

Schools Forum 18 September 2019

Summary of Decisions

Item 5 **Early Years Block: Early Years funding formula planning for free education payments for 2, 3 and 4 year-olds for 2020-21**

2.1 **Schools Forum agreed:**

2.1.1 That the proposed timeline set out in Table 1 should form the basis of development of the 2020-21 early years funding formula (EYFF).

2.1.2 That an Early Years Task and Finish Group (EYTFG) be established as set out in Appendix A to review and make recommendations on:

- The 2020-21 Early Years Block funding;
- The wider consultation with all FEEE providers regarding the 2020-21 Early Years Funding Formula (EYFF) for 2, 3 and 4 year-olds; and
- The 2020-21 provider EYFF hourly payment rates for 2, 3 & 4 year-olds.

2.2 **Schools Forum noted:**

2.2.1 The DfE's EYNFF operational guidance states that at least 95% of the Early Years Block funding of the DSG in respect of three and four year olds MUST be passed through to providers..1 That the proposed consultation document appended to this report shall be consulted on from 15 May to 12 June 2019 and that the consultation will include meetings with parents and governors.

Item 6 **Dedicated Schools Grant Outturn 2018-19 & 2019-20 updates**

Schools Forum noted:

2.1 The final settlement of DSG allocation to the Local Authority (LA) for 2018-19, after academy recoupment and including the July 2019 Early Years Adjustment of £0.538 million, was £167.300 million.

2.2 The cumulative brought forward DSG balance from 2017-18 was £4.388 million, £2.316 million was used in year resulting in a carry forward total of £2.012 million into 2019-20.

- 2.3 The forecast deficit of £1.690 million in DSG balances at the end of 2019-20.

Item 7 Schools Forum membership and powers

2.1 Schools Forum agreed:

- 2.1.1 That the current balance of school representation is appropriate to continue for the 2019-20 session.

Item 8 Forward Plan

2.1 Schools Forum noted:

- 2.1.1 The 2019-20 Forward Plan.

Item 9 Local Funding Formula 2020-21

2.1 Schools Forum agreed:

- 2.1.1 To use the October 2019 meeting of Schools Forum to consider whether any changes to the LFF should be made and consulted on, including the level of the Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG).