

MINUTES
Schools Forum High Needs Funding Sub-group Meeting
Tuesday 12 November 2019
12.30-14.30
Chairman's Dining Room, County Hall

Present: Jennie Newman (JN) - Chair, Simon Newland (SN), Tony Fitzpatrick (TF), Yvonne Medlam (YM), Jo Fisher (JF), Jan Liversage (JL) Lucy Godshaw (LG), (GW), Phil Herd (PH), Sally Glossop (SG), Doris Mutegi (DM), Faisal Mir (FM), Jonathan Burberry (JB), Richard Haynes (RH), Nicola Coates (NC) - minutes

Apologies Gemma Williamson, Sara Lalis,

Item		Action
1.	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p>EHE Research Project – A report with outcomes has been drafted and will be published imminently.</p>	
2.	<p>Update on Funding of Complex Needs in Mainstream Schools</p> <p>TF gave an update on the review of meeting complex needs in mainstream schools. The review shows that Hertfordshire puts less into mainstream schools than its statistical neighbours.</p> <p>Analysis shows that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 320 CYP got funding who don't have an EHCP • 847 CYP have ENF and an EHCP • 1403 children with an EHCP don't have any funding <p>The following options have been identified for Hertfordshire to consider the use of in future:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Option 1 - Keep the existing ENF system 'as is' • Option 2 - Introduce a two-tier model: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tier 1 - Creation of a process which considers funding for CYP with EHCPs, via a banded system ○ Tier 2 - Retain the principle of the ENF process for allocating short term funding seamlessly to CYP with emerging complex needs • Option 3 - Allocate funding directly to EHCPs either via assessing individual needs or through a banded system <p>The above options were considered by the Complex Needs in Mainstream Schools Stakeholder group and the agreement was that Option 2 would be the preferred model going forward.</p> <p>Actions:</p> <p>A paper will be taken to the next SEND Strategic Leadership Group to agree next steps for the implementation of the review.</p>	
3.	<p>Special School Funded Places</p>	

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	<p>Schools Forum have delegated the decision regarding any changes in funded place numbers in special schools, units & bases and FE colleges to the High Needs Funding Sub-group.</p> <p>Agreed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An increase of 71 commissioned places in schools • Funding for an additional 105 above commissioned places • Reduction of 6 places in a speech and language unit <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SG to have a conversation with Giles and Downfield schools who are currently being funded for empty places. • YM to submit the place change return to the ESFA by 15 November. 	<p>SG</p> <p>YM</p>
4	<p>Post 16 High Needs Funded Places</p> <p>Further to a request at the last meeting for a proposed increase of 150 funded places in FE colleges, Patricia Walker has challenged this figure with the FE colleges and the revised number of additional places is 81.</p> <p>Concerns were raised in relation to the significant increase in Post 16 places and expenditure again this year and it was felt this rate of increase could not be sustained year on year.</p> <p>The current year budget pressure is made up of a number of budget areas. Discussion followed around the pressures on the Post 16 High Needs Funding budget. It was agreed that a review of Post 16 High Needs Funding would be undertaken as part of the SEND Transformation.</p> <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JF to follow up with David Butcher. <p>Agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase of 81 Post 16 commissioned places in FE colleges 	<p>JF</p>
5.	<p>DSG Contribution to the costs of residential places for CLA with SEND</p> <p>Budget provision has been made for the increase in the cost of independent placements of £1.9m.</p> <p>SN gave a summary of the proposal for an additional contribution of £1.5m to be made from the DSG to the costs of residential places for CLA with SEND, so as to reflect in future years the adjustment made in-year to the current year's DSG expenditure.</p> <p>Concerns were raised by the group in relation to the impact of this, in particular on the 2021/22 budget.</p> <p>Action:</p> <p>SN to discuss this further with Jenny Coles and at the Chairs of School Heads meeting</p>	<p>SN</p>

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<div>6.</div> <div>Specialist Resource Provision</div> <div>Expressions of Interest have been received for the Specialist Resource Provisions and a meeting is being held on Monday 18th November to review these.</div> <div>RH expressed concern around the proposed start date for this provision. Following discussion, it was agreed that if schools are ready and able to start in September, then the funding could be allocated to them from the 2020-21 budget.</div>																																																																																															
<div>7</div> <div>Budget Position for 2020/21 and 2021/22</div> <div>YM provided the Indicative High Needs Budget Position for 2020-21 to 2022-23 as shown in the table below. The high needs block for 2020-21 is estimated to be £130m, an increase of £16m from 2019-20.</div> <div>The budget forecast indicates that there will be a shortfall of £152k in 2020-21 and in the following two years of £3.7m and £5.4m. In addition, there is a risk of £750k in respect of care costs for high needs students in colleges.</div> <table><tr><th>HIGH NEEDS BUDGET</th><th>£m</th></tr><tr><td>2019-20 Budget (as previously notified)</td><td>114.677</td></tr><tr><td>plus net increase in imports and exports</td><td>0.339</td></tr><tr><td>Final HN Budget Allocation 2019-20</td><td>115.016</td></tr><tr><td>Estimated Herts share of £700m announced for HN</td><td>15.882</td></tr></table> <table><tr><th>BUDGET PRESSURES</th><th>2020-21</th><th>2021-22</th><th>2022-23</th></tr><tr><td></td><th>£m</th><th>£m</th><th>£m</th></tr><tr><td>Indicative HN Budget Allocation (HN Block)</td><td>130.898</td><td>136.134</td><td>141.580</td></tr><tr><td>Predicted budgeted spend previous yr</td><td>110.832</td><td>131.051</td><td>139.926</td></tr><tr><td>Plus pressures:</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>FYE of previous years</td><td>0.917</td><td>1.017</td><td>0.675</td></tr><tr><td>Special School Funded Places (71 in 20/21 and 50 in 21/22 & 22/23)</td><td>0.421</td><td>0.292</td><td>0.292</td></tr><tr><td>Special School top ups & additional £10ks</td><td>1.338</td><td>0.303</td><td>0.306</td></tr><tr><td>Independent Placements (2019-20 overspend)</td><td>1.900</td><td>1.000</td><td>1.000</td></tr><tr><td>Increase DSG contribution to CLA costs</td><td>1.500</td><td>(1.500)</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>AWT</td><td>1.278</td><td>0.220</td><td>0.000</td></tr><tr><td>SRPs</td><td>0.467</td><td>0.333</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>reduction in unit places - Flamstead End</td><td>(0.021)</td><td>(0.015)</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Complex Needs in Mainstream (ENF) new system</td><td>4.000</td><td>3.000</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>P16 Funded Places and top ups</td><td>0.841</td><td>0.500</td><td>0.500</td></tr><tr><td>Base adjustment for Barnfield College</td><td>0.644</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Outreach</td><td>0.095</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Out county-maintained school top ups</td><td>2.357</td><td>0.508</td><td>0.963</td></tr><tr><td>Budget Pressures</td><td>15.737</td><td>5.659</td><td>3.736</td></tr><tr><td>cost pressures - inflation @ 3% in 20/21</td><td>3.002</td><td>3.217</td><td>3.390</td></tr><tr><td>Indicative Budget for 2020-21 and following 2 years</td><td>130.898</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>	HIGH NEEDS BUDGET	£m	2019-20 Budget (as previously notified)	114.677	plus net increase in imports and exports	0.339	Final HN Budget Allocation 2019-20	115.016	Estimated Herts share of £700m announced for HN	15.882	BUDGET PRESSURES	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23		£m	£m	£m	Indicative HN Budget Allocation (HN Block)	130.898	136.134	141.580	Predicted budgeted spend previous yr	110.832	131.051	139.926	Plus pressures:				FYE of previous years	0.917	1.017	0.675	Special School Funded Places (71 in 20/21 and 50 in 21/22 & 22/23)	0.421	0.292	0.292	Special School top ups & additional £10ks	1.338	0.303	0.306	Independent Placements (2019-20 overspend)	1.900	1.000	1.000	Increase DSG contribution to CLA costs	1.500	(1.500)		AWT	1.278	0.220	0.000	SRPs	0.467	0.333		reduction in unit places - Flamstead End	(0.021)	(0.015)		Complex Needs in Mainstream (ENF) new system	4.000	3.000		P16 Funded Places and top ups	0.841	0.500	0.500	Base adjustment for Barnfield College	0.644			Outreach	0.095			Out county-maintained school top ups	2.357	0.508	0.963	Budget Pressures	15.737	5.659	3.736	cost pressures - inflation @ 3% in 20/21	3.002	3.217	3.390	Indicative Budget for 2020-21 and following 2 years	130.898			
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	total estimated funding required		129.571	139.926	147.052								
	SDF		1.480										
	Total Budget Required		131.051	139.926	147.052								
	Headroom/ (shortfall) in Budget		(0.152)	(3.792)	(5.473)								
	Risk for ACS in P16		0.750	0.750	0.750								
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<p>The 2020-21 plans were reviewed and it was agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">£900k to be included for growth in ENF cases.2019-20 predicted overspend of £1.8m to be added to the £4m that is currently provided for.The funding for the review of complex needs in special schools (£1m) to be moved into the 2021-22 budget <p>RH asked for clarification of how the £6m SEND SAS budget is apportioned between the various services and what the process is for monitoring budgets.</p> <p>SN confirmed that he is now having regular meetings with Jo Fisher, Phil Herd and Faisal Mir to scrutinise and monitor the budgets. Budget Managers will be asked to address any issues or concerns raised as a result of this.</p>													
8	Future of the Strategy Development Fund <p>The final position for the Strategy Development Fund for 2019-20 was £3.4m (excluding one off use of carry forward). Budget position shows that only £1.48m will be available in 2020-21.</p>												
9	AOB <ul style="list-style-type: none">Budget for special school staff training and retention to be included as an agenda item for the next meeting.												
	Next meeting <p>Thursday 9 January 2020 11.00 – 13.000 Mimram Room, County Hall</p>												