

CABINET

25 OCTOBER 2016

PROVISIONAL FUNDING FORMULA FOR MAINSTREAM SCHOOLS AND ACADEMIES 2017-2018

ADDENDUM REPORT

Portfolio Holders:	Councillor Andrew Mackness, Children's Services (Lead Member) Councillor Martin Potter, Educational Attainment and Improvement
Report from:	Ian Sutherland, Interim Director of Children and Adults Services
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Summary

This addendum report sets out the outcome of discussion at the Schools Forum meeting on 17 October 2016.

1. Background

- 1.1 Funding for schools and academies is provided by central government in the form of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). The DSG is ring-fenced and regulations prevent the DSG being spent on anything other than schools or academies.
- 1.2 The government's Schools Funding 2017-18: Operational Guide paper outlines the schools' and academies' funding arrangements for the 2017-18 financial year and the Schools Forum's part in these arrangements.
- 1.3 The Schools Forum met on 17 October 2016, to discuss the schools' and academies' responses to the four funding formula proposals and to agree a set of recommendations to the Cabinet for consideration and approval on 25 October 2016.

2. Recommendations from the Schools Forum

- 2.1 At their meeting on 17 October 2016 the Schools Forum recommended to Cabinet to implement the following recommendations relating to the 2017-18 schools and academies funding formula as follows:

- To implement a new Medway schools and academies funding formula from April 2017 as outlined by option 4 (set out in paragraph 3.2 of the main Cabinet report).
- To continue with the current 1.5% cap on school and academy gains.
- In order to balance the funding formula allocation back to the actual funding received, the local authority should adjust the basic entitlement, deprivation, prior attainment and lump sum factors (set out in paragraphs 3.4 & 3.5 of the main Cabinet report.)

3. Chief Finance Officer's comments

- 3.1 The Cabinet report refers to the anticipated recommendations in paragraph 4.2 of the main report.
- 3.2 The Schools Forum's actual recommendations to Cabinet are set out in paragraph 2.1 above and are essentially the same recommendations as those outlined in paragraph 4.2 of the main Cabinet report but with slight rewording adjustments.

4. Revised recommendation for Cabinet

- 4.1 The Cabinet is asked to instruct officers to implement the 2017/18 schools funding formula on the basis set out in paragraph 2.1 of the addendum report.

Lead officer contact

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