

8. 2020-21 Central Services Schools Block-Retained Duties

1.1 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 have indicated that there will a revised basis in assessing allocations for these from 2020/21.

1.2 On-going responsibilities includes funding for duties for all pupils within the Local Authority (LA) boundary, Admissions and Appeals, Schools Forum administration and Copyright Licensing. A historical commitment to combined budgets is expected to continue. The table below shows figures for 2019/20 and 2020/21. Schools Forum is required to approve central items line by line, except for Copyright Licensing which is centrally negotiated and set by the DfE.

		2020/21	2019/20
		£m	£m
Historic Commitments	Safer Families	0.146	0.184
	CAF Team	0.225	0.284
Ongoing Responsibilities	Schools Admissions	0.401	0.401
	Servicing of Schools Forum	0.035	0.035
	Copyright Licensing Costs	0.281	0.270
	Hard to place Pupils	-	0.107
	Education Welfare Service	0.376	0.322
	Asset Management	0.033	0.029
	Statutory/Regulatory Duties	0.645	0.552
	Total	2.141	2.183

Recommendation

- V. Schools Forum is asked to approve expenditure lines that comprise the Central School Services Block.