,446	129,447	0	0	-8,962	-2,998	-5,964	0
Ashby de la Zouch Church of England Primary School	139,640	130,846	8,794	0	0	140,534	130,174	10,360	0	894	-672	1,566	0
Manorfield Church of England Primary School	147,325	147,326	0	0	0	135,708	133,233	2,476	0	-11,617	-14,093	2,476	0
Kingsway Primary School	143,207	137,146	6,061	0	0	144,646	134,184	10,462	0	1,439	-2,962	4,401	0
Badgerbrook Primary School	163,048	158,634	4,417	0	0	140,277	134,922	5,358	0	-22,771	-23,712	941	0
Richard Hill Church of England Primary School	124,073	124,072	0	0	0	136,157	136,157	0	0	12,084	12,084	0	0
New Swannington Primary School	158,994	146,228	12,766	0	0	149,643	140,657	8,987	0	-9,351	-5,571	-3,779	0
Whitwick, St John The Baptist Church of England Primary	74,406	74,405	0	0	0	150,209	147,599	2,609	0	75,803	73,194	2,609	0
Woodcote Primary School	169,446	156,483	12,964	0	0	166,348	148,811	17,538	0	-3,098	-7,672	4,574	0
Woodstone Primary School	156,062	146,904	9,158	0	0	163,703	160,335	3,368	0	7,641	13,431	-5,790	0
Hose Church of England Primary School	125,812	124,028	1,784	0	0	170,201	163,753	6,448	0	44,389	39,725	4,664	0
Barwell Newlands Community Primary School	182,940	175,914	6,903	123	0	170,950	164,012	6,936	0	-11,990	-11,902	-90	0
Orchard Community Primary School	137,544	119,926	17,619	0	0	183,630	164,445	19,185	0	46,086	44,520	1,566	0
Saint Peter's Catholic Primary School, Earl Shilton	192,149	192,149	0	0	0	176,793	176,793	0	0	-15,356	-15,356	0	0
St Bartholomew's Church of England Primary School	242,108	232,270	9,839	0	0	187,351	180,214	7,138	0	-54,757	-52,056	-2,701	0
Hugglescote Community Primary School	202,318	185,098	17,221	0	0	210,621	196,335	14,286	0	8,303	11,237	-2,935	0

Maintained School Balances 2016/17

School	2015/16 Balance					2016/17 Balance				2016/17 Movement			
	Total Balance b/fwd from 2015-16	B01 B02 Revenue Balance	B03 Devolved Capital Balance	B05 Other Capital Balance	B06 Community Focused Extended School balance	Actual 2016-17 Total Balance	B01 B02 Revenue Balance	B03 B04 Capital Balance	B06 Community Focused Extended School balance	Actual 2016-17 Total Balance	B01 B02 Revenue Balance	B03 B04 Capital Balance	B06 Community Focused Extended School balance
Sketchley Hill Primary School	192,878	189,008	3,870	0	0	212,190	199,820	12,371	0	19,312	10,812	8,501	0
Belvoirdale Community Primary School	231,588	229,706	1,881	0	0	279,142	269,547	9,595	0	47,554	39,841	7,714	0
Westfield Junior School	348,726	345,815	14,987	0	-12,077	252,179	277,657	0	-25,479	-96,547	-68,158	-14,987	-13,402
Newbold Verdon Primary School	291,174	283,003	0	0	8,171	293,015	278,414	6,430	8,171	1,841	-4,589	6,430	0
The Hall School	330,252	312,121	17,585	545	0	344,572	324,205	20,366	0	14,320	12,084	2,236	0
Blaby Stokes Church of England Primary School	531,002	523,043	7,960	0	0	327,141	327,142	0	0	-203,861	-195,900	-7,960	0
Brookside School	401,075	382,105	18,971	0	0	738,970	488,594	250,376	0	337,895	106,489	231,405	0
Primary Total	11,638,493	10,888,404	585,473	103,366	61,254	10,161,684	9,060,640	1,059,242	41,803	-1,476,809	-1,827,764	370,402	-19,451
Shepshed High School	-95,278	-99,214	4,242	0	-305	-261,389	-263,046	249	1,409	-166,112	-163,832	-3,993	1,714
Hind Leys Community College	-251,096	-259,588	2,802	0	5,694	-549,018	-572,872	238	23,619	-297,922	-313,284	-2,564	17,924
Secondary Total	-346,373	-358,802	7,043	0	5,389	-810,407	-835,918	487	25,028	-464,034	-477,116	-6,556	19,638
Maplewell Hall School	-361,765	-363,981	0	2,217	0	-113,884	-119,156	5,274	0	247,881	244,824	3,056	0
Melton Birch Wood	-284,468	-284,468	0	0	0	-10,972	-10,968	0	0	273,496	273,500	0	0
Wigston Menphys Centre	-13,021	-13,021	0	0	0	1,054	1,054	0	0	14,075	14,075	0	0
Sketchley Hill Menphys Nursery	41,927	41,927	0	0	0	73,192	73,192	0	0	31,265	31,265	0	0
Ashmount School	201,848	201,846	0	0	0	344,047	340,827	3,219	0	142,199	138,981	3,219	0
Special Total	-415,479	-417,696	0	2,217	0	293,437	284,949	8,492	0	708,916	702,645	6,275	0
Countesthorpe Nursery	52,696	52,601	95	0	0	48,092	48,098	0	0	-4,604	-4,503	-95	0
Oakfield	-10,077	-24,237	14,160	0	0	11,449	-6,913	18,363	0	21,526	17,324	4,203	0
										0	0	0	0
Total All Schools	10,919,260	10,140,269	606,772	105,584	66,643	9,704,255	8,550,856	1,086,584	66,830	-1,215,005	-1,589,414	374,228	187

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SCHOOLS FORUM

2018-19 School Funding

25 September 2017

Content Applicable to;		School Phase;	
Maintained Primary and Secondary Schools	X	Pre School	
Academies	X	Foundation Stage	X
PVI Settings		Primary	X
Special Schools / Academies		Secondary	X
Local Authority	X	Post 16	
		High Needs	

Purpose of Report

Content Requires;		By;	
Noting	X	Maintained Primary School Members	X
Decision		Maintained Secondary School Members	X
		Maintained Special School Members	
		Academy Members	X
		All Schools Forum	

1. This report sets out a high level analysis of Department for Education's (DfE) announcement on the introduction of the National Funding Formula (NFF) and the local authorities approach to its implementation.

Recommendations

2. That Schools Forum note the high level analysis of the implications arising from the introduction of the National Funding Formula.
3. That Schools Forum support the approach to be taken by Leicestershire County Council to 2018-19 school funding as set out in this report.

Background

4. The DfE consulted on the introduction of a National Funding Formula (NFF) for schools in December 2016, to which the local authority responded in March 2017. The DfE formally responded to the consultation on September 2017
5. An announcement in July confirmed that the NFF will be introduced in 2018/19 and there would be additional funding to help achieve the change. Operational guidance on its implementation was issued to local authorities at the same time
6. The Secretary of State announced the detail of the NFF and the formal response to the December consultation on September 15, this included 'notional' calculations of its impact for individual schools. NOTE – at the time of writing this report the dataset supporting the notional budget allocations had not been issued and the local authority has not been able to verify either the 2016/17 baselines or the notional calculations.
7. The timeline is challenging, in order to achieve a mid-January submission of the 2018-19 school funding formula set by the DfE it is necessary to construct a formula for consultation in order to present options to the County Councils' Cabinet for decision on 9 January 2018. This means that the final proposals need to be agreed by the end of November which is an exceptionally challenging timescale.

2018/19 School Funding

8. The DfE have confirmed that for 2018/19 and 2019/20 a 'soft' NFF will be introduced. This means that the Schools Block of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) will be calculated at individual school level with reference to the pupil characteristics recorded on the October 2017 school census to which the value of the 2017/18 school led factors will be added to generate the Schools Block DSG. Local Authorities will then apply a locally agreed funding formula to generate budgets for individual schools and academies therefore it is important to note that the 'notional' figures issued by the DfE will not be the budgets issued to schools. A decision on a 'hard' formula and the level of school funding for 2020/21 will be taken as part of the 2020/21 Comprehensive Spending Review.
9. The September announcement sets out an unchanged structure for the NFF from that set out in December. Some changes have been made to the values originally announced in the consultation;
 - Increases to the value of the Age Weighted Pupil Units (AWPU)
 - A minimum per-pupil funding level of £4,800 for pupils at KS4 , £4,200 for pupils at Key Stage 3, £3,500 for primary schools in 2019/20. Transitional amounts 2018/19 are £4,600, £4,000 and £3,300 respectively in 2018/19
 - All schools will receive a minimum increase of 0.5% per pupil in 2018/19 and 1% in 2019/20 compared to their 2016/17 baseline.
 - An increase to the IDACI funding unit for Band C
 - The gains cap has been raised to 3% in 2019/20.

10. There has been no movement in the basic principle that the NFF should focus on pupil led funding. The lump sum value of £110,000 remains and is set at this level for both primary and secondary schools.
11. The technical guidance on the operation of gains and losses from the introduction of the formula has not been issued. The headlines within the September announcement is that schools will be able to gain 3% per pupil in 2018/19 and a further 3% per pupil in 2019/20. The operation of the Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) is unclear, the July announcement included a statement that this would be locally set between a range of 0% and minus 1.5% per pupil.
12. The September announcement sets out further, that for a number of schools with low pupil-led baselines that would be disadvantaged through the 3% cap methodology, for these schools gains will be limited to '*the greater of 3% of a schools baseline or 20% of their remaining formula cash gains*'. It also states that the minimum per-pupil amounts will not be subject to the cap on gains. Without the technical guidance it is impossible to determine how this will work in practice and what the implications for schools will be.
13. Understanding how gains and MFG work in practice is essential to developing the formula. The notional calculations set out by the DfE are not the budget schools will receive but are an indication of the level of funding generated within the Schools Block DSG. MFG will be required to moderate these levels of funding for specific circumstances in Leicestershire, the cost of which will need to be met from within the total Schools Block DSG:
 - School Led Factors – these are allocated on the basis of 2017/18 costs and include funding for school rate bills. Rate revaluations are common and often go back a number of years, rarely do the costs decrease, additionally there are additional costs as the cost multiplier increase and national reassessments of rateable values are completed annually.
 - Age Range Changes – it is not expected that any further movement in school undertaking age range changes will occur in 2018/19. However reassessment of pupil numbers in schools affected in 2017/18 will be required and may result in a net cost to DSG.
 - School Growth – the basic needs for school places continues to grow particularly in the primary sector. Since September 2016 two new schools have opened, additionally there have been significant developments and additional places at further schools. To operate successfully these schools have, and will continue to, be funded for what are significant enlargements to capacity for which no additional funding is allocated to the local authority.

Schools Block Transfers

14. Under the 2018/19 arrangements Local authorities are able, subject to the necessary approvals, to transfer 0.5% of total DSG from the Schools Block (estimated to be £1.8m). In 2017/18 It was possible to transfer £2.85m from Schools to High Needs in 2017/18 without reducing the 2016/17 funding rates for schools due to the fact that as headroom was available in the settlement as;

a) DSG was based on a single unit of funding for all pupils

- b) The 2017/18 Leicestershire formula funds primary schools at a lessor rate than the unit of funding, and
 - c) Demographic growth has been at primary level
15. For the NFF a single unit of funding is attached to each pupil characteristic including differential AWPU rates. There will therefore be no headroom if Leicestershire replicated the NFF within its funding formula.
 16. Local authorities are required to consult with schools and seek approval from the Schools Forum in order to achieve any transfer, local authorities can seek adjudication from the Secretary of State if permission is not granted. Any such approval would be for one year only and would need to be submitted to the DfE by the end of November. No such transfer is being considered.

The Local Authority Approach

17. Following the July announcement the local authority established a schools formula working group consisting of three headteachers and three business managers nominated by both LPH and LSH, in addition two Schools Forum representatives were self-nominated. The group met on 7 September before the detailed NFF announcement.
18. The meeting set out the expectations for the NFF, sought to gain early views from schools on some of the options available but also to set out constraints and limitations of what was possible given the extremely challenging timescale.
19. No modelling of formula options was completed for the meeting, however the potential issues which would need to be explored through modelling the formula were explored and which will require consideration in setting out a Leicestershire approach;
 - 1) Lump Sum – Leicestershire chose to deliver a higher than average lump sum, the reduction of £40,000 to £110,000 within the NFF will leave a number of schools with an increased financial viability risk. Whilst there is no overall reduction in funding for these schools, 120 (54%) of primary schools receive the minimum increase in funding and will be a real terms funding decrease irrespective of the headlines seen in the media and leaves schools vulnerable to future changes in levels of protection past the two years of the new settlement.
The DfE consistently refer to the use of the Sparsity factor in school funding as offsetting any impact of a lump sum reduction, this is not correct. Only 18 schools in Leicestershire qualify for sparsity funding, and attract £306,000 in sparsity against a loss of £720,000 in the lump sum. All schools would lose £40,000 in lump sum, the maximum gain in sparsity for the 17 primary schools is £25,000 and £65,000 for the eligible secondary school
 - 2) Deprivation – the focus for funding in the current formula is IDACI, which was a conscious decision in 2013 to avoid overfunding of Free Schools meals (FSM) given that the Pupil Premium is funded in this manner.

Both these issues affect primary schools to a greater extent than secondary and may be areas where Leicestershire may wish to diverge from the NFF and / or wish to see

differential approaches pertinent to particular school phase issues where DfE where national guidance allows.

20. There are also elements in the NFF that are not currently used within the current funding formula i.e. English as an Additional Language, Sparsity, Ever 6 Free School Meals. Funding in these areas could help address the issues set out in paragraph 13 with regard to affordability.
21. There are three high level options for 2018/19 school funding;
 - a) Retain the current school funding formula and target additional funding at areas where the Leicestershire formula is out of line with the NFF, any such output however could be expected to be close in structure to the NFF.
 - b) Introduce a totally new and unique funding formula with no reference to the NFF, the timetable set out by the DfE make this exceptionally difficult to deliver.
 - c) Align the 2018/19 school funding formula as close to the NFF as possible, this is possible within the timeline set out by the DfE. Any divergence from the NFF would need to address the funding issues set out with paragraph 12 and would allow for the issues set out in paragraph 18 to be considered. This may result in considering issues specifically for each school sector and differentiating approaches within a given set of principles.
22. Leicestershire County Council is committed to ensuring that its schools are protected as much from funding changes as it is able. The soft approach allows for some local flexibility and once the detailed calculations have been completed we will be better informed as to which of the above approaches will prove the most beneficial to Leicestershire schools and which we will be looking to adopt. There are no intentions to seek any transfers into the High Needs Block.
23. The decision on the 2018/19 school funding formula is vested in the County Councils' Cabinet following consultation with Schools and the Schools Forum. The challenging timetable will require compromises between the time taken to model options and that for consultation. It is important that Schools Forum members engage in open dialogue with schools to ensure they are aware of the changes in school funding in 2018/19 and its implications.
24. A further issue to note is that the approval held to adjust pupil numbers for changes in schools undertaking or affected by age range changes will expire and further approval will be needed for 2018/19. 2018/19 approval will be sought using the current scheme and wording.

Next Steps

25. The 2017/18 baselines are being established within a formula model, this will allow more detailed modelling on options to be undertaken, particularly with relation to deprivation funding and the lump sum. This will determine the optimum solution for Leicestershire schools within the constraints set out by the DfE.

26. A second meeting of the school formula working group had been arranged for 5 October which will allow any initial thoughts from schools to be considered, a third meeting will take place at the end of October to allow more detailed models to be considered and the consultation defined. Consultation is scheduled to be undertaken through November.
27. Schools Forum will be asked to consider the consultation in early November, and a further meeting will be arranged, and will receive the consultation outcome at its meeting on 4 December.

Resource Implications

28. Undertaking the necessary work and achieving a change to the formula will be a challenge and will absorb significant amounts of time for all those involved in the process.
29. The impact will be different for each school, it can be seen that 120 primary schools will be subject to the lowest increase in funding which will be real terms reduction in spending power over the next two years. Whilst additional funding is to be welcomed it is of insufficient quantity to deliver a resolution to the difficult financial positions reported by a number of schools and academies across Leicestershire.
30. The NFF is supported by additional funding found within the DfE's own departmental budget, it is unclear at this point whether this will impact upon grants other than DSG for both the local authority and / or schools.

Equal Opportunity Issues

31. Detailed modelling of 2018/19 options will identify any equality issues, the DfE proposals are supported by a comprehensive Equalities Impact Assessment.

Background Papers

DfE Announcement on 2018/19 School Funding

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-funding-formula-for-schools-and-high-needs>

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