

SCHOOLS' FORUM

Date	25 February 2021
Report title	Dedicated Schools Grant – Central School Services Block Funding 2021-2022
Contact Officer	Terry Shaw, Finance Manager
Email address	terry.shaw@wolverhampton.gov.uk

Summary

This report provides an update on the Central Schools Services block of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Services and seeks approval for a list of items that the Local Authority manages centrally on the behalf of schools and academies.

Decision

Members of the Schools' Forum are asked to:

1. Note and agree the individual lines of the proposed budget allocation of the Central Schools Services Block for 2021-22.

Schedule of background papers

- Dedicated Schools Grant allocation tables: 2021 to 2022 (www.gov.uk)
<https://skillsfunding.service.gov.uk/view-latest-funding/DSG/download-funding/organisation/336/FY/2021-to-2022/17-12-2020/ods>
- Schools Revenue Funding 2021 to 2022: Operational Guide – Updated December 2020
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/945784/Schools_Operational_guide_2021_to_2022_V4_.pdf

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1. As part of introducing the National Funding formula the Department for Education (DfE) introduced a fourth block of funding within the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG): The Central School Services Block (CSSB). This is to ensure that local authorities can continue to carry out their important role in supporting the provision of excellent education for all children of compulsory school age.
- 1.2. CSSB funds local authorities for the statutory duties that they hold for both maintained schools and academies. It brings together:
 - Funding for ongoing responsibilities such as admissions, previously top-sliced by each local authority from its Schools Block allocation as centrally retained duties element, and Education Services Grant (ESG) services and;
 - Residual funding for historic commitments, previously top-sliced by the local authority from the Schools Block as centrally retained element.
- 1.3. The policy document which sets out the background and principles of the new National Funding Formula for schools can be found at:
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/838394/National_funding_formula_policy_document_-_2020_to_2021.pdf
- 1.4. Further detail on schools funding arrangements for 2021-2022, along with the Operational Guidance, can be found at:
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/945784/Schools_Operational_guide_2021_to_2022_V4_.pdf
- 1.5. This paper covers arrangements for CSSB in 2021-22. It sets out Wolverhampton City Council's funding allocation and presents the planned expenditure for decision.
- 1.6. Schools' forum approval or consultation is required each year to confirm the use of the CSSB.

2.0 Central School Services Block

DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT CENTRAL SCHOOL SERVICES BLOCK		2021-2022 allocation £m
2021-2022 CSSB Unit of Funding		35.17
2021-2022 Additional Unit of Funding for Centrally Employed Teachers		4.06
2021-2022 Final CSSB Unit of Funding		39.23
2021-2022 CSSB Pupils (headcount)		40,962
		£m
2021-2022 CSSB funding for ongoing responsibilities		1.61
2021-2022 CSSB funding for historic commitments		0.49
TOTAL CSSB Funding for 2021-2022		2.09
ONGOING RESPONSIBILITIES		£
Provision of School Places	Co-ordinated admissions and statutory place planning activities	400,000
Servicing of Schools Forum	Funds the costs for the administration of school forum	28,000
Licences / Subscriptions	All licences that schools need will now be contained in this national agreement	230,000
ESG Services	Statutory and Regulatory Services	164,177
	Education Welfare	270,000
	Asset Management	182,000

ONE System Manager	0.5 CSSB Funded Grade 7 Post	27,000
MASH Officer (Seconded Teacher)	Statutory and Regulatory Services – Agreed funding of Safeguarding Officer within the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)	64,000
IT Costs	Develop Remote Learning Offer for Schools	68,570
Cover reduction in historic costs		9,600
Centrally Employed Teachers	Ringfenced amount to cover Teachers' Pay Grant and Teachers' Pension Grant for Centrally Employed Teachers	163,593
		1,606,940
HISTORICAL COMMITMENTS		
Tri-Partied Funding	Contribution towards the costs of funding arrangements shared between Education, Social Care and Health for Looked After Children	448,000
Termination of Employment Costs	Support the costs of historical agreements, for severance arrangements for staff as part of school rationalisation and reorganisations.	38,400
		486,400
TOTAL CENTRAL SCHOOL SERVICES BLOCK		
		2,093,340

- 2.1 The table above sets out the 2021-22 DSG Central School Services Block received by Wolverhampton City Council. It also summarises a list of proposed budget allocations to be spent from CSSB for 2021-22.
- 2.2 The total CSSB grant funding has increased from £1.9 million in 2021-2022 to £2.1 million in 2020-2021. The grant funding for Historical commitments has been reduced by 20% which equates to a reduction of £122,000, whilst there has been an increase in funding for Ongoing responsibilities in the region of £273,000. Of this increase, £163,593 is to be ringfenced for the payments of the Teachers' Pay Grant and the Teachers' Pension Grant of centrally employed teachers. The increase in funding for Ongoing responsibilities has been allocated to meet increased costs related to school admissions, servicing of the Schools Forum and Licences. In addition, it is proposed to extend the funding of the safeguarding officer within the MASH until the end of 2021-2022 to allow a full analysis of the effectiveness and possible funding going forward. Schools Forum is asked to approve the 2021-2022 budget allocations for the ongoing responsibilities totalling £1,606,940.
- 2.3 Copyright licensing - the DfE purchase a single national licence managed by the Department for all state funded schools in England, covering 10 individual licences which includes:
1. **CLA (Copyright Licensing Agency)**
Based on two rates: 5 to 15 (£1.71) and 16+ (£4.15).
 2. **SPML (School Printed Music Licence)**
Flat rate (£0.45), based on total number of pupils, 5 to 16+.
 3. **NLA (Newspaper Licensing Agency)**
Flat rate (£0.03925), based on total number of pupils, 5 to 16+.
 4. **ERA (Education Recording Agency)**
Based on two rates: Primary (£0.52) and Secondary (£1.02)

Primary rate includes under-5s (this is reflected in the lower rate for the licence). Primary rate is also charged for special schools and PRUs/AP. Secondary rate is used for All Through schools.

5. **PVSL (Public Video Screening Licence – Filmbank Distribution Ltd.)**
Based on a single, flat rate per school (£133.14), including discount.
6. **MPLC (Motion Picture Licensing Company)**
Based on a single, flat rate per school (£75.56 for 2021 to 2022), including a 10% discount.
7. **PPL (Phonographic Performance Ltd.)**
Operates on a banding system according to the number of pupils in the school. Rate is £77.08 for 0-200 pupils, rising by £12.61 for every 50 additional pupils (rounded up).
8. **PRS (Performing Right Society Ltd.)**
Operates on a banding system according to the number of pupils in the school. Rate is £84.72 for 0-200 pupils, £94.58 for 201-250 pupils, and then rising by £13.41 for every 50 additional pupils (rounded up).
9. **MCPS (Mechanical Copyright Protection Society Ltd.)**
Based on a single, flat rate per school (£238.00)
10. **CCLI (Christian Copyright Licensing International)**
Based on a simplified banding system according to size of school and whether primary/secondary, with varying discounts applied. There is no charge for nurseries. The charges per school are:

Number of pupils	Primary	Secondary	Special
1 – 49	£50.69	£40.11	£15.93
50 – 99	£78.02	£60.51	£19.31
100 – 249	£137.82	£105.14	£28.23
250 – 499	£192.49	£145.94	£36.39
500 – 999	£254.00	£191.84	£45.57
1,000 - 1,499	£312.09	£235.19	£54.24
1,500 - 2,999	£383.84	£288.74	£62.92

- 2.4 ESG Services cover the retained duties element of the old Education Services Grant which Local Authorities (LA) used to part fund statutory services they provide to all schools including academies. These services include statutory and regulatory services such as preparation of the DSG budget, and elements of the Director of Children’s Services’ time, Educational Welfare and asset management of the LA’s capital programme.
- 2.5 Historical commitments approved by the ESFA are for:
 - a. Tri-partied budget of £448,000 is the contribution to the costs of funding arrangements shared between Education, Social care and Health for looked after children.
 - b. Termination costs supporting the costs of historical agreements for severance costs for staff as part of the school rationalisation and re-organisation.
- 2.6 The DfE requires that Schools Forum approve the use of the CSSB for the purposes shown above.

3.0 Impact

The allocation of CSSB resources has a major impact on the Local Authority's ability to deliver its desired outcomes for all Wolverhampton's schools and as such has implications for all areas within the Education Service.