

**CONSULTATION ON THE FUNDING OF MAINTAINED SCHOOLS
AND ACADEMIES FROM 2020/21**

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES



This paper should be read in conjunction with the 'Consultation on the Funding of Maintained Schools and Academies from 2020/21' document which was sent to all schools in November 2019 giving a deadline to respond of 2nd December 2019.

Recommendations within this Consultation are as follows;

- 8.1. It is proposed that the full High Needs Block allocation is allocated to the High Needs Block and that Plymouth continue to work with institutions that have pupils or students with high needs to ensure an effective and sustainable processes for allocating High Needs funding. This will be done via High Needs Budget Modelling Groups who will report back to Schools Forum.
- 8.2. Agree that CSSB ongoing commitments is allocated as per table 4.4 (replicated below) in 2020/21;

Function	2019/20 Funding	2020/21 Indicative Proposed Funding
Retained ESG	£0.586m	£0.601m
Admissions	0.282m	£0.282m
Copyright Licenses	£0.191m	£0.197m
Schools Forum	£0.019m	£0.019m
Total	£1.078m	£1.099m

- 8.3. Agree that CSSB historic commitments is allocated as per table 4.11 (replicated below) in 2020/21;

Function	2019/20 Allocation	2020/21 Proposed allocation
Retained ESG top up	£0.136m	£0.142m
Sports Facility	£0.110m	£0.110m
Pensions	£0.634m	£0.634m
Prudential Borrowing	£0.512m	£0.512m
Distributed to schools to fund work previously done by the Excellence Cluster	£1.179m	£0.707m
Early help offer	£0.060m	£0.000m
Total	£2.631m	£2.105m

- 8.4. It is proposed to continue to adopt the National Funding Formula method of allocation in 2020/21.

- 8.5. It is proposed to initially allocate £0.490m to the growth fund and transfer the amount required to the APT to fund expected growth once Central Government have updated funding and issued the final APT based on pupils on the October 2019 census (in December 2019). The remaining balance will be kept in the growth fund to use for in year growth during 2020/21.
- 8.6. It is proposed that the £0.064m exceptional premises balance is kept within the Schools Block and added to the overall schools block funding allocation which will be distributed via the APT (Authority Proforma Tool) as per the National Funding Formula.
- 8.7. Please note that all of these figures are only estimates and will change once pupil data has been updated with the October 19 census information. Increases/decreases may have to be made to the basic entitlement factor for Primary School, Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 pupils to ensure affordability. Final figures will be approved by Schools Forum.
- 8.8. It is proposed that no de-delegation costs are included in 2020/21 budget allocations for maintained primary or maintained secondary schools
- 8.9. Plymouth are not proposing to charge maintained schools in 2020/21 for the Local Authority's £1.7m loss in income due to the cessation of the ESG general fund grant.

5 responses have been received.

Type of school	No. of responses
Secondary academy	2
Secondary maintained	1
Primary maintained	1
Multi Academy Trust (MAT) on behalf of a Secondary Academy	1
Total	5

All of the responses agreed with all of the proposals within the consultation document with the exception of the MAT on behalf of a Secondary Academy Trust. This response was specific to point 5.16 of the consultation document only which is shown below;

Exceptional Premises Funding

- 5.1 . Provisional allocations show that Plymouth have been allocated £0.257m in 2020/21 for a premises exceptional funding factor. This relates to the annual sum historically funded to one secondary school in relation to a 25 year contract for the hiring of a sports facility (previously approved by Schools Forum and Central Government on the basis of an exceptional funding factor). However, the agreement to fund this ends in December 2020. As premises funding is currently allocated on a historic basis, we will receive the full amount in 20/21 so £0.064m will be unallocated. It is proposed that the £0.064m is kept within the Schools Block and added to the overall schools block funding allocation which will be distributed via the APT (Authority Proforma Tool) as per the National Funding Formula.

This response states;

'With the potential re-brokerage of ASAP to the Ted Wragg Trust, the position regarding the sports hall has been discussed. The lack of provision is of serious concern to the school.

We have received assurances from the National Schools Commissioner that he will ensure that the school is not unduly disadvantaged by the cessation of current arrangements.

I wanted to alert you to this, as this could have some impact on yourselves in terms of the unfunded period occurring within the PCC financial year. This may influence your decision on how you handle the £0.064m and whether you prefer it remains in contingency'.

Proposal

It is proposed that all recommendations (8.1 to 8.9) are actioned including the recommendation 8.6 to distribute the remaining £0.064m exceptional premises balance to all schools on the APT (Authority Proforma Tool) as the specific agreement does ends in December 2020.