

Meeting/Date	Schools Forum 01 December 2022	Agenda Item No.	8.2
Report Title	2023-24 De-Delegation		
Decision/ Discussion/ Update	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 2023-24 De-Delegation		
Recommendations	That School Forum to approve: 1. the de-delegation rates for FY 2023-24		

1. Recommendation

1.1. For the members of the forum to approve the de-delegation rates for FY 2023-24.

2. Summary

2.1. The de-delegation rates proposed for FY2023-24 are the same as FY2022-23.

3. Background

3.1. The Local Authority (LA) is required to consult the primary and secondary maintained school representatives on the Schools Forum every year about the de-delegation of many centrally-held budgets. De-delegated funds are a deduction from maintained schools' budget shares, after the calculation of Schools Block allocations. De-delegation can only apply to maintained primary and secondary school budgets. Academies, free schools, special schools, PRUs and nurseries cannot de-delegate. However, they can choose to buy into the same de-delegated services on a traded arrangement, at an agreed per-pupil rate or in the case of special schools and PRUs by a per-place amount.

3.2. Decisions on De-delegation must be taken at the Schools Forum by primary and secondary sector representatives separately, every financial year. It requires the agreement of a simple majority of the maintained representatives for the relevant phase on the Schools Forum on a recommended per-pupil basis.

3.3. De-delegated budgets can change within the financial year, decreasing when schools convert to academies but rising if maintained schools expand, or independent schools join the maintained sector.

3.4. For the 2023-24 financial year, the LA is requesting the same de-delegation items as 2022-23, with indicative rates matching those of last year: However, the additional School Improvement de-delegation will now be the subject of a separate report elsewhere on the agenda (8.4 – 2023-24 SIMB Grant Proposal)

1. Behaviour Support Services (currently de-delegated by primaries but not secondary schools)
2. Support to UPEG (underperforming ethnic groups) and bilingual learners (“Narrowing the Gap”)
3. Staff costs – supply cover for (trade union) facility time
4. Schools Contingency

4. De-delegation items

- 4.1. The **Behaviour Support** budget funds part of the work of the Inclusion Advisory Team’s (previously called the high incidence support team or HIST) work with maintained primary schools. BELS employs 1.2 FTE Advisory Teachers for SEMH funded from de delegation who support all maintained schools. The de-delegation rate is proposed to remain unchanged at **£3.22 per pupil**
- 4.2. Work on **narrowing the gap (NtG)** with maintained schools funded by the de-delegation from maintained primary and secondary schools. When the NtG Lead retired his work was absorbed by the School Improvement and Data Teams. BELS uses the NtG de delegated funding to support the staffing costs of the School Improvement and Data Teams, going towards the time the teams spend on NtG (or Diminishing the Differences). The de-delegation rates are proposed to remain unchanged at **£12.33 (Primary) and £11.02 (Secondary) per pupil**, based on FSM Ever 6 pupil numbers.
- 4.3. Staff costs for **trade union duties** fund 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 £1.45(Secondary) per pupil**.
- 4.4. The centrally held **School contingency** is for unforeseen circumstances 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. Financial support for schools making redundancies in order to recover a deficit is also funded from here. Schools continue to face financial challenges and are likely to depend on the support of the contingency pot. The contingency is held at £0.460m it is therefore proposed the de-delegation rates for 2023-24 remain at **£15.89 (Primary) and £14.71 (Secondary) per pupil**.

The de-delegation of the following items for 2023-24.

De-delegation	£ per pupil*	Estimated Total**	Primary	Secondary
Behaviour Support	£3.22	£77,038	yes/no/abstain	
Narrowing the Gap	£12.33 (primary) £11.02 (secondary)	£355,142	yes/no/abstain	yes/no/abstain
Trade Union Duties	£1.66 (primary) £1.45 (secondary)	£47,629	yes/no/abstain	yes/no/abstain
School Contingency	£15.89 (primary) £14.71 (secondary)	£460,461	yes/no/abstain	yes/no/abstain

*£ per pupil are same as the 2022-23 APT submission

** Based on 2022-23 Age Weighted Pupil Unit (AWPU) pupils i.e., 23,925 primary and 5,458 secondary

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