

Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) and Schools Budget 2016/17

The Dedicated Schools budget (DSG) for 2016/17 is made up of three notional funding blocks, each calculated on a different basis:

- Schools Block
- Early Years Block and
- High Needs Block.

The **Schools Block** is calculated using pupil numbers taken from the October 2015 schools census, multiplied by a guaranteed unit of funding (SBUF). Barnet's SBUF increased a little for 2016/17 to take account of the funding for the former non-recouped academies (London and Wren) and free schools. In 2015/16 Barnet received a lump sum in the DSG for these schools, but in 2016/17 the pupils in these schools are used to calculate the Schools Block of the DSG. The Schools Block is higher because there were more pupils on the census in October 2015 than a year earlier.

The amount per pupil in the **Early Years block** is the same as for 2015/16. The Early Years (EY's) Block is estimated using early years numbers taken from the Early Years and Schools census in January 2015. A further update to the 2015/16 DSG allocation will be made once the January 2016 EY's and Schools census numbers are finalised. This subsequent change will be made after the end of the financial year so forms part of the 2016/17 DSG. The early years pupil premium has been set at the same level as 2015/16 but may be subject to change. Unlike the main pupil premium, it forms part of the DSG. Funding for two year olds is calculated in a similar way to that for 3 and 4 year olds.

The **High Needs Block** is a cash amount and is based on the amount that was provided in 2015/16. Barnet received an additional £696k as part of an extra £100m distributed across all local authorities but received no funding for additional places needed for pupil growth. The final allocation is expected to be confirmed after the end of the 2015/16 financial year.

Pressures on the DSG expenditure budget

The main pressure on the DSG expenditure budget is due to the continuing growth in primary pupil numbers now feeding through into secondary schools. The non-capital cost of setting up new classes is estimated to be £3.6m for 2016/17.

Balancing the budget

The approach to balancing the 2016/17 budget has been similar to last year:

- Agreement by the Forum to use the £1.3m of DSG underspend carried forward from 2013/14 to support the budget gap by contributing to the growth fund and the nursery schools' transitional subsidy. The remaining

underspends from 2014/15 and 2015/16, £0.9m and £1.3m respectively, are planned to be carried forward earmarked for pupil growth at new and existing schools from 2017/18 to 2020/21. For 2017/18 and 2018/19, these are expected to total £2.6m. The cost of growth will be high for the next 5 years at least as the growth in primary moves into secondary and regeneration attracts new families into Barnet.

- Officers are continuing to ensure the needs of children with SEN are met wherever possible in local provision rather than expensive independent placements. The SEN budget review last year and improved management of statutory SEN processes has resulted in a significant reduction in the budget pressures arising in relation to High Needs budget.
- Provision for 2-year-olds places has grown sharply during 2015/16 and is planned to continue to rise in 2016/17 so that Barnet moves towards the target number of places set by the DfE.
- Contingency is being held to cover the non-capital cost of the final closure of St Mary's High School in July 2016.

Draft Schools Budget 2016/17						
		2016/17	2016/17	2016/17		2015/16
S251	S251 Description	Gross Budget before recoupment	Net Budget after recoupment	Gross Draft Budget reported to Schools Forum 15 October 2015	Change since Schools Forum	Net Budget after recoupment
Expenditure						
1.0.1	Individual Schools Budget before Academy recoupment	269,633,685	175,353,960	270,972,617	(1,338,932)	264,376,738
1.1.1	Contingencies	145,475	145,475	86,550	58,925	194,850
1.1.2	Behaviour Support Services	79,133	79,133	79,133	-	77,613
1.1.3	Support to UPEG and bilingual learners	87,001	87,001	87,001	-	85,564
1.1.9	Staff costs - supply cover for facility time	48,774	48,774	48,774	-	47,512
1.2.1	Top-up funding - maintained schools	16,969,414	16,969,414	16,593,822	375,592	16,142,716
1.2.2	Top-up funding - academies, free schools and colleges	7,434,145	7,434,145	7,021,783	412,362	6,854,903
1.2.3	Top-up and other funding - non-maintained and independent providers	9,084,010	9,084,010	8,680,292	403,718	9,835,971
1.2.5	SEN support services	3,425,542	3,425,542	3,198,212	227,330	3,198,188
1.2.6	Hospital education services	530,006	530,006	530,006	-	530,006
1.2.11	Direct payments (SEN & Disability)	300,000	300,000	200,000	100,000	200,000
1.3.1	Central expenditure on children under 5	979,072	979,072	979,072	-	979,072
1.4.1	Contribution to combined budgets	777,892	777,892	777,892	-	777,892
1.4.2	School Admissions	361,200	361,200	361,200	-	361,200
1.4.3	Servicing of schools forums	34,680	34,680	34,680	-	34,680
1.4.11	SEN transport	400,000	400,000	400,000	-	400,000
1.4.13	Other items	106,500	106,500	106,500	-	106,500
1.4.10	Pupil growth / Infant class sizes	1,232,036	1,344,179	1,440,893	(208,857)	1,041,250
	Total Expenditure	311,628,564	217,460,982	311,598,426	30,138	305,244,655
Income						
1.7.1	Dedicated Schools Grant	(304,299,712)	(210,132,130)	(304,589,467)	289,754	(296,567,169)
1.7.4	Post 16 allocations from EFA	(5,986,459)	(5,986,459)	(5,986,459)	-	(6,774,578)
1.7.2	Balance b/fwd	(1,342,393)	(1,342,393)	(1,022,500)	(319,893)	(1,902,908)
	Total Income	(311,628,564)	(217,460,982)	(311,598,426)	(30,139)	(305,244,655)