

SLOUGH SCHOOLS' FORUM

16 January 2019

Directorate of Children, Learning and Skills

Early Years Centrally Retained Funds 2019/20

1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

This report outlines the proposed use of centrally retained funds across the Early Years Block for the period 2019/20.

Background

- 1.1 Following the introduction of the Early Years National Funding Formula in 2018/19 this short report requests Schools Forum approval for the use of centrally retained funds across the Early Years Block.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That Schools Forum:
 - Review and confirm the use of centrally retained funds across the Early Years Block.

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 In 2018/2019, the DfE mandated a reduction in centrally retained funds for English local authorities from 7% to 5%.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 4.1 Slough implemented the Early Years National Funding Formula (EYNFF) ahead of the implementation date, 1 April 2020.
- 4.2 The implementation of the EYNFF has seen rates rise across the range of Free Early Education entitlements and above inflation.
- 4.3 The changes to the base rates and reduction in centrally retained funds are fully incorporated across the overall Early Years budget.

- 4.4 The in-year adjustments conducted by the DfE are based on participation rates. This may result in changes to the level of centrally retained funds available +/-.
- 4.5 The below table illustrates the proposed use of centrally retained funds for 2019/20 reflecting the reduction in the indicative allocation from the DfE.
- 4.6 The detail in relation to the proposed use of the central funds is available in the description section of the below table.

Early Years Central Budget	Cost centre	Base Allocation 2018-19	Proposed Allocation 2019-20	Description
Early Years Adaptations/ Practical Support	F374	£75,000	£50,000	A central resource to enable providers to access practical equipment/support in order to enable children with SEND to continue to access their entitlement/s.
Early Years Strategic Financial support	F375	£80,000	£80,000	Financial contribution for the budget overview / management by DCS, Service Lead and Strategic Finance Officer.
Central Early Years Expenditure	F566	£91,200	£69,800	Statutory duty for a child with suspected or diagnosed SEND; managing referrals across the sector and delivering identified programmes and packages of support.
Early Years Team Contribution detailed below		£544,900	£534,999	
Quality Care & Learning & Advisory Teachers	F673	£294,620	£281,009	Statutory duty to provide support to all new providers, mandatory training, support and challenge settings receiving an Ofsted outcome of Inadequate (FIPP) Additional non-statutory duties Bristol Standard Quality Improvement Scheme, promotion of self evaluation and action planning through the Partnership Improvement Plan and regular QT involvement in settings.
2 year funding, 3 & 4 year old funding and other statutory responsibilities		£208,280	£211,990	Statutory duty securing free early education places including: pass through of funding to all providers; the promotion of partnership working including flexibility of provision; compliance work to ensure providers offer entitlements appropriately, in line with statutory guidance.
Littledown School		£42,000	£42,000	Payment to Littledown school for a range of behaviour support services.
		2018-19	2019-20	
Total Central Retained Budget		£791,100	£734,799	Reduced by £56,301 for 2019-20

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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