



# HILLINGDON

LONDON

## Consultation Paper – September 2017

### Schools, Early Years & High Needs Special Educational Needs (SEN) Funding Arrangements 2018/19

Target audience: Headteachers  
Senior Managers  
Teachers Professional Associations  
14-19 Representatives  
Governing Bodies  
Finance Officers  
Early years providers  
Schools Forum

Deadline for responses: 20 October 2017

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Formal responses should be made by accessing the Google form via the following link;

[Response form](#)

If you have any issues with accessing the link to the response form please contact;

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## 1. Introduction & Background

- 1.1 The schools funding settlement for 2018/19 will be announced by the Secretary of State for Education in December 2017 and will be updated by using the October 2017 census pupil data. In the run up to this, the Department for Education have released a number of technical guidance updates in August 2017 and then again on the 14 September 2017

The main headlines in relation to revenue funding for 2018/19 as a consequence of the latest data available are:

- The National Funding Formula will be implemented from April 2018.
  - Local authorities and schools forums will continue to determine the final funding allocations for schools through a local formula for 2018/19 and 2019/20.
  - The funding that makes up the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) will now be provided in four distinct blocks; Early Years, Schools, High Needs and Central Schools Services with each of the four blocks being determined by a separate national funding formula.
  - Within the Schools Block, the Government will provide for at least a 0.5% per pupil increase for each school in 2018/19 through the national funding formula.
  - The formula will provide local authorities with per pupil funding of at least £4,800 for all secondary schools by 2019/20.
  - The Schools Block will be ring-fenced, however, local authorities will be able to transfer up to 0.5% of their schools block funding out with the agreement of schools forum.
  - The determination of the Schools Block will be based on the October 2017 census data.
  - The Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) for schools will continue, but local authorities will have the flexibility to set a local MFG between 0% and -1.5% per pupil.
  - The Government will provide for at least a 0.5% overall increase to the High Needs Block in 2018/19, through the high needs national funding formula.
  - The Early Years block per pupil unit of funding will be confirmed after the spending review and will continue to be based on the number of children accessing a funded place.
  - Funding for Early Years will be amended throughout the year based on the following census dates; January 2017 (the baseline), January 2018 and January 2019.
  - The DSG will continue to include funding for the Free Entitlement offer for two year olds.
- 1.2 This consultation focuses on proposals that will allow the Council to set an in year balanced budget for the 2018/19 Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG), based on a projected deficit of £3 million, which relates to a deficit of £1 million in the Early Years Funding Block, due to a significant drop in pupil numbers and a deficit of £2 million in the High Needs Funding Block, due to a significant increase in the projected numbers of children that will have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), an increase in complexity of need and a significant demand for Post 19 placements. It also sets out the proposed funding arrangements for 2018/19 relating to Hillingdon's schools, early years and high needs SEN settings, based on current guidance.
- 1.3 The local authority is required to consult with the Schools Forum annually on a set of matters prescribed in the Schools Forums (England) Regulations 2012, which are covered in this consultation paper. These are:
- amendments to the school funding formula
  - arrangements for the education of pupils with special educational needs

- arrangements for early years provision
  - arrangements for the use of pupil referral units and the education of children otherwise than at school
  - administrative arrangements for the allocation of central government grants paid to schools via the authority
- 1.4 This paper is being circulated widely to encourage engagement with schools and independent nursery providers, in order to assist Schools Forum in making a final decision on the use of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) funding and the relevant funding formulas for early years and schools including special schools, prior to submitting the required details to the DfE (which has been set as 19 January 2018), who will advise on the suitability of the proposed funding formulas.
- 1.5 The overall level of funding will be dependent upon the results of the October 2017 census, which will determine the overall DSG funding received by the local authority. At school level, the majority of funding will be determined by the pupil census data, with nursery funding being determined by participation (actual hours taken up on the free entitlement).
- 1.6 Stakeholders are welcome to comment on any aspect of the proposals, or may wish to contribute to a sector specific response co-ordinated by Primary Forum, Hillingdon Association of Secondary Heads and the Special Headteachers group or other representation group.
- 1.7 The release of this paper allows just a short period of time for consultation with stakeholders. Schools Forum will review the responses in early November 2017, as the signed off and completed funding pro-forma must be submitted to the DfE by 19 January 2018. This means that responses will be required to be returned by midnight on 20 October 2017.

### **Process leading to the proposals in the consultation**

- 1.8 Whilst it remains the government's intention that a school's budget share should be set on the basis of a single national formula, local authorities will continue to determine final funding allocations for schools through a local formula in 2018/19 and 2019/20. The DfE paper; Schools Revenue Funding 2018 to 2019 released in August 2017, sets out how local authorities and schools forums should plan for the local implementation of the funding system for the 2018/19 financial year.
- 1.9 The Early Years National Funding Formula (EYNFF) was implemented in April 2017. The DfE have not released any proposed changes to the distribution of early years funding for 2018/19.
- 1.10 The sub-groups of Schools Forum met on 13 September 2017 to consider the projected DSG deficit that will accumulate in 2017/18, estimated to be in excess of £1.8 million, and the estimated funding pressures of £3 million in 2018/19 and to discuss possible funding proposals to consult on with stakeholders, in order for Schools Forum to propose to Council an in year balanced DSG budget.

- 1.11 The decisions made at these meetings form the proposals within this consultation document, which allows the Council to set a balanced DSG budget for 2018/19.
- 1.12 Schools can object to the proposals but would need to identify what areas they would like to be addressed within the constraints of the current funds available, the need to set a balanced in year budget and the timeframes that have been set by the DfE for the submission of the final school budget proposal, which has been set as the 19 January 2018.
- 1.13 As this is a consultation on the 2018/19 DSG Budget, it will need to be considered by the Council as part of the 2018/19 Medium Term Financial Forecast Budget Setting process. Any views expressed as part of this consultation will be taken into account as part of this process and will only be agreed, once approved by the Council in February 2018.

### **Impact and Implications**

- 1.14 This consultation includes a number of proposals, which indicate that a review of a service is required. Hillingdon Council has a well established Business Improvement Delivery (BID) process which will undertake this review and consider any opportunities for efficiencies noting the risks and implications of any proposed changes. Once these have been considered and agreed they will be progressed.
- 1.15 A number of proposals set out in this consultation will result in the cessation of the service. It should be noted that if these proposals are agreed, and subsequently approved as part of the Council's budget setting process, these services will end on 31 March 2018 and no longer be supported or provided by the Council. Where applicable, providers will need to fund any costs of these services, should they wish to purchase them from other providers, directly from their own budgets.
- 1.16 It should be noted that all of the proposals set out in this consultation will be permanent, including any transfers of funds between Funding Blocks. As the expectation is that the Funding Blocks will be rebased at the beginning of each new financial year

## 2. The Funding Framework

2.1 The framework for funding education services for 2018/19 continues to be reviewed by the DfE as they work towards the full implementation of the NFF. The latest guidance was released on 14 September 2017. The following sets out the changes that have been identified in the guidance that was issued in August 2017.

2.2 The following factors are allowable within the local formulae for 2018/19;

- **Age Weighted Pupil Unit** - This factor assigns funding on the basis of individual pupils, with the number of pupils for each school based on the October pupil census.
- **Deprivation** – Local authorities may choose to use free school meals (FSM) and/or the income deprivation affecting children index (IDACI).
- **Prior attainment** - The prior attainment factor acts as a proxy indicator for low level, high incidence SEN
- **English as an additional Language (EAL)** - Pupils that have been identified as having a mother tongue other than English may attract funding for up to three years after they enter the statutory school system.
- **Mobility** – This measure counts pupils who entered school during the last three academic years, but did not start in August or September. There is a 10% threshold and funding is allocated based on the proportion above the threshold.
- **Lump sum** – Local authorities can set a flat lump sum for all phases. Or differentiate the sums for primary and secondary.
- **Split Sites** – The purpose of this factor is to support schools that have unavoidable extra costs because the school buildings are on separate sites.
- **Rates** - These must be funded at the authority's estimate of the actual cost
- **Private Finance Initiatives (PFI) contracts** - The purpose of this factor is to support schools that have unavoidable extra costs because they are a PFI school.
- **Minimum level of per pupil funding for secondary schools** - This is a new factor and will allow local authorities to set a transitional minimum amount of per secondary pupil funding in 2018/19 as a step towards the minimum of £4,800 in 2019/20.

2.3 Schools Forum has previously agreed some funding principles as part of the funding formula review process. The benchmarking data compares favourably with these principles which are set out below:

- To minimise the movement in funds between the Primary and Secondary sectors
- To ensure that the funding split per pupil between the Primary and Secondary sector is generally in line with the national average of 1 to 1.29
- To reduce the per pupil funding range in both the Primary and Secondary sector
- To ensure that the least funded (per pupil) school does not receive reduced funding
- To maintain the rate of funding per pupil allocated through the deprivation factor to approximately the national average
- To set the rate of funding for EAL at the national average
- To keep the loss of any group (e.g. small schools, infant schools etc) to a minimum

### **3. Schools Block Funding**

- 3.1 The Schools Block provides funding for Primary and Secondary schools (including academies and free schools) and a limited range of retained budgets. The DfE's paper; Schools Revenue Funding for 2018 to 2019, sets out how local authorities and schools forums should plan for the local implementation of the funding system for the 2018/19 financial year. The final DSG will be determined based on the October 2017 census data, where, for 2018/19, the relevant census date will be the 5 October 2017. The determination of school budgets will be based on the data provided by the DfE to the local authority and is provided based on a percentage of pupil numbers on roll. Once the census data has been signed off by the DfE, there will be a short window of opportunity to analyse the data and check whether it is correct. Once the final formula is submitted on 19 January 2018, no amendments can be made. Any errors identified will be considered as part of the budget build for the following year.
- 3.2 All primary and secondary schools will be funded based on the approved and agreed funding model, this includes maintained, all academies, free schools, studio colleges and university technical colleges. For 2018/19 the funding will still be provided as is currently the case (i.e. maintained schools will receive funding from the local authority through the DSG and all other schools will receive funding directly from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA)).
- 3.3 The DfE have announced that the NFF will be implemented from April 2018. However, the local authority and Schools Forum will still be involved in the determination of the funding allocations to schools in 2018/19 and 2019/20.
- 3.4 Within the Schools Block, the Government will provide for at least a 0.5% per pupil increase for each school in 2018/19 through the National Funding Formula. The Schools Block will be ring-fenced, however, local authorities will be able to transfer up to 0.5% of their schools block funding out with agreement of schools forum. In Hillingdon this equates to approximately £1m and the proposal is that the additional funding would be used to offset ongoing funding pressures in High Needs and Early Years. It is worth noting that this is additional funding and therefore schools would not see a reduction in funding as a consequence of this transfer.
- 3.5 Question 1 – Stakeholders are asked to give views on the proposal to transfer up to a maximum of 0.5% of schools block funding out of the schools block to fund on-going pressures in high needs and early years?**
- 3.6 The formula will provide local authorities with per pupil funding of at least £4,800 for all secondary schools by 2019/20. A new factor will be allowed in local authority formulae so they can set a transitional amount of per pupil funding in 2018/19, as a step towards £4,800 in 2019/20. Currently in Hillingdon, the majority of secondary schools receive in excess of £4,800 core funding per secondary pupil. However, there were three schools in 2017/18 where per core pupil funding was below £4,800.

- 3.7 Question 2 - Stakeholders are asked to give views on phasing in evenly over the next two years the requirement to introduce a secondary school per pupil protection factor to ensure that every secondary school receives at least £4,800 core funding per pupil?**
- 3.8 The Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) per pupil funding protection will continue, to protect schools from excessive year on year changes and to allow changes in pupil characteristics (eg. reducing levels of deprivation). In 2018/19 local authorities will have the flexibility to set a local MFG between 0% and -1.5% per pupil in order to allow the flexibility to offer higher levels of protection locally. Schools Forum considered that there is little benefit overall in changing the MFG from the current level of -1.5% and therefore the proposal is that no change is made to the MFG level.
- 3.9 Question 3 - Stakeholders are asked to give views on the proposal to retain the MFG at -1.5% per pupil?**
- 3.10 Schools Forum agreed that they would not make any amendments to the current funding formula.

#### **4. Early Years Block Funding**

- 4.1 The Early Years Block covers funding for children aged 3 and 4 in Primary schools, Private, Voluntary and Independent (PVI) Nursery settings and Childminders and a limited range of retained budgets. Early Years funding is based on actual participation and will be revised throughout the year based on the January 2017 pupil census data, the January 2018 pupil census data and again at the end of the year based on the January 2019 pupil census data.
- 4.2 The Free Entitlement offer for three and four year olds increased to 30 hours per week from September 2017, for those children whose parents are both working and meet other specific criteria. In 2017/18 Schools Forum agreed to fund the additional 15 hours at the same rate as the universal free entitlement, there is no proposal to change this in 2018/19.
- 4.3 Funding for the Free Entitlement offer for two year olds will continue to offer a free place for those children that are in the 40% most deprived families across the country. The funding for settings offering these hours is a universal rate of £6 per hour and Schools Forum is not proposing to make any changes to the current funding model.
- 4.4 The DfE implemented the Early Years National Funding Formula (EYNFF) in April 2017. The previous indication was that in 2018/19, only 5% of all Early Years block funding will be allowed to be retained centrally. Of the remaining 95% funding, the DfE limited the amount that can be paid through supplements to 10% (including the mandatory deprivation factor) and therefore 90% must be passed to providers through the base rate.
- 4.5 In 2017/18, following consultation with stakeholders, the Early Years formula was constructed as follows;
- a) Base rate - 91%
  - b) Deprivation supplement - 7%
  - c) Additional needs supplement - 2%

There is no proposal to change the Early Years funding formula for 2018/19.

- 4.6 Hillingdon has seen a significant reduction in the number of three and four year olds accessing the free entitlement. This has resulted in the Early Years block being over funded in 2017/18. Due to the way in which the funding of the free entitlement works (final allocations for 2017/18 will be based on 5/12ths of the January 2017 census numbers and 7/12ths of the January 2018 census numbers) the 2017/18 funding will not be adjusted until next financial year. The consequence of this is that the base rate may need to be reduced in 2018/19 to reflect the funding reduction, which is estimated to be £1 million.
- 4.7 The Schools Forum Early Years sub-group are proposing that any savings identified in Early Years centrally retained services will be used to offset any deficit in the Early Years block in 2018/19. This would minimise the level of required reduction in the base rate for the three and four year old free entitlement.
- 4.8 **Question 4 - Stakeholders are asked to give views on the proposal that any savings identified in the Early Years block should be used to offset the estimated deficit in Early Years funding?**

4.9 The Early Years block currently funds the centrally retained budgets as per the table below;

<b>Early Years Centrally Retained DSG Budgets</b>	<b>Staff FTE</b>	<b>Original Budget £000</b>
2YO Free Entitlement Capacity Building		219.0
SEN Inclusion Fund		200.0
Vulnerable Child Funding		208.7
Family Information Service	5.97	238.0
Early Years Advisory Teachers	4.60	319.0
Early Years Psychology Team		96.0
Early Years Centres	35.39	331.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>45.96</b>	<b>1,612.2</b>

4.10 The DSG base budget includes an allocation of £219k for two year old capacity building funding. Whilst the Council is still in the position of identifying suitable sites and properties to ensure that the level of 2 Year Old free places meets the target set by the Government, the number of grant applications has slowed significantly in the last twelve months and it is therefore proposed that this funding ends for 2018/19.

**4.11 Question 5 - Stakeholders are asked to give views on the proposal that the £219k 2YO capacity grant funding should end for 2018/19?**

4.12 In 2014/15, Schools Forum agreed to provide funding for the provision of Early Years Educational Psychologists in order to help identify children with additional needs and needing additional support prior to school entry. This funding has not been used in full each year due to difficulties in determining a delivery model and the proposal is that this funding ends for 2018/19.

**4.13 Question 6 - Stakeholders are asked to give views on the proposal that the £96k Early Years Psychology funding should end for 2018/19?**

4.14 In 2014/15 Schools Forum agreed to withdraw DSG funding from the Local Authority run Early Years Centres and retain the funding for the placement of vulnerable children with the expectation that these centres should breakeven through the generation of fee income alone. However, it was evident that in order to achieve a breakeven position, the required fee rate would have to be significantly above the Hillingdon average, thereby threatening the sustainability and viability of the three centres. It was agreed that the requirement of £331.5k funding remains in the DSG baseline in order to support continued running of the three centres, whilst the Council undertakes a major review of the delivery model. Schools Forum now consider that the centres should be in a position to breakeven without the need for DSG funding and therefore the proposal is that the £331.5k funding ends for 2018/19.

**4.15 Question 7 - Stakeholders are asked to give views on the proposal that the £331.5k funding for the three Early Years Centres should end for 2018/19?**

- 4.16 The Early Years Advisory service provides targeted support, advice and guidance to all early years settings (including schools and Private Voluntary and Independent Nursery providers). Following the reduction in early years funding as a result of the fall in the number of three and four year olds accessing the free entitlement, there is a need to find savings within the Early Years block. It is therefore proposed that the Early Years Advisory service is reviewed with a view to finding savings for 2018/19.
- 4.17 Question 8 - Stakeholders are asked to give views on the proposal that the Early Years Advisory Service budget should be reviewed with a view to finding significant savings?**
- 4.18 If all of the above proposals are agreed, the centrally retained block would only include funding for the SEN Inclusion Fund (£200k), the Vulnerable Child Fund (£208.7k) and the Family Information Service (£238k) and would still leave a balance of savings to be found, which equates to approximately a reduction of 12p per hour per child on the base rate level of funding. As stated in this report, the guidance allows at least 0.5% of funding to be transferred out of the Schools Block. One option could be to use some of these funds to protect the Early Years Single Funding Formula (EYSFF) Base Rate at the 2017/18 level. It is worth noting that two thirds of this funding is allocated to primary schools with a nursery provision.
- 4.19 Question 9 - Stakeholders are asked to give views on whether the EYSFF should be protected at the 2017/18 base rate level by transferring resources from the Schools Block, which would be included within the proposed 0.5% transfer set out in Question 1?**

## **5. High Needs Block Funding**

- 5.1 The High Needs Block covers funding for Special Schools, Special Resource Provisions, SEN pupils in Mainstream schools, Placements in Independent Schools and Other Local Authority schools, Pupil Referral Units, Support Services, Education Other than at School (Alternative Education Provision), Post 16 SEN expenditure, the cost of high needs students aged 16-25 in further education and independent specialist providers, hospital tuition and the cost of supporting excluded pupils.
- 5.2 The High Needs block for 2018/19 will be determined by a separate national funding formula. The high needs funding operational guide 2018/19 will provide more detail on the high needs funding arrangements when it is issued (this guidance was released on 29 September 2017).
- 5.3 There has been a change to the way that pupils attending specialist resource provisions (SRPs) will be funded. Places occupied by pupils on the roll of the school at the time of the census will be funded at an additional £6,000 per place, as these pupils will now be included in the total pupil population of that school. Places not filled by pupils on the school roll at the time of the census will continue to be funded at £10,000. Top up funding will be provided as usual, based on the need and therefore band of the individual child.
- 5.4 Mainstream schools will continue to be expected to fund the first £6,000 of any SEN pupil placed in a mainstream school, and will receive only the top up funding from the commissioner.
- 5.5 The DfE are proposing no changes to the planned place funding for Alternative Education Provision and Pupil Referral Units will continue to operate with a delegated budget, which will be funded through the “place-plus” funding model.
- 5.6 The High Needs block continues to be under significant pressure as a consequence of continuing growth in the number and complexity of pupils with SEN. The increase in the number of post-16 and post-19 young people with SEN accessing education is also resulting in significant increase in high needs expenditure. This is projected to be £2 million, there is therefore a need to identify savings in order to set a balanced DSG budget in 2018/19.
- 5.7 Schools Forum has agreed that a further review of special school funding will be undertaken in the coming year and that a working party will be created in order to begin the work on this. The detail of any proposed changes to the funding of high needs will be consulted on further and it is likely that any implementation would not be until September 2018.

5.8 The High Needs block currently funds the centrally retained budgets as per the table below;

<b>High Needs Centrally Retained DSG Budgets</b>	<b>Staff FTE</b>	<b>Original Budget £000</b>
Early Years Support Team	3.73	152.8
Education Psychology		337.0
Inclusion Team	12	619.3
Management Team		14.0
Sensory Needs Team	9.83	491.0
Therapy Services		421.7
Virtual School	10.87	478.0
AEN Funding Threshold		70.0
2% Threshold		449.3
Non-statemented Exceptional Funding		32.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>36.43</b>	<b>3,074.5</b>

5.9 The following specialist centrally retained SEN services, support pupils with special educational needs in mainstream, special schools and SRPs as well as pre-school children;

- a) **Early Support Team** - support parents and carers, helping to build resilience within families with children and young people with additional needs or disabilities;
- b) **Inclusion Team** - support settings in developing high quality inclusive practice, delivering effective early interventions to support children in developing the skills they need to access education;
- c) **Sensory Needs Team** - provides specialist services for children and young people from 0-25 years with sensory needs.

5.10 Given the requirement to find savings within the High Needs block, Schools Forum are proposing that the local authority carries out a review of the above SEN Support Services budgets with a view to finding savings.

**5.11 Question 10 - Stakeholders are asked to give views on the proposal that the SEN Support services budgets should be reviewed with a view to finding savings?**

5.12 The role of the Educational Psychology (EP) team is to contribute to raising the achievement of vulnerable pupils by working with schools/education settings and families to promote inclusive practise and support the emotional growth and development of children. The £337k budget is a proportion of the total EP service budget with some of the core functions funded from local authority base budget. In the past year, the increase in the volume of statutory assessments has resulted in the team carrying out a limited amount of non-statutory work. Schools Forum is therefore proposing that the £337k DSG funding is removed in full from 2018/19. If agreed, it is highly likely that this service will need to be purchased by individual schools, who will need to make their own arrangements and fund the cost from their own delegated budget.

**5.13 Question 11 - Stakeholders are asked to give views on the proposal that the £337k funding for the non-statutory functions of the Educational Psychology team should end for 2018/19?**

- 5.14 In previous years, Schools Forum agreed to the implementation of the following two funding mechanisms;
- a) **The 2% Threshold** - recognises those schools that have a disproportionate number of pupils with SEN on roll and distributes an additional £6k funding for each pupil over the 2% number.
  - b) **The Additional Educational Needs (AEN) Funding Threshold** - ensures that schools who do not receive sufficient Low Attainment funding (the designated factor for proxy SEN) to cover the first £6k of every statemented child's needs (up to the 2% threshold) will receive a funding adjustment increasing their notional SEN funding to at least £6k per statemented pupil.
- 5.15 The proposal is that, in order to find savings in high needs expenditure, the AEN funding threshold is removed in full and the 2% threshold budget is reduced by 50% (either by reducing the rate to £3k per child over the 2%, or increasing the threshold %).
- 5.16 Question 12 - Stakeholders are asked to give views on the proposal that the £70k funding for the AEN Funding threshold should end for 2018/19?**
- 5.17 Question 13 - Stakeholders are asked to give views on the proposal that the £449k funding for the 2% threshold is reduced by 50% for 2018/19?**
- 5.18 No proposals are being put forward to reduce funding for the Management Team (£14k, which is a contribution towards the cost of the Head of Early Intervention, Prevention and Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Service), Therapy Services (£421.7k, which provides funding to purchase contracted services), the Virtual School (£478k, which provides support for all Looked After Children) or the Non-Statemented Exceptional Funding (£32.4k, which provides up to a maximum of £2,000 to a school to enable them to purchase specialist equipment to meet the needs of an individual child).
- 5.19 Question 14 - Stakeholders are asked to give views on the proposal not to reduce the four budgets for the Management Team, Therapy Services, the Virtual School and the Non-Statemented Exceptional Funding?**

## 6. Central School Services Block Funding

- 6.1 The Central School Services block will be introduced in 2018/19, to fund local authorities for the statutory duties that they hold for both maintained schools and academies. This funding block brings together funding previously allocated through the retained duties elements of the Education Services Grant (ESG), funding for ongoing central functions and residual funding for historic commitments, previously top-sliced from the Schools Block.
- 6.2 The following centrally retained services would be funded from the Central School Services block;

<b>Centrally Retained DSG Budgets</b>	<b>Staff FTE</b>	<b>Original Budget £000</b>
Business Support	2.0	65.2
De-delegation Education functions		13.9
ESG Retained Duties		740.0
Looked After Children Education	3.0	178.4
Overheads		862.3
Prof.Associations/Trade Unions		24.4
School Admissions	7.0	299.0
School Courier Service		35.0
School Procurement	2.0	90.0
Schools Forum		5.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>2,313.2</b>

- 6.3 Schools Forum has historically agreed to part fund the School Courier Service which ensures documents are transported between the local authority and all schools on a regular basis. The indication is that given the increased use of e-mail communication, this service is no longer a high priority for schools and therefore the proposal is to end the £35k funding for 2018/19. If this service is no longer funded, schools will have to fund alternative arrangements from within their own budget.
- 6.4 Question 15 - Stakeholders are asked to give views on the proposal that the £35k funding for the School Courier Service should end for 2018/19?**
- 6.5 The DSG currently funds two school procurement officers who support maintained schools and academies, ensuring that schools are compliant with current OJEU tendering rules. This team has supported schools in driving down costs, which generally exceed £100k each year. Schools Forum consider that, given a number of schools do not access this support and some schools are purchasing external procurement services, this could be considered as a saving to the centrally retained DSG. The proposal is therefore that the £90k funding ends for 2018/19. If this service is no longer funded, schools will have to fund alternative arrangements from within their own budget and take steps to ensure that they comply with OJEU and other tendering rules for new and existing tenders.
- 6.6 Question 16 - Stakeholders are asked to give views on the proposal that the £90k funding for School Procurement should end for 2018/19?**

- 6.7 No proposals are being put forward to reduce funding for Business Support (£65.2k, which relates to the cost of admin staff the Council employs to support all of the DSG funded services), De-delegation of Education Functions (£13.9k, which relates to the support provided to maintain teachers pensions for maintained schools), ESG Retained Duties (£740k, which relates to the statutory services that used to be funded from the Education Services Grant and covers the Attendance and Exclusions Team, the DSG Finance Support Function and the support provided to manage the Schools Capital Programme), Looked After Children Education (£178.4k, which relates to the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) role, and support for Child Protection relating to Domestic Violence), Overheads (£862.3k, which relates to the back office costs associated with running a large public sector service), Professional Associations/Trade Unions (£24.4k, which relates to funds that are held back to provide financial recompense to maintained schools where staff undertake union duties), School Admissions (£299k) and Schools Forum (£5k to pay for the Clerk).
- 6.8 **Question 17 - Stakeholders are asked to give views on the proposal not to reduce the eight budgets noted in paragraph 6.7 above?**

## 7. Specific Grants

### Pupil Premium

- 7.1 The Government has made a commitment that the Pupil Premium will continue in 2018/19. The Pupil Premium grant to each school will be calculated based on the number of qualifying pupils counted in the January School Census, multiplied by the funding rate described above. There has not yet been any indication of whether the rates for Pupil Premium will change for 2018/19.
- 7.2 The Early Years Pupil Premium which provides £300 per year (£0.53 per child per hour) for each eligible child that takes up the full 570 hours of early years provision will also continue in 2018/19.
- 7.3 The Pupil Premium Plus grant is managed and distributed by the Head of the Virtual School and provides pupil premium funding for Looked After Children (LAC). The DfE have proposed that the Pupil Premium Plus funding that Hillingdon receives will increase by £400 to £2,300 per pupil, following the removal of the LAC factor from the school funding formula.
- 7.4 The following table sets out the known 2018/19 funding rates provided relating to the Pupil Premium:

<b>Grant</b>	<b>Pupil Premium per pupil</b>
Pupils in Year Groups R to 6 recorded as Ever 6 FSM*	£1,320
Pupils in Year Groups 7 to 11 recorded as Ever 6 FSM*	£935
Looked After Children (LAC)	£2,300
Children adopted from care under the Adoption and Children Act 2002 and children who have left care under a Special Guardianship or Residence Order*	£1,900
<b>Service children</b>	
Pupils in Year Groups R to 11 recorded as Ever 4 Service Child or in receipt of a child pension from the Ministry of Defence*	£300

\*2017/18 rates