

SLOUGH SCHOOLS' FORUM
6th December 2017

Directorate of Children Learning and Skills

Schools National Funding Formula 2018-19
Timetable

1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

This report updates Schools Forum (SF) on the planning and preparation for the 2018-19 schools budget through the 'soft' National Funding Formula (NFF).

Background

- 1.1 The November SF received an update of on the NFF for 2018-19 that set out the proposed changes for next year and included a provisional timetable. The last meeting agreed to the setting up the task group to work with officers to develop budget options in light of the impending NFF in 2020. This report confirms the revised dates for the budget setting process leading to final consultation with SF in January 2018 and submission of the APT by the 19th January.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That Schools' Forum:
- Notes the approach to the 2018-19 schools budget development.

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 The next two financial years offer the opportunity to plan and prepare for the 'journey' towards the implementation of the 'hard' NFF in 2020-21.
- 3.2 In particular the planning and consultation with schools should ensure there is minimal turbulence arising from changes up or down to the amount of revenue funding schools will receive under the NFF. The DfE expect local authorities to transition towards the NFF during the next two years.
- 3.2 Within the DfE proposals for next year is the scope to model a number of outcomes under the auspices of the Schools Funding Task group.

The first meeting took place on 17th November and further planned meetings are shown in the timetable below.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

4.1 The revised budget preparation timetable is set out below:

Activity	Target Date/Completion
Build 2018-19 financial model	November
Schools Task Group meetings to consider consultation options	17 th , 23 rd November, 1 st December
Consult schools	Week commencing 4 th December, ends 5 th January
ESFA publish initial 2018-19 DSG block	15 th December (2016 date)
Collate consultation responses, enter agreed option into APT and check affordability	8 th January
SF consulted on final option and funding rates	17 th January
Submit final APT to DfE with agreed political ratification date if not already obtained	19 th January

5 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 Not applicable.

6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

6.1 Monitoring Officer

The relevant legal provisions are contained within the main body of this report.

6.2 Section 151 Officer – Strategic Director of Resources

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

6.3 Access Implications

There are no access implications.

7 CONSULTATION

7.1 Not applicable

Contact for further information

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