

Schools Forum

3rd July 2018

Funding for Designated Officer Post

Introduction

1. In March 2018 a report was presented to both Education Matters and Secondary Head Teachers and Principles Group with regards to the continuation of the jointly funded Designated Officer post with Hartlepool Borough Council for the 2018/19 financial year.

Detail

2. The principal aim of the report was to provide an update on the role, seek views from these forums on whether they were willing to continue funding the post for a further year and if so agree the funding mechanism and to bring back their views to the School Forum for consideration and approval.
3. The report that was presented is attached at Appendix A for information.
4. With regards the continuation of the post both Education Matters and Secondary Head Teachers and Principles Group were in agreement that they would like the post to continue in 2018/19.
5. In section 5 of the attached report option 2 identified that if the post was to continue then the costs would be apportioned to schools on a per pupil basis. This was the mechanism agreed by the Schools Forum for the post in 2017/18. Total costs for 2018/19 to apportion will be £34,320.
6. At Education Matters there was some debate around the apportionment mechanism with a request that Pupil Premium allocations be looked at as a more suitable basis to apportion of the cost across schools.
7. Views were also sought from Secondary Heads and Principles Group on changing the apportionment method to Pupil Premium but they were happy to continue to use the per pupil basis as they felt that there was not a clear link between the pupils accessing the service and pupil premium.
8. Details of the proposed costs per school on a Per Pupil (*2017-18 pupil no. Oct 2017 census*) and Pupil Premium (*Jan 2017 School Census FSM Ever 6 pupils*) basis are attached at Appendix B for information. Agreement is sought from the Schools Forum on the most appropriate apportionment mechanism to use for 2018/19.
9. We have been notified that Hartlepool agreed to continue to fund the post for 2018/19.

Recommendations

10. To continue to fund the DEO post jointly with Hartlepool Borough Council for the 2018/19 financial year.
11. Approve the apportionment basis to recharge Stockton's share across all schools within the Borough.

Andy Bryson
Finance Manager