

Rotherham Schools' Forum

Venue: Rockingham Professional Development Centre

Date: Friday, 2 October 2015

Time: 8.30 a.m.

A G E N D A

1. Welcome and Introductions.
2. Apologies for absence.
3. Declarations of Interest.
4. Minutes and matters arising from the previous meetings held on 26th June and 18th September, 2015. (Pages 1 - 9)
5. Communications: -

Future work requested by the RSF Finance Sub-Committee: -
 - Creation of a principles document for the development of new schools;
 - Principles relating to Pupil Premium for EU Migrant pupils.
6. Establishing a new commissioning model for Rotherham's Schools for permanently excluded pupils.
7. Rotherham Total Schools' Budget Outturn Report for 31st March, 2015. (Pages 10 - 16)
8. Rotherham Total Schools' Budget Monitoring Report as at 31st August, 2015. (Pages 17 - 24)
9. Date and time of next meetings: -
 - 4th December, 2015 (moved from 27th November, 2015, RPDC was not available);
 - 15th January, 2016;
 - 4th March, 2016;
 - 22nd April, 2016;
 - 17th June, 2016.

All meetings to start at 8.30 a.m. at Rockingham Professional Development Centre. Every effort would be made for the meetings to end by 10.30 a.m. prompt.

**ROTHERHAM SCHOOLS' FORUM
FRIDAY, 26TH JUNE, 2015**

Present:- D. Naisbitt (in the Chair).

Learning Community Representatives: - D. Naisbitt (Oakwood), P. Di'lasio (Wales), T. Mahon (Saint Bernard's), A. Kitchen (Swinton), L. Pepper (Clifton), D. Ball (Aston), D. Sutton (Maltby), R. Fone (Brinsworth), P. Blackwell (Dinnington).

Other stakeholders: - A. Richards (Secondary Governors), S. Scott (Early Years PVI), J. Mott (Special Schools), S. Mallinder (Primary Governors), P. Bloor (PRUs), F. Sprague (Teaching Trade Unions), D. Ashmore (Teaching Schools), R. Williams (Rotherham College), M. Badger (Support Staff Trade Unions), P. Gerard (Early Years), Councillor L. Pitchley.

Also in attendance: - K. Borthwick (Skills and Learning), V. Njelic (Finance), C. Harrison (Inclusion), H. Etheridge (Legal and Democratic).

119. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

No Declarations of Interest were made.

120. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 24TH APRIL, 2015.

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 24th April, 2015, were considered.

It was noted that the Brinsworth Learning Community representative vacancy had been filled. Vacancies remaining were for Thrybergh Learning Community and the Diocese of Hallam. A correction was provided for the Dinnington Learning Community representative's name.

The role of Vice-Chairperson for the 2015/2016 year had not been filled. The Chairperson spoke about the importance of this role for increasing the capacity of the group, and for succession planning. Efforts would continue to fill the vacancy.

In relation to item 117 (Update on External Commissioners) a standing update was requested on the External Commissioners' work, in particular the impact/s on the Rotherham Schools' Forum. The public Commissioners' meeting that was held on 24th June was discussed.

Resolved: - That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 24th April, 2015, be agreed as an accurate record.

121. VOTE OF THANKS TO THE OUTGOING CHAIRPERSON, MR. P. BLACKWELL.

David Naisbitt, Chairperson of the Rotherham Schools' Forum wished to

place on record his thanks to the retiring Chairperson, Paul Blackwell. Paul had served the Rotherham Schools' Forum well during a challenging time both for Rotherham, the Local Authority and Schools. All wished Paul well in his future retirement.

122. ROTHERHAM SCHOOLS' FORUM TERMS OF REFERENCE DOCUMENTS.

David Naisbitt referred to the Education Funding Agency's recently updated 'Schools forum – Operational and good practice guide' and the 'Schools forum powers and responsibilities 2015-2016' (both March, 2015). He asked members of the Rotherham Schools' Forum to refer to the documents to understand the remit of the group. The information within the Operational guide would be studied to ensure that the membership of the Rotherham Schools' Forum was accurate and continued to be so, bearing in mind academy conversions etc.

Resolved: - That the information shared be noted.

123. HIGH NEEDS' BLOCK / SEMH UPDATE.

Chris Harrison, Policy Lead for Inclusion, was welcomed to the meeting to provide an update on his work on Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs (SEMH). Following the previous meeting of the Rotherham Schools' Forum individuals had come forward, and from the wider school community, to work in an SEMH Focus Group. This followed the presentation at the meeting that covered: -

- The % spend on the High Needs' Block in Rotherham and compared to a national benchmark;
- What it was spent on: - specialist people, specialist places and top-up funding;
- The matrix of young people's details showing that £3.6million was spent each year on young people with SEMH;
- The growing roll of Rotherham's PRU, alongside static funding.

Chris presented the plan on a page that the Focus Group had devised to show where Rotherham currently was, what it needed to do, and features of a new arrangement, along with an overarching vision and principles.

Within the current assessment of Rotherham were: -

- Lack of clarity;
- High levels of exclusions;
- Limited number of alternative providers.

Within the features of a new arrangement were: -

- Clusters of learning communities to take collective responsibility for children and young people with SEMH needs;

- Resources devolved to clusters of learning communities;
- A system of cost recovery in place to ensure equity of access to Alternative Provision provided by the Local Authority;
- Engagement of partners;
- 'Respite Moves' distinct from Managed Moves.

Chris described how the model was currently being presented to all phases of Rotherham's headteachers. It would be presented to school governors in September.

Chris showed a proposed staffing model to support the SEMH structures. It was proposed that staff with excellent practice would be seconded from schools and employed centrally to support SEMH across the Borough. They would be based within schools as their local intelligence was important. Links to the Fair Access Protocol were also important and the Head of Service was involved in discussions.

Discussion followed and members of the Rotherham Schools' Forum made the following comments: -

- Some Learning Communities did not work as strongly as others. Smaller schools would be particularly vulnerable in this model. – Learning communities would not be limited to geographical areas. Cross phase groupings would provide support;
- A 0-19 approach was required as children with SEMH often had needs outside of the standard school ages/transitions;
- It was important to engage with parents and students when developing the proposal and to consult with them. They had experience of the system from top to bottom;
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHs) should be involved;
- Was there an optimal size for a cluster? - Chris described different clusters that he had seen working. Their size would be dependent on need and local features;
- Had CAMHs been involved in the production of the proposals? - Not yet, CAMHs representatives would be invited to a joint commissioning meeting;
- There was a DfE pilot to link into.

Chris described the financial considerations relating to moving money from the Local Authority into the SEMH clusters of learning communities. A threat to the proposed model was increasing numbers of exclusions. It was important that the model be protected from increasing exclusions or the system would be stuck creating ever greater numbers of placements.

An agreed formula for the learning communities would need to take into account local deprivation levels. Schools would be assigned a number of alternative placements. They would be able to place above their quota only if they swapped an existing placement or purchased another

placement. The cost would be above the AWPU level. This was intended to moderate the use of the PRU system. One member of the RSF spoke about the importance of not basing the new formula on existing placements and usage of alternative provision, as this would skew it towards current high users of alternative provision.

These issues were seen as threats to the proposed model. It was important that they were checked to ensure that the new model was given every chance to succeed. The proposed system would rely on schools taking responsibility for their own young people. The Rotherham Schools' Forum would have to be prepared to challenge any instances of unreasonable behaviour or off-loading of problems into the PRU system.

One member of the RSF saw a threat to the proposed model in that there was a finite amount of resources available from vacant posts within the staffing structure. The intention was that the funding from these posts would be used to fund new posts within the new clusters of learning communities. The number of these was not yet known, which would be problematic when the resources were finite.

David Naisbitt thanked Chris for his work and presentation.

Resolved: - (1) That the information shared be noted.

(2) That the next steps for Chris and the Rotherham Schools' Forum be: -

- The details of the proposal be circulated to RSF members to take to their Learning Communities in September, along with a list of questions that need to be explored;
- That the October meeting of the RSF consider the overall numbers of schools that were interested in participating;
- That the October meeting of the RSF consider the clustering process and the initial Cost Recovery Mechanism;
- That the new Director of Early Help, David McWilliams, be involved.

124. PROGRESS REPORT ON THE BUY BACK OF LA SERVICES.

Karen Borthwick, Director for Education and Skills, reported on the responses received in relation to the letter sent by Ian Thomas, Strategic Director for Children and Young People's Services Directorate, on 16th April, 2015. This letter asked headteachers their intentions on buying-back services relating to care, safeguarding support and trade union facilities time. The rate of response had not been high. Learning Community Representatives agreed to approach the schools within their area who had not responded. Whilst it was an individual school decision whether or not to buy-back the services offered, all in attendance felt that it was important for non-responders to be reminded of the letter. It was also felt that the majority of schools would wish to buy-back these Services.

Vera Njelic, Principal Finance Officer, provided an update on the SLAs that were due to come into effect on 1st July, 2015. As academy schools were funded on an academic year, their funding arrangements for the relevant c.£231k for the period 1st April – 31st August, 2015, needed to be confirmed. The Principal Finance Officer had written to the Education Funding Agency asking for confirmation of what the re-couplement would be. This had been received and would shortly be forwarded on to individual academies.

Resolved: - That the information shared be noted.

125. UPDATE ON DELEGATION OF CENTRAL FUNDS TO ACADEMIES

This information was covered at the previous item.

126. UPDATE ON TOTAL SCHOOL BUDGET 2015-2016.

Vera Njelic, Principal Finance Officer, reported that there was no update to provide since the information discussed at the previous meeting. The carry-forwards from the 2014/2015 budget had not yet been audited. This was anticipated to have happened by the October meeting, when an update would be provided, along with the first budget monitoring report on the 2015/2016 budget.

The Teaching School Representative also requested information on schools balances ending 2014/2015. Again, from an unaudited position, there were 12 schools with an excess outturn balance, and 9 schools with a deficit outturn balance.

Resolved: - (1) That this information be noted.

(2) That an audited update on 2014/2015 carry-forwards into the 2015/2016 budget be presented to the October meeting of the Rotherham Schools' Forum, along with the first budget monitoring report for the 2015/2016 year.

127. PROPOSED DATES FOR 2015-2016: -

Resolved: - That the 2015/2016 Rotherham Schools' Forum meetings take place on: -

- 2nd October, 2015;
- 4th December, 2015 (moved from 27th November, 2015, RPDC was not available);
- 15th January, 2016;
- 4th March, 2016;
- 22nd April, 2016;
- 17th June, 2016.

All meetings to start at 8.30 a.m. at Rockingham Professional Development Centre. Every effort would be made for the meetings to end by 10.30 a.m. prompt.

**ROTHERHAM SCHOOLS' FORUM
FRIDAY, 18TH SEPTEMBER, 2015**

Present:- D. Naisbitt (in the Chair).

Learning Community representatives: - D. Ball (Aston), K. Sherburn (Rawmarsh), J. Morrison (Swinton), R. Burman (Winterhill), L. Pepper (Clifton), D. Naisbitt (Oakwood), P. Dobbin (Wingfield), C. Eccles and I. Holborn (Dinnington), R. Fone (Brinsworth), D. Sutton (Maltby), P. Di'Iasio (Wales).

Other stakeholder groups: - S. Mallinder (Primary Governors), F. Sprague (Teaching Trade Unions), M. Badger (Support Staff Unions), P. Bloor (PRUs), P. Sayles (Rotherham Colleges), A. Richards (Secondary Governors), D. Ashmore (Teaching Schools).

Also in attendance: - K. Borthwick (Skills and Learning), C. Harrison (Inclusion), v. Njegic (Finance), H. Etheridge (Legal and Democratic Services).

Observers: - M. Young.

Apologies for absence: - D. Silvester (Wath), H. McLaughlin (Saint Pius), S. Scott (Early Years PVI), G. Alton (P. Sayles representing), Councillor L. Pitchley, J. Robertson (Finance), I. Thomas (CYPS), S. Brook (F. Sprague representing).

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

No Declarations of Interest were made.

2. ESTABLISHING A NEW COMMISSIONING MODEL FOR ROTHERHAM'S SCHOOLS FOR PERMANENTLY EXCLUDED PUPILS.

Chris Harrison, Policy Lead for Inclusion, introduced a proposed model regarding commissioning appropriate provision for permanently excluded pupils.

The model shared related to a secondary model. Each place cost £17k. It would be possible for schools individually, or within a cluster, to cash-in the place and use the money for other Alternative Provision.

Allocation of the current 90 places within the secondary phase to individual schools or clusters would be done through factors/indicators. Models looking at number on roll, deprivation, mobility and attainment had been produced. Currently there were 25 places within the primary phase.

Management of existing placements in Rotherham's PRU could be necessary, including returning some children to mainstream. This would free up a place, which could then be backfilled or cashed-in.

Discussion followed and the Rotherham Schools' Forum members raised the following points: -

- Rotherham's special schools were currently under their admission number;
- How the proposed model would work alongside the Fair Access Protocol;
- Why was secondary being prevented separately? Many issues started in primary school and could be prevented from escalating if the resources were there;
- How the proposed model would work alongside managed moves. Especially if managed moves operated outside of the cluster schools formed for PRU provision/places;
- Different schools had different rates of exclusion;
- Recognising and working with parental preference;
- Working with schools on Rotherham's borders.

3. NEXT STEPS.

David Naisbitt asked RSF members to go back to their learning communities/stakeholder groups and share the principles of the model.

The substantive item on of RSF meeting planned for Friday 2nd October would be on whether this model could be supported; attendees would be asked to support or reject the model presented.

Some areas of information were felt to be missing before a decision on the model could be taken: -

- Greater clarity on the relationship/co-ordination between SEN provision, managed moves and the Fair Access Protocol and the proposed commissioning model;
- Clarity needed on the primary model;
- Not all Learning Communities operated in the same ways.

4. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETINGS: -

- 2nd October, 2015;
- 4th December, 2015 (moved from 27th November, 2015, RPDC was not available);

- 15th January, 2016;
- 4th March, 2016;
- 22nd April, 2016;
- 17th June, 2016.

All meetings to start at 8.30 a.m. at Rockingham Professional Development Centre. Every effort would be made for the meetings to end by 10.30 a.m. prompt.

1	Meeting:	Rotherham Schools Forum
2	Date:	2 nd October 2015
3	Title:	Rotherham Total Schools' Budget Outturn Report for 31 st March 2015
4	Directorate:	Resources – Financial Services Children and Young People's Services

5 Summary

This Budget Outturn Report provides a 2014/15 financial year end position for the Rotherham Total Schools Budget based on actual income and expenditure to the 31st March 2015.

The Total Schools Budget Outturn for 2014/15 (excluding Schools Delegated balances) shows an under spend of £1.036m. The outturn variances on each funding block are as follows:-

	£	
Schools Block	0.933m	under spend
High Needs Block	1.010m	over spend
Early Years Block	1.113m	under spend

6 Recommendations

That the Schools Forum receives and notes the Schools Budget financial outturn position for the year 2014/15 based on actual income and expenditure to the 31st March 2015.

7.1.1 The table below summarises the final outturn for each funding block against agreed budgets:

	Revised Budget	Outturn Position to 31 st March 2015	Variations Overspend (+) Underspend (-)	
	£000	£000	£000	%
Schools Block				
Delegated Schools Budgets	103,882	103,882	0	0
School Rates	2,530	1,671	-859	-33.95
Rotherham School Improvement Partnership	725	723	-2	-0.28
Centrally Managed Services for Schools:-				
Behaviour Support (Eotas)	152	138	-14	-9.21
Children in Public Care	152	126	-26	-17.11
Education Welfare Central Attendance	54	54	0	0
Operational Safeguarding (Standards and Development)	43	43	0	0
Sexual Exploitation Team	45	45	0	0
Free School Meals Assessment	32	30	-2	-6.25
School Effectiveness Service	1,041	1,036	-5	-0.48
Training for Children with Medical Needs	45	42	-3	-6.52
Moving and Handling	46	42	-4	-8.70
Sen Transport to Extra District Schools	101	101	0	0
Trade Union Activities	50	50	0	0
Young Peoples Service	28	28	0	0
City Learning Centres	163	163	0	0
School Contingencies:-				
Schools in Financial Difficulty	46	0	-46	-100
Redundancy	77	83	6	7.79
Pupil Growth Fund	17	63	46	270.59
Copyright Licences	144	120	-24	-16.67
Total Schools Block	109,373	108,440	-933	-0.85
High Needs Block				
Special Schools Delegated Budget	10,412	10,412	0	0
SEN Placements and Top Up Funding	995	1880	885	88.94
Primary Exceptional Needs Top up and Specialist Resource Units	1,167	1,167	0	0
Secondary Exceptional Needs Top up and Specialist Resource Unit	418	418	0	0
Flanderwell Resource Unit	26	23	-3	-11.54
Post 16-24 SEN Provision	920	1,572	652	70.87
SEN Complex Needs Placements	1,613	1,328	-285	-17.67
SEN Extra District Placements	350	107	-243	-69.43
SEN Assessment Team	51	53	2	3.92
Commissioning Team (SEN Placements)	34	34	0	0
Early Years ASD Support	92	90	-2	-2.17
Hearing Impaired Service	495	574	79	15.96
Visually Impaired Service	413	437	24	5.81
Learning Support and Autism Communication (Inc READ)	602	589	-13	-2.16
Portage Service	201	215	14	6.97
Pupil Referral Units Delegated Budget	2,023	2,023	0	0
Educated Other than at School Transport	40	55	15	37.5
Home Tuition Service	73	98	25	34.25
Children and Families Disability	161	21	-140	-86.96
Total High Needs Block	20,086	21,096	1,010	5.03

Early Years Block				
Nursery Delegated Budget	1,675	1,675	0	0
Primary Delegated Budget	3,389	3,389	0	0
Private, Voluntary and Independent Nursery Education (3 & 4 year old funding)	3,323	3,184	-139	-4.18
Early Years 2 year old funding	3,832	3,112	-720	-18.79
Early Years Payments and Adjustments	1,307	1,053	-254	-19.43
Total Early Years Block	13,526	12,413	-1,113	-8.23
EFA Sixth Form Funding Special Schools	926	926	0	0
TOTAL OUTTURN POSITION	143,911	142,875	-1,036	-0.72

Further details of the original budget, grant adjustments, budget virements, carry forward balances and final outturn for the Total Schools budget for the above funding blocks for the period ended 31st March 2015 are shown on Appendix 1.

7.1.2 Presented below is an analysis of the main variances against revised budgets on each funding block and the underlying reasons beneath them:

Schools Block (£933k under spend)

School Rates (£859k under Spend)

Actual under spend of £859k against revised rates budgets. Main variance due to rate relief on secondary schools converting to Academy status and 2 schools granted Corporate Trust status £646k. Carry forward of Schools Block under spend from 2013/14 £414k. Offset by an over spend of £201k on primary school rates due to re-valuation of new build school premises backdated 3 years.

Behaviour Support Service (£14k under spend)

Under spend on premises costs £7k and supplies and services £11k offset by overspend on staffing £3k and £1k transport costs.

Children in Public Care (£26k under spend)

Staff slippage of £24k due to not filling vacant posts pending service restructure and under spend on supplies and services £2k.

Schools Contingency (£18k under spend)

Under spends of £46k on Schools in Financial Difficulty fund and £24k underspend on copyright Licences for Schools. Offset by overspend on termination of employment and pension costs £6k and over allocation of Pupil Growth fund payments to Primary Schools £46k.

SEN Placements and Top up Funding (885k over spend)

Over spends on out of authority independent non maintained School placements £927k (49 placements in year, average weekly cost of current placements is £995 and on this basis the budget could only fund 19 placements), specialist education equipment £83k over, other packages of support £15k, Mind Contract £60k (Mental Health in Schools), Speech and Language Therapy £34k, offset by under spend of £51k for exceptional needs funding to Special and mainstream maintained schools and £78k income from Clinical Commissioning Group (Health contribution towards placement costs) and £105k income from schools for permanently excluded pupils.

Post 16-24 SEN Provision (£652k over spend)

Over spend on post 16 element 3 top up funding to Further Education Providers (201 current placements and a further 46 placements ceasing in year). (Average weekly cost of mainstream and local provision is £123 with average cost of independent specialist provision for high needs students at £664. Based on an overall average cost of £190 the current budget can only fund 127 placements).

SEN Complex Needs Placements (£285k under spend)

Under spend on out of authority placements in independent non maintained Special Schools for pupils with statements of SEN. (28 placements in year with average weekly cost of £2,322) Additional income from Clinical Commissioning Group £234k to offset placement costs.

SEN Extra District Placements (£243k under spend)

An under spend of £119k at the end of March is due to lower than expected top up funding for placements in other Local authority maintained schools (based on 29 current placements and a further 12 ceasing mid-year) and additional income of £124k recouped from other Local authorities for pupils in Rotherham Schools. (Based on an average weekly cost of current placements of £172 the budget is sufficient to fund 39 full time placements)

Hearing Impaired Service (£79k over spend)

Over spend on staffing of £39k as a result of temporary staff appointed to meet the needs of an increase in the number of pupils at the resource units at Bramley and Wickersley and insufficient funding for increments and pay awards. Over spend of £6k on specialist hearing equipment, £1k interpretation costs, £3k advertising and criminal record checks, Bramley Grange Premises contribution £15k and a £15k income shortfall.

(Outturn is based on 11 pupils in places at Bramley, 13 pupils at Wickersley and 299 pupils receiving support from the peripatetic Team).

Visually Impaired Service (£24k over spend)

Staffing costs £24k over due to insufficient funding for staff increments and pay awards. Additional over spends on advertising and criminal record checks £1k and specialist visual equipment £3k offset by additional income of £4k. (Outturn is based on an active caseload of 235 pupils at the end of the financial year)

Learning Support and Autism Communication Service (£13k under spend)

Under spend on staff costs of £29k due to slippage following new appointments to vacant posts and under spend of £8k on supplies and services offset by over spend on training costs £3k, advertising and criminal record checks £2k, premises costs £1k and transport costs £1k and shortfall in income target of £17k.

Portage Service (£14k over spend)

Staffing costs £13k over spend due to insufficient funding for staff increments and pay awards. Premises costs £4k over due to inadequate budget. Budget pressure offset by reduction in supplies and services £2k and an under spend on transport costs £1K.

Educated other than at school – Transport (£15k over spend)

Over spend on transport costs for pupils within the Pru system. (Taxi provision £1k over and bus passes £14k over)

Home Tuition Service (£25k over spend)

Over spend on tutor costs £25k due to additional hours required for 15 pupils accessing the service in year and supplies £2k over offset by under spend on transport costs £2k (Historic budget used to fund an average of 11 students).

Children and Families Disability (£140k under spend)

Alternative funding secured from the Clinical Commissioning Group to cover the cost of support packages for specialist provision for 4 children.

Early Years Block (£1,113k under spend)**Private, Voluntary and Independent Nursery Education (£139k under spend)**

Under spend due to lower than anticipated take up of external nursery placements for 3 and 4 year old children.

Early Years – 2 Year Old Funding (£720k under spend)

Lower than expected take up of placements for disadvantaged 2 year olds.

Early Years Payments/Adjustments (£254k under spend)

This represents the balance of unallocated Early Years funding following fewer number of pupils accessing the 15 hour free entitlement in maintained and academy nursery and primary schools than anticipated in the original budget.

7.2.1 The agreed carry-forward balances are as follows:

Schools Block (£933k under spend)

- Rates Budget £473k additional allocation based on projected valuation estimates for 2015/16.
- Under spend on rates budget £414k carried forward from 2013/14 allocated to Individual School Budgets in 2015/16
- Schools in Financial Difficulty £46k under spend carried forward to 2015/16 Budget.

Early Years Block (£1,113m under spend)

- Under spend of £433k to be transferred to the High Needs Block to alleviate budget pressures in 2015-16
- Under spend of £320k on 2 year old funding to be transferred into 2015/16 Early Years Block. (£170k earmarked for SEN childcare Inclusion support and £150k for staffing and IT system)
- Balance of under spend £360k to be retained in the Early Years Block to offset expected grant claw back for 3 & 4 year funding following Jan 15 census data.

8. Finance

Finance details are included in section 7 above and Appendix 1.

8. Risks and Uncertainties

9. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

10. Background Papers and Consultation

The outturn figures included in this report have been subject to internal quality assurance work on the Statement of Accounts undertaken during May 2015. The outturn figures have been subject to external audit verification during June/July. The Council's statement of accounts for 2014/15 has now been approved by the Audit Committee.

Contact Name: Andrea Baldwin – Principal Finance Officer (Children and Young People's Services), *Financial Services ext: 22012, email Andrea.baldwin@rotherham.gov.uk*

APPENDIX 1

Total Schools Budget Outturn 2014/15 as at 31st March 2015

Description	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
	Original Budget Allocation £'000	Academy Recoupment £'000	Revision to Initial Estimate £'000	Budget Virements £'000	Estimated C/Fwd Balances from 2013/14 inc in original Budget £'000	Add Actual C/Fwd Balances from 2013/14 £'000	Total Adjustments £'000	Revised Budget Allocation 2014/15 £'000	Actual Expenditure 1st April to 31st March 15 £'000	Actual Year End Variance (over spend +/-) £'000	Actual Year End Variance (over spend +/-) %
Delegated Schools Budgets	123,287	-20,575		1,170			-19,405	103,882	103,882	0	0.00
School Rates	2,182	-67		0	-47	462	347	2,530	1,671	-859	-33.95
RSIP	768			-445		402	-43	725	723	-2	-0.28
Centrally Managed Services for Schools											
Behaviour Support (Eotas)	170	-18					-18	152	138	-14	-9.21
Children in Public Care	152						0	152	126	-26	-17.11
Education Welfare Central Attendance Team	54						0	54	54	0	0.00
Operational Safeguarding - CYP Standards and Development	43						0	43	43	0	0.00
Sexual Exploitation Team	45						0	45	45	0	0.00
Free School Meals Assessment	36	-4					-4	32	30	-2	-6.25
School Effectiveness Service	1,254			-213			-213	1,041	1,036	-5	-0.48
Training for Children with Medical Needs	46						0	46	42	-4	-8.70
Moving and Handling	46						0	46	42	-4	-8.70
SEN Transport to Extra District Schools	101						0	101	101	0	0.00
Trade Union Activities	56	-6					-6	50	50	0	0.00
Young People's Service	28						0	28	28	0	0.00
City Learning Zones	163						0	163	163	0	0.00
Schools Contingency: Primary Schools in Financial Difficulty	100	-4			-50		-54	46	0	-46	100.00
Schools Contingency: Redundancy	157				-80		-80	77	83	6	7.79
Schools Contingency: Pupil Growth Fund	400				-382		-382	17	63	46	255.56
Schools Contingency: CLA Licences	144		0				0	144	120	-24	-16.67
TOTAL SCHOOLS BLOCK	129,231	-20,674	0	0	-47	863	-19,859	109,373	108,440	-933	-0.85
Special Schools Delegated Budget	5,851			4,561			4,561	10,412	10,412	0	0.00
School placements)	5,473		-6	-4,473			-4,479	995	1,880	885	88.94
Primary Delegated - Exceptional Needs Top up Funding and Specialist Resource Units	1,328			-161			-161	1,167	1,167	0	0.00
Secondary Delegated - Exceptional Needs Top Up Funding and Specialist Resource Unit	415			3			3	418	418	0	0.00
Flanderwell Resource Unit	0			26			26	26	23	-3	-11.54
Post 16-24 SEN Provision	920						0	920	1,572	652	70.87
maintained Schools	745		264	-140	1,632	-888	868	1,613	1,328	-285	-17.67
SEN Extra District Placements	350						0	350	107	-243	-69.43
SEN Assessment Team	51						0	51	53	2	3.92
Commissioning Team (SEND Placements)	34						0	34	34	0	0.00
Early Years ASD Support	92						0	92	90	-2	-2.17
Hearing Impaired Service	550		-55				-55	495	574	79	15.96
Visual Impaired Service	413						0	413	437	24	5.81
Learning Support Service and Autism Communication Team (Inc READ Service)	570			8		25	33	602	589	-13	-2.16
Portage	201						0	201	215	14	6.97
Pupil Referral Units - Delegated Budget	1,981			42			42	2,023	2,023	0	0.00
Educated Other than at School - Transport	40						0	40	55	15	37.50
Home Tuition Service	73						0	73	98	25	34.25
Children and Families Disability	28			133			133	161	21	-140	-86.96
TOTAL HIGH NEEDS BLOCK	19,114	0	203	0	1,632	-863	972	20,086	21,096	1,010	5.03
Nursery Delegated Budget	1,729		0	-54			-54	1,675	1,675	0	0.00
Primary Delegated Budget	4,628		0	-1,239			-1,239	3,389	3,389	0	0.00
Private, Voluntary and Independent Nursery Education (3 & 4 Year Olds Funding)	2,883		453	-13			440	3,323	3,184	-139	-4.18
Early Years 2 Year Old Funding	3,832		0				0	3,832	3,112	-720	-18.79
Early Years Payments and Adjustments	1		0	1,306			1,306	1,307	1,053	-254	-19.43
TOTAL EARLY YEARS BLOCK	13,073	0	453	0	0	0	453	13,526	12,413	-1,113	-8.23
TOTAL DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT	161,418	-20,674	655	0	1,585	1	-18,434	142,985	141,949	-1,036	-0.72
EFA Post 16 Special Education	644		283				283	926	926	0	0.00
TOTAL SCHOOLS BUDGET	162,062	-20,674	938	0	1,585	1	-18,151	143,911	142,875	-1,036	-0.72

1	Meeting:	Rotherham Schools Forum
2	Date:	2 nd October 2015
3	Title:	Rotherham Total Schools' Budget Monitoring Report as at 31 st August 2015
4	Directorate:	Resources – Financial Services Children and Young People's Services

5 Summary

This report confirms the Total Schools Budget allocation for 2015/16 and the projected outturn to the end of March 2016 against this budget based on actual expenditure and income up to the 31st August 15.

The Total Schools budget available after confirmation of the Dedicated Schools Grant allocation, the EFA Post 16 SEN Funding for 2015/16 and the DSG Carry-forward from 2014/15 is £127.820m (after deductions for Academy recoupment). Compared to the initial estimated grant funding of £139.441m this equates to a decrease in the funding to Rotherham of £11.621m.

The current projected outturn against the above budget based on expenditure up to the 31st August 2015 is an over spend of £507k (0.40% over budget), including the agreed carry-forward allocations from 2014/15 to 2015/16 financial year.

6 Recommendations

That the Schools Forum receives and notes confirmation of the revised Total Schools Budget allocation for 2015/16.

That the Schools Forum receives and notes the Schools Budget projected outturn position for the year 2015/16.

7 Revision to the Total Schools Budget

The total amount of grant funding available to Rotherham for the current financial year was originally estimated at £139.441m. The actual amount available has now been confirmed as £127.820m as a result of the following:-

DSG for the Schools Block had been estimated at £102.624m including an estimate for academy recoupment. The actual recoupment figure is higher following the conversion of Dinnington High, Flanderwell, Greasbrough, Herringthorpe Junior, Maltby Lilly Hall, Ravenfield, Aston Springwood, Thrybergh Fulleton and Trinity Croft Primary Schools. This resulted in a further reduction to the Schools Block of £11.412m. The revised School Block also includes a net increase of £424k for the carry forward of unspent grant from 2014/15. (Allocated to Rates budget £378k and Schools in Financial Difficulty £46k)

DSG for the High Needs Block had been estimated at £21.763m including an estimated reduction from the EFA for the direct funding of high needs places in non-maintained Special Schools and recoupment academies. The actual adjustment by the EFA was lower which resulted in a net increase of £81k. Additional increase of £78k as a result of the High Needs carry forward over spend from 2014/15 being less than anticipated at the 31st March 2015.

Post 16 SEN funding from the EFA has now been confirmed at £950k. This is an increase of £7k from the anticipated grant.

DSG for the Early Years Block had been estimated at £14.111m. The actual allocation from the EFA for 3 and 4 year old funding has reduced by £441k due to an adjustment to the baseline funding as a result of a reduction in early years pupil numbers on the January 2015 census data. This decrease has been offset by the £360k additional Early Years Block carry forward from 2014/15. The budget allocation for the participation funding for disadvantaged 2 year olds was estimated at the time of budget setting based on the 2014/15 grant allocation. The final grant allocation notified in June 2015 is a reduction of £717k based on pupil numbers on the January 15 Census.

The overall effect on available Total Schools Budget has been a reduction of £11.621m to the original estimate.

	Original Allocation	Revised Allocation	Total Adjustment
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Schools Block	102,624	91,636	-10,988
High Needs Block	21,763	21,922	159
Early Years Block	14,111	13,312	-799
Total Dedicated Schools Grant	138,498	126,870	-11,628
EFA Post 16 Special Education	943	950	7
Total Schools Budget	139,441	127,820	-11,621

8 Total Schools Budget Projected Outturn 2015/16

8.1.1 The forecast outturn position is projected to be £507k over spend based on the budget monitoring returns from budget holders for the period ending 31st August 2015. The table below summarises the forecast outturn for each funding block against agreed revised budgets.

	Revised Budget 31 st August 2015 £000	Projected Outturn 31 st August 2015 £000	Variations Overspend (+) Underspend (-)	
			£000	%
Schools Block				
Delegated Schools Budgets	88,750	88,750	0	0
School Rates	1,740	1,740	0	0
Centrally Managed Services for Schools				
Virtual School for Children in Public Care	38	38	0	0
Education Welfare Central Attendance	14	14	0	0
Operational Safeguarding Standards & Dev	11	11	0	0
Sexual Exploitation Team	11	11	0	0
School Effectiveness (including CLC's)	354	354	0	0
Training for Children with Medical Needs	11	11	0	0
Moving and Handling	11	11	0	0
SEN Transport to Extra District Schools	25	25	0	0
Young People's Service	6	6	0	0
Schools Contingencies				
Primary Schools in Financial Difficulty	121	121	0	0
Servicing of Schools Forum	3	3	0	0
Pupil Growth Fund	336	336	0	0
Copyright Licences	205	189	-16	-7.80
Total Schools Block	91,636	91,620	-16	-0.02
High Needs Block				
Special Schools Delegated Budgets	10,055	10,055	0	0
SEN Placements and Top Up Funding	1,998	3,340	1,342	67.17
Primary Exceptional Needs and Specialist Resource Units	1,065	1,065	0	0
Secondary Exceptional Needs and Specialist Resource Unit	428	428	0	0
Flanderwell Resource Unit	106	106	0	0
Post 16 to 24 SEN Provision	1,648	1,225	-423	-25.67
SEN Complex Needs Placements	1,979	1,656	-323	-16.32
SEN Extra District Placements	222	189	-33	-14.86
SEN Assessment Team	53	55	2	3.77
Commissioning Team (SEN Placements)	35	35	0	0
Early Years ASD Support	76	76	0	0
Hearing Impaired Service	637	608	-29	-4.55
Visual Impaired Service	475	455	-20	-4.21
Learning Support and Autism Communication (inc READ)	588	572	-16	-2.72
Portage Service	231	230	-1	-0.43
Pupil Referral Units – Delegated Budget	2,138	2,138	0	0
Educated other than at School Transport	48	59	11	22.92
Home Tuition Service	140	153	13	9.29
Total High Needs Block	21,922	22,445	523	2.39

Early Years Block				
Nursery Delegated Budget	1,717	1,717	0	0
Primary Delegated Budget	3,018	3,018	0	0
Private, Voluntary & Independent Nursery Education (3 & 4 Year old Funding)	3,564	3,564	0	0
Early Years 2 Year old Funding	3,265	3,265	0	0
Childcare Inclusion Support	170	170	0	0
Early Years Payments/grant adjustments	1,578	1,578	0	0
Total Early Years Block	13,312	13,312	0	0
EFA Sixth Form Funding Special Schools	950	950	0	0
TOTAL FORECAST OUTTURN POSITION	127,820	128,327	507	0.40

Further details of the original budget, grant adjustments, budget virements, carry forward balances and forecast outturn for the Total Schools budget for the above funding blocks for the period ended 31st August 2015 are shown on Appendix 1.

8.1.2 Delegated School Budgets

For the purposes of this report the forecast outturn position on schools, the DSG is estimated to be a balanced position. However, it should be noted that schools have reported a £1.827m under spend as at the end of July 2015 summer term.

8.1.3 Presented below is an analysis of the main variances against revised budgets on each funding block and the underlying reasons beneath them:

Schools Block (£16k under spend)

Schools Contingency (£16k under spend)

Under spend of £16k on copyright licences for Schools.

High Needs Block (£523k over spend)

SEN Placements and Top up Funding (£1,342m over spend)

Over spends on out of authority independent non maintained School placements £1,334m (47 placements in year and 7 potential places costing £2,047m, average weekly cost of current placements is £1,089 and on this basis the budget could only fund 17 placements), specialist educated otherwise packages of support £84k, Speech and Language Therapy £33k, offset by £68k income from schools for permanently excluded pupils and £41k income from Clinical Commissioning Group (Health contribution towards placement costs)

Post 16-24 SEN Provision (£423k under spend)

Under spend on post 16 element 3 top up funding £69k to Further Education Providers (180 in year placements and 15 potential places costing £1,579m) and additional income of £354k from Clinical Commissioning Group. Weekly cost of mainstream and local provision is £146 with average cost of independent specialist provision for high needs students at £715. Based on an overall average cost of £199 the current budget can fund 218 placements.

SEN Complex Needs Placements (£323k under spend)

Under spend on out of authority placements in independent non maintained Special Schools for pupils with statements of SEN and Education, Health and Care Plans. (26 placements in year and 2 potential placements costing £2,475m) The average weekly cost of a 52 week residential placement is £3,385 and average of a 38 week day placement is £1,114 (average weekly cost of current places £2,019). The budget includes income from Clinical Commissioning Group of £250k to offset placement costs.

SEN Extra District Placements (£33k under spend)

Over spend of £40k on top up funding for placements in other Local authority maintained schools (based on 33 current placements costing £262k) offset by additional income of £73k recouped from other Local authorities for pupils in Rotherham Schools. (Based on an average weekly cost of current placements of £246 the budget is sufficient to fund 23 full time placements)

Hearing Impaired Service (£29k under spend)

Under spend on staffing of £29k due to in year staff vacancies. Additional income £4k offset by over spend of £2k on staff advertising and Dbs checks and computer costs £2k. (Forecast outturn is based on 9 pupils in places at Bramley, 13 pupils at Wickersley and 310 pupils receiving support from the peripatetic Team).

Visually Impaired Service (£20k under spend)

Under spend on staffing due to in year vacancies and savings on superannuation costs for staff not contributing to the pension scheme. (Forecast Outturn is based on an active caseload of 239 pupils which includes complex new children)

Learning Support and Autism Communication Service (£16k under spend)

Under spend on staff costs of £55k due to slippage following new appointments to vacant posts offset by over spend on room hire costs £3k, transport costs £4k and forecast shortfall in income target of £32k.

Educated other than at school – Transport (£11k over spend)

Over spend on transport costs for pupils within the Pru system.

Home Tuition Service (£13k over spend)

Over spend on tutor costs £11k due to additional hours required for 17 current pupils accessing the service and 2 referrals pending together with over spend of £2k on computer supplies. The budget was based on funding for 14 students.

8.1.4 Budget Adjustments/Virements

Budget adjustments and virements for the period from April to August 2015 are as follows:-

School Block**Contingency**

Growth fund allocations of £164k transferred to Primary Schools.

High Needs Block**Special Schools Delegated Budget**

Original element 3 top up funding of £4,642m and £121k funding from delegated central budgets transferred from Special Educational Needs budget. Additional in year funding for Individual assigned resources of £207k for the period April to July 15 for pupils with exceptional needs. Further funding of £97.5k agreed for Newman Resource Unit to cover additional costs of pupils with exceptional needs. A final budget adjustment of £269k to realign the original place funding agreed for Special Schools.

Special Educational Needs (Top Up Funding)

Virements to Special School budgets as outlined above £4,798m less £391k adjustment from Primary delegated budgets and £209k from Secondary delegated budgets to adjust original element 3 top up funding for mainstream schools. Additional in year funding for individual assigned resources of £134k to Primary Schools and £32k to Secondary schools for the period April to July 15 for pupils with exceptional needs. Further funding of £6k allocated to Flanderwell Resource unit to cover additional premises costs. Budget adjustment of £350k for the revision of the original budget for Pupil Referral Units less £248k additional funding agreed for 25 extra pupils for the period September 15 to March 16.

Primary Delegated Schools Budget

Adjustment to original element 3 top up funding £391k less Individual assigned resources of £134k from Special Educational Needs budget as outlined above.

Secondary Delegated Schools Budget

Adjustment to original element 3 top up funding £209k less individual assigned resources of £32k from Special Educational Needs budget as outlined above.

Nursery Delegated Budget

Allocation of Early Years Pupil Premium funding £11k from Primary Delegated Budget.

Primary Delegated Budget

Budget reduction of £883k for Early Years payments for 3 and 4 year olds to Academy Schools. Transfer Early Years Pupil Premium funding £150k for Private, Voluntary and Independent sector providers and £11k to maintained nursery schools as outlined above.

Early Years Payments/Adjustments

Funding for 3 and 4 year olds in Academy Schools £883k transferred from Primary Delegated budget above and a budget adjustment of £695k from 2 year old funding to realign original budgets to funding allocations notified by DFE.

9. Finance

Finance details are included in section 8 above and Appendix 1.

10. Risks and Uncertainties

Principle risks and uncertainties relate to the 'needs led' nature of High Needs Budgets in relation to special educational needs pupils.

11. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

12. Background Papers and Consultation

This report has been discussed with the Director of Education and Skills and the Interim Strategic Director of Resources and Transformation.

Contact Name: Andrea Baldwin – Principal Finance Officer (Children and Young People's Services), *Financial Services ext: 22012, email Andrea.baldwin@rotherham.gov.uk*

APPENDIX 1

Total Schools Budget Monitoring 2015/16 as at 31st August 2015

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
Description	Original Budget Allocation 1st April 2015	Academy Recoupment	Revision to Initial Estimate/Grant Adjustments	Budget Virements	Estimated C/Fwd Balances from 2014/15 inc in original Budget	Add Actual C/Fwd Balances from 2014/15	Total Adjustments	Revised Budget Allocation 2015/16 31st August 15	Actual Spend 1st April to 31st August 15	Projected Outturn Position	Current Projected Year End Variance (over spend +/-under spend -)
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Delegated Schools Budgets	99,998	-11,412		164	-414	414	-11,248	88,750	36,979	88,750	0
School Rates	1,362	0			-95	473	378	1,740	725	1,740	0
Centrally Managed Services for Schools											
Virtual School for Children in Public Care	38						0	38	38	38	0
Education Welfare Central Attendance Team	14						0	14	14	14	0
Operational Safeguarding - CYPS Standards and Development	11						0	11	9	11	0
Sexual Exploitation Team	11						0	11	11	11	0
School Effectiveness Service (including CLC's)	354						0	354	354	354	0
Training for Children with Medical Needs	11						0	11	11	11	0
Moving and Handling	11						0	11	11	11	0
SEN Transport to Extra District Schools	25						0	25	25	25	0
Young People's Service	6						0	6	6	6	0
Schools Contingency: Primary Schools in Financial Difficulty	75					46	46	121	0	121	0
Schools Contingency: Servicing of Schools Forum	3						0	3	0	3	0
Schools Contingency: Pupil Growth Fund	500			-164			-164	336	306	336	0
Schools Contingency: CLA Licences	205						0	205	189	189	-16
											0
TOTAL SCHOOLS BLOCK	102,624	-11,412	0	0	-509	933	-10,988	91,636	38,678	91,620	-16
Special Schools Delegated Budget	5,257		-269	5,067			4,798	10,055	4,189	10,055	0
Special Educational Needs (Top up funding for Special Schools and independent non maintained Special School placements)	6,107		1,301	-5,487	655	-578	-4,109	1,998	1,867	3,340	1,342
Primary Delegated - Exceptional Needs Top Up Funding and Specialist Resource Units	1,323		-391	134			-258	1,065	444	1,065	0
Secondary Delegated - Exceptional Needs Top Up Funding and Specialist Resource Unit	605		-209	32			-177	428	178	428	0
Flanderwell Resource Unit	100			6			6	106	43	106	0
Post 16-24 SEN Provision	1,648						0	1,648	678	1,225	-423
Special Educational Complex Needs - Statemented Placements - Out of Authority - Independent and non maintained Schools	1,979						0	1,979	894	1,656	-323
SEN Extra District Placements	222						0	222	66	189	-33
SEN Assessment Team	53						0	53	23	55	2
Commissioning Team (SEND Placements)	35						0	35	29	35	0
Early Years ASD Support	76						0	76	29	76	0
Hearing Impaired Service	637						0	637	272	608	-29
Visual Impaired Service	475						0	475	189	455	-20
Learning Support Service and Autism Communication Team (Inc READ Service)	588						0	588	572	572	-16
Portage	231						0	231	95	230	-1
Pupil Referral Units - Delegated Budget	2,240		-350	248			-102	2,138	891	2,138	0
Educated Other than at School - Transport	48						0	48	19	59	11
Home Tuition Service	140						0	140	55	153	13
							0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL HIGH NEEDS BLOCK	21,763	0	81	0	655	-578	159	21,922	10,177	22,445	523
Nursery Delegated Budget	1,706			11			11	1,717	716	1,717	0
Primary Delegated Budget	4,062			-1,044			-1,044	3,018	1,257	3,018	0
Private, Voluntary and Independent Nursery Education (3 & 4 Year Olds Funding)	3,495		-441	150		360	68	3,564	1,604	3,564	0
Early Years 2 Year Old Funding	4,848		-1,413		-320	150	-1,583	3,265	1,103	3,265	0
Childcare Inclusion Support	0					170	170	170	170	170	0
Early Years Payments and Grant Adjustments	0		695	883			1,578	1,578	1,053	1,578	0
							0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL EARLY YEARS BLOCK	14,111	0	-1,159	0	-320	680	-799	13,312	5,733	13,312	0
TOTAL DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT	138,498	-11,412	-1,077	0	-174	1,036	-11,628	126,870	54,588	127,376	507
EFA Post 16 Special Education	943		7				7	950	396	950	0
TOTAL SCHOOLS BUDGET	139,441	-11,412	-1,071	0	-174	1,036	-11,621	127,820	54,984	128,326	507