

1.	Meeting:	Rotherham Schools Forum
2.	Date:	5 th October 2012
3.	Title:	Total Schools Budget Monitoring Report as at 31 st August 2012
4.	Directorate:	Children and Young People's Services

5. Summary

This report confirms the Total Schools budgeted allocation for 2012/13 and projected outturn against this budget using expenditure up to 31st August 2012.

The Total Schools budget available after confirmation of the Dedicated Schools Grant allocation, the EFA post 16 funding for 2012/13 and the DSG Carry-forward from 2011/12 is £184.118m. Compared to the initial estimate this equates to a reduction in available funding of £287k.

The current projected outturn against the above budget based on expenditure up to the 31st August 2012 is an under-spend of £27k, including the assumption of agreed carry-forwards of £1.321m to 2012/13 financial year.

6. Recommendations

That the Schools Forum receives and notes confirmation of the Total Schools Budget allocation for 2012/12

That the Schools Forum notes the current projected outturn position for the year 2012/13 and confirms agreement to the proposed virements.

That schools Forum consider the carry-forward of RoSIP budget into 2013/14

7. Revision to Total Schools Budget

The total amount of grant funding available to Rotherham for the current financial year was estimated at £184.405m. The actual amount available has now been confirmed as £184.118m as a result of the following:

DSG had been estimated at £183.345m including an estimate for academy recoupment. The actual recoupment figure is higher resulting in actual DSG being £558k less.

Post 16 funding from the EFA has been confirmed at £1.267m being £105k less than the estimate.

The projected carry-forward of DSG from 2011/12 was estimated to be a £312k deficit. The actual carry-forward was a surplus of £64k.

The overall effect on available Total Schools Budget has been a reduction of £287k.

	Original Allocation	Revised Allocation	Reduction
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Dedicated Schools Grant	183,345	182,787	558
EFA Post 16 Special Education	989	969	20
EFA Post 16 Threshold	383	298	85
Carry Forward from 2010/11	-312	64	(increase) 376
Total	184,405	184,118	287

8. Total Schools Budget Projected Outturn 2012/13

The forecast outturn position is projected to be a £27k under spend based on the budget monitoring returns from budget holders for the period ending 31st August. Details are shown in Appendix 1.

This projection is based on the assumption that all requested carry-forwards from 2011/12 have been approved.

8.1.1 Proposed Budget Virements

Over spends were projected on the following budgets due to unachievable vacancy factors:

Autism Communications Team	£7k
Hearing Impaired	£2k
Learning Support	£5k
Portage	£13k
Trade Unions	£2k
Visually Impaired	£9k
Total	£38k

Proposed virements have been included in Appendix 1 to offset these over spends with under spends on the following budgets resulting from staff slippage:

Behaviour Support	£73k
Children in Public Care	£2k
Early Years ASD Support	£9k
Total	£84k

The balance of £46k had been transferred to reduce the projected over spend on Special Educational Needs.

8.1.2 Delegated Schools 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 £3.971m under spend as at the end of July.

8.1.3 The main variances against Revised Budget allocations are as follows:

Pupil Referral Units

There are forecast over spends at The Bridge £48k, Riverside PRU £29k, The Rowan Centre £23k and Broom Lane £60k.

These over spends have been offset by projected under spends at St Mary's £5k, Education Other than at School £4k and Transport £6k.

Special Educational Needs

An over spend of £195k has been projected due to an expected increase in cost in the number of needs-led places.

SEN Extra District Placements

An over spend of £119k has been projected due to a reduction of income from other local authorities.

Extended Services

Of the £300k carried forward from 2011/12, a projected £23k under spend has been forecast due to staff slippage.

Rotherham School Improvement Partnership

Currently an under spend of £380k is projected. The services requests that this balance be carried forward to 2013/14.

Should this be approved the projected outturn across the remaining Total Schools Budget would be a £353k over spend.

9 Finance

The financial issues are discussed in section 8 above and included in Appendix 1.

10 Risks and Uncertainties

Principal risks and uncertainties relate to the 'needs led' nature of budgets in relation to Special Educational Needs pupils.

11 Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

It is the intention of the Department for Education to give schools more autonomy and responsibility for spending decisions. Rotherham has recently formed the Rotherham School Improvement Partnership which is a move towards transferring the responsibility for School Improvement interventions to schools.

12 Background Papers and Consultation

This report will be discussed with the Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Service and the Strategic Director of Finance.

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