

Single Member Cabinet Decision

**Executive
Forward Plan
Reference**

E2587

School Funding Formula Changes

Decision maker/s	Cllr Dine Romero, Cabinet Member for Early Years, Children, and Youth Cllr Paul Crossley, Leader of the Council
The Issue	To change the funding formula for schools following guidance from the DFE
Decision Date	15/10/2013
The decision	The Cabinet Member agrees that <ol style="list-style-type: none">1 To keep the Lump sum allocation unchanged from 2013-14 at £115,6422 To not take the opportunity of introducing a sparsity factor in 2014-153 To introduce a mobility factor of £500 per qualifying pupil (above the DFE threshold) with the per pupil entitlement factor being reduced to support the allocation4 To increase the allocation for schools taking in above average numbers of pupils with statements of SEN to £6000 per pupil above the sector average as described in option 1 of the consultation paper.
Rationale for decision	Following consultation and discussion through working groups of Head Teachers and School Business Managers, a proposal to amend the funding formula was established. The proposal was modelled from the optional modifications allowed by the DFE in the School Funding Regulations. The schools forum approved the proposals as it was their intention to limit the changes to aid transparency and limit the impact on individual schools ahead of a proposed National Funding Formula.
Financial and budget implications	This amends the resources to be allocated to schools from the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). The decisions do not have any financial implications for the council, but may have implications for individual schools. Schools affected may as a result need to make staff reductions which could impact on council finances. The impact on individual schools will be limited by the governments Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) that limits the impact on individual schools to a 1.5% reduction per pupil. This MFG will limit the impact on the need for redundancies at any school

Issues considered	Social Inclusion; Human Resources; Young People; Equality (age, race, disability, religion/belief, gender, sexual orientation);
Consultation undertaken	Ward Councillor; Cabinet colleagues; Trades Unions; Other B&NES Services; Service Users; Section 151 Finance Officer; Chief Executive; Monitoring Officer
How consultation was carried out	Written consultation with all schools was undertaken, along with specific briefing sessions for Primary Council and Schools Forum
Other options considered	<p>The working group considered a multitude of options in relation to the possibilities of the new funding regulations. In particular they considered the options available in relation to the Lump Sum allocations to schools, the introduction of a sparsity factor, and a mobility factor.</p> <p>Under the Targeted Support of Nigh Needs Pupils funding the Working group considered various options to deliver additional support to schools with higher numbers of pupils with statements of SEN. The group considered various methodologies and funding values before choosing to recommend the options in the consultation document.</p>

Signatures of Decision Makers	
Date of Signature	

Subject to Call-in until 5 Working days have elapsed following publication of the decision