

**SLOUGH SCHOOLS' FORUM**  
**9<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

**Directorate of Children, Learning and Skills**

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**Banding Quarterly Report Update**

**1) PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To provide forum with an update on Top Up Banding Matrix

**2) RECOMMENDATIONS**

That forum notes the work underway to review the new banding matrix alongside the SEN Panel review work being undertaken.

**3) Financial Trends**

| Average EHCP Value Per Setting Type | 19-20 Q3<br>Dec '19 | 19-20 Q4<br>Mar '20 | 20-21 Q1<br>Jun '20 | 20-21 Q2<br>Sep '20 | Av.<br>Change |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Mainstream                          | 6,353               | 6,537               | 6,665               | 7,251               | 14%           |
| Resource                            | 10,024              | 10,024              | 10,128              | 10,305              | 3%            |
| Special                             | 19,731              | 19,723              | 19,457              | 19,244              | -2%           |

Financial data analysis has been undertaken, identifying the average EHCP financial value using the banding matrix within each education setting type.

Mainstream EHCP financial value has seen an average increase of 14% over the past 12 months, rising each quarter. Initial indications are that the new banding matrix is allowing for more precise grading of needs linked to financial bandings generated by the new matrix scoring system. Further analysis of cost drivers behind this increase shall be done as part of the SEN Panel review.

Pupils placed within resource bases have seen a marginal increase in the financial value of EHCPs over the past 12 months, increasing on average by 3%.

The financial value of EHCPs within special schools with Slough has seen a marginal reduction of 2% on average over the past 12 months.

**4) Future Work**

- a) The banding matrix will continue to be scrutinised for any further improvements and refinement. This shall be done as part of the ongoing SEND Panel review.
- b) Banding matrix data shall be utilised by the School Initiatives Working Group, to identify potential trends in unmet need that could be supported by new early intervention initiatives. Any new initiative concepts shall be reported to Schools Forum, and be incorporated within the DSG Deficit Management Plan.

- c) Further financial analysis on the impact of the new banding matrix shall be included within the future forecasting of expenditure reported within the DSG Deficit Management Plan for Slough.

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