

2012/13 DSG FINAL OUT-TURN

1. PURPOSE

To discuss the 2012/13 DSG out-turn and the proposals for the rollover of the underspend.

2. BACKGROUND

The DSG out-turn is an under spend of £4,151,500. This is made up of budget overspends of £344,000 and budget under spends of £4,495,500. Initial proposals for the use of this balance are provided below for consideration.

3. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION – REQUESTS TO ROLL FORWARD

LEARNING

3.1 Early Years: £98,700

Pupil number projections indicate the numbers will continue to rise and a request is made that this money is rolled forward into the early years contingency to support the pupil number changes during 2013/14

3.2 High Needs Budgets: Psychology £51,600

This budget supports ICAN, autism outreach and Portex. The under spend has arisen from staff changes in the autism outreach offset by an over spend on the ICAN transport. As these services are part of the specialist provision it is requested that these be rolled forward.

3.3: High Needs Budget: Sensory Impairment £61,000

This budget has paid for the sensory teams in schools and the resource provision unit at Moor End Academy. The service has been included as part of the specialist provision review and as such is to become fully delegated. The underspend is therefore requested to be rolled forward to support the re-structure.

3.4 Primary PRU: £46,100

This underspend has arisen due to in year staff changes. As the pupil referral units now have delegated budgets, it is requested that the balance should be added to their 2013/14 budget in line with the way school balances are rolled forward.

3.5 High Needs Budget: Independent School Fees £170,700

Over the past few years, the LA has worked hard to make provision for these pupils within Kirklees and keep within budget. However as this budget is very volatile, it is requested that this be rolled forward in case of need in 13/14.

3.6 Swimming Service £40,100

In 2012/13 the service received more income than anticipated. However the continued costs associated with the service eg transport is likely to cause future budgetary problems.

SCHOOL BUDGETS

3.7 LMS Contingency £1,692,600

Whilst it is acknowledged this is a sizeable balance, it is requested that this be rolled forward for the following reasons:

- i) The continued re-organisation costs of the move from a 3 tier structure to a 2 tier structure in north Kirklees
- ii) Increase in demands for places in primary schools and the need to establish new classes
- iii) Issues regarding the structural changes in south Kirklees which need to be addressed

3.8 Sickness Absence Insurance Scheme £46,100

It is common practice for any underspend on the sickness insurance scheme to be re-imbursed to those schools which bought into the scheme in that year.

3.9 PPP2 £23,000

The contract benchmarking of the soft services for the PPP2 contract (Special schools) was less than estimated. It is requested that this small under spend be rolled forward to support future benchmarking costs.

3.10 2013/14 High Needs Top Up £400,000

Following the changes to the way SEN is now funded, officers have identified a budget pressure in this financial year in respect of top-ups for the summer transition and any new high needs statements. A contingency budget of £400,000 is requested.

As part of the discussions for 2014/15 funding, officers and Forum will need to examine the funding split between the three blocks.

4 FURTHER ITEM FOR CONSIDERATION

4.1 Former Teachers Pay Grant £1,746,700

At the end of 2011/12 Forum agreed to roll forward an under spend of £516,900 as officers were unsure whether the Education Funding Agency would claw back this money for the academies. During 2012/13 as more academies receive their threshold funding from the EFA the under spend has increased. Discussions with neighbouring authorities have shown they also rolled their balances forward from 2012/13. As the threshold budget is now delegated this under spend is therefore available for distribution.

4.2 2013/14 EFA 6th Form Pay Grant £106,426

In 2013/14 the EFA has given us a grant of £106,426 which is the final payment for the 6th form teacher pay grant. This grant has been phased out over the last 3 years. As the threshold budget is now delegated to primary, middle and secondary schools, this grant is no longer required. However as the grant is specifically for 6th form staff, it is proposed that this grant should be distributed to all maintained schools and academies with a 6th form, based on their 6th form numbers. It should be noted that

when the threshold budget was delegated in April the sixth form student numbers were not included in the distribution,

5 RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Schools Forum support the proposals to roll forward the budget under spends as outlined in section 3.1 to 3.9.

5.2 Schools Forum agree to retain the balance of the former teacher pay grant under spend up to 31st August 2013. It is proposed that the request for an SEN contingency budget of £400,000 be funded from this under spend, with the remaining balance of £1,346,700 distributed to primary, middle, secondary and academy schools based on the 2013/14 AWPU. If there are any subsequent claims, then schools would be expected to return some of this funding.

5.3 Schools Forum agree to distribute the EFA 6th form teacher pay grant of £106,426 to relevant maintained schools and academies, based on the 6th form numbers