HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL SCHOOLS FORUM

Agenda Item

25 June 2014

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FUND FOR SMALL SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN AREAS OF DEMOGRAPHIC GROWTH, 2014-15

Report of the Director of Children's Services

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1. Purpose

- 1.1 To consult the Forum on:
 - the allocations for 2014-15 from the Fund for Small Secondary Schools in Areas of Demographic Growth;
 - an additional Growth Fund allocation

2. Summary

2.1 This paper gives details of allocations being made in the 2014-15 financial year.

3. Recommendations

3.1 The Forum is asked to note and support the allocations.

4. Background

4.1 The criteria for determining allocations from the Fund for Small Secondary Schools in Areas of Demographic Growth, and from the Growth Fund, were agreed by the Forum in Autumn 2013. DfE guidance requires that the Forum is consulted on the allocations themselves. However, as the allocations have been calculated according to the criteria, in practice they are not open to change.

5. Allocations

5.1 The allocations from the Fund for Small Secondary Schools in Areas of Demographic Growth are as follows:

School No.	School/Academy	Allocation £
247	The Sele School	163,551
554	Onslow St Andrews	174,103
	Total	337,654

5.2 In addition there is a Growth Fund allocation to Victoria Infant School (school no 917), which was not included in the list of Growth Fund allocations reported to the April Forum.

Allocation in respect of additional places: 18 places -	funding £28,090
Ongoing protection funding: 5 funded pupils -	funding £13,376 Total:
	£41,466

5.3 Annex A shows the criteria for determining allocations from the Fund for Small Secondary Schools in Areas of Demographic Growth. (The Growth Fund allocation criteria were included in the Growth Fund paper to the April Forum meeting).

6. Conclusion

6.1 The Forum is asked to agree the recommendation in section 3.

CRITERIA FOR THE FUND FOR SMALL SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN AREAS OF DEMOGRAPHIC GROWTH

Hertfordshire will operate a Fund to support small secondary schools and academies with surplus places which will be needed in the near future. (This fund would not apply to primary schools as the authority considers that the £150k lump sum funding in place in primary provides sufficient protection for small primary schools).

The eligibility criteria and formula for determining allocations from the Fund are based on the assessment that 550 pupils (years 7-11) is the minimum long-term viable size for a school.

The Fund has the following eligibility criteria:

- (i) The school/academy has fewer than 550 pupils (excluding sixth form) in the October census prior to the start of the financial year.
- (ii) The number of places offered by the school across year groups 7 to 11, if full, is greater than 550.
- (iii) The authority has forecast that at least 110 places will be required from the school in year 7 (year 9 for upper schools) by Autumn Term 2017, otherwise there will be an absolute shortfall of capacity in the relevant planning area.
- (iv) The school is Good or Outstanding. The date at which Ofsted category data will be taken will be 31st August prior to the start of the financial year to which funding relates, except that a school which becomes Good or Outstanding during the subsequent Autumn term prior to the start of the financial year shall also be eligible.

Formula for Allocation:

The allocation formula takes account of the size of the school but also incorporates a ceiling on allocations. It also takes into account any MFG protection funding the school receives in its budget share to avoid duplicating it. The formula for determining an allocation to eligible schools is:

- (i) KS3 calculation: 330 actual number of KS3 pupils on roll x KS3 AWPU x 50%
- (ii) KS4 calculation: 220 actual number of KS4 pupils on roll x KS4 AWPU x 50%
- (iii) Sum of the result of lines i and ii capped at £250,000
- (iv) Deduct any MFG protection funding received by the school
- (v) Equals the allocation from the Fund