City of Wolverhampton Council

SCHOOLS' FORUM

Date	29 February 2024
Report title	Dedicated Schools Grant - Schools Block 2024-2025
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Summary

This report provides an update on the Schools Block of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) 2024-2025, following Forum agreement to apply the national funding formula, in accordance with the guidance issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA).

Decisions

Members of Schools' Forum are asked to:

• Note the individual schools' budget settlement for 2024-2025

Schedule of Background Papers

- Schools' Forum reports: <u>January 2024</u> and <u>December 2023</u>
- Dedicated Schools Grant allocation tables: 2024 to 2025 (www.gov.uk)
- Schools Revenue Funding 2024 to 2025: Operational guide December 2023

1.0 Background

1.1 This report confirms the final allocations of the Schools Block budget for financial year 2024-2025. The January 2024 forum report detailed the proposals for the use of the Schools' Block grant in 2024-2025 and this report confirms that those proposals have been approved by the ESFA and confirms the final allocations for schools.

2.0 Schools' Block Funding

- 2.1 In December 2023, Schools' Forum agreed to continue to use local funding factors as per the national funding formula and apply a Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) rate of 0% with cap rate of 2.57% and to retain a growth fund, utilising the residual funds after applying the agreed formula rates.
- 2.2 The table below shows the allocations resulting from these agreements. As in 2023-2024, schools will no longer be required to pay rates bills to the authority in 2024-2025, this element of the allocation will be recouped and paid directly to the Council from an ESFA portal.

Factor	2024-2025
Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG)	0%
Funding Cap (i.e percentage above which gains will be capped)	2.57%
Movement from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block	None
Total allocation from central government	271,316,188
NFF NNDR Allocation to be recouped so NNDR can be paid directly to the Council	2,116,725
Available for Growth Fund	1,280,544
Total Allocation to schools	267,918,919
Recoupment for academies	198,118,936
Allocation to maintained schools	69,799,983
Education Functions element for maintained schools as agreed Jan forum	402,360
De-delegation for maintained schools - CLL and School improvement as agreed Jan forum	183,206
Allocation to maintained schools less Ed functions and De- delegations	69,214,418

2.3 Following January's Schools' Forum meeting the planned local formula and resulting allocations were submitted to and approved by the ESFA. Appendix 1 shows the resulting allocations at individual school level.