

Single Member Cabinet Decision

Executive  
Forward Plan  
Reference

**E3254**

**Schools Funding Formula**

<b>Decision maker/s</b>	<b>Cllr Kevin Guy, Cabinet Member for Children Young People and Families</b>
<b>The Issue</b>	To agree the schools funding formula factors and their values for 2021-22 financial year
<b>Decision Date</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup> January 2021</b>
<b>The decision</b>	<p>The Cabinet Member agrees that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>1.1 to change the specific factor for sparsity in line with the NFF guidance</b></li><li><b>1.2 Agree to inflate all factors at 3% (except Free School Meals at 2%) in line with DFE guidance</b></li><li><b>1.3 Agree to set the Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) at 2%</b></li><li><b>1.4 Agree that if necessary, to taper back all formula factors by the same percentage to ensure that schools allocation are contained within the schools block allocation.</b></li></ul>
<b>Rationale for decision</b>	<p>Following receipt of guidance from the DFE and extensive consultation with schools and Multi academy Trusts, there has been an almost unanimous agreement to the implementation of the DFE suggested changes to the school funding formula.</p> <p>The only issue that was not agreed in the consultation as the methodology of restricting the allocation of funds to schools to the overall funding available. The schools Forum debated the issue at its meeting in December and recommended the approach suggested and set out in the decision above.</p>
<b>Financial and budget implications</b>	<p>There are no specific financial implications for the LA due to the decision.</p> <p>The report sets out the methodology of allocating resources to the schools from the allocation of funding to the LA through the ring fenced DSG grant.</p>
<b>Issues considered</b>	Social Inclusion; Customer Focus; Young People; Equality (age, race, disability, religion/belief, gender, sexual orientation); Other Legal Considerations

<b>Consultation undertaken</b>	Cabinet colleagues; Trades Unions; Service Users; Stakeholders/Partners; Other Public Sector Bodies; Section 151 Finance Officer; Chief Executive; Monitoring Officer
<b>How consultation was carried out</b>	The Schools Forum and schools and Multi Academy Trusts have been formally consulted on the proposals to amend the formula in line with DFE guidance. Schools were provided with a formal consultation paper and responses were received from 70% of mainstream schools The S151 and Monitoring officers have been consulted
<b>Other options considered</b>	Whilst there are many options that could be adopted in allocating resources to schools, the Schools and the schools forum have on several occasions expressed their desire to move to the NFF factors and values as soon as is practical. On achieving this goal the schools and the schools Forum has continued to express their desire to follow the DFE guidance to maintain the nationally prescribed factors as far as possible
<b>Declaration of interest by Cabinet Member(s) for decision:</b>	N/A
<b>Any conflict of interest declared by anyone who is consulted by a Member taking the decision:</b>	N/A

<b>Name and Signature of Decision Maker/s</b>	
<b>Date of Signature</b>	
<b>Subject to Call-in until 5 Working days have elapsed following publication of the decision</b>	