

## Schools Forum

8<sup>th</sup> October 2019

### Schools Budget Monitoring 2019/20

#### Introduction

1. This paper provides members of the Forum with the current projected outturn position on the Schools Budget based on information to the end of September 2019.

It is estimated that there will be a deficit of £3.716m by the end of this financial year. However, please note that this includes the cumulative overspend b/fwd from 2018/19 of £2.577m.

#### School Budget

2. **Appendix 1** shows the revised budget against the projected outturn for 2019/20 on the Schools Budget as at 30<sup>th</sup> September, in the prescribed DfE Section 251 reporting format. The reasons for significant variances between planned and projected spend are: -
  - a. Line 1.0.1 Savings on ESFA rates adjustments on academy recouplement are expected to result in an £80k saving.
  - b. *Line 1.2.1 Top-up funding maintained providers* – Estimated overspend of £143k. This is mainly top-ups to some SBC maintained schools and out of area maintained special schools.
  - c. *Line 1.2.2 Top up funding academies and free schools* – The projected overspend of £230k is mainly due to top-ups to some SBC academies and out of area academies.
  - d. *Line 1.2.3 Top-up funding Independent Providers* - The projected overspend of £753k relates to the increasing number and cost of specialist agency placements.
  - e. *1.2.5 SEN Support Services* - £28k estimated overspend resulting from a further increase in costs for the Hearing Impaired and Visually Impaired support arrangement with Middlesbrough Council.
  - f. *1.4.10 Pupil growth / Infant class sizes* - Estimated £176k underspend based on initial admissions data relating to September 2019.
3. The 2019/20 budget was set with a planned in year deficit of £263k.

4. The position on High Needs is discussed further in the paper on today's agenda.
5. Any surplus or deficit on the Schools Budget supported by Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) is carried forward to the following financial year.

**Recommendation**

6. That the Schools Forum note the current financial position on the schools budget.

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