

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**Decision Report**

Decision Maker:	Executive Lead Member for Children's Services and Deputy Leader
Date of Decision:	22 October 2014
Decision Title:	School Funding Formula 2015/16
Decision Reference:	6046
Report From:	Director of Corporate Resources and Director of Children's Services

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1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. The purpose of this paper is to seek approval for changes to the funding formula for primary and secondary schools (including academies). This formula has to be agreed by 31 October 2014 and will apply to funding arrangements in 2015/16.

2. Contextual Information

- 2.1. In March 2012 the Department for Education (DfE) published "Next Steps towards a fairer system". This detailed their proposals for a new national approach to school revenue funding for implementation in financial year 2013/14. Following the consultation on this document the DfE published the outcomes in its document "School funding reform: Arrangements for 2013-14", which set out how the arrangements should work. The DfE also published operational guidance for local authorities.
- 2.2. On 23 October 2012 the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services approved the new Hampshire schools funding formula, which came into effect on 1 April 2013. Further changes to the formula were applied in 2014/15 following a review by the Department for Education (DfE).
- 2.3. The DfE has made only minor changes to the formula that will apply from 2015/16, for which there is a deadline of 31 October 2014 for local authorities to agree the formula for primary and secondary schools (including academies). At its meeting on 22 October 2014

Schools Forum will be asked to agree local revisions to the formula in accordance with the DfE requirements. Appendix 1 is the report being submitted to Schools Forum on 22 October 2014, which provides more detail about the new requirements and proposed changes to the local formula, following consultation.

- 2.4. The main schools funding comes via the Dedicated Schools Grant, which consists of three notional block allocations:
 - Schools Block
 - Early Years Block
 - High Needs Block
- 2.5. There will be minor changes to the Single Early Years Funding Formula. Also, the High Needs element of the funding, which relates primarily to Special Schools, Schools with resourced provision and Education Centres, will be subject to minor changes. These will be subject to separate Schools Forum consideration and do not require any other formal approval.
- 2.6. Values to be applied to the formula will be determined in January 2015 when the 2015/16 budget settlement is known and final data adjustments are made. However, Schools Forum will receive an update on progress at its meeting in December 2014.

3. Recommendation

- 3.1. Approve the schools funding formula for 2015/16 as set out in the report at Appendix 1.

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:**Links to the Corporate Strategy**

Hampshire safer and more secure for all:	Yes
Corporate Business plan link number (if appropriate):	
Maximising well-being:	Yes
Corporate Business plan link number (if appropriate):	
Enhancing our quality of place:	Yes
Corporate Business plan link number (if appropriate):	

Other Significant Links

Links to previous Member decisions:		
	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Date</u>
School Funding Reform - Schools and Early Years Funding Formulae 2013/14	4362	23 October 2012
School Funding Formula 2014/15	5171	24 October 2013
Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives		
<u>Title (DfE/EFA publications)</u>		<u>Date</u>
School funding reform: Next steps towards a fairer system		March 2012
School funding reform: Arrangements for 2013-14		July 2012
2014-15 Revenue Funding Arrangements: Operational information for local authorities (Education Funding Agency)		July 2013
Fairer schools funding: Arrangements for 2015 to 2016		July 2014
Schools revenue funding 2015 to 2016		July 2014

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

DocumentLocation

None

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

1 Equalities Impact Assessment:

1.1 The Department for Education has published an Equality Impact assessment relating to the two key publications – “School funding reform: Next Steps towards a fairer system” and “School funding reform: Arrangements for 2013-14”, which have determined how local authorities should implement the school funding reform. The department has consulted widely and the proposals reflect the outcomes of those consultations.

1.2 There are no equality and diversity objectives that are considered to be adversely affected by any proposals in this report.

2 Impact on Crime and Disorder:

2.1 The County Council has a legal obligation under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to consider the impact of all the decisions it makes on the prevention of crime.

2.2 The proposals in this report have no proven impact on the prevention of crime.

3 Climate Change:

a. How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption?

No impact

b. How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts?

No impact