

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO SCHOOLS FORUM

1	Meeting:	Rotherham Schools Forum
2	Date:	4th December 2015
3	Title:	Rotherham Total Schools Budget Monitoring Report as at 31 st October 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 October 15.

As reported to Forum in October 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).

The current projected outturn against the above budget based on expenditure up to the 31st October 2015 is an over spend of £742k (0.58% 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 the Total Schools Budget projected outturn position for the year 2015/16.

7 Total Schools Budget Projected Outturn 2015/16

The forecast outturn position is projected to be £742k over spend based on the budget monitoring returns from budget holders for the period ending 31st October 2015. The table below summarises the forecast outturn for each funding block against agreed revised budgets.

	Revised Budget 31 st October 2015 £000	Projected Outturn 31 st October 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	10,170	10,170	0	0
SEN Placements and Top Up Funding	1,854	3,211	1,357	73.19
Primary Exceptional Needs and Specialist Resource Units	1,092	1,092	0	0
Secondary Exceptional Needs and Specialist Resource Unit	430	430	0	0
Flanderwell Resource Unit	106	89	-17	-16.04
Post 16 to 24 SEN Provision	1,648	1,416	-232	-14.08
SEN Complex Needs Placements	1,979	1,682	-297	-15.01
SEN Extra District Placements	222	143	-79	-35.59
Education, Health and Care 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	627	-10	-1.57
Visual Impaired Service	475	467	-8	-1.68
Learning Support and Autism Communication (inc READ)	588	571	-17	-2.89
Portage Service	231	226	-5	-2.16
Pupil Referral Units – Delegated Budget	2,138	2,138	0	0
Educated other than at School Transport	48	69	21	43.75
Home Tuition Service	140	153	13	9.29
Total High Needs Block	21,922	22,650	728	3.32

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	200	30	17.65
Early Years Payments/grant adjustments	1,578	1,578	0	0
Total Early Years Block	13,312	13,342	30	0.23
EFA Sixth Form Funding Special Schools	950	950	0	0
TOTAL FORECAST OUTTURN POSITION	127,820	128,562	742	0.58

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 October 2015 are shown on Appendix 1.

7.1.1 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 £1.866m under spend based on the latest returns as at the end of July 2015 summer term.

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 (£16k under spend)

Schools Contingency (£16k under spend)

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

High Needs Block (£728k over spend)

SEN Placements and Top up Funding (£1,357m over spend)

Over spends on out of authority independent non maintained School placements £1,355m (50 placements in year and 4 potential places costing £2,067m, 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 £132k, education equipment £68k, Speech and Language Therapy £33k, offset by forecast under spend on additional top up funding for exceptional needs £77k, income from schools for permanently excluded pupils £113k and £41k income from Clinical Commissioning Group (Health contribution towards placement costs)

Flanderwell Resource Unit (£17k under spend)

Forecast staff slippage on vacant post £17k.

Post 16-24 SEN Provision (£232k under spend)

Forecast over spend on post 16 element 3 top up funding £122k to Further Education Providers (245 in year placements costing £1,769m) offset by 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 (£297k 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 1 potential placement costing £2,489m and £24k complex support packages) 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 forecast includes income from Clinical Commissioning Group of £240k to offset placement costs and £591k costs reported against Safeguarding Children and Families placement budget.

SEN Extra District Placements (£79k under spend)

Over spend of £28k on top up funding for placements in other Local authority maintained schools (based on 38 in year placements costing £250k) offset by additional income of £107k 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 (£10k under spend)

Under spend on staffing of £15k due to in year staff vacancies. Additional income £4k offset by over spend of £2k on staff advertising and Dbs checks, £4k training costs, transport costs £1k 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 (£8k under spend)

Under spend on staffing of £14k due to in year vacancies and savings on superannuation costs for staff not contributing to the pension scheme. Additional Income from training £3k and supplies £3k under offset by over spend on training costs £9k and advertising/Dbs checks £3k. (Forecast Outturn is based on an active caseload of 239 pupils which includes complex new children)

Learning Support and Autism Communication Service (£17k under spend)

Under spend on staff costs of £53k due to slippage following new appointments to vacant posts offset by over spend on room hire costs £2k, transport costs £3k, supplies £3k and forecast shortfall in income target of £28k.

Educated other than at school – Transport (£21k over spend)

Over spend on transport costs (Taxi provision £60k cost based on 12 current students and bus passes £9k based on 22 current students) for pupils within the Pru system.

Home Tuition Service (£13k over spend)

Over spend on tutor costs £26k 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, offset by £15k rechargeable pupil costs. The budget was based on funding for 14 students.

Early Years Block (£30k Over spend)

Childcare Inclusion Support (£30k Over spend)

Forecast over spend due to high levels of Inclusion Grant applications in Early Years and out of School Settings based on numbers for 2 terms. (Anticipated increase in numbers in term 3)

8. Budget Adjustments/Virements

Budget adjustments and virements for the period from September to October 2015 are as follows:-

High Needs Block

Special Schools Delegated Budget

Further in year funding for Individual assigned resources of £115k from the Special Educational Needs Budget for the period August and September for pupils with exceptional needs.

Primary Delegated Schools Budget

Further in year top up funding for Individual assigned resources of £27k from Special Educational Needs budget for the period August and September.

Secondary Delegated Schools Budget

Further in year allocation of individual assigned resources of £2k from Special Educational Needs budget for the period August and September.

9. Finance

Finance details are included in section 7 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.

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