

## 7c. 2018/19 De-delegation

The local authority is required to consult the primary and secondary LA maintained school representatives on the Schools Forum every year about de-delegation of a number of central budgets. De-delegated funds are a deduction from a school's budget share and are held centrally to fund relevant services. De-delegation can only apply to maintained primary and secondary school budgets. Academies, free schools, special schools and nurseries cannot de-delegate, but can choose to buy into traded services funded through de-delegation to maintained primaries and secondaries.

Decisions on de-delegation have to be taken at the Schools Forum. Decisions have to be taken separately in respect of maintained primary and maintained secondary schools and in each case the decision requires the agreement of a majority of the maintained representatives for the relevant phase on the Schools Forum.

For all these budgets, the total amount de-delegated depends on the number of LA maintained schools in Barnet, and how many pupils they have on roll. The budget available will fall if more schools convert to academies, but rise if maintained schools expand, or independent schools join the maintained sector.

For the 2018/19 financial year, the council is requesting the following de-delegation items:

### Existing de-delegated budgets

The existing de-delegation items in Barnet are:

1. Behaviour support services (currently de-delegated by primaries but not secondaries)
2. Support to UPEG and bilingual learners ("Narrowing the Gap")
3. Staff costs – supply cover for (trade union) facility time

1. The **Behaviour Support** budget funds the high incidence support team's (HIST) work with maintained primary schools and the de-delegation rate is proposed to remain unchanged at **£3.01 per pupil**

2. Work on **narrowing the gap** with maintained schools is funded by the de-delegation from those schools. The de-delegation rates are proposed to remain unchanged at **£9.55 (Primary) and £16.34 (Secondary) per pupil**.

3. Staff costs for **trade union duties** funds the salaries of officials of the various unions representing staff in maintained schools. The budget is supplemented by income from a traded service that enables academies to contribute to these costs. The de-delegation rates are proposed to remain unchanged at **£1.66 (Primary) and £1.02 (Secondary) per pupil**.

## Former ESG duties

For the 2018/19 financial year, the Central School Services Block has been created and includes an allocation to authorities that covers the statutory duties that they carry out for maintained schools, Academies and Free Schools which were previously funded through the ESG. Barnet is requesting Schools Forum approval to retain the former retained duties element of the ESG for 2018/19 at the same rate as allocated by the DfE; the final amount is yet to be confirmed as it will be based on actual pupil numbers, but the figure in 2017/18 was £0.797m.

## **New for 2018/19**

### **4. Additional school improvement services**

The Authority is proposing is proposing to hold a de-delegated budget in 2018/19 of £101,000 for 'additional school improvement services'.

From 2018-19 the council no longer receives Education Services Grant funding in respect of statutory services to maintained schools. Council funding for these services is estimated to be around £450,000 and pays for most of the costs of the Learning Network Inspector service and towards the cost of the data team's work on school performance data. In 2017-18 the council received a school improvement grant of £192,000 from the DfE towards the cost of statutory school improvement services ('statutory intervention functions and services such as monitoring and commissioning of school improvement support'); it is not yet clear whether the grant will continue beyond this year or at what level. In any case this grant does not cover the full cost of the current service.

LAs may ask maintained school to de-delegate funding to supplement any school improvement grant funding from the DfE. To enable the school improvement service to continue at its current level, the authority is requesting that maintained schools de-delegate £101,000 towards the cost of these services.

The de-delegation rate proposed is £3.55 per Primary pupil and £1.80 per Secondary pupil. This would equate to a similar average contribution per phase (primary and secondary), as school improvement support does not tend to vary with the size of school.

### **5. Contingencies**

The Authority is proposing to hold a de-delegated budget in 2018/19 of £61,000 for schools specific contingency.

The current schools and early years finance (England) regulations 2017 allows LAs to hold a budget for "expenditure on the schools specific contingency". This centrally held item is deducted for the purpose of ensuring that monies are available to increase a school's budget share after it has been allocated and where it subsequently becomes apparent that a governing body has incurred expenditure which it would be unreasonable to expect it to meet from the school's budget share.

This may include expenditure in circumstances which were unforeseen when the school's budget share was initially determined.

An example of the use of contingencies would be the funding of additional NNDR (business rate) costs following a re-valuation. By having a contingency, the LA can meet the unexpected additional costs during the year in question. Without the contingency the school would have to meet the additional costs from its own resources. Academies and free schools are not affected as the contingency can only be applied to maintained schools. For all schools, following a re-valuation, the following year's budget is adjusted to reflect the actual revised NNDR costs.

The de-delegation rate proposed for both Primary and Secondary maintained schools is **£2 per pupil**.

**Recommendation** – The Schools Forum is asked to approve:

- The continuation of de-delegation on the same basis as 2017/18.

De-delegation	Primary	Secondary
<b>Behaviour Support</b>	yes/no/abstain	
<b>Narrowing the Gap</b>	yes/no/abstain	yes/no/abstain
<b>Trade Union Duties</b>	yes/no/abstain	yes/no/abstain

- The following new de-delegation items for 2018/19:

De-delegation	Primary	Secondary
<b>School contingency</b>	yes/no/abstain	yes/no/abstain
<b>School improvement services</b>	yes/no/abstain	yes/no/abstain

- Primary and secondary representatives of maintained mainstream schools are required to vote individually on each budget.

