

## AGENDA ITEM 6

### REPORT TO SCHOOLS FORUM

11<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER  
2022

## SCHOOLS BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 2022/23

### SUMMARY

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 2022.
2. Excluding paragraph 3 below the authority is expecting that there will be a balanced position by the end of the current financial year. The anticipated overspend on agency placements noted in paragraph 4 b below will be offset by utilising the additional grant that was received for 2022/23.
3. As you will recall from previous reports the 2022/23 High Needs budget was set anticipating an in-year saving of £1.7m and based on a review of High Needs expenditure at quarter 2 it is still anticipated that this target will be met. This saving should enable the LA to reduce the cumulative deficit b/fwd from 2021/22 of £5.48m down to £3.78m which is in line with the current medium term financial plan.

### RECOMMENDATION

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

### School Budget

5. **Appendix 1** shows the revised budget against the projected outturn for 2022/23 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 1.2.2 Supplementary grant – This is additional funding allocated to the LA by DfE following the spending review in 2021. Some of this additional funding has been allocated to SBC Special and AP settings to fund additional costs. The remaining funding is currently expected to be spent with some offsetting the increased place costs at Independent Special Schools as described below.*
  - b. *Line 1.2.3 Top-up and other funding – non-maintained and independent providers - Anticipated £588k overspend as a result of*

additional Independent Special School costs arising from additional placements in year.

6. There will be a High Needs update report presented to the November Schools Forum.
7. Any surplus or deficit on the Schools Budget supported by Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) is carried forward to the following financial year.

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