

2012/13 EXCESS BALANCES

1. BACKGROUND

At the end of 2012/13 financial year there were 17 schools with an excess balance:

- 2 Secondary schools
- 1 Nursery school
- 14 Primary schools

2. FINDINGS

- 2.1 The excess balance sub group met on 14th June to scrutinise the information provided by schools. At the meeting 13 schools had provided the information required and their plans were approved. The remaining 4 schools were contacted and requested to provide the information in time for the next meeting.
- 2.2 The group reconvened on 24th June to examine the evidence provided by the remaining 4 schools. The group were of the view that these schools had also provided sufficient evidence for their balances to be approved.
- 2.3 The group are of the opinion that the approach taken to scrutinise schools with excess balances does work and provides transparency within the system. The reasons provided by schools for having an excess balance were:
 - a) Building projects which are being funded by revenue following cuts to devolved formula capital budgets over the past few years
 - b) Re-organisation issues
 - c) To provide a contingency for reductions in funding as a result of a decline in pupil numbers and loss of funding following changes to the formula.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 Kirklees Schools Forum notes the report and accepts the Excess Balance Sub Group's findings.