

**REPORT TO:** Schools' Forum

**DATE:** 14<sup>th</sup> June 2023

**REPORTING OFFICER:** Operational Director - Finance

**SUBJECT:** School Balances 2022-23

**WARDS:** Borough wide

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 To report to the Schools' Forum the level of Revenue and Devolved Formula Capital (DFC) funding brought forward from 2022-23 by Halton Maintained Schools.

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That**

- 2.1 The report is noted.
- 2.2 That the Schools' Forum decides if any schools are to provide further information regarding their high Revenue Surplus balance.

## **3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 3.1 While balances are still required to be reported to the Schools' Forum, no excess surplus balance limits are currently in place. However, the Schools' Forum retains the right to require schools to provide further information as to how their balance will be spent should they so decide.
- 3.2 In accordance with statutory requirements, including the Schools Financial Value Standard (SFVS), schools are expected to sustain 'reasonable' levels of surplus balances and demonstrate 'Value for Money' through effective plans for spending their budgets.
- 3.3 Despite the excess surplus thresholds no longer being a mandatory consideration to the Controls on Surplus Balances provision, the original maximum recommended thresholds are still commonly referred to, including by Ofsted, at 5% for Secondary and 8% for Nursery, Primary, and Special schools.
- 3.4 **Appendix A** shows the Revenue balances for each Maintained school, along with their 2021-22 balance for comparison.
- 3.5 The overall net surplus School Budget balances position for Halton maintained schools at the end of 2022-23 is **£7,206,885**. This is a decrease of £226,306 (3%) when compared to 2021-22.
- 3.6 Out of 48 Maintained schools, there are 43 (90%) with Surplus balances and 5 (10%) with a Deficit position at the end of 2022-23.

- 3.7 Of the 48 with surplus balances, 34 (representing 79% of all Maintained schools) have accumulated surplus balances above the original maximum thresholds of 5% and 8%. The schools above the maximum thresholds are highlighted in blue at Appendix A.
- 3.8 When compared to 2021-22 there are 18 (38%) Maintained schools that have increased their Surplus balance, and 30 (62%) that have decreased their balance from the previous financial year.
- 3.9 Of the 5 schools that ended 2022-23 in Deficit, 2 have set balanced budgets for 2023-24 and 3 are currently working with the Local Authority to develop and agree their Deficit Recovery Plans.
- 3.10 **Appendix B** shows the Devolved Formula Capital (DFC) balances for each Maintained school, along with their 2021-22 balance for comparison.
- 3.11 The balance of DFC for Maintained schools has increased by £449,471 to **£657,380** at the end of 2022-23. This increase is due in the main to the in-year allocation of additional capital funding to support schools with energy efficiency initiatives and developments.

#### **4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 It is pleasing to note that, despite the many costs pressures being faced by schools, the overall school balances have been sustained at over £7.2m.
- 4.2 The increased Devolved Formula Capital balance, from the additional funding referred to above, will greatly assist schools in developing and installing energy efficiency measures which should help them sustain longer-term cost efficiencies and financial benefits to their Revenue budget positions.

#### **5.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

- 5.1 **Children & Young People in Halton**  
It is essential that schools receive sufficient funding to allow them to support all children and young people.
- 5.2 **Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton**  
None.
- 5.3 **A Healthy Halton**  
None.

5.4 **A Safer Halton**

None.

5.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal**

None.

**6.0 RISK ANALYSIS**

6.1 Schools continue to face increasing cost pressures and there is a risk that potentially schools will face financial difficulties going forwards due to an upward trend of rising costs evident within key budget areas. Controlled fiscal management of budgets will have to be prioritised by schools.

**7.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

7.1 None.

**8.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 None identified.

### Maintained Schools Final Outturn Balances 2022-23

Costc	School	Balance 2022-23	% Balance
5001	Ditton Nursery School	-44,219	-17.1%
5002	Birchfield Nursery School	3,842	0.9%
5003	Warrington Road Nursery School	26,074	6.0%
<b>Total Nursery Schools</b>		<b>-14,303</b>	

### APPENDIX A

2021/22 Balance	Variance to 2022/23	% Variance to 2022/23
882	-45,101	-5,111.7%
11,115	-7,273	-65.4%
80,140	-54,066	-67.5%
<b>92,137</b>	<b>-106,440</b>	<b>-115.5%</b>

### Primary Schools

5100	St Mary's CE Primary	420,005	26.1%
5101	St Edwards Catholic Primary	74,305	7.9%
5102	Weston Point Community Primary	-29,445	-2.1%
5105	Victoria Road Primary School	140,232	9.9%
5106	Weston Primary School	35,352	2.8%
5107	St Clements Catholic Primary School	65,741	5.7%
5108	Westfield Primary School	-4,737	-0.6%
5109	Halton Lodge Primary School	191,556	11.9%
5110	Castle View Primary School	104,322	8.2%
5111	Astmoor Primary School	44,639	4.1%
5112	The Brow Community Primary	248,588	15.3%
5113	Woodside Primary School	64,144	5.3%
5114	The Holy Spirit Catholic Primary	3,750	0.4%
5116	Pewithall Primary School	20,238	1.6%
5118	Hallwood Park Primary School	60,810	6.0%
5120	Runcorn All Saints Ce Primary	107,113	11.2%
5121	Our Lady Mother of the Saviour Catholic Primary	221,114	15.0%
5122	Hillview Primary School	108,059	9.4%
5123	Beechwood Primary School	55,637	5.0%
5125	Brookvale Primary School	417,762	19.7%
5126	St Martins Cath Primary School	-42,536	-3.5%
5127	Murdishaw West Comm Primary School	107,207	8.4%
5128	Gorsewood Primary School	403,440	25.2%
5129	St Berteline's CE Primary	46,739	3.0%

420,230	-226	-0.1%
140,130	-65,825	-47.0%
236,761	-266,206	-112.4%
165,568	-25,336	-15.3%
84,484	-49,131	-58.2%
63,817	1,924	3.0%
38,874	-43,611	-112.2%
82,027	109,529	133.5%
173,895	-69,573	-40.0%
17,392	27,247	156.7%
290,711	-42,123	-14.5%
126,108	-61,964	-49.1%
38,852	-35,102	-90.3%
68,492	-48,254	-70.5%
131,461	-70,651	-53.7%
80,423	26,690	33.2%
263,432	-42,319	-16.1%
106,231	1,828	1.7%
66,684	-11,047	-16.6%
432,051	-14,289	-3.3%
1,859	-44,395	-2,387.5%
138,649	-31,441	-22.7%
299,762	103,678	34.6%
79,917	-33,179	-41.5%

Costc	School	Balance 2022-23	% Balance	2021/22 Balance	Variance to 2022/23	% Variance to 2022/23
5130	Windmill Hill Primary School	223,033	14.4%	292,761	-69,728	-23.8%
5132	Moore Primary School	168,327	14.0%	144,648	23,679	16.4%
5133	Hale CE Vol Contr Primary	32,766	2.9%	54,137	-21,371	-39.5%
5134	St Bedes Catholic Junior School	215,492	12.2%	125,124	90,368	72.2%
5135	St Bedes Catholic Infant School	80,069	5.9%	91,263	-11,193	-12.3%
5137	St Michael's Catholic Primary School	89,712	5.5%	148,716	-59,004	-39.7%
5138	Farnworth CE Controlled Primary	207,455	9.3%	190,148	17,306	9.1%
5139	Halebank CE Voluntary Controlled Primary	120,529	14.4%	141,030	-20,501	-14.5%
5140	St Gerard's Catholic Primary & Nursery	342,028	19.5%	269,719	72,309	26.8%
5144	Oakfield Primary School	299,700	12.9%	198,092	101,608	51.3%
5146	Moorfield Primary School	37,194	2.6%	49,485	-12,291	-24.8%
5148	Our Lady Of Perpetual Succour Primary	110,992	8.2%	142,113	-31,121	-21.9%
5149	St Basils Catholic Primary	378,029	17.6%	367,911	10,118	2.8%
5150	All Saints Upton CE Voluntary Controlled Primary	83,239	6.0%	73,040	10,198	14.0%
5151	Fairfield Primary	231,645	6.5%	252,673	-21,028	-8.3%
5153	Lunts Heath Primary School	274,856	12.3%	217,499	57,356	26.4%
5154	St John Fisher Catholic Primary	77,948	5.6%	189,948	-112,000	-59.0%
<b>Total Primary Schools</b>		<b>5,837,048</b>		<b>6,496,117</b>	<b>-659,069</b>	<b>-10.1%</b>
<b>Secondary Schools</b>						
5312	St Peter & Paul Catholic High	532,342	5.5%	470,531	61,811	13.1%
5313	The Bridge School PRU	-41,441	-1.6%	-173,740	132,299	-76.1%
5315	The Bridge - Astmoor Skill Centre					
<b>Total Secondary Schools</b>		<b>490,901</b>		<b>296,791</b>	<b>194,110</b>	<b>65.4%</b>
<b>Special Schools</b>						
5401	Ashley School	526,438	18.9%	234,924	291,514	124.1%
5402	Chesnut Lodge Special School	366,802	14.6%	313,222	53,579	17.1%
<b>Total Special Schools</b>		<b>893,239</b>		<b>548,147</b>	<b>345,093</b>	<b>63.0%</b>

---

**TOTAL ALL SCHOOLS****7,206,885****9.2%****7,433,192****-226,306****-3.0%**

---

---

Surplus Balance

43

90%

*of which Surplus is above Ofsted recommended thresholds of 5% or 8%*

34

79%

**Deficit Balance****5**

10%

Increased

18

38%

Decreased

30

63%

Total

**48**

**Devolved Formula Capital (DFC) Balances 2022-23**

Costc	School	Balance 2022-23	2021/22 Balance	Variance to 2022/23
5502	Weston Point Non LMS	<b>13,330</b>	4,670	8,660
5505	Victoria Road Non LMS	<b>13,866</b>	1,842	12,024
5506	Weston Non LMS	<b>24,247</b>	4,856	19,391
5508	Westfield Non LMS	<b>17,857</b>	650	17,207
5509	Halton Lodge Non LMS	<b>21,822</b>	8,636	13,186
5510	Castle View Non LMS	<b>30,932</b>	12,167	18,765
5511	Astmoor Non LMS	<b>34,493</b>	16,460	18,033
5512	The Brow Non LMS	<b>21,309</b>	10,328	10,981
5513	Woodside Non LMS	<b>9,817</b>	-5,419	15,236
5516	Pewithall Non LMS	<b>13,221</b>	1,024	12,197
5518	Hallwood Park Non LMS	<b>22,785</b>	5,059	17,726
5522	Hillview Non LMS	<b>23,189</b>	6,078	17,111
5523	Beechwood Non LMS	<b>13,219</b>	6,383	6,836
5525	Brookvale Primary Non LMS	<b>15,328</b>	5,676	9,652
5527	Murdishaw West Non LMS	<b>18,631</b>	3,110	15,521
5528	Murdishaw Gorsewood Non LMS	<b>29,249</b>	11,334	17,915
5530	Windmill Hill Non LMS	<b>21,478</b>	17,259	4,219
5532	Moore Non LMS	<b>14,303</b>	13,006	1,297
5533	Hale Non LMS	<b>16,855</b>	0	16,855
5538	Farnworth Non LMS	<b>28,238</b>	9,904	18,334
5539	Halebank Non LMS	<b>18,292</b>	10,180	8,112
5544	Oakfield Primary Non LMS	<b>21,018</b>	4	21,014
5546	Moorfield Non LMS	<b>5,327</b>	-1	5,328
5550	All Saints Upton Non LMS	<b>25,376</b>	12,402	12,974
5551	Fairfield Primary School Non LMS	<b>42,967</b>	14,754	28,213
5553	Lunts Heath Non LMS	<b>19,098</b>	17,000	2,098
5581	Ashley School Non LMS	<b>29,133</b>	7,454	21,679
5582	Chesnut Lodge Non LMS	<b>17,983</b>	2,416	15,567
5591	Ditton Nursery Non LMS	<b>15,127</b>	56	15,071
5592	Birchfield Nursery Non LMS	<b>11,793</b>	0	11,793
5593	Warrington Road Non LMS	<b>14,245</b>	-2,103	16,348
5595	The Bridge School PRU Non-LMS	<b>32,853</b>	12,724	20,129
<b>Total DFC</b>		<b>657,380</b>	<b>207,909</b>	<b>449,471</b>