SLOUGH SCHOOLS' FORUM 19th January 2020

Directorate of Children, Learning and Skills

Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Budget Monitoring Report 2020-21

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To advise Schools' Forum (SF) with the allocation of the DSG provided by the DfE and an update on the latest budget monitoring position for each block within the DSG for the financial year 2020-21.

2 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1 That Forum **note** the financial position and **approve** any deficits be rolled forward into the new financial year. Any deficit balances rolled forward will have the first call on the next year's settlement.

3 High Level overview of the DSG for 2020-21.

- 3.1 The ESFA issued the settlement data for the DSG in December 2020. The table below demonstrates the breakdown of the allocation between the element that will be administered by the Local Authority and the proportion that will be recouped by the DfE for academies. It also shows transfers between blocks that have been agreed at Schools' Forum.
- 3.2 The latest DSG allocations for 2020-21 are highlighted below. Please note that cash received (income) from the ESFA is denoted as a negative value. The positive values reflect the planned payments/transfers within each block.

CASH SETTLEMENT					
Block	DSG Settlement Before Recoupment £m	Recoupment £m	Agreed Transfers £m	Net Budget £m	
Schools	-138.985	101.785	0.000	-37.200	
Early Years	-14.349	0.000	0.000	-14.349	
High Needs	-25.649	7.000	0.250	-18.399	
Central School Services	-0.665	0.000	-0.250	-0.915	
TOTAL	-179.648	108.785	0.000	-70.863	

	Net Budget £m	Projection £m	Variance £m
DSG Support Grants	-7.400	-7.400	0.000
TOTAL	-7.400	-7.400	0.000

- 3.3 The initial 2020-21 allocation for Early Years' was based on the January 2019 census. The final adjustment to this allocation was made in July 2020 and is calculated as a weighted average of 5/12ths of the January 2019 census and 7/12ths of the January 2020 census. The ESFA made a supplementary adjustment of £0.423m in July 2020 for the underfunding of Universal and Extended Entitlement in 2019-20. This was because the uptake was more than anticipated. It was reported in the previously to Schools Forum that the carry forward for 2019-20 was (£0.547m) but would be subject to the annual year end adjustment.
- 3.4 The table beneath shows the changes to the Early Years budget for 2020-21. The ESFA increased funding by £0.735m based on increased uptake. The final allocation for 2020-21 will be confirmed in July 2021.

	Universal Entitlement for 3-4 Year Olds £m	Extended entitlement for 3-4 Year Olds £m	2 Year Old Funding £m	EYPP £m	DAF £m	MNS £m	Total Allocation £m
Jan 20 Settlement	9.659	2.551	1.284	0.073	0.055	0.728	14.349
Jul 20 Settlement	10.269	2.684	1.268	0.087	0.055	0.722	15.084
Adjustment	-0.610	-0.133	-0.016	-0.014	0.000	0.006	-0.735

4 DSG Projected Forecast

4.1 It is forecast that in 2020-21 the DSG will overspend by **£4.887m** with the cumulative overspend amounting to an estimated **£16.960m**. The variance is mainly attributable to the High Needs Block which is expected to overspend by **£4.067m** in 2020-20 and **£18.228m** cumulatively. This deficit has accumulated over the past 5 years.

The table below sets out the forecast for each block.

Block	Pre - Adjusted Brought Forward Balances £m	In - Year Adjust ments £m	Adjusted opening Balances £m	Net Budget 2020-21 £m	Projection £m	In- Year Forecast Variance £m	Forecast Carry Forward to 2021-22 £m
Schools	-0.284	0.000	-0.284	37.200	37.310	0.108	-0.176
Early Years	-0.547	-0.423	-0.970	14.349	14.227	-0.122	-1.092
High Needs	14.161	0.000	14.164	18.399	22.466	4.067	18.228
Central School Service	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.915	0.915	0.00	0.00
TOTAL	13.33	-0.423	12.913	70.863	74.918	4.887	16.960

5 <u>Schools Block</u>

5.1 The Schools' Block contains money received from the DfE to fund Individual School Budgets and is based on an annual allocation driven by specific national formula and distributed to schools via local formula.

For 2020-21 the Council is expected to receive \pounds **37.200m** as per the table below. This allocation is net of academy recoupment. An in- year overspend of 0.108m is currently forecast for the Growth Fund, which is due to the actual levels of expansion and bulge classes being higher than anticipated. The expected carry forward into 2020-21 is (£0.176m). The latest summary is shown in the table below:

Schools Block	Budget 2020-21 £m	Projection 2020-21 £m	Variance
			0.004
Balance b/fwd (growth fund)	0	-0.284	-0.284
B/fwd Total	0	-0.284	-0.284
Receipts			
DSG Settlement	-138.985	-138.985	0
Academy Recoupment	101.785	101.785	0
Income Total	-37.200	-37.200	0
Expenditure			
Maintained Primary Schools Budget	28.261	28.261	0
Maintained Secondary Schools Budget	8.128	8.128	0
Academy Recoupment Contingency (version variation)	0.211	0.211	0
Growth Fund	0.6	0.708	0.108
Expenditure Total	37.200	37.310	0.108
In Year Variance	0.000	0.108	0.108
Bal C/fwd to 2020.21	0.000	-0.176	-0.176

5.2 **Support Grants**

The table below breaks down the additional DSG support grants the council receives on behalf of its maintained schools, which it fully passes through.

DSG Support Grants	Budget 2019/20 £m	Projection 2019/20 £m	Variance £m
Receipts			
Pupil Premium	-1.804	-1.804	0.000
Sixth form funding	-1.862	-1.862	0.000
UIFSM	-0.963	-0.963	0.000
PE & Sport Grant	-0.215	-0.215	0.000
Teachers' Pay Grant	-0.593	-0.593	0.000
Teachers' Pension Grant	-1.747	-1.747	0.000
COVID 19 Catch up premium	-0.157	-0.157	0.000
COVID 19 School Fund	-0.058	-0.058	
Income Total	-7.400	-7.400	0.000

DEC Support Granta	Budget	Projection	Voriance fm
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Pupil Premium	-1.804	-1.804	0.000
Sixth form funding	-1.862	-1.862	0.000
UIFSM	-0.963	-0.963	0.000
PE & Sport Grant	-0.215	-0.215	0.000
Teachers 'Pay Grant	-0.593	-0.593	0.000
Teachers' Pension Grant	-1.747	-1.747	0.000
COVID 19 Catch up premium	-0.157	-0.157	0.000
COVID 19 School Fund	-0.058	-0.058	0.000
Expenditure Total	7.400	7.400	0.000
Variance	0.000	0.000	0.000

5.21 Pupil Premium

This grant provides additional funding to schools to support disadvantaged pupils to raise attainment and to support children with parents in the regular armed forces.

5.22 6th Form Funding

This grant funds institutions. The grant funds institutions to deliver study programmes to their pupils. The funding rate for each student is determined by the study programme based on their planned hours.

5.23 UIFSM – Universal Infant Free School Meals

The grant supports schools in delivering the legal requirement to offer free school meals which meet the school food standard, to all their reception, year 1 and year 2 pupils. Subject to meeting this legal requirement, the funds may be used for the educational benefit of schools. Meals taken by an eligible pupil will attract $\pounds 2.30$.

5.24 **PE and Sports Grant**

The premium must be used to fund additional and sustainable improvements to the provision of PE and sport, for the benefit of primary aged pupils, within the year that the grant is awarded to develop and encourage a healthy and active lifestyle.

5.25 Teachers' Pay Grant

The grant was first announced in July 2018 by the Secretary of State for Education. It was introduced to provide additional funding to schools to support them with the cost of the teachers' pay award.

5.26 Teachers' Pension Grant

The grant is based on pupil numbers, for maintained schools and institutions supporting high needs, funding is based on number of places.

6 Early Years Block

- 6.1 The Early Years Block contains money received from the DfE to fund free early learning and education in all settings, including the private, voluntary and independent sectors (PVI's). Budgets are updated monthly and termly based on the revised census data for those settings. For 2020-21 the council is expecting to receive **£14.349m** as per the settlement.
- 6.2 Currently, the Early Years' Block is forecast to carry forward around £1.092m into 2021/22 of which £0.547m relates to prior years' underspend. It was previously reported that the cumulative EY underspend was £0.547, but it was highlighted that the ESFA would make a final adjustment for 2019-20 in the July update as in previous years. The ESFA made an additional payment of £0.423m July 20, therefore substantiating the £1.092m carry forward balance.
- 6.3 The forecast for 2020-21 has been difficult to predict due to the impact of Covid 19 on attendance. The ESFA has issued guidance detailing how early years funding will be treated during Covid 19. The ESFA announced in their recent update that local authorities will be funded on the basis of their January 2021 census for the spring term. They do however recognise "That the number of children attending childcare settings may not have returned to normal levels in all areas when we take the January 2021 census, and it may not therefore represent the mid year point in the normal way. This may cause concern for some local authorities who then see attendance rise over the course of the spring term.

Therefore, by exception, in a local authority where attendance is below 85% of their January 2020 census levels, and where that local authority can provide evidence for increased attendance during the spring term, we will provide a top-up to their January 2021 census. The top-up would only fund the additional places taken-up after the January 2021 census week count and would be limited to a cap equivalent to 85% of their January 2020 census. This will give local authorities additional financial confidence to pay providers for increasing attendance later in the term". The budget monitoring summary table can be viewed over leaf.

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Growth -0.046 -0.046 0.000 Disability Access Fund 0.054 0.000 -0.054 Sub Total 0.028 -0.026 -0.054 Central Budgets 0.028 -0.026 -0.054 Early Years Adaptations/ Practical Support 0.050 0.013 -0.037 Early Years Strategic Financial support 0.080 0.000 -0.042 Central Early Years Expenditure 0.068 0.071 0.003 Early Years Team Contribution 0.485 0.493 0.008 Central Expenditure Total 0.725 0.657 -0.068 Total Expenditure Total 0.725 0.657 -0.068 Projected End of Year Variance -0.286 -0.122 0.164 Carry forward from 2019/20 -0.547 -0.547 -0.547	Sub Total	6.289	6.381	0.092
Disability Access Fund 0.054 0.000 -0.054 Sub Total 0.028 -0.026 -0.054 Central Budgets	EYPP	0.020	0.020	0.000
Sub Total 0.028 -0.026 -0.054 Central Budgets 0.050 0.013 -0.037 Early Years Adaptations/ Practical Support 0.080 0.000 0.000 Early Years Strategic Financial support 0.080 0.000 0.042 Early Years Behaviour Support Services 0.042 0.000 -0.042 Central Early Years Expenditure 0.068 0.071 0.003 Early Years Team Contribution 0.485 0.493 0.008 Central Expenditure Total 0.725 0.657 -0.068 Total Expenditure 14.063 14.227 0.164 Projected End of Year Variance -0.286 -0.122 0.164 Carry forward from 2019/20 -0.547 -0.547	Growth	-0.046	-0.046	0.000
Central Budgets Image: Constraint of the strain of the straint of the s	Disability Access Fund	0.054	0.000	-0.054
Early Years Adaptations/ Practical Support 0.050 0.013 -0.037 Early Years Strategic Financial support 0.080 0.080 0.000 Early Years Behaviour Support Services 0.042 0.000 -0.042 Central Early Years Expenditure 0.068 0.071 0.003 Early Years Team Contribution 0.485 0.493 0.008 Central Expenditure Total 0.725 0.657 -0.068 Total Expenditure 14.063 14.227 0.164 Projected End of Year Variance -0.286 -0.122 0.164 Carry forward from 2019/20 -0.547 -0.547	Sub Total	0.028	-0.026	-0.054
Early Years Strategic Financial support 0.080 0.080 0.000 Early Years Behaviour Support Services 0.042 0.000 -0.042 Central Early Years Expenditure 0.068 0.071 0.003 Early Years Team Contribution 0.485 0.493 0.008 Central Expenditure Total 0.725 0.657 -0.068 Total Expenditure 14.063 14.227 0.164 Projected End of Year Variance -0.286 -0.122 0.164 Carry forward from 2019/20 -0.547 -0.547 -0.547	Central Budgets			
Early Years Behaviour Support Services 0.042 0.000 -0.042 Central Early Years Expenditure 0.068 0.071 0.003 Early Years Team Contribution 0.485 0.493 0.008 Central Expenditure Total 0.725 0.657 -0.068 Total Expenditure 14.063 14.227 0.164 Projected End of Year Variance -0.286 -0.122 0.164 Carry forward from 2019/20 -0.547 -0.547	Early Years Adaptations/ Practical Support	0.050	0.013	-0.037
Central Early Years Expenditure 0.068 0.071 0.003 Early Years Team Contribution 0.485 0.493 0.008 Central Expenditure Total 0.725 0.657 -0.068 Total Expenditure 14.063 14.227 0.164 Projected End of Year Variance -0.286 -0.122 0.164 Carry forward from 2019/20 -0.547 -0.547		0.080	0.080	0.000
Central Early Years Expenditure 0.068 0.071 0.003 Early Years Team Contribution 0.485 0.493 0.008 Central Expenditure Total 0.725 0.657 -0.068 Total Expenditure 14.063 14.227 0.164 Projected End of Year Variance -0.286 -0.122 0.164 Carry forward from 2019/20 -0.547 -0.547		0.042	0.000	-0.042
Central Expenditure Total 0.725 0.657 -0.068 Total Expenditure 14.063 14.227 0.164 Projected End of Year Variance -0.286 -0.122 0.164 Carry forward from 2019/20 -0.547 -0.547		0.068	0.071	0.003
Total Expenditure 14.063 14.227 0.164 Projected End of Year Variance -0.286 -0.122 0.164 Carry forward from 2019/20 -0.547 -0.547	Early Years Team Contribution	0.485	0.493	0.008
Projected End of Year Variance-0.286-0.1220.164Carry forward from 2019/20-0.547	Central Expenditure Total	0.725	0.657	-0.068
Carry forward from 2019/20 -0.547	Total Expenditure	14.063	14.227	0.164
	Projected End of Year Variance	-0.286	-0.122	0.164
	Carry forward from 2019/20		-0.547	
Cumulative Surplus/Deficit -1.092				

6.4 **Forecast position and reason for variance**

Based on the current settlement, the Early Years' block is likely to underspend by **£0.164m**, which is a combination of a reduction in central expenditure as well as reduced participation. Early years funding is adjusted for actual participation. We will not know the final quantum of funding until the end of year adjustments are made in July 21.

6.5 Data analysis shows that within the PVI Sector, there has been an increase in participation rates against the baseline of around 8,000 hours, as demonstrated in the table beneath. This is mainly attributed to the PVI sector's response to the demands of Covid 19 on the requirements of the sector.

PVI Baseline Hours	1,124,961
Actual and Projected Hours	1,133,249
Increase/decrease	8,468

This increase in hours quantifies the projected overspend within the PVI sector.

6.6 MNS and schools have experienced a decline over the baseline of around 58,000 hours, which is demonstrated within the table below. This is mainly attributed to the impact of Covid 19 on the sector.

Schools and Nurseries Baseline Hours	1,123,511
Actual and Projected Hours	1,065,352
Increase/decrease	-58,159

6.7 Growth

Growth funds additional hours above the budgeted hours which are calculated when providers submit their monthly and termly returns. Conversely, growth is replenished when participation rates (hours) are lower than budgeted. At the end of the financial year, the Early Years Block will show an estimated over/underspend which is finalised in the following July once the ESFA has conducted its final census. A contingency is held within the growth budget of £0.046m if this in not required to fund specific growth within the sector, it will be re distributed prior to the end of the financial year.

6.8 Disability Access Fund **underspend of £0.054m**

As with previous years, this earmarked funding is forecast to underspend. The Early Years' Service has actively promoted DAF funding across the early years sector, however, as in previous years the take up is lower than the service would like. Where the service had anticipated a greater take up of this funding in 2020-21, Covid 19 has affected the number of children attending settings and who may subsequently have made a claim on this funding.

6.9 Early Years Adaptations/ Practical Support – underspend of £0.037m.

Whilst some of this budget has been utilised, as with previous years, it is projected to underspend. Once again the utilisation of this grant depends on participation and as mentioned previously Covid 19 has impacted participation rates. The service will continue to work with the sector to maximise the use of this grant.

7 High Need Block

7.1 National Picture

As already reported, most local authorities within the UK are experiencing financial pressures within this area, with nearly all authorities confident that spending will continue to increase into the New Year and beyond.

7.2 After analysing the S251 budget data for 2019-20 locally, it was revealed that of the 151 authorities, 36 recorded a break even position but 65 recorded a DSG deficit to be carried forward into 2020-21, of which, 32 were required to submit a DSG Deficit Management Plan to the DfE (formerly referred to as a DSG Deficit Recover Plan), due to their cumulative DSG deficit being greater than 1%. The cumulative DSG deficit recorded on the 2019-20 S251 was £234m, excluding schools balances

7.3 Local Position.

The High Needs block is projected to have a cumulative overspend by an estimated **£18.2m** by the end of 2020-21. £14.2m relates to the cumulative deficit balance from previous years, which has been rolled forward meaning that the projected in-year overspend is **£4.1m** above

- 7.4 It is to be noted that £0.5m of invoices relating to the previous financial year were not accrued for; therefore the true 2019-20 end of year position rises from £5.86m to £6.36m, and the cumulative position from £14.2m to £14.7m.
- 7.5 The table on the following two pages shows the full details of the latest position, which is predicated on the actual position to date, not the accounting position.

High Needs Block	Base Funding 2020-21	Projection 2020-21	Variance
Income			
High Needs DSG	-18,649,030	-18,649,030	0
Schools Block Transfer	0	0	0
Central Block Transfer	250,200	250,200	0
Income Total	-18,398,830	-18,398,830	0
Expenditure			
Planned Place Funding			
HN Place Funding – Nursery	100,000	100,000	0
HN Place Funding - Maintained Schools	552,000	552,000	0
HN Place Funding – Academies	0	0	0
SS Place Funding	45,800	45,800	0
Top-up funding within maintained settings			
Maintained schools			
HN Mainstream Based Top Ups – Nursery	59,250	29,250	-30,000
HN Mainstream Based Top Ups - Maintained Schools	877,000	977,000	100,000
HN Resource Based Top Ups – Nursery	94,250	44,250	-50,000
HN Resource Based Top Ups - Maintained Schools	897,000	917,000	20,000
Sixth Form	0	0	
Academies, free schools and colleges			
HN Mainstream Based Top Ups – Academies	1,797,500	1,867,500	70,000
HN Resource Base/SEN Unit Top Ups – Academies	1,551,000	1,636,000	85,000
Special School Based Top Ups – Academies			
Arbour Vale	5,105,000	5,025,000	-80,000
Littledown	440,000	470,000	30,000
Haybrook	1,225,140	1,315,140	90,000
Pupil Referral Unit			
Littledown	0	0	0
Haybrook	0	0	0
Alternative Provision			
Littledown AP	236,200	236,200	0
Haybrook AP	649,800	649,800	0
Independent Schools (single budget)	684,500	2,430,143	1,745,643
Special Independent	0	1,756,607	1,756,607
Special Non-maintained	0	690,076	690,076
Mainstream Independent	0	135,760	135,760
Other grant income Independent	0	-22,300	-22,300
CCG income	0	-130,000	-130,000

Carry forward Deficit from 2019.20 HNB				
Projected End of Year Variance				
Total	18,398,840	22,466,345	-29,746	
Non Controllables	202,000	172,254	-29,746	
Sub-Total	2,402,400	2,426,787	24,387	
SALT	300,000	300,000	0	
Sensory Consortium Service	470,000	470,000	0	
Therapies		, -	,	
Hospital Education Services	0	100,000	100,000	
Other Alternative provision services	0	185,000	185,000	
Post 16 Advisor & Early Intervention	107,700	77,690	-30,010	
Primary Provision Behaviour	164,300	164,300	00,700	
Education Resource Services (Formerly LACES)	206,700	106,000	-100,700	
SEND Teacher Advisor	60,000	47,896	-12,104	
SENCO Network	65,000	67,000	2,000	
EY SEN advisory Teachers/support in Children's Centres	63,000	63,000	0	
EY SEN advisory Teachers/support EY settings	118,100	118,100	0	
Autism Outreach Team	135,000	105,000	-30,000	
Vulnerable Children Management Incl.	30,000	30,000	0	
0-5 SEN Transport	46,300	46,300	0	
Home Education	42,600	56,001	13,401	
Exclusions and Access to Education	31,700	18,500	-13,200	
Hard to Place Pupils	170,000	80,000	-90,000	
Early Years Inclusion	70,000	70,000	0	
SEN - Assessment Capacity	217,000	217,000	0	
SEND Financial Support	105,000	105,000	0	
SEN Support Services				
Sub-Total	15,794,440	19,867,304	4,072,865	
PVI EY top ups & EY Inclusion	200,000	200,000	0	
	-			
Special Post 16 Institution	0	425,864	425,864	
Post 16 Learners (single budget) Mainstream FE	600,000 0	1,565,694 1,139,830	965,694 1,139,830	
Mainstream Schools/Academy	130,000	400,886	270,886	
HNB Out-borough placements Mainstream				
Special School. Academy/Free	0	567,832	567,832	
Special School: Academy/Free	0	837,809	837,809	
Special Maintained	550,000	1,405,641	855,641	
HNB Out-borough placements Special (single budget)				

7.6 **Reasons for Variance**

7.7 Schools Block Transfer £0.250m overspend

Relates to the base-lining exercise in 2017-18 and the subsequent movement of funds from the HNB into the SB. Details of this can be found within previous forum papers.

7.8 High Needs Funding – In Borough Maintained (Top-up funding) £0.235m overspend

The service has seen a general increase in pupils with an EHCP as well as a mixture of current pupils with increased needs. The implementation of a new funding matrix for EHCPs in 2019 is now likely to be contributing to an increased financial value of EHCPs, due to the ability to attribute financial values to the needs of the pupil, as defined within their EHCP. New EHCPs have had funding applied in line with the new funding matrix. In addition – in line with agreed procedures with the introduction of the new matrix, Year 5 and 9 pupils have had their EHCPs reviewed using the new funding matrix. This has led to pupils being assigned a new funding band, which in some cases has resulted in increased costs. The new funding matrix continues to be kept under review.

7.9 Independent Special Schools £1.746m overspend

The projected overspend is due the increased number of pupils requiring independent special school placements during the period, coupled with the increasing cost of individual placements. There is growing concern amongst local authorities that the local independent sector is becoming saturating due to increased demand, which is stimulating higher individual placement costs. Locally, more independent schools are now reporting waiting lists, and quoting higher placement fees than historically seen. The table beneath compares spend and learner data over the past four years, which also demonstrates the year on year increase in the average individual placement costs.

Independent Sector								
FY	Budget £m	Outturn £m	2020-21 Projection £m	Variance £m	No of Learners	Average Cost £m		
2017-18	0.800	1.439		0.639	48	0.030		
2018-19	0.800	1.975		1.175	61	0.032		
2019-20	0.874	1.990		1.341	48	0.042		
2020-21	0.684		2.430	1.746	53	0.046		

7.10 Post 16 (Top-up Funding) - £0.965m overspend

The overspend has occurred due to increased placement numbers and cost above budget. The table beneath compares spend and learner data over the past four years

Post 16								
FY	Budget £m	Outturn £m	2020-21 Projection £m	Variance £m	No of Learners	Average Cost £m		
2017-18	0.132	0.672		0.539	76	0.009		
2018-19	0.132	0.763		0.631	75	0.010		

2019-20	0.600	1.356		0.756	88	0.015
2020-21	0.600		1.565	0.965	112	0.014

7.11 The sector has experienced an increase in learners, which is to be expected, in line with the 2014 SEN Reforms extending the age range of EHCPs to 25. Although the number of Post 16 learners has increased by 27% from the previous year, average costs per pupil have reduced slightly.

It is anticipated that Post 16 learner numbers may begin to stabilise over the coming 1-2 years, as the effects of the SEN Reforms plateau to a "new norm" of Post 16 learner level, compared to pre-reform. It should therefore be considered that the level of funding required, will continue to be higher than the current budget assigned.

7.12 Out of Borough Mainstream (Top-up Funding) - £0.271m overspend

The table beneath demonstrates that the main causes for the overspend relate to a continued trend where costs are annually above budget; and an increase in the number of learners attending non-Slough mainstream schools. Overspend is however lower than the previous year, due to a reduction in the average cost per pupil being seen. This is related to the service successfully challenging pupil costs being raised by other authorities

OB Mainstream							
FY	Budget £m	Outturn £m	2020-21 Projection £m	Variance £m	No of Learners	Average Cost £m	
2018-19 2019-20	0.130 0.130	0.281 0.650		0.151 0.520	50 51	0.006 0.013	
2020-21	0.130		0.401	0.271	59	0.007	

7.13 Out of Borough Special School (Top-up Funding) - £0.271m overspend

The overspend has occurred due to increased placement numbers and cost above budget. The table beneath compares spend and learner data over the past four years.

OB Special Schools							
FY		No of Learners	Average Cost £m				
2018.19	0.418	0.997		0.579	50	0.020	
2019.20	0.600	1.756		1.156	58	0.030	
2020.21	0.550		1.405	0.855	77	0.018	

The main causes for the overspend relate to a continued trend where costs are annually above budget; and an increase in the number of learners attending non-Slough special schools. Overspend is however lower than the previous year, due to a reduction in the average cost per pupil being seen.

This is related to the service successfully challenging pupil costs being raised by other authorities. It is anticipated that the trend of increased placement numbers shall continue, due to Slough special schools now being at their occupancy limits, and the growing demand for pupils to be supported within special school settings.

7.14 Centrally Retained Functions

- 7.15 **Hard to Place Pupils Fund underspend £0.09m**, likely linked to a reduced number of pupils requiring access to this funding, due to the impact of covid19 during the period.
- 7.16 **Exclusions and Access to Education underspend £0.013m**, due to staffing vacancies during the period.
- 7.17 **Home Education overspend £0.013m**, due to a significant rise in electively home educated pupils during the period. This increased demand has led to a revised SLA with Littledown (who oversee the service) to be required mid year.
- 7.18 Autism Outreach Team underspend £0.03m, relates to staff vacancies during the period
- 7.19 **SENCO Network overspend £0.002m**, due to additional staffing requirements linked to training.
- 7.20 **SEN Teacher Advisor underspend £0.012m**, due to lower than anticipated indirect staffing costs (travel etc) seen during the year, and staff vacancies during the period
- 7.21 Education Resource Services (Formerly LACES) underspend £0.101m, due to increased transparency of financial reporting, allowing for the identification and separation of Hospital Education Service related costs (see below).
- 7.22 **Post 16 Advisor & Early Intervention underspend £0.03m**, due to staff vacancies of the Post 16 Advisor role during the year.
- 7.23 **Other Alternative Provision Services overspend £0.185m**, no discrete budget has been allocated to cover costs relating to alternative provision procured outside of arrangements with Haybrook and Littledown. There has been growing demand to support pupils in alternative provision whilst seeking appropriate education placements. Improved transparent financial reporting now allows these specific costs to be identified and reported separately

8 <u>Central Schools Service Block</u>

8.1 The expected forecast for CSSB is an in - year overspend of (£0.051m), itemised within the table below.

CSSB	Budget 2020-21 £m	Projection 2020-21 £m	Variance
B/fwd from 2019-20	0.000	0.000	0.000
B/fwd Total	0.000	0.000	0.000
<u>Receipts</u>			
DSG Settlement	-0.665	-0.665	0.000
Block Transfer (from HNB)	-0.250	-0.250	0.000
Income Total	-0.915	-0.915	0.000
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Servicing of schools forum	0.053	0.061	0.008
Admissions	0.178	0.220	0.042
Education Welfare	0.145	0.145	0.000
Asset Management	0.013	0.013	0.000
Statutory & Regulatory (£100k Virtual School)	0.358	0.258	0.000
Licenses	0.138	0.158	0.026
LA Safeguarding Board	0.030	0.030	0.000
Expenditure Total	0.915	0.965	0.051
In Year Variance	0.000	0.051	0.051
Bal C/fwd to 2020-21	0.000	0.051	0.051

8.2 Admissions – Overspend of (£0.042m).

The overspend is due to agency staffing cover

Schools Forum – Overspend (£0.008m)

This is due to pupil research consultancy. Investigation will be made as to the detail of this work.

9 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

9.1 N/A

10 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

10.1 Not applicable

11 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

- 11.1 <u>Monitoring Officer</u> The relevant legal provisions are contained within the main body of this report.
- 11.2 <u>Section 151 Officer Strategic Director of Finance and Resources</u> The financial implications of the report are outlined in the supporting information.
- 11.3 <u>Access Implications</u> There are no access implications.

12 CONSULTATION

12.1 N/A

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