

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT

1.	Meeting:	Rotherham Schools' Forum
2.	Date:	4th October, 2013
3.	Title:	School expansions: transitional funding
4.	Directorate:	Children and Young People's Services

5. Summary

Pupil numbers are increasing within the Borough creating a shortage of available places in certain areas. This increasing pressure on school places means it is necessary to increase the number of school places available to meet current and projected demand. This report outlines the transitional funding required to support the creation of additional school places in the Borough.

6. Recommendation:

- **It is recommended that the allocations specified be approved and funded from the Pupil Growth element within the Schools Block. A further report will be submitted in due course to confirm requests for transitional funding for 15/16 and beyond once the outcome of future proposals and consultations are known.**

7. Proposals and Details

Pupil numbers are increasing in the Borough and there is increasing pressure on school places, particularly in Key Stages 1 and 2, making it necessary to increase the number of primary school places available in certain areas of the Borough. The impact on children and families can be significant where siblings are separated across more than one school; parents are reluctant to take up offers of a school place due to logistical and financial constraints around travel; and a potentially negative impact on one or more children's attendance, participation and achievement of wider educational outcomes.

For the financial year 2013-2014, Schools Forum has agreed a Pupil Growth Fund allocation of £350,000 within the Schools Block. A formula agreement has been reached with Schools Forum to ensure that requests for bridging funds are transparent and fair as follows:

Where additional provision creates the need for a teacher the agreed formula at current costs for a September to March period is:

- 7/12 of an M6 Teacher - £31,552 = (£18,405)
- 7/12 of a Band D TA - £15,725 = (£9,173) – (£6,436) Based on 30 hours per week term time only.
- 7/12 of a Level 3 SMSA - £12,787= (£7,459) – (£1,090) Based on 6hrs.15mins per week term time only.
- Plus £252 x the number of additional pupils anticipated
- Plus a fixed amount of £3000.

A provisional allocation of £350k has been identified for 2014/15 and a further paper will be submitted in due course to consider if this is sufficient to meet the uncertainty around continued mobility within and into the borough.

Confirmed School expansions for the 2014/15 Academic Year and projected 7/12 funding requirements for additional staffing support:

Aston Hall J & I – 1st Junior year – 1 teaching resource required. (£32,711 based on 15 pupils)

Broom Valley Primary – 1 teaching resource required. (£36,491 based on 30 additional pupils FS2)

Listerdale J & I – 1 teaching resource required. (£32,711 based on 15 pupils in Y1)
Wath C of E J & I – 1 teaching resource required. (£32,711 based on 15 pupils in Y1)

Herringthorpe Junior – 1 teaching resource required. (£32,711 based on 15 pupils CFWD from previous agreement to stay in budget)

Wales Primary – 1 teaching resource required. (£32,711 based on 15 pupils in FS2)

Brampton Ellis Junior – 1 teaching resource required. (£32,711 based on 15 additional pupils in KS2)

Thurcroft Infant – 1 teaching resource required. (£32,711 based on 15 pupils in FS2)

Treeton C of E J & I – 1 teaching resource required. (£32,711 based on 15 pupils in KS2)

TOTAL COMMITTED FROM THE ABOVE = £298,179 using Schools' Forum formula

BALANCE OF BUDGET FOR 2014/15 AT PRESENT = £51,821

Given the increasing pressure in the Central area of the Borough, it is necessary to create additional Primary aged 'bulge' classes as an interim measure until the new Central Primary School is constructed for opening in September 2015. It is anticipated that a significant number of these pupils will then transfer to the new Central school.

Capital Projects Team is looking at numerous options to create new teaching and learning spaces. In the event that a suitable teaching and learning space can be secured this financial year a further report will be brought to Forum.

However, there is an urgent need to enrol the out of school pupils in to school immediately. Agreement has been reached with a number of Primary Headteachers to admit pupils over PAN and in KS1 class groupings over the infant class size legislation. The KS1 pupils will be included if they meet the conditions set out in the Admissions Code 2012 and fair access protocol and would be excepted pupils for the remainder of KS1.

It is anticipated that some schools may need to admit an average of 2 additional pupils per class grouping over numbers. Schools Forum is requested to consider an allocation to the schools affected in recognition of the exceptional circumstances and the need for additional Family liaison and induction at short notice.

Using the above agreed formula for a teacher, teaching assistant, SMSA and lump sum, a pro rata calculation has been made as follows:

£28,931 divided by 30 divided by 7 months x 6 months = £827 per pupil x number of pupils = + 252 per pupil from formula x No of pupils = Total

St Ann's J & I: (8 pupils) - Total = **£8,629**

Coleridge Primary: (5 pupils) – Total =	£5,395
Broom Valley Primary: (3 pupils) - Total =	£3,237
High greave: (2 pupils) – Total =	£2,158
Badsley Moor: (2 pupils) – Total =	£2,158
East Dene Primary: (4 pupils) – Total =	£4,316
TOTAL =	£25,893

It is anticipated that the pupils currently known to be out of school will be offered places and given an agreed start date of Wednesday 2nd October in order to generate funding for 2014/15 financial year.

2013-14 Financial Year Position:

It is a requirement that the above allocations (£25,893) are funded with effect from October 2013 (current financial year) this will result in a forecast outturn position for the current financial year of approx. £13k overspend against the £350k budget.

Forward Planning for 7/12 contributions for 2015/16 Academic Year (these are confirmed to date):

Brinsworth Howarth – possibly 1 teaching resource required (£32,711 based on 15 pupils)

Wath C of E – 1 teaching resource required (£32,711 based on 15 pupils)

Listerdale – 1 teaching resource required. (£32,711 based on 15 pupils)

Wales Primary – 1 teaching resource required. (£32,711 based on 15 pupils)

Total Current Estimated Funding Requirement for 2015/16 =£130,844

THESE WILL BE UPDATED IN DUE COURSE.

8. Finance

Where schools are expanded, it is necessary to provide interim financial support to bridge the gap between 1st September and 31st March. Funding is allocated to schools each financial year based upon numbers on roll on Census day in October of the preceding year. Additional pupils commencing at the start of a new academic year will not be on roll at that time in order to generate sufficient funding to meet additional staffing and other agreed expenditure.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

There are always risks and uncertainties when school place provision is considered since future pupil numbers are based on estimations. Over provision at one school could influence pupil numbers at other schools. Local Authorities are obliged, however, to provide sufficient places, promote diversity and increase parental preference.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The major theme supported by the forward planning and provision of school places is 'to ensure that everyone has access to skills, knowledge and information to enable them to play their part in society'. The expansion of schools would enable more parents to access their first preference school for their child and, therefore, increase that performance indicator.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

Reports to the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Family Services in relation to, Annual Admissions Consultations, proposals to increase admission numbers temporarily, and to make prescribed alterations to schools.

12. Contact Name

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