

## **Rotherham Schools Forum**

**Venue: Town Hall,  
Moorgate Street,  
Rotherham**

**Date: Friday, 21st January, 2011**

**Time: 8.30 a.m.**

### **A G E N D A**

1. Introductions
2. Apologies for Absence.
3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting and matters arising therefrom (Pages 1 - 5)
4. Education Funding Settlement 2011/12 (Pages 6 - 11)
5. BSF and Capital Spending Review (Pages 12 - 16)
6. Method for allocating grants maintained into DSG
7. Constitution of Schools Forum (Pages 17 - 18)
8. Early Years Single Funding Formula
9. Any Other Business
10. Date and Time of Meetings  
Friday, 18th March, 2011 at 8.30 am  
8<sup>th</sup> April,  
24<sup>th</sup> June

**ROTHERHAM SCHOOLS FORUM  
FRIDAY, 10TH DECEMBER, 2010**

**Present:-** Mr. G Jackson (in the Chair); Councillor Lakin; Ms A Burtoft, Mrs V Broomhead, Mrs J Fearnley, Mrs M Hague, Mr J Henderson and Mrs R Johnson

In attendance: Mr D Ashmore, Mr D Hill and Ms V Njegic.

**130. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Apologies for absence were received from Steve Clayton, Mike Firth, Lyndon Hall, Peter Hawkridge, Philip Robins, Dorothy Smith, Julie Westwood and Rev Ann Wood.

**131. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 8TH OCTOBER 2010**

Agreed:- That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> October, 2010 be approved as a correct record.

**132. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Council Review of Finance Functions

David Ashmore reported that a briefing would be taking place in respect of the review of finance functions this afternoon, which would include all staff involved. A revised structure would go out for consultation in the New Year to be implemented from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011.

**133. PUPIL REFERRAL UNITS**

Katy Edmondson, Advisor for Behaviour and Attendance presented the submitted report in respect of partnership PRU funding arrangements.

She reported that Rotherham had aligned three of its Secondary Pupil Referral Units to partnerships of schools who managed them to address behaviour issues proactively and develop the provisions to reflect their needs.

A Memorandum of Understanding was proposed to all partnerships for Heads and Chair of Governors to sign. This was presented to ensure that agreed protocols and processes were in place in relation to the delegated management of the PRUs by the schools on behalf of the LA.

As yet no school had signed this agreement as it was stated that "all additional costs incurred in running the PRU would be met equally by the partnership schools whilst any under spend would be returned to the LA. Dedicated Schools Grant was used to fund the PRUs and could currently be carried forward to the following financial year.

It was proposed that the Schools Forum agree to the carry forward of surpluses (to a maximum of 10%) to be ring fenced for PRUs in the following financial year. It would be necessary to account and report separately on spending in respect of PRUs.

Members considered the proposal and agreed that in principle the idea was

sound but felt that further discussion was needed with Headteachers.

Agreed:- (1) That the Schools Forum support the principle of allowing a 3 year spending profiles for each PRU to allow both over and underspends to be carried forward to the next financial year to allow more flexibility in the financial planning process.

(2) That further consultation be held with appropriate Headteacher forums in the context of existing discussions being held between Headteachers and Directors in CYPS regarding allocation of resources from Central DSG.

#### **134. TRUST SCHOOLS**

Paul Carney, School Effectiveness Officer circulated papers in respect of becoming a Foundation School with a Foundation (Trust School).

He reported that a Trust School was defined as a foundation school with a foundation. The statutory purpose of a foundation was to hold land on trust for one or more schools.

A Trust School would set its own admission arrangements, and have control over its land and buildings and employ its own staff (similar to voluntary aided schools).

Trust Schools operate within the same frameworks as other maintained schools; they would teach the national curriculum, follow the School Admissions Code, employ teaching staff under the terms of the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions and be inspected by Ofsted. The Local Authority (LA) would fund the school on the same basis as all other LA schools and would retain its intervention powers if there were problem at the school.

PC outlined the process by which a governing body may acquire a Trust status including approximate timescales. The minimum timescale, from the governing body agreeing to consult to applying for a new Instrument of Government, was 14 weeks but it was recommended that governing bodies would not wish to rush such an important decision.

Agreed:- That the information be noted and received.

#### **135. CSR HEADLINES**

Consideration was given to a letter received from Michael Gove in relation to the outcome of the Comprehensive Spending Review and what it means for education and children's services spending over the next four years.

It confirmed that the budget in relation to schools would rise by £3.6 billion in cash terms by 2014-15 which equates to 0.1% real terms growth in each year of the spending review. The existing baseline had been protected which meant that money allocated to the following would still go to schools but the ring-fences would be removed so that head teachers had complete freedom over how money was spent:

- One to on tuition

- Every Child programmes
- Extended schools
- School Lunch Grant
- School Standards Grant
- School Development Grant
- Specialist schools grant
- Ethnic Minority Achievement Grant
- National Strategies' budgets that were allocated to school
- Dedicated Schools Grant
- Academies running costs

The average per pupil funding in cash terms would be protected, there would be funding for the growth in pupil numbers and a pupil premium would be funded in each year of the settlement, rising to £2.5 billion by 2014-15. The premium would enable authorities to provide additional targeted support to the most disadvantaged children and young people.

In relation to early years, the 15 hours a week of free childcare for all 3 and 4 year olds would be maintained and would also be extended to disadvantaged 2 year olds. The overall cash funding for Sure Start would also be protected, including the investment in Sure Start health visitors.

Reference was made to the reductions in capital spending and it was noted that the Department's overall capital budget would be reduced by 60% over the spending review period. A total of £15.8 billion would be spent on capital between 2011-12 and 2014-15. All future capital spending would focus on ensuring that there were enough school places to meet demographic pressures and to address urgent maintenance needs. David Hill informed the Forum of current pupil trends in Rotherham, with falling rolls in secondary schools and slight increases in primary school numbers.

Action was being taken to streamline grants to ensure they provided good value for money and target support to those who needed it most. Action would include:

- Ending the Educational Maintenance Allowance and replacing it with targeted support to those young people who face genuine financial barriers to participation;
- Securing unit-cost reductions in 16-19 learning as we move towards full participation in education by 2015

It was noted that Academies had been given extra funding on top of the amounts allocated to cover for central services they now have to procure. It was confirmed that the extra funding had been allocated for VAT payments, set up costs, admission arrangements and other associated costs relating to the transfer of responsibilities.

Agreed:- That the content of the letter be noted and received.

### **136. SCHOOLS WHITE PAPER 'THE IMPORTANCE OF TEACHING'**

Consideration was given to a summary of the Schools White Paper 'The

Importance of Teaching’.

Members’ attention was drawn to Section 8 “School Funding” and the following issues were highlighted:

- More resources would be targeted to deprived pupils through a new ‘Pupil Premium’.
- Consultation to take place on developing and introducing a clear, transparent and fairer national funding formula based on the needs of pupils, to work alongside the Pupil Premium
- The intention to devolve the maximum amount of funding to schools.
- Measures were already in place to simplify schools funding by getting rid of ring-fences and giving schools a single funding stream – the Dedicated School Grant
- It was intended that over time, Academy status would become the norm and more resources would go direct to the frontline. A long term aspiration was to move to a national funding formula to ensure that resources going to schools were transparent, logical and equitable.
- It was intended to replace the existing Young People’s Learning Agency and set up a new Education Funding Agency (EFA) as an executive agency of the Department with responsibility for the direct funding of the growing number of Academies and Free Schools and all 16-19 provision. This would include the funding of 16-19 provision in FE colleges, sixth form colleges and independent provision. The EFA would also distribute resources to local authorities for them to pass on, as now, to those schools which were not yet Academies.
- Calculation of funding for Academies and Free Schools to be reviewed.
- The forthcoming Green Paper on Special Educational Needs and Disability would explore proposals for funding high cost provision, including exploring questions of how to increase transparency in how decisions about funding and support were made and increasing collaboration between local authorities. Subject to the success of trials of the new approach, it was anticipated that in the longer term money for alternative provision would go directly to schools.
- The disparity of funding between school sixth forms and FE colleges will be brought to an end with sixth form funding aligned to colleges by 2015.
- The requirement for LAs to operate a clawback mechanism for schools with excessive surplus balances will be removed from 2012-13.
- The Financial Management Standard in Schools (FMSIS) was to be replaced by a much simpler standard during the 2011/ 12 academic year. This would be drawn up in association with schools, giving governors and head teachers real assurance that they were achieving value for money.
- Over the next four years there would be a 60% real terms reduction in education capital spending.

Agreed:- That the content of the report be noted.

#### **137. EARLY SINGLE YEARS FUNDING FORMULA**

David Ashmore reported on the Early Single Years Funding Formula. He

confirmed that Rotherham's formula was to be based on three factors, a base rate and a factor for deprivation which were mandatory, and a factor for quality.

On the recommendation of the Early Years Working Group, it had been agreed that Quality in Action accreditation should be used as the single measure for the Quality factor. All providers would be given two years to achieve accreditation, after which the supplement would be removed for those providers that failed to achieve the standard.

It was also noted that from 2011/12, there was a requirement to adjust budgets in-year to reflect termly changes in 3 and 4 year old pupil numbers. Census dates in January, May and October would be used to calculate the adjustments. All schools would be supplied with statements to inform them of adjustments, but the financial adjustment itself would not be made until towards the year end.

#### **138. CONSTITUTION OF SCHOOLS FORUM**

David Ashmore circulated the current Schools Forum Membership List for consideration. He reported that Secondary Headteachers thought it timely to review the constitution of the Forum. A suggestion that Forum membership should reflect the vision of Transforming Rotherham Learning and reflect the 14 learning communities was put to Forum Members.

Concerns were raised about the small number of head teachers on the forum who were making significant decisions, on occasions about funding within schools. It was felt that there needed to be involvement from more Headteachers in the decision making process.

Agreed:- That Headteachers be consulted early in the New Year on the Forum constitution and a report be brought back with recommendations from Heads.

#### **139. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

David Ashmore informed Forum members that Headteachers were currently in discussions with Directors of CYPS regarding the consultation and decision making process in respect of allocation of resources from Central DSG and greater transparency.

#### **140. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Agreed:- That the next meeting of the Rotherham Schools Forum be held on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> January, 2011 at 8.30 am.

Schools Finance | Financial Services  
 Doncaster Gate Offices | Rotherham | S60 1DJ  
 Tel: (01709) 822 047 | Fax: (01709) 822 096



Our Ref:  
 VN/Bud11

Please Contact:  
 Vera Njelic

Date: 12<sup>th</sup> January 2011

Dear Head Teacher/Finance Officer

### **Key points of the Education settlement 2011/12 (announced 13/12/2010)**

This letter sets out the main points highlighted in the settlement announced on the 13th December 2010 for Education funding. It is not exhaustive but covers the main elements of the announcement and shows links to further information on the [DfE website](#). The settlement is for one year only and includes summary information on:

- Schools Budget revenue funding
- Pupil premium
- The consolidating of some grants in to delegated schools budgets, ending some grants in 2011/12 and establishing the new Early Intervention Grant
- Minimum funding guarantee
- Schools budget capital funding

#### **1. Schools Budget Revenue Funding**

School revenue funding will be maintained at “flat cash per pupil” until 2014-15, with the new pupil premium being paid over and above this. Schools will therefore have to absorb the costs of inflation, such as the full year effect of the September 2010 teacher pay award – estimated at 1% for financial year 2011-12. Mainstreamed (consolidated) grants will also be funded at the same flat cash level per pupil.

Although the overall level of revenue funding for schools (including grants consolidated in to delegated budgets) will remain the same, Michael Gove, as Secretary of State for Education, has stressed that *“the actual level of budget for each individual school will vary. It will depend on local decisions about how best to meet needs. This does mean that some individual schools may see cash cuts in their budgets – either because they have fewer pupils or because changes are made within local authorities to the distribution of funding.”* The maximum potential level of cash cuts will be controlled by the Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) which is explained in 3. below.

#### **2. Pupil Premium**

The pupil premium is to be introduced from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011. Total funding for the premium will be £625m nationally in 2011-12 and will be built up over time amounting to £2.5bn a year by 2014-15

For the next financial year 2011-12 for every pupil currently eligible to receive a free school meal (as recorded on the January 2011 pupil Census) a pupil premium lump sum of £430. This will be payable in respect of Pupils in mainstream primary and

secondary schools with schools remaining free to decide how best to spend the money. Pupils in special schools and pupil referral units, or not in school, will also qualify, but in these cases expenditure will be controlled by the Local Authority.

It also applies to:

- looked after children (although restricted to those looked after for more than six months and as defined by the local authority return SSSDA903).
- those pupils not in maintained schools (i.e. Special Schools, Non-Maintained Special Schools, Independent Schools, Not in School, Hospital Schools, Pupil Referral Units and 14-15 year olds in Further Education (FE) colleges). In these cases expenditure will be controlled by the Local Authority.

The value of the pupil premium in Rotherham has been estimated at just over £3m, including £1.8 for primary schools, and £1.06m for secondary schools. Final allocations will depend upon reported free meal entitlement numbers, but using 2010-11 numbers as a guide, allocations for individual Rotherham primary schools are likely to vary between £1.7k and £59k, and for secondary schools between £44k and £182k.

All pupil premiums will be paid to the LA and 100% of the funding must be delegated to schools. The YPLA will pass the pupil premium to academies. This funding is not ring fenced but schools will be asked to demonstrate its effectiveness.

For further information please see:

<http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/adminandfinance/financialmanagement/schoolsrevenuefunding/settlement2012pupilpremium/a0070252/school-funding-announcement-2011-12>

Pupil premium allocations are over and above the main Dedicated Schools Grant-funded delegated Budget Shares for schools, and are therefore calculated without reference to the Minimum Funding Guarantee.

### **3. Grants Consolidated into the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG)**

The Government has stated that local authorities will be required to *“take account of... the previous level of grants... in constructing [their] settlement for schools.*

The following grants have been mainstreamed into the DSG from April 2011:

- School Standards Grant
- Schools Standards Grant (Personalisation)
- School Development Grant (includes SDG Main, Post-LIG Deprivation and Transition, City Learning Centres, Specialist Schools and High Performing Specialist Schools). It does not include the amount previously paid through Area Based Grant (ABG), the allocation for Lead Behaviour Schools, which was for 2010-11 only; or the allocations for New Opportunities Advanced Skills Teachers, where no decisions have been made on funding for 2011-12.
- School Lunch Grant
- Ethnic Minority Achievement (EMAG)
- 1-2-1 Tuition
- Extended Schools – Sustainability
- Extended Schools - Subsidy



- Targeted Support for the Primary National Strategy allocated to schools (consisting of Universal and Targeted elements, Leading Teachers, Every Child elements, Early Years Foundation Stage, and Modern Foreign Languages)
- Targeted Support for the Secondary National Strategy allocated to schools (consisting of Universal and Targeted elements and Leading Teachers)
- Diploma Formula Grant
- London Pay Addition Grant

The authority has not yet decided the precise mechanism for allocating this consolidated funding. Potential methods will be worked up and discussed with colleagues before implementation. The amount of DSG delegated to schools via the funding formula will be agreed with the Rotherham Schools Forum.

To enable the specific grants to be included in DSG a grant Guaranteed Unit of Funding (GUF) for each local authority based on the allocations for these grants in 2010-2011 has been calculated (see appendix 1).

#### **4. Minimum Funding Guarantee**

Due to falling rolls and / or local funding formula changes some schools will see a cut to their budgets, however a negative minimum funding guarantee has been set. This will ensure that no school sees a reduction compared with its 2010-11 budget (excluding sixth form funding) of more than 1.5% per pupil before the pupil premium is applied. The guarantee applies to a school's overall 2010-11 budget including grants that have been mainstreamed into DSG, but before the pupil premium is applied.

#### **5. Capital**

Capital funding is much reduced. The capital settlement for Education for the period to 2014-15 is 60% lower than 2010-11. The Government's main priority for the remaining funding will be encouraging local authorities to respond to the "*significant pressures for additional school places, particularly at primary age, in many areas of the country because of rising birth rates and changed migration patterns*".<sup>ii</sup> In line with this "basic need funding" (capital grant) for the expansion of school places is to be doubled nationally to £800m for 2011-12.

The announcement included details of allocation of:

- £800 million of basic need funding to local authorities to provide school places where needed in their area, in all categories of taxpayer-funded schools
- £858 million of maintenance capital to local authorities to support the needs of the schools that they maintain and for the Sure Start children's centres in their area
- £196 million of locally-coordinated VA programme capital to support the maintenance capital needs of voluntary-aided schools
- £185 million of devolved formula capital for schools.

Devolved formula capital will be allocated to schools based on a national formula of £4,000 per school and a per pupil sum which is weighted for the type of pupil:

- £11.25 primary
- £16.875 secondary
- £33.75 special

The amount available to Rotherham maintained schools is £901k and £138 for VA schools.

For further information please see:

<http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/adminandfinance/schoolscapital/a0070303/schools-capital-allocations-for-2011-12>

### 6. Early Intervention Grant (EIG)

The Government has created a new Early Intervention Grant to replace 22 previously existing separate grants, expenditure for which is controlled by the Local Authority. In national terms the new allocation is 10.9% lower than the sum of the previous grants. For Rotherham this means an allocation of £12.3m in financial year 2011-12, rising slightly (in line with other authorities) to £12.5m in 2012-13.

This comprises of a number of previously centrally directed grants. EIG is not ring-fenced but must be used by the authority to support:

- Disadvantaged two year olds (childcare)
- Short breaks for disabled children
- Sure Start centre work

For Rotherham EIG is 12.9% lower than the aggregated 2010/11 funding through the predecessor grants. Please see **Appendix 2** for a full list of grants.

### Support

We will be developing a ready reckoner for LA schools to assist you with estimating the level of your schools funding for 2011/12. We are working towards issuing individual schools with final budgets by 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2011.

If you wish to discuss your budget plan for next year please contact your schools dedicated Finance Officer or call the Schools Finance Help Desk on 01709 822 047.

Yours sincerely

Vera Njegic  
Principal Accountant – Schools Finance

**Appendix 1****Amounts Used by the DfE to calculate the Rotherham LA Grants Guaranteed Unit of Funding (GUF)**

<b>Rotherham Grants 2010-11 (as per DfE)</b>	Mainstreaming School Grants: 2010-2011 Local Authority Allocations - includes those allocated by the LA to convertor academies	2010-11 Local Authority Allocations plus existing academies
School Standards Grant	6,995,486	7,168,539
Schools Standards Grant (Personalisation)	2,215,648	2,325,852
School Development Grant (Main, Post-LIG Deprivation and Transition, City Learning Centres minus amount moved to Area Based Grant)	11,686,352	11,988,917
Specialist Schools	2,479,336	2,612,711
High Performing Specialist Schools	488,480	488,480
School Lunch Grant	453,541	467,572
Ethnic Minority Achievement (EMAG)	419,530	419,530
1-2-1 Tuition	1,438,739	1,467,660
Extended School Sustainability	1,119,892	1,119,892
Extended School Subsidy	1,089,681	1,089,681
National Strategies (Primary)	1,531,827	1,531,827
National Strategies (Secondary)	567,567	624,788
Diploma Formula Grant	22,340	22,340
<b>Total</b>	<b>30,508,418</b>	<b>31,327,788</b>
2010-11 DSG funded pupil numbers (unrounded)	40,440	40,440
Dual Subsidiary Registrations in PRUs (pupils aged 5+) in 2010-11	181	181
Adjusted 2010-11 DSG pupil numbers (unrounded)	40,259	40,259
<b>Per pupil amount of Grants [2010-11 Grants GUF]</b>	<b>758</b>	<b>778</b>

<sup>i</sup> DfE letter to local authorities, 13 December 2010, "Allocations for Local Government and Maintained Schools", page 2.

<sup>ii</sup> Ibid.

## Appendix 2

## Grants replaced by Early Intervention Grant (EIG)

		2010- 11 £m
<b>National Budgets</b>		
1	Sure Start Children's Centres	1,135
2	Early Years Sustainability - including funding for sufficiency and access, quality and inclusion, buddying, holiday child care and disabled access to childcare	238
3	Early Years Workforce - quality and inclusion, graduate leader fund and every child a talker	196
4	Two Year Old Offer - Early Learning and Childcare	67
5	Disabled Children Short Breaks	185
6	Connexions	467
7	Think Family	94
8	Youth Opportunity Fund	41
9	Youth Crime Action Plan	12
10	Challenge and Support	4
11	Children's Fund	132
12	Positive Activities for Young People Programme	94
13	Youth Taskforce	4
14	Young People Substance Misuse	7
15	Teenage Pregnancy	27
16	Key Stage Foundation Learning	20
17	Targeted Mental Health in Schools Grant	28
18	Contact Point	15
19	Children's Social Care Workforce	18
20	Intensive Intervention Grant	3
21	January Guarantee	6
22	Child Trust Fund	1
	DfE Emergency Budget Reduction 2010	-311
<b>Total Grants</b>		<b>2,483</b>

<b>ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO SCHOOLS FORUM</b>
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<b>1.</b>	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>SCHOOLS FORUM</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>21st January 2011</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Title:</b>	<b>Update on Building Schools for the Future and results of capital spending review</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Directorate:</b>	<b>Children and Young People’s Services</b>

**5. Summary:**

On 5th July, 2010 the Department for Education ceased the Building Schools for the Future Programme. For Rotherham this ended the plans for new secondary and special schools for 20,000 young people as well as a ‘state of the art’ ICT infrastructure. In total, the programme was worth £222m alongside £24m for ICT. It was a massive loss for all our Learning Communities in Rotherham.

Nevertheless, the Secretary of State for Education, Michael Grove, emphasised to all local authorities that this did not mean the end of capital spending on schools. He established a Capital Review Group to make recommendations on the future direction for capital expenditure on schools, with a special emphasis on how it should be procured.

This report provides an update on the results of the capital review and the financial settlement on education capital spending for 2011/2012.

**6. Recommendations:**

**It is recommended that:**

**Schools Forum notes the financial settlement for Rotherham education capital spending 2011/2012.**

**7. Proposals and Details:**

On 5th July, 2010, the Department for Education (DfE) decided that all BSF projects which had not reached financial close with the private partner would stop. Until then Rotherham had completed all of its milestones successfully and on time.

The Secretary of State for Education emphasised to all local authorities that this did not mean the end of capital spend on schools. However following the comprehensive spending review announcement by the Coalition Government on the 20<sup>th</sup> October

2010, the capital settlement for education was extremely tight with a 60% reduction in 2014/15 when compared to 2010/11.

National capital allocation shown below:

	<b>£ billion</b>				
	<b>2010/11</b>	<b>2011/12</b>	<b>2012/13</b>	<b>2013/14</b>	<b>2014/15</b>
<b>Capital</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>3.4</b>

A capital review group led by Sebastian James (The James Review) was formed to make recommendations on the future direction for capital expenditure on schools, with a special emphasis on how it should be procured. Preliminary findings were to be announced prior to the October Comprehensive Spending Review with the actual recommendations in December 2010 / January 2011.

The DfE announced on the 13<sup>th</sup> December 2010 that the recommendations of the James review of DfE's capital programmes would not inform the allocation of capital until 2012/13. However the DfE have indicated that whilst the methodology of allocation and management of the capital funding to the authority may change, they have confirmed that the headline amounts of funding for basic need and for capital maintenance will for 2012/13 until 2014/15 be in line with the amounts shown within the table in Section 8 – Finance, of this report.

Whilst the coalition Government will claim not to have stopped major capital expenditure on school programmes they have effectively pressed “pause” and not surprisingly our BSF Phase 1 and 2 schools that have missed out on new build and refurbishment will feel particularly unfairly treated.

For Rotherham there has been a reduction in the capital allocation for education from £17,400,863 for 2010/11 to £8,233,139 for 2011/12.

Devolved Formula Capital (DFC) which is the amount of funding allocated each year to primary and secondary schools to be spent by them on their priorities in respect of buildings, ICT and other capital needs has seen a significant reduction from £4,493,053 in 2010/11 to £901,446 in 2011/12. It is anticipated that schools will use their allocation to maintain ICT infrastructures and equipment.

Our initial discussions with Partnership for Schools (PfS) and construction Industry contacts lead us to believe that priorities would concentrate on condition and new places for primary school pupils. This assumption has shown to be correct within the Modernisation - Capital Maintenance and Basic Need allocation being increased.

Modernisation Capital Maintenance are funds that are devolved to Local Authorities to improve the infrastructure of the school estate and to upgrade existing school buildings or build new ones in line with local asset management plans priorities and for Rotherham this has been increased from £3,189,944 in 2010/2011 to £4,347,484 for 2011/12. This is seen as the DfE's response to the Audit Commission criticism that the allocation of large amounts of Devolved Formula Capital funding to schools

was not being targeted to the building needs. It also places the emphasis clearly on the Local Authority to prioritise essential building condition work within their school estate; which includes Primary, Secondary, Special Schools, City Learning Centres (CLC's) and now Sure Start Centres.

Basic Need, the programme designed to enable Local Authorities to provide additional school places to cope with growing numbers has also risen from £950,255 in 2010/2011 to £2,128,678 in 2011/12. This recognises the increase in school places in the primary age and the migration patterns to Rotherham, particularly within the town centre corridor; that is Coleridge, St Anns, Ferham, Thornhill, Kimberworth and Meadow View.

Rotherham's Primary Capital Programme (PCP) has received no funding for the 2011/12. However we are still committed to providing a new through school for Maltby Lilly Hall Junior and Maltby Hall Infant School with an anticipated operational date of September 2013. This will be funded from the remaining PCP funding for 2010/11 and from the Modernisation - Capital Maintenance budget 2011/12.

Access initiative funding to improve the accessibility of mainstream schools to disabled pupils and those with special educational needs has received no funding for 2011/12. Any additional adaptations will need to be sourced from the Modernisation – Capital Maintenance or designed within any new buildings or extensions funded from Basic Need.

Likewise Extended Schools funding that provided pump priming capital funding to develop extended schools across an area, received no funding for 2011/12. Again any allocation will need to come from Basic Need and Modernisation funding.

At the cessation of BSF the Secretary of State for Education confirmed to us that there would be support for Maltby Academy and the DfE would continue to work with the lead sponsor and the local authority (co-sponsor) on the project. This indeed has been the case with the recent confirmation that the Academy would receive £11.1 million of capital funding. Further work needs to be done with the Academy on the extent of the development work.

Finally the Voluntary Aided (VA) schools sector will receive its fair share of the funding and the DfE have confirmed that they will retain the Local Contribution to Voluntary Aided Programme (LCVAP) for a further year.

## 8. Finance

Following the DfE announcement on the 13<sup>th</sup> December 2010 the table below shows the capital allocation for Rotherham of basic need and capital maintenance and capital allocations to schools for the financial year 2011/12. As a comparison this is shown against the previous year 2010/11.

Capital Allocation	2010/11	2011/12
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Devolved Formula Capital (DFC)	£4,493,053	£901,446
VA Schools	£712,852	£138,674
Primary Capital Programme (PCP)	£6,217,692	£0
Modernisation – Capital Maintenance	£3,189,944	£4,347,484
Basic Need	£950,255	£2,128,678
Local Contribution to Voluntary Aided Programme (LCVAP)	£1,104,968	£716,857
Access Initiative	£615,305	£0
Extended Schools	£116,794	£0
Total	£17,400,863	£8,233,139

Basic need and capital maintenance allocations are not ring fenced. Local Authorities are free to use them for their capital priorities; i.e. they can be used for non-school purposes. There is also no time constraint on spending the capital, the capital allocation can be spent as and when we need and we are allowed to carry over to subsequent financial years if required to do so.

Other grant streams are subject to annularity and must be spent in the year in which they are allocated.

The capital maintenance funding must take account the needs of all schools; that is maintained, foundation, trust, special and Sure Start centres. By working closely with our schools, colleagues in Children and Young People Services (CYPS) and Environmental and Development Services we will identify the priorities and ensure that our schools are safe, warm and dry places to learn and work.

## **9. Risks and Uncertainties:**

The ending of the BSF programme has produced much uncertainty about current and future capital investment in our schools and learning communities.

There are still significant needs for our schools, with essential capital costs totalling around £45m over 5 years for all schools; and £73m over 15 years. This would increase significantly if we were to plan to actually replace schools.

Some of the schools have negative DFC and have already spent their allocation for 2011/12.

## **10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications:**



The BSF programme was part of the strategy for Transforming Rotherham Learning. Despite the cessation of the BSF programme, we should continue to deliver improved and excellent standards for our children and young people through the learning community partnerships. This is one of the '4 big things' in our CYPS Plan supporting the principles;

"We are all responsible for all Rotherham's Children and Young People"  
"All Rotherham's learners will achieve; no one will be left behind"

We have started to plan now in relation to the condition and suitability of our schools. Work will continue on drawing up an action plan for secondary, primary and special schools which will reflect the available budget with the priority of all our school buildings being safe, warm and dry.

#### **11. Background Papers and Consultation:**

Transforming Rotherham Learning Strategies for Change Parts 1 and 2.  
Secretary of State's Letter of 5th July, 2010 on BSF and Capital Programme  
Secretary of State's Letter of 6th August, 2010 on Academy Capital Projects  
Report to Cabinet Member for Safeguarding and Developing Learning Opportunities for Children 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2010 – Building Schools for the Future.  
DfE Spending Review – Press notice 20<sup>th</sup> October 2010  
Secretary of State's statement on school financial statement - Education spending 13<sup>th</sup> December 2010.

**Contact Name: Robert Holsey, CYPS Capital Projects Officer.  
Environmental and Development Services.  
Tel: 823723  
Email: [robert.holsey@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:robert.holsey@rotherham.gov.uk)**

## The Schools Forums (England) Regulations 2010

### Summary of key points

1. Schools Forum must consist of at least 15 members
2. If there are any Academies in the authority's area, at least one Academies member must be elected
3. Schools members and Academies members must together comprise at least two thirds of the membership of the forum.
4. Primary schools, secondary schools and Academies must be broadly proportionately represented on the forum, having regard to the total number of pupils registered at them.
5. At least one schools member must be a representative of a special school.
6. At least one schools member must be a representative of a nursery school.
7. Schools members must be elected to the schools forum by the members of the relevant group, or sub-group in the authority's area i.e. Headteacher Groups; Governor Groups; learning communities, etc.
8. The authority must appoint non-schools members to their schools forum comprising - one or more persons to represent the local authority 14-19 partnership; and one or more persons to represent early years providers.
9. The authority may appoint additional non-schools members to their forum to represent the interests of other bodies i.e. Unions; the Diocesan Board of Education.
10. The authority may not appoint any executive member or relevant officer of the authority to their forum as a non-schools member.
11. The schools forum must meet at least four times a year and are quorate if at least two fifths of the total membership is present at a meeting.
12. Any elected member or officer of the authority who is not a member of the forum may attend and speak at meetings of the forum.
13. Members of the forum must elect a person as chair from among their number and determine the chair's term of office.
14. The members of the forum may not elect as chair any member of the forum who is an elected member or officer of the authority.
15. The authority must consult the schools forum annually in respect of the authority's functions relating to the schools budget, in connection with the following—
  - (a) arrangements for the education of pupils with special educational needs;
  - (b) arrangements for the use of pupil referral units and the education of children otherwise than at school;
  - (c) arrangements for early years provision;
  - (d) arrangements for insurance;
  - (e) administrative arrangements for the allocation of central government grants paid to schools via the authority;
  - (f) arrangements for free school meals.
16. The authority may consult the forum on such other matters concerning the funding of schools as they see fit.

Schools Forum Membership (as per 2010 regulations)

Total Numbers on Forum	School & Academies - Minimum Membership No's	Others
15	10	5
16	11	5
17	12	5
18	12	6
19	13	6
20	14	6
21	14	7
22	15	7
23	16	7
24	16	8
25	17	8

School Members (HT's, Governors, Bursars)				Non-School Compulsory				Non-School Optional					
Primary	Secondary	Special	Nursery school	Academies	PVI	14-19 Partnership	CofE Diocese Board Rep	Roman Catholic Diocese Board Rep	Unions	Other			
4	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0			
4	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0			
5	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0			
5	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0			
5	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	0			
6	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	0			
6	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	0			
7	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	0			
7	7	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	0			
7	7	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	0			
8	7	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	0			

SUB-TOTALS			
Schools & Academies	Non-Schools		Total
10	5		15
11	5		16
12	5		17
12	6		18
13	6		19
14	6		20
15	6		21
16	6		22
17	6		23
18	6		24
19	6		25