

REPORT TO: School Forum

DATE: 29th January 203

REPORTING OFFICER: Operational Director – Children’s Organisation & Provision

SUBJECT: Funding for High Needs Pupils and Students - Update

WARDS: Boroughwide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

This report provides a summary of the progress to date in implementing new assessment and funding models for high needs pupils and students.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That Schools Forum:

- (1) Note the progress to date;**
- (2) Request a further report; and**
- (3) Agree the funding model for special units for 2013/2014**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 The report to the School Forum on 16th October 2012 provided a summary of the changes to funding provision for pupils and students with high needs. For schools these changes will take effect from 1st April 2013 and for Colleges and Academies these will be introduced at the start of the academic year 2013/2014.
- 3.2 Task and finish groups have been established to address the different areas within the high needs blocks. Although in many areas further work is still required a summary of progress to date is detailed below.
- 3.3 In August 2012 the Authority were required to submit the place numbers for its pre-16 specialist settings. The information included the numbers of funded places for the four special schools along with the pre-16 numbers for each of the resource provision units (pre-16 specialist SEN settings). Numbers have also been submitted for post-16 places. However, Local Authorities have been advised that the number of places that will be funded will be limited to a 24% increase between 2010/2011 and 2013/2014. Therefore numbers in Halton have been limited to 100 which is lower than the estimate of 121. Any increases above the funded number will inevitably place cost pressures on the High Needs budget.
- 3.4 In addition, an arrangement has been made with Riverside College about the treatment and allocation of funding for those post-16 students

where the destination has yet to be agreed to ensure this funding is not lost to the Borough.

- 3.5 Following the meeting on 29th November 2012 with the representatives of schools with special units in the Borough advice was sought from the Education Funding Agency on the options available to ensure sufficient funding for the existing and developing provision within the borough.
- 3.6 The EFA confirmed that outreach provision could be funded through a Service Level Agreement by the Authority and the costs could be apportioned accordingly. A funding model was therefore developed which deducted the place led element from the estimated formula costs and removed the appropriate proportion of outreach costs. In the case of primary schools where occupancy is less than one third, the first pupil would be funded at £15,000 each subsequent pupil would be funded at the top up rate if the unit was full. For secondary schools where occupancy is less than one third the first pupil would be funded at £25,000 with each subsequent pupil funded at the top up rate if the unit was full. All other units would be funded at a top up rate based on dividing the total balance once the place funding has been deducted and dividing this sum by the actual pupil numbers.
- 3.7 This funding methodology was shared at the meeting of school representatives from special units on 10th January 2013 and agreed. School Forum are therefore asked to endorse this proposed funding model for 2013/2014. The model is outlined in Appendix 1.
- 3.8 Meetings have taken place with the Special schools to agree a revised funding formula for 2013/2014. Although the final funding formula has still to be agreed for 2013/2014 it has been agreed that the current criteria be maintained and in order to ensure that no school losses more than 1.5% of the their budget by comparison to 2012/2013 the unit costs per pupil reflects occupancy level and the different building and service costs.
- 3.9 A number of meetings have taken place to consider a 0-25 assessment criteria and banding for top up. These meetings have considered the current assessments processes for pre and post-16 pupils and students and the funding for additional needs. From April 2013 primary schools will be required to fund the first 13 hours of additional support for children and young people with additional needs and in secondary schools the first 16 hours of support. Additional funding will be delegated to schools in recognition of this increase. However, overall the level of support for children and young people will remain the same. The key change will be the balance between the school's resources and the Local Authority. The final funding model will be considered and finalised at the next working group meeting.
- 3.10 From April 2013 The Bridge and Gateway Pupil Referral Units will receive delegated budgets. Work is currently underway to identify the

additional delegated funding each PRU will require such as funding for legal, HR and finance. As pupil referral provision is funded on a place plus model, the estimated place numbers have been submitted to the EFA, however, the final top up figure per pupil has yet to be agreed and will need to include the additional delegated funding.

8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

| Document | Place of Inspection | Contact Officer |
|--|----------------------------|---|
| School Funding Reform Arrangements 2013/2014 | DFE Website | Ann McIntyre Operational Director Organisation and Provision |

Appendix 1 - Summary of special unit calculations

| | Unit | No places | current funding £ | Places at £10k £ | Balance for top-up £ | Top-up per pupil if full £ | Total £ | Actual pupils Jan-13 | Top-up for actual £ |
|---------------------------|---------------------|-----------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Primary | | | | | | | | | |
| Grange Primary | ASD KS1 | 14 | 193,831.93 | 140,000.00 | 53,831.93 | 3,845.14 | 193,831.93 | 8 | 6,728.99 |
| Simms Cross | ASD KS1 | 14 | 200,453.36 | 140,000.00 | 60,453.36 | 4,318.10 | 200,453.36 | 11 | 5,495.76 |
| Grange Jnr Outreach | ASD KS2 | 5 | 63,966.65 | | | | 63,966.65 | SLA | |
| Simms Cross Jnr Outreach | ASD KS2 | 5 | 63,966.65 | | | | 63,966.65 | SLA | |
| The Brow | Assessment | 7 | 88,475.62 | 70,000.00 | 18,475.62 | 2,639.37 | 88,475.62 | 2 | 9,237.81 |
| Oakfield | Assessment | 7 | 91,069.06 | 70,000.00 | 21,069.06 | 3,009.87 | 91,069.06 | 5 | 4,213.81 |
| Weston Point | EBD | 7 | 90,783.18 | 70,000.00 | 20,783.18 | 2,969.03 | 90,783.18 | 7 | 2,969.03 |
| Woodside | EBD | 7 | 91,011.75 | 70,000.00 | 21,011.75 | 3,001.68 | 91,011.75 | 5 | 4,202.35 |
| Westfield | HI | 6 | 86,056.13 | 60,000.00 | 26,056.13 | 4,342.69 | 86,056.13 | 6 | 4,342.69 |
| Westfield Signer | HI | 6 | 20,623.00 | | | | 20,623.00 | SLA | |
| The Brow | SPL | 10 | 95,881.82 | 100,000.00 | Nil | - | 100,000.00 | 10 | NIL |
| Palacefields | SPL | 10 | 94,404.52 | 100,000.00 | Nil | - | 100,000.00 | 10 | NIL |
| Oakfield | SPL | 10 | 99,504.39 | 100,000.00 | Nil | - | 100,000.00 | 6 | NIL |
| | Total budget | | 1,280,028.06 | 920,000.00 | | 24,125.87 | 1,290,237.33 | | |
| Secondary | | | | | | | | | |
| Grange Comp | ASD KS3/4 | 6 | 94,172.98 | 60,000.00 | 34,172.98 | 5,695.50 | 94,172.98 | 4 | 8,543.25 |
| Sts Peter & Paul | ASD KS3/4 | 6 | 93,458.39 | 60,000.00 | 33,458.39 | 5,576.40 | 93,458.39 | 2 | 16,729.20 |
| Grange Comp Outreach | ASD KS3/4 | 5 | 63,966.65 | | | | 63,966.65 | SLA | |
| Sts Peter & Paul Outreach | ASD KS3/4 | 5 | 63,966.65 | | | | 63,966.65 | SLA | |
| Wade Deacon | HI | 6 | 90,554.66 | 60,000.00 | 30,554.66 | 5,092.44 | 90,554.66 | 2 | 15,277.33 |
| Wade Deacon Signer | HI | 6 | 20,623.00 | | | | 20,623.00 | SLA | |
| The Grange | SLCN | 10 | 107,222.50 | 100,000.00 | 7,222.50 | 722.25 | 107,222.50 | 5 | 1,444.50 |
| The Bankfield | SLCN | 10 | 107,318.88 | 100,000.00 | 7,318.88 | 731.89 | 107,318.88 | 4 | 1,829.72 |
| | Total budget | | 641,283.73 | 380,000.00 | | 17,818.48 | 641,283.73 | | |
| | | | 1,921,311.78 | | | | 1,931,521.06 | | |

Current funding is AWPU + part non-AWPU + part LA Rates

Summary of special unit calculations

| | Unit | No places | current funding £ | Option 1 where occupancy is less than 1/3rd, front-load 1st | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|-----------|----------------------|--|------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| | | | | 1st pupil | subesquent | cash value | difference |
| Primary | | | | | | | |
| Grange Primary | ASD KS1 | 14 | 193,831.93 | 6,728.99 | 6,728.99 | 193,831.93 | - |
| Simms Cross | ASD KS1 | 14 | 200,453.36 | 5,495.76 | 5,495.76 | 200,453.36 | - |
| Grange Jnr Outreach | ASD KS2 | 5 | 63,966.65 | | | 63,966.65 | - |
| Simms Cross Jnr Outreach | ASD KS2 | 5 | 63,966.65 | | | 63,966.65 | - |
| The Brow | Assessment | 7 | 88,475.62 | 15,000.00 | 2,639.37 | 87,639.37 | - 836.24 |
| Oakfield | Assessment | 7 | 91,069.06 | 4,213.81 | 4,213.81 | 91,069.06 | - |
| Weston Point | EBD | 7 | 90,783.18 | 2,969.03 | 2,969.03 | 90,783.18 | - |
| Woodside | EBD | 7 | 91,011.75 | 4,202.35 | 4,202.35 | 91,011.75 | - |
| Westfield | HI | 6 | 86,056.13 | 4,342.69 | 4,342.69 | 86,056.13 | - |
| Westfield Signer | HI | 6 | 20,623.00 | | | 20,623.00 | - |
| The Brow | SPL | 10 | 95,881.82 | NIL | NIL | 100,000.00 | 4,118.18 |
| Palacefields | SPL | 10 | 94,404.52 | NIL | NIL | 100,000.00 | 5,595.48 |
| Oakfield | SPL | 10 | 99,504.39 | NIL | NIL | 100,000.00 | 495.61 |
| | Total budget | | 1,280,028.06 | | | 1,289,401.09 | 9,373.03 |
| Secondary | | | | | | | |
| Grange Comp | ASD KS3/4 | 6 | 94,172.98 | 8,543.25 | 8,543.25 | 94,172.98 | - |
| Sts Peter & Paul | ASD KS3/4 | 6 | 93,458.39 | 25,000.00 | 5,576.40 | 90,576.40 | - 2,881.99 |
| Grange Comp Outreach | ASD KS3/4 | 5 | 63,966.65 | | | 63,966.65 | - |
| Sts Peter & Paul Outreach | ASD KS3/4 | 5 | 63,966.65 | | | 63,966.65 | - |
| Wade Deacon | HI | 6 | 90,554.66 | 25,000.00 | 5,092.44 | 90,092.44 | - 462.22 |
| Wade Deacon Signer | HI | 6 | 20,623.00 | | | 20,623.00 | - |
| The Grange | SLCN | 10 | 107,222.50 | 1,444.50 | 1,444.50 | 107,222.50 | - |
| The Bankfield | SLCN | 10 | 107,318.88 | 1,829.72 | 1,829.72 | 107,318.88 | - |
| | Total budget | | 641,283.73 | | | 637,939.51 | - 3,344.21 |
| | | | 1,921,311.78 | | | 1,927,340.60 | 6,028.81 |

