

Single Member Cabinet Decision**Executive
Forward Plan
Reference**

E3019

Schools Funding Formula

Decision maker/s	Cllr Paul May Cabinet Member for Children and Young People
The Issue	To decide on the funding formula to be utilised for the 2018-19 financial year
Decision Date	23rd December 2017
The decision	<p>The Cabinet Member agrees that the implementation of the new National Funding Formula (NFF) methodology is adopted from the 2018-19 financial year.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member agrees to ensure that all schools receive 0.5% increase per pupil as a minimum</p>
Rationale for decision	<p>Following full consultation with schools and consideration of the responses and further analysis of the impact on individual and groups of schools it is felt that adopting the NFF as the funding methodology would have the greatest impact for the majority of schools.</p> <p>The impact for schools is that all schools will see an increase in budget with a minimum funding guarantee of 0.5% increase per pupil. Some schools will see an increase of over 10% as historical low funding levels are reversed by the introduction of the NFF.</p> <p>Some schools would prefer the LA retain its original funding mechanism as this would provide them with more resource at the expense of the other schools, and whilst some schools in our most deprived wards would benefit from the local formula being retained analysis of funding levels shows that these schools will continue to be the highest funded schools in the LA despite a smaller increase under the NFF than the Local formula.</p> <p>The use of the National Funding Formula will provide additional resources to 82% of primary pupils and 60% of secondary pupils compared to the use of the Local Formula.</p>
Financial and budget implications	<p>Overall the funding increase that schools will receive is £3.68m with an average increase of 3.87%. The schools through the consultation process (and in line with financial regulations) have agreed to support the pressures that exist in the High Needs budget to the extent of 0.5% (£494k).</p> <p>This decision will agree the methodology of allocating the remaining funds to the schools.</p>
Issues considered (these are covered in more detail in the report)	Social Inclusion; Young People;

Consultation undertaken	Cabinet colleagues; Trades Unions; Overview & Scrutiny Panel; Other B&NES Services; Stakeholders/Partners; Other Public Sector Bodies;; Section 151 Finance Officer; Chief Executive; Monitoring Officer
How consultation was carried out	A full formal consultation with schools was carried out during October and November, in line with guidance from the DFE. A briefing for schools was conducted on the 31 st October 2017 so that schools could gain a greater understanding of the implications of the possible options. The responses to the consultation were discussed at a schools forum on 14 th November 2017 in the presence of the cabinet member
Other options considered	The options available in a funding formula are infinite and in order to limit the consultation exercise the schools forum discussed the content of the consultation to focus the consultation of a few options. The 2 options that were consulted on were to adopt the NFF or continue with a modified Local formula.
Declaration of interest by Cabinet Member(s) for decision, including any dispensation granted:	<i>None</i>
Any conflict of interest declared by anyone who is consulted by a Member taking the decision:	None

Signatures of Decision Makers	
Date of Signature	
Subject to Call-in until 5 Working days have elapsed following publication of the decision	