

SLOUGH SCHOOLS FORUM - TUESDAY, 12TH JANUARY, 2016

SUPPLEMENTARY PAPERS

The following Papers were tabled at the meeting.

<u>AGENDA ITEM</u>	<u>REPORT TITLE</u>	<u>PAGE</u>	<u>WARD</u>
9.	Growth Fund	1 - 6	

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SLOUGH SCHOOLS' FORUM
11th January 2016

Growth Fund 2016-17
(Directorate of Wellbeing)

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Schools' Forum of the 2016-17 Growth Fund requirement and to seek their approval to fund this from the School's block budget.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Slough Borough Council requires a topslice of £1,100,000 for the Growth Fund in 2016-17. Recent increases in new arrivals to Slough believed to be a consequence of increased housing completions has resulted in higher pupil forecasts for next year.
- 2.2 The Growth Fund will fund agreed bulge classes as well as new places in excess of Planned Admission Numbers (PAN) at both primary and secondary schools.
- 2.3 See Appendix A.

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Slough continues to have an increasing pupil population alongside a significant growth in numbers already working through the primary sector therefore the growth fund should be reviewed in light of future pressures.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 All options for creating new places are being explored including:
- Bulge classes – generally require a one off payment from the Growth Fund
 - Permanent expansions – require ongoing commitment from the growth fund
 - Increased class sizes or numbers above PAN – termly commitment from the Growth Fund where pupils are not recorded on the October School Census
 - Free Schools – ongoing financial commitment after first year.

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 5.1 The Growth Fund is one of the centrally held budget areas that Schools' Forum has decision making powers over. DfE guidelines states that:

“the growth fund can be used only for the purposes of supporting growth in pre-16 pupil numbers to meet basic need, to support additional classes needed to meet the infant class size regulation and to meet the costs of new schools.”

- 5.3 The methodology for distributing funding is based on AWPU per pupil, reflecting the proportion of the year which is not funded within the school's budget share.
- 5.4 Slough maintained schools will be provided Growth Funding from September until March and academies will be funded from September through until August. This is due to the difference in financial years, as maintained schools receive their funding from April to March, while academies are funded from September to August.
- 5.4 Slough has seen a significant increase in pupil numbers over the last 8 years, with 16 primary expanding permanently to meet the demand for places. In that period 4 new primary schools have opened. This growth is now affecting secondary schools and 3 new secondary Free Schools have opened since 2015.
- 5.5 The School Organisation Group (SOG) will be consulted before any bulge classes are agreed. This is a change from the previous policy where SOG had to agree before Growth Funding could be approved.
- 5.6 The Growth Fund provides financial support for all the years a school incurs a shortfall in funding whilst going through a permanent expansion, and the first year only for a bulge class.
- 5.7 The Growth Fund will provide financial support for schools that admit pupils in excess of their PAN for each whole term that they make each additional place available at the request of Slough. Funding will remain at the 2015-16 AWPU level.

6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

Borough Solicitor

- 6.1 Local Authorities are under a statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient school places in their area, ensure fair access to educational opportunity and promote the fulfilment of every child's educational potential.

Section 151 Officer – Strategic Director of Resources

- 6.2 The financial implications of the report are outlined in the supporting information.

Access Implications

- 6.3 There are no access implications.

7 CONSULTATION

Principal Groups Consulted

- 7.1 School Organisation Group and all primary schools.
- 7.2 A second consultation was conducted with School Organisation Group and Slough Schools Education Forum regarding the mechanism for funding places in excess of the PAN of a school. The details can be found in a separate report presented to this Schools' Forum.

Method of Consultation

- 7.2 School Organisation Group were consulted at the last 2 meetings 13th October 2015 and 23rd November 2015.
Consultation was issued to all primary schools 21st October 2015.

Representations Received

- No school objected to the principle of larger classes but some stated they were unable to offer this due to the physical size of classrooms or other issues.
- schools responded that they would consider larger classes but only if revenue funding was provided. Some also requested capital funding.
- St Anthony's offered to admit children up to 32 in year 3.
- Marish Primary School agreed to open 2 bulge classes in the 2 year groups facing the most pressure on places.
- Cippenham Primary opened a class that was agreed in-principle earlier this year.
- No other bulge classes were suggested.

Background Papers

None

Contact for further information

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APPENDIX A

Estimates for Growth Fund Allocation in 2016-17 based on 2015-16 AWPU

Start in Sept 11 is financial year 11-12
 Start in Sept 12 is financial year 12-13
 Start in Sept 13 is financial year 13-14
 Start in Sept 14 is financial year 14-15
 Start in Sept 15 is financial year 15-16

AWPU (2015-16)	3,179.91
Pupils per Class	30
Full Year Growth Funding per Class	95,397.30
Non-Academies (Sept 16 - March 17)	55,648.43
Academies (Apr 16 - Aug 16)	95,397.30
Academies (Sep 16 - Mar 17)	

Academies Recoupment April to August 17	39,748.88
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16-17 BUDGET (EXCLUDING ACADEMIES)	
CARRIED FORWARD 2015-16 - estimate	150,000
TOPSLICED FROM 2016-17 SCHOOL BLOCK	1,100,000
TOTAL BUDGET	1,250,000

FORECAST 2016-17

Ref	School		New Pupils	No. of Classes	2015-16 SBC September to March	2016-17 Academies April 2017- Aug 2017	FOR 2016-17 ACADEMIC YEAR
1	Cippenham Primary School	Academy	30	1	55,648	39,749	95,397
	Claycoats School	Non-Academy	150	5	278,242		278,242
2	Godolphin Junior School	Academy	30	1	55,648	39,749	95,397
3	Montem Primary School	Academy	30	1	55,648	39,749	95,397
	Penn Wood Primary and Nursery School	Non-Academy	30	1	55,648		55,648
	Priory School	Non-Academy	30	1	55,648		55,648
4	Ryvers Primary School	Academy	30	1	55,648	39,749	95,397
	St Anthony's Catholic Primary School	Non-Academy	30	1	55,648		55,648
	St Mary's CE Primary School	Non-Academy	30	1	55,648		55,648
5	Western House School	Academy	30	1			
	Wexham Court Primary School	Non-Academy	30	1			
6	Willow Primary School*	Academy	30	1	55,648	39,749	95,397
7	James Elliman	Academy	30	1	55,648	39,749	95,397
CONTINGENCY							
8	Estimated 1 new class	Academy	30	1	55,648	39,749	95,397
10	Estimated 1 new class	Academy	30	1	55,648	39,749	95,397
	Estimated 1 new class	Non-Academy	30	1	55,648		
	Estimated 1 new class	Non-Academy	30	1	55,648		
Pupils in excess of PAN			60		190,795		
Total			630	19	1,248,115	317,991	1,566,106

ESTIMATED OVER/UNDERSPEND (FINANCIAL YR 16-17) CONT

-1,885

DFE pays

FOR SEPTEMBER 2016

Start Date	Bulge classes	Rec- eption	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6	Total	Comments
1/9/10								55,648	55,648	
1/9/11						55,648	222,594		278,242	
1/9/11							55,648		55,648	
1/9/11							55,648		55,648	
1/9/11							55,648		55,648	
1/9/10								55,648	55,648	
1/9/11							55,648		55,648	
1/9/12					55,648				55,648	
1/9/13					55,648				55,648	
1/9/09									0	Fully expanded
1/9/09									0	Fully expanded
1/9/10								55,648	55,648	
1/9/15			55,648						55,648	
Total									834,726	
DFE pays									834,726	

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