

Meeting/Date	Schools Forum 01 December 2022	Agenda Item No.	8.1
Report Title	2023-24 Central Schools Services Block (CSSB)		
Decision/ Discussion/ Update	Information and Decision		
Author	Sharon Palma – Head of Finance, Childrens and Family Services Madiha Bhenick – DSG Finance Manager		
Appendices	None		
Summary	This report contains an update of the 2023-24 Central Schools Services Block (CSSB)		
Recommendations	That School Forum note: 1. 2023-24 estimated figures for CSSB		

1. Recommendation

- 1.1 For members of the forum to agree to the figures for ongoing responsibility in principle
- 1.2 For members of the forum to note the final figures will be presented to the forum in January 2023.

2. Summary

- 2.1 The indicative CSSB for FY2023-24 increased by £0.072m to £2.337m.
- 2.2. Increase of £0.072m has been pro-rated as per 2022-23 budget.

3. Central Schools Services Block (CSSB)

- 3.1 The Central Schools Services Block (CSSB) is formulated to cover both historic commitments and ongoing responsibilities. The former are fixed amounts committed in 2012-13 and cannot be increased under the National Funding Formula. The Department for Education (DfE) expects that historical commitments will reduce over time and therefore have reduced allocations by 20% for 2022-23.
- 3.2 Ongoing responsibilities include funding for duties for all pupils within the Local Authority (LA) boundary, admissions and appeals, Schools Forum administration, and copyright licensing.

3.3 Schools Forum is required to approve Central Services Block amounts, except for Copyright Licensing, which is negotiated on behalf of all LAs by the DfE. The DfE has published indicative allocations in July 2022 and final amounts for this block will be confirmed in December 2022. Schools Forum will be updated in January 2023 on final allocations for its approval.

3.4 The indicative CSSB for 2023-24 is £2.337m comprising a Historical commitment of £0.306m and ongoing responsibilities of £2.031m listed in Table 1. The increase of £0.072m has been pro-rated as per the 2022-23 budget.

3.5 The final figure for ongoing responsibilities will be based on the October 2022 census.

Table 1: Breakdown of 22-23 Historic and Ongoing Responsibilities for CSSB

		2023-24 Indicative	2022-23
		£m	£m
Historic Commitments	Safer Families	0.120	0.116
	CAF Team	0.186	0.180
Ongoing Responsibilities	School Admissions	0.489	0.474
	Servicing of Schools Forum	0.035	0.034
	Copyright Licensing Costs	0.296	0.287
	Education Welfare Service	0.431	0.418
	Asset Management	0.038	0.037
	Statutory/Regulatory Duties	0.742	0.719
TOTAL		2.337	2.265