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NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL SCHOOLS FORUM

Date: Thursday, 5 November 20

Time: 1.45 pm

Place: Ground Floor Committee Room - Loxley House, Station Street, Nottingham,

NG2 3NG

Members are requested to attend the above meeting to transact the following business

Governance Officer/Clerk to the Forum: Phil Wye, Constitutional Services, Tel: 0115 8764637

<u>AGEN</u>	<u>IDA</u>	<u>Pages</u>
1	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
2	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	
3	MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING Last meeting held on 24 September 2015 (for confirmation)	3 - 12
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5	FREE EARLY EDUCATION FOR 2 YEAR OLDS Presentation by Catherine Smith, Early Years Programme Manager	15 - 24
6	HIGH LEVEL NEEDS PLACES 2016/2017 Report of the Directors of Education	25 - 30
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IF YOU NEED ANY ADVICE ON DECLARING AN INTEREST IN ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA, PLEASE CONTACT THE GOVERNANCE OFFICER/CLERK TO THE FORUM SHOWN ABOVE, IF POSSIBLE BEFORE THE DAY OF THE MEETING

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CITIZENS ARE ADVISED THAT THIS MEETING MAY BE RECORDED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC. ANY RECORDING OR REPORTING ON THIS MEETING SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COUNCIL'S POLICY ON RECORDING AND REPORTING ON PUBLIC MEETINGS, WHICH IS AVAILABLE AT www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk. INDIVIDUALS INTENDING TO RECORD THE MEETING ARE ASKED TO NOTIFY THE GOVERNANCE OFFICER/CLERK TO THE FORUM SHOWN ABOVE IN ADVANCE.

NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

SCHOOLS FORUM

MINUTES of the meeting held at Loxley House, Nottingham on 24 September 2015 from 1.47pm - 3.40pm

Membership

Present
Mark Precious (Chair)
Sian Hampton (Vice Chair)

Bev Angell Susi Artis

Caroline Caille
Sally Coulton
Paul Halcro
Andy Jenkins
Judith Kemplay
Chris Manze
Janet Molyneux
Terry Smith

James Strawbridge

Tracey Ydlibi

Absent
Carol Barker
Gary Holmes
Richard Matthews
Wendy Vincent

Colleagues, partners and others in attendance:

Jacquie Blake - School Traded Services Manager

Kimberly Butler - Behaviour Support Team

Alistair Conquer - Head of Education Partnerships
Jane Daffe - Senior Achievement Consultant
Mick Evans - Pupil and School Services Manager

Pat Fielding - Director of Education

Gary Fullwood - Head Teacher, Heathfield Primary School
Trish Haw - Team Leader, Behaviour Support Team
Julia Holmes - Finance Analyst, Children and Adults
Lucy Juby - Project Manager, School Organisation

Lee Kimberley - Head of Trading Operations
Della Sewell - Employee Relations Manager

Kathryn Stevenson - Finance Analyst, Children and Adults David Thompson - Risk, Health and Safety Manager

Steve Thorne - Communications and Marketing Specialist
Alison Weaver - Service Manager, Inclusive Education Service

Michael Wileber - Officer Inclusion and Disability

Michael Wilsher - Inclusion Officer, Inclusion and Disability

Phil Wye - Governance Officer

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Gary Holmes
Richard Matthews

2 CHANGE TO MEMBERSHIP

The Chair of the Forum welcomed Tracy Rees as a new member of the Forum following the retirement of Carol Fearria as head teacher of Emmanuel School and her subsequent resignation as secondary academy representative.

RESOLVED to note the appointment of Tracy Rees from Fernwood School as Secondary Academy representative

3 <u>DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS</u>

None

4 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Forum confirmed the minutes of the meeting held on 18 June 2015 as a correct record and these were signed by the Chair. A report on take up of 2 year old nursery places will be brought to the meeting on 5 November.

5 WORK PROGRAMME

The work programme for the next meeting of the Forum was noted, with the addition of reports on new high needs guidance, take up of 2 year old nursery places and a funding application for the Fair Access Protocol.

6 DE-DELEGATION PROPOSALS

a DE-DELEGATION OF 2016/17 HEALTH AND SAFETY BUILDING MAINTENANCE (Agenda Item 6b)

David Thompson, Risk Health and Safety Manager, introduced his report requesting de-delegation of funding for schools health and safety building maintenance for maintained mainstream primary and secondary schools in 2016/17, highlighting the following points:

- (a) the funding requested to be de-delegated is to be used to fund tests and inspections in maintained primary and secondary schools, including:
 - air conditioning units;
 - asbestos surveys;
 - automatic doors and gates;
 - boilers:
 - electrical circuit testing;
 - emergency lighting;
 - fire alarms;
 - heat pumps;

- legionella risk assessments;
- lifts;
- lightning protection;
- pressure sets;
- stage lighting;
- (b) any remedial works that are required due to schools failing any tests or inspections will be organised and paid for from the Dedicated Schools Grant against the capital expenditure from revenue funding held centrally within the Schools Block;
- (c) schools will be informed of the programme for tests and inspections throughout the year, and the de-delegation requested offers good value for money as they will be procured through the local authority's framework agreement.

RESOLVED to

- (1) note the statutory and legislative responsibilities of the local authority in relation to health and safety building maintenance of maintained primary and secondary schools and the type of costs that the requested funding will be used to fund;
- (2) approve the de-delegation of the health and safety building maintenance funding for maintained mainstream primary schools in 2016/17 based on a rate of £13.92 per pupil. The total estimated funding requested to be dedelegated is £176,000;
- (3) approve the de-delegation of the health and safety building maintenance funding for maintained mainstream secondary schools in 2016/17 based on a rate of £13.92 per pupil. The total estimated funding requested to be dedelegated is £18,000.
- b DE-DELEGATION OF FUNDING FOR TRADE UNION TIME OFF FOR SENIOR REPRESENTATIVES (Agenda Item 6a)

Della Sewell, Employee Relations Manager, introduced her report requesting dedelegation of funding to enable trade union facility time for senior trade union representatives from schools to attend negotiation and consultation meetings and to represent their members in schools in 2016/17, highlighting the following points:

- (a) the cost of this service will increase in 2016/17due to the following factors:
 - schools that have academised since the last year's approval was given to de-delegate have decided to make their own arrangements;
 - prior to the financial year 2016/17 the National Association of Schoolmasters Union of Women Teachers (NASUWT) did not take up their full entitlement;
 - due to the amalgamation of Fernwood Infants and Junior to become a primary school there is one less maintained school;

 (b) as a result of this increase in cost it is necessary to increase the funding allocated per pupil and the lump sum per school to enable the full reimbursement of schools with trade union representatives;

The following answers were given in response to questions from the Forum:

- (c) this cost is not covered by union subsidies as they only cover full-time officials;
- (d) if academies don't buy back the service they have to negotiate an elected steward within the school themselves, who must have time off for union working.

RESOLVED to

- (1) approve the de-delegation of funding for senior trade union representatives from maintained mainstream primary schools at a rate of £1.52 per pupil and a lump sum of £1,586.86 per school. The total estimated funding requested to be de-delegated is £79,000;
- (2) approve the de-delegation of funding for senior trade union representatives from maintained mainstream secondary schools at a rate of £1.52 per pupil and a lump sum of £1,586.86 per school. The total estimated funding requested to be de-delegated is £4,000;
- (3) note that this proposal is based on the assumption of academy buybacks continuing in 2016/17, generating additional income of £54,000.
- c DE-DELEGATION OF FUNDING FOR THE SPORTSAFE GYM MAINTENANCE SERVICE (Agenda Item 6c)

Mick Evans, Pupil and School Services Manager, introduced his report requesting de-delegation of funding for gym equipment maintenance through the Sportsafe gym equipment maintenance service in 2016/17, highlighting the following points:

- (a) the benefit of de-delegation of funding is it provides a designated contact point between the authority and Sportsafe, to arrange maintenance checks and to rectify problems between school scheduling visits and Sportsafe commitments;
- (b) the local authority liaise with the contractor on irregular items and challenge such costs, whilst questions are raised on the quotation schedules for replacement equipment items against the cost of repair to ensure value for money;
- (c) as the dedicated schools grant reduces as more schools academise, the price may vary but still represents good value for money. Academies buying back the service could prevent this.

RESOLVED to

(1) approve the de-delegation of funding for the Sportsafe gym maintenance service for maintained mainstream primary schools in 2016/17 at a rate of £500 per school. The total estimated funding to be de-delegated is £19,000;

- (2) approve the de-delegation of funding for the Sportsafe gym maintenance service for maintained mainstream secondary schools in 2016/17 at a rate of £500 per school. The total estimated funding to be de-delegated is £1,000;
- (3) note that a survey of academy schools will be carried out to ascertain how they carry out their responsibilities around safe gym equipment.
- d DE-DELEGATION OF FUNDING FOR THE BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT TEAM (BST) (Agenda Item 6d)

Trish Haw, Behaviour Support Team, introduced her report requesting de-delegation of funding for the behaviour support team (BST) in 2016/17, highlighting the following points:

- (a) the BST carries out both core functions which enable schools and the local authority to meet their statutory duties and other non-core functions which are commissioned through schools as a traded service;
- (b) the funding is targeted towards those children and young people with special educational needs and disability and social emotional mental health difficulties where they:
 - are at high risk of exclusion;
 - are in foundation and key stage 1;
 - have identified safeguarding issues/concerns;
 - have barriers to progress in school;
- (c) an increasing number of academies now buy back the service, increasing the income from traded services year on year;
- (d) there is to be a review of alternative provision and this could change radically. However, the BST will remain important, particularly to primary schools.

RESOLVED to

- (1) approve the de-delegation of funding for statutory services provided by the Behaviour Support Team in 2016/17 for maintained mainstream primary schools at a rate of £55 per pupil eligible for free school meals and a lump sum of £3000 per school. The total funding to be de-delegated is £301,000, made up of £187,000 generated by pupils eligible for free school meals and £114,000 lump sum funding;
- (2) not approve the de-delegation of funding for statutory services provided by the Behaviour Support Team in 2016/17 for maintained mainstream secondary schools at a rate of £55 per pupil eligible for free school meals and a lump sum of £3000 per school.
- e DE-DELEGATION OF FUNDING FOR ETHNIC MINORITY ACHIEVEMENT (EMA) (Agenda Item 6e)

Jane Daffé, Senior Achievement Consultant, introduced her report requesting dedelegation of funding for Ethnic Minority Achievement (EMA)in 2016/17, highlighting the following points:

- (a) traded income for the service has increased significantly since last year, with 50% of services now traded and a continuing upward trend. As a result of this the perpupil request has been reduced by half;
- (b) EMA in Nottingham is successful and ethnic minorities perform well;
- (c) the service has been adapted to meet changing demands and now works more with new arrivals and pupils with English as an additional language (EAL). Demand on the service continues to rise.

RESOLVED to:

- (1) approve the de-delegation of funding for Ethnic Minority Achievement from maintained mainstream primary schools at a rate of £44.56 per EAL pupil for 2016/17 to ensure that the IDEAL team has sufficient time to create programmes and products for a fully traded service to be established. The total estimated funding to be de-delegated is £108,000 (based on October 2014 census and to be reviewed at Autumn census 2015);
- (2) approve the de-delegation of funding for Ethnic Minority Achievement from maintained mainstream secondary schools at a rate of £44.56 per EAL pupil for 2016/17 to ensure that the IDEAL team has sufficient time to create programmes and products for a fully traded service to be established. The total estimated funding to be de-delegated is £1,000 (based on October 2014 census and to be reviewed at Autumn census 2015).

7 EDUCATION CATERING SERVICE PRESENTATION

Lee Kimberley, Head of Trading Operations, gave a presentation outlining the work and recent development of Nottingham's Education Catering Services, highlighting the following:

- (a) historically the arrangement for school catering was a one-pot system with no reflection on the actual take up and costs per school. This has changed as of 2014 towards individual budgeting and contract costs for schools, reflecting the actual cost to run the operation and take up of meal numbers;
- (b) all maintained schools' meals are directly subsidised by Nottingham City Council, with the paid meal price maintained at a low price point;
- (c) the uptake school meals has increased since the introduction of Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM). 13,000 meals per day were served in 2014/15 compared to 10,000 in 2013/14;
- (d) the service is fully comprehensive, including repairs, maintenance, staff cover, procurement and admin, safety and inspections and on-going investment into

facilities to maintain standards:

- (e) individual school contracts are tailored to individual schools' needs and pupil numbers with modern branding and marketing materials, locally sourced, fresh seasonal produce and a focus on quality and customer service;
- (f) the ultimate objective is to remove the subsidy from the council, whilst maintaining a fully comprehensive service, maintaining meal numbers and viability per school;
- (g) the School Food Plan, which reinforces the need and benefits of school meals has achieved bronze Food for Life accreditation, with and aim for silver in the autumn term and gold in 2016/17;
- (h) an executive chef will deliver a training plan to upskills cooks in schools to as high a standard as possible;
- (i) an annual audit will be carried out which will ensure that all legal and government food and hygiene standards are maintained in each school,
- (j) the service has worked to procure new contracts with local suppliers to ensure fresh, seasonal and local produce, 100% meat sourced from the East Midlands, 100% MSC accredited fish, and 100% free range eggs;
- (k) to meet the introduction of UIFSM, the government funded a capital programme of £481,000 to upgrade maintained school kitchens, topped up by a further £695,000 by the council to ensure all requirements were met. This has secured employment for local citizens, with 27 posts created;
- (I) the current turnover of the service is £6.4 million per annum;
- (m)the media is reporting that the UIFSM scheme is under review, though this is only speculation at present. If this change were to be announced, School Catering is working with Finance to model its impact. Schools will be kept informed of any developments.

RESOLVED to note the information and thank Lee for the presentation

8 <u>UPDATE ON 2015/16 ALTERNATIVE PROVISION ARRANGEMENTS AND</u> COSTS

Pat Fielding, Director of Education, introduced his report on arrangements that have been implemented during 2015 for pupils that have been, or are at risk of being, permanently excluded and to advise Schools Forum of the associated financial implications. Pat highlighted the following:

- (a) due to an increased level of permanent exclusions across all key stages, revised arrangements have been required. These measures are an interim solution pending a larger scale rationalisation;
- (b) in the 2014/15 academic year five key stage one (KS1) pupils have been permanently excluded, compared to one in 2013/14. Emergency temporary

- accommodation for these pupils has been set up at Glenbrook Management Centre, supported and staffed by the Behaviour Support Team;
- (c) the Ofsted inspection of Denewood Learning Centre in December 2014 identified significant concerns about the provision for pupils in Key Stage 2 (KS2), due in part to the physical capacity of the building to accommodate the increasing numbers. As a result, 6 pupils continue their education at Denewood, 4 pupils have been moved to Woodlands School and 12 pupils have been moved to Westbury School. This has resulted in higher attendance, improved behaviour and improved teaching and learning;
- (d) Denewood Learning Centre was temporarily closed following its Ofsted inspection with key stage 3 (KS3) pupils moving to alternate providers. As of September 2015 it has reopened, education 56 pupils;
- (e) Bulwell Academy has worked with the council to pilot a localised Alternative Provision hub at the school, with a number of pupils moving from Denewood as of the summer half term 2015. The academy provides these students with a range of pathways depending on individual needs and circumstances;
- (f) strategic plans are underway with regard to the commissioning of an updated framework agreement for permanently excluded pupils at KS3 and key stage 4 (KS4) due to significantly increasing numbers at Unity Learning Centre;
- (g) in order to address these issues of increasing numbers of permanently excluded pupils, an Alternative Provision focus group was established consisting of head teachers/principles of primary, secondary and special schools, council officers and Nottingham City Secondary Education Partnership (NCSEP);
- (h) the focus group commissioned the following:
 - a review of existing systems and structures relating to alternative provision/PRUs;
 - a review of the structure, range of services and systems operating in the provision of education for city pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEN), including special schools and focused provision;
 - a review of the impact of services/agencies that work with schools and academies from KS1 – KS4 to improve pupil behaviour and engagement, and to prevent placement breakdowns;

these reports have now been completed and will be presented to school head teachers in October.

RESOLVED to

- (1) note the revised alternative provision arrangements that have been put into place during 2015;
- (2) note that the additional costs of alternative provision for the 2015/16 financial year compared to the amount budgeted, currently estimated at between £1.198 million and £1.655 million as detailed below:

Overall Financial Implications for Schools Statutory Reserve (SSR) £m							
	April - August	Forecas	t	Full year			
		Septem	ber -	forecast			
		March					
	High	Low	High				
Glenbrook (KS1)	0.078	0.106	0.130	0.184	0.208		
Westbury/Woodlan		0.000	0.065	0.000	0.065		
ds (KS2)							
Denewood (KS2/3)	0.401	0.323	0.550	0.724	0.951		
Bulwell Hub (KS3)	0.077	0.075	0.075	0.152	0.152		
Unity (KS4)		0.138	0.279	0.138	0.279		
TOTAL	0.556	0.642	1.099	1.198	1.655		

(3) note the approach that is being taken to determine the future alternative provision strategy for the city and that Schools Forum will be consulted on the proposed arrangements in due course.

9 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED to exclude the public from the meeting during consideration of the remaining item in accordance with section 100a(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on a basis that, having regard to all the circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

10 FUNDING TO SUPPORT AN EXPANDING SCHOOL

Lucy Juby, Project Manager, School Organisation, introduced her report.

A representative from the school was in attendance for this item.

RESOLVED to approve the recommendations in the report.

11 <u>DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS</u>

RESOLVED to note that the Schools Forum will meet on the following dates in the 2015/16 academic year:

<u>2015:</u> 5 November, 10 December

2016: 21 January, 25 February, 21 April, 16 June



SCHOOLS FORUM WORK PROGRAMME

Tit	le of report	Report or presentation	Author – name, title, telephone number, email address
10	December 2015		
1.	Report on the Pupil Growth Contingency requirements for 2016/17 (if any changes)	Report	Ceri Walters, Finance Business Partner, Children and Adults Tel: 0115 8764128 Email: ceri.walters@nottinghamcity.gov.uk
2.	Update on the pupil growth contingency fund	Verbal Update	Lucy Juby, Project Manager, School Organisation Tel: 0115 8765041 Email: lucy.juby@nottinghamcity.gov.uk
<u>21</u>	January 2016		
⊢ Page	Update on the pupil growth contingency fund (if any changes)	Verbal Update	Lucy Juby, Project Manager, School Organisation Tel: 0115 8765041 Email: lucy.juby@nottinghamcity.gov.uk
je .			Zinam <u>radynasy orrotting ramony igovian</u>
19V.	Fair Funding Consultation	Report	Ceri Walters, Finance Business Partner, Children and Adults Tel: 0115 8764128 Email: ceri.walters@nottinghamcity.gov.uk
<u>25</u>	February 2016		
1.	Budget Report 2016/17	Report	Ceri Walters, Finance Business Partner, Children and Adults Tel: 0115 8764128 Email: ceri.walters@nottinghamcity.gov.uk
2.	Update on the pupil growth contingency fund (if any changes)	Verbal Update	Lucy Juby, Project Manager, School Organisation Tel: 0115 8765041 Email: lucy.juby@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

Deadlines for submission of reports

Date of meeting	Draft reports (10.00 am)	Final reports (10.00 am)
10 December 2015	19 November	30 November
21 January 2016	30 December	11 January
25 February 2016	4 February	15 February
21 April 2016	31 March	11 April
16 June 2016	25 May	6 June

Free Early Education for 2 Year Olds

age 15

Catherine Smith
Early Years Programmes Manager



Background

Free Early Education for 2 Year Olds is part of the Government's commitment to make childcare more accessible and affordable for parents and carers particularly those from less advantaged backgrounds. It also supports the life chances for less advantaged young children by enabling access to high quality early learning experiences.



Participation

Participation has increased by 11% since spring term 2015. NCC are now placed 122 out of 152 across the country compared to 133 spring term 2015

	TERM	APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE CHILDREN (DfE)	TAKE- UP(NUMBER OF CHILDREN)	% TAKE-UP
40% C	AUTUMN TERM 2014	2,530	1,198	47%
¢ ELIGIBILTY CRITERIA	SPRING TERM 2015	2,535	1,223	48%
P ILTY	SUMMER TERM 2015	2,386	1,387	59.8%



Developing the programme

The LA is fully committed to supporting parents appropriately and has fully embraced the support and challenge from the Governments appointed agency' Achieving 2 Year Olds (A2YO) in order to address participation rates.

Improvement plans have been drawn up, approved by A2YO and implemented by the Early Years and Early Help teams.



Improvement Plan

- Drill Down project
- Marketing plan
- Use of data
- Online eligibility checker
- Early Help Bus
- Health Visitors/Job Centre Plus
- SSBC
- Childcare sufficiency
- Role of Children Centre's



Childcare places for 2 year olds

- The LA to date has sufficient childcare places to meet current demand.
- Three wards remain a concern (Aspley, Clifton South, Bilborough) with regards to number of childcare places for all eligible 2 year olds.
- These wards are prioritised for expansion by the Early Years team.
- However; participation within these wards remains lower than the number of available spaces therefore current supply is sufficient.



- Linking with childcare providers
- Checking eligibility
- Contacting parents
- Outreach activity
- Getting Ready for Nursery



Page 2

2 Year Old Funding

- Historically based on eligible children (regardless of takeup) plus trajectory funding.
- Levels of take up lower than funding reserve balance of £4.165m.
- From 2015/16 funding is based on participation £4.88/hour received and passed on in full to providers.
- Final DSG allocation will be based 5/12 on January 2015 participation and 7/12 on January 2016 participation.

	2013/14 £m	2014/15 £m
Funding	4.405	7.142
Expenditure	3.220	4.162
Balance	1.185	2.980
Cumulative Balance	1.185	4.165



Recommendation for EY reserve

- No requirement to separately ring-fence 2 year old funding.
- No claw-back of unspent 2 year old funding.

Recommendations:

- Un-earmark £4.165m within SSR.
- 2. Any future spending proposals to drive up 2 year old participation to be considered as part of normal budget/reserve proposal processes.



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SCHOOLS FORUM - 5 November 2015

Title of paper:	Consultation on 2016/17 planned places for pupils with Special Educational Needs
Director(s)/	Pat and Sarah Fielding, Directors of Education
Corporate Director(s):	
Report author(s) and	Janine Walker, Service Manager SEN
contact details:	janine.walker@nottinghamcity.gov.uk
Other colleagues who	Kathryn Stevenson, Finance Analyst
have provided input:	

Summary

This paper outlines the Local Authority's proposed 2016/17 academic year planned place numbers for all institutions with Special Educational Needs (SEN) places and seeks the view of the Schools Forum.

Recommendation(s):

- Give a view on the proposed 2016/17 academic year high needs place numbers for pupils with Special Educational Needs shown in **Appendix A** that the Local Authority (LA) proposes to commission for pupils with SEN for the 2016/17 academic year.
- 2 Note the potential financial implications for the 2016/17 and 2017/18 budgets.

1. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

1.1 The LA is required to consult Schools Forum annually on the number of places it intends to commission for pupils with special educational needs. The LA must submit place change requests for pre-16 places in academies and further education colleges by 16 November 2015.

2. BACKGROUND (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)

- 2.1 Local Authorities are advised to assume that there will be no additional high needs funding in 2016 to 2017. Changes to place numbers will therefore need to be managed within the existing budget.
- 2.2 LAs have the flexibility to make changes to the numbers of pre-16 places funded in maintained schools. This does not require a place change request to the Education Funding Agency (EFA).
- 2.3 LAs are also able to make changes to pre-16 place numbers for academies and place numbers at colleges in their area. These latter changes have to be agreed by the institutions and notified to the EFA in the required pro-forma. These changes will be reflected in those institutions EFA allocation for the academic year offset by a funding adjustment to the LA's Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG).

- 2.4 The Department published the 2016/17 high needs place change request process on 23 September 2015 and the return must be signed off by the Director for Children's Services and submitted to the EFA by 16 November 2015.
- 2.5 At the time of writing, the proposed place changes have not yet been agreed with the institutions concerned and they are therefore subject to amendment.
- 2.6 Appendix A summarises the 2015/16 place numbers, current pupil numbers and proposed 2016/17 numbers with notes to support the rationale for change. In some instances the LA is providing place funding over and above the published 2015/16 planned place number and this is also noted. This is as a result of EFA restrictions on place number increases last year.
- 2.7 Place number changes for 2016/17 are based around current known pupils and their anticipated placement for next academic year. It is expected that there will be pressure on special school places but all schools will be at their current physical capacity based on the proposed numbers.
- 2.8 Detailed feasibility studies around special school expansion have been conducted and presented to the Portfolio Holder. A paper on the revenue implications has been requested and, subject to those findings, it is anticipated that at least one proposal will move forward.

3. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 None. As stated above, the place changes are to take account of current known pupils that will require places. A failure to provide sufficient places risks pupils having to be placed in costly out of City private provision.

4. OUTCOMES/DELIVERABLES

4.1 Basis for completing the required EFA place change request workbook to the required deadline and with the necessary Schools Forum consultation.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING VALUE FOR MONEY/VAT)

- 5.1 As stated above, place number changes will need to be met from existing DSG allocations.
- 5.2 High needs places are funded at £10,000 per annum meaning the cost of place funding for 22 additional places equates to £0.220m. However, as noted in Appendix A, the LA is already in some instances paying for places over and above the published 2015/16 place numbers.
- 5.3 The impact on the 2016/17 financial year budget in terms of additional place funding is estimated at £0.095m. This takes account of the places that are already being funded 2015/16 and that there is only a part-year effect of the 2016/17 academic year place changes. The impact in the 2017/18 financial year will be £0.178m.

- 5.4 The estimated knock on impact in top-up funding of filling the places is estimated at £0.132m for the 2016/17 budget and £0.202m in 2017/18.
- 5.5 A review of the charging policy for places commissioned in City special schools by other Local Authorities is planned in light of the lack of high needs growth funding.
- 5.6 The increase in places in local institutions to meet demand represents value for money when the alternative is to be required to place SEN pupils in private out of City provision at a significantly greater cost in terms of fees and transport.
- 5.7 It will be necessary to meet the combined £0.227m additional cost of place and topup funding for the 2016/17 financial year from the DSG reserve, to the extent that compensating savings are not identified elsewhere in the DSG budget. There may be scope to reduce the £0.150m special school transition pupil budget to offset part of the budget pressure.
- 5.8 The basis of high needs DSG funding for LA may change in the near future. The DfE aim is to move this on to a formula basis rather than the existing basis linked to historic spending patterns.
- 6. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES (INCLUDING LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND CRIME AND DISORDER ACT IMPLICATIONS)

7. HR ISSUES

8. <u>EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT</u>

Has the equality impact been assessed?

Not needed (report does not contain proposals or financial decisions)

No

Yes – Equality Impact Assessment attached

Due regard should be given to the equality implications identified in the EIA.

9. <u>LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS OTHER THAN PUBLISHED WORKS OR</u> THOSE DISCLOSING CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION

10. PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT

10.1 High Needs: Place change request process, technical note for 2016 to 2017 (Education Funding Agency Version 1.0 September 2015)



								2016/17 acade	mic year proposed				Submission
nstitution	Provision type	2015/16 plar	nned places (EFA)	Pupil Numbers - S	Start Autumn Term	LA funded addit	ional places - Autumn term	l p	laces	2016/17	Place Change	Notes to support 2016/17 proposed places	required to EFA
		Pre-16	Post-16	Pre-16	Post-16	Pre-16	Post-16	Pre-16	Post-16	Pre-16	Post-16		
Riverside Primary	Special Resource Unit	1		0		0		0		-1		No pupils current or anticipated for this provision.	Υ
irbeck Academy	Special Resource Unit	12		10		0		12		0		All 10 current pupils plus expected admission 2 known pupils	N
Bluecoat Academy	Special Resource Unit	6	11	6	12	0	0	6	11	0	None permitted	Places full and at physical capacity	N
NUSA	Special Resource Unit	8		10		0		12		4		Current pupils plus 2 named additional pupils expected by Sept 16	Υ
Bulwell Academy	Special Resource Unit	3	7	6	TBC	3	4	6	7+3	3	None permitted	Current known pupils	Υ
Nethergate School	Special Academy	80	21	84	20	4	0	84	21	4	None permitted	Takes account 70 current pupils to Yr 9 plus average annual new admissions	Υ
Dakfield School	Maintained Special		160	1	54		0		160	0		At current physical capacity. Growing demand, all 160 places required.	N
Rosehill School	Maintained Special		110	1	00		0		110	0		At current physical capacity. Growing demand, all 110 places required.	N
Westbury School	Maintained Special	61		62		0		67		6		Currently full plus 6 EHCP requests in pipeline. No further physical capacity.	N
Woodlands School	Maintained Special	59		57		4		65		6		Based on 65 current known pupils. No further physical capacity.	N
Bilborough College	FE College		1		1		0		1		0	No current HLN learners.	Υ
New College	FE College		27		TBC		0		27		0		Υ
ΓΟΤΑL										22	0		

SCHOOLS FORUM – 5th November 2015

Title of paper:	Secondary Fair Access – Review of Funding Model Pilot and Recommendations for future budget
Director(s)/ Corporate Director(s):	Pat Fielding, Director of Education
Report author(s) and contact details:	Anna White, Strategic Director NCSEP 07969812773 annawhite@ncsep.org.uk
Other colleagues who have provided input:	Mirth Parker, Head of Inclusion & Disability

Summary

This report notifies the Schools Forum that a trial of a needs led, tiered funding model for secondary Fair Access has concluded, having taken place over the past two academic years from September 2013 to July 2015.

During this time the Local Authority has been working in partnership with Nottingham City Secondary Education Partnership (NCSEP) to deliver on the Fair Access Protocol (FAP). There have been a number of changes to operational practice which have significantly improved the admissions process and outcomes for the very vulnerable and complex cohort of young people who meet the FAP criteria. Amends to working practice will be reflected in the revised Protocol due for release in the Autumn Term 2015. This paper seeks to concentrate on the funding trial rather than on the amends to working practice.

The Local Authority conducted a review on the NCSEP led Fair Access process this academic year and the report, written by Sharon Bramwell (Commissioning Manager) in April 2015 concluded that the NCSEP model offered significant value added and that this model should be continued moving forwards. The model ensures that the Local Authority meets its statutory duties in this area.

All mainstream secondary schools are fully committed and engaged with the current panel which now also includes the Nottingham Free School and NUAST.

Rec	commendation(s):
1	To note the Local Authorities intention to continue working in partnership with NCSEP to
	deliver the secondary Fair Access Protocol. A service level agreement is now in place.
2	To note the Needs Led Tiered Funding Model will continue to operate and apply to all
	schools.
3	To note that the Fair Access budget will run on an academic years basis rather than over
	a financial year.
4	To increase the annual secondary Fair Access allocation from £0.190m to £0.290m for
	the academic year 2015/16.

To agree that the increase of £0.120m be allocated within the Statutory Schools Reserve, as set out in section 5.2, for expenditure incurred by July 2015.
 To note that funding will be released on actual spend and any underspend will be unearmarked within the SSR.
 To agree to fund the Managed Move strand of NCSEPs work, at an annual cost of £57,000 as part of the broader Fair Access process and as a strategy to reduce permanent exclusions.

1. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

The Local Authority has a statutory duty to have a Fair Access Protocol as part of its broader Admissions duty. As an urban authority there are high numbers of young people who require a school place outside of the normal admissions rounds and who present with complex needs. It is vital that all schools are compliant with this protocol to ensure, as much as is possible, the equitable distribution of complex and vulnerable pupils who meet the criteria of this protocol into City schools and academies. This protocol seeks to ensure that vulnerable young people, including those who are In Care or Fleeing Domestic Violence, are secured a suitable school place without delay as well as mitigating the admissions effects of multiple high needs students on schools who are below PAN.

2. BACKGROUND (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)

Historically the Local Authority has had an annual secondary Fair Access budget of £0.190m. £1000 was allocated to a school for each pupil admitted through this protocol. Over time the degree of complexity of individual cases presenting at the FA panel has increased. The cost of providing a suitable education, particularly at Key Stage 4, to meet the needs of these students, and for whom schools were unable to budget for in advance, was a significant barrier to admission. Pupils often present at panel with significant gaps in their education and therefore there are gaps in terms of understanding their educational needs. Schools were often hesitant to admit pupils without a fuller understanding of what support would be required, and what the resource and cost implications of this support would be, to meet the needs of the student. In addition families faced financial barriers to engagement once a school was allocated, including the cost of purchasing uniform or transport costs to the allocated school, particularly for families who were eligible for but not vet in receipt of welfare benefits. The needs led tiered funding model was devised to address these barriers and increase the admissions numbers and timeframe for admission for this cohort. It was also recognised that schools who did agree to admit students from the panel had considerable difficulty in engaging these students and the overall actual admission rate for this cohort was poor.

In addition to those pupils without a school place, or with very poor attendance, a significant group presenting at panel were pupils who already had a school place but were at risk of permanent exclusion. At the time there were no alternatives to permanent exclusion operating in the City and schools and parents/carers utilised the Protocol to avoid exclusions which often resulted in young people with complex needs moving from one school to another without appropriate intervention and support. NCSEP introduced a Managed Move Protocol to address this issue, decrease the number of pupils presenting

at panel to which this applied and ensure that young people with complex behavioural issues could transfer but that this was done in a structured, co-ordinated and supported manner.

In 2012/13 NCSEP and the Local Authority engaged in discussion and consultation about changes in practice that could improve the outcomes for this challenging cohort. NCSEP offered to trial running the secondary Fair Access Panel on behalf of the Local Authority and to work jointly to improve the quality and quantity of case information provided to schools about individual pupils. NCSEP would operate as an unbiased body that would know the individual circumstances of the majority of schools and have all the schools interests at the heart of any decision making as well as ensuring that the Local Authorities statutory duties were met. NCSEP agreed to pre-broker all bar the most complex cases, where a full multi-agency discussion at panel was necessary, and therefore reduce the timeframe for admission. NCSEP also appointed a Complex Case Co-ordinator to engage the young people and their families, facilitate admissions, co-ordinate pre-admission support and monitor initial school engagement for a period of 4 weeks.

Through transparent decision making, honest dialogue, improved information and equitable distribution exercises the panel quickly gained the trust of the schools. As a further improvement the Local Authority has addressed the issue of Support Service information sharing and panel attendance which has improved.

It was anticipated that a needs led, tiered funding model could prove more expensive than the historical budget. NCSEP utilised £200,000 of the monies secured through Executive Board to supplement the Local Authority budget over the two year duration of the trial.

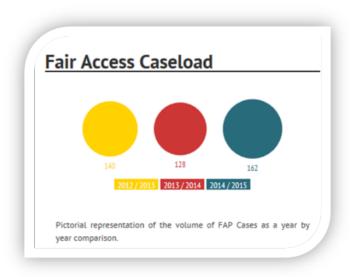
3. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

Other options have been explored by the LA Review and the current model agreed. In addition to retaining the current arrangements to LA considered the responsibility of managing FA and the placement of pupils returning to the LA or the commissioning of a new provider. The Review showed that the NCSEP trial had shown improved outcomes for the Fair Access cohort and demonstrated value added as shown in Section 4 below.

4. OUTCOMES/DELIVERABLES

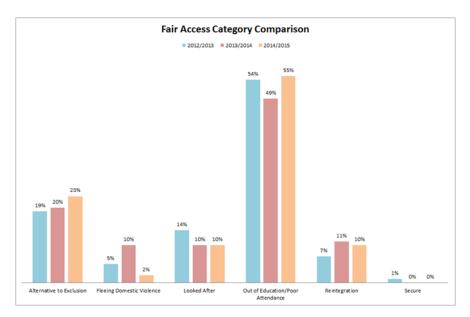
Total Number of FAP Cases per year

2014/15 has seen a rise in the number of cases through Fair Access compared with the previous two academic years. The level of complexity also continues to rise.



Fair Access Cases by Category

	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015
Alternative to Exclusion	26	26	37
Fleeing Domestic Violence	7	12	3
In Care	20	13	16
Out of Education/Poor Attendance	76	63	89
Reintegration	10	14	17
Secure	1	0	0

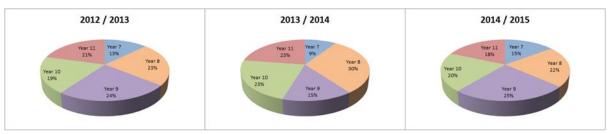


Young People without a school place are the primary cohort and account for over half of cases presented at panel. The second largest cohort is those being presented as at risk of permanent exclusion from County and City schools. These young people are processed via **NCSEPs** now Managed Move Protocol to ensure additional support.

Fair Access Comparison by Year Group

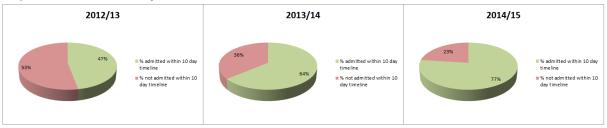
	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Year 7	18	12	24
Year 8	32	39	35
Year 9	34	19	40
Year 10	27	29	33
Year 11	29	29	30

Young People at Key Stage 3 account for the largest proportion of FAP cases with a noted increase in Year 7 students admitted via panel this academic year.



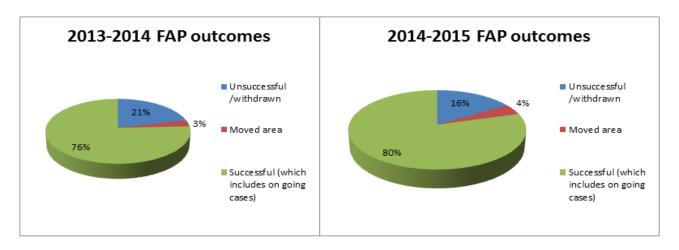
FAP Cases Admitted within 10 day timeframe

Through the intervention and support provided by NCSEP and with the support of Schools and Academies, the % of FAP cases admitted to schools within the timeline of 10 days has improved dramatically.

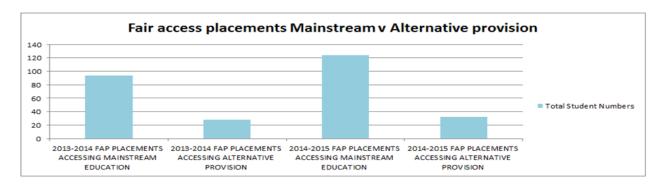


In 2012/13 over half of the cases that were admitted to schools were admitted outside of the 10 day timeframe following panel. Some of these cases were considerably outside the timeframe. Last year this reduced significantly with nearly two thirds of cases being admitted within the timeframe due to the appointment of the NCSEP Complex Case Coordinator engaging and supporting families and facilitating the admission alongside targets for schools. 2014/15 has seen a continued improvement with 77% of cases admitted within 10 days of panel meetings.

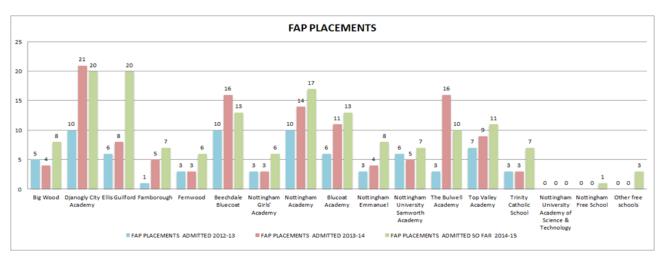
Panel Destinations



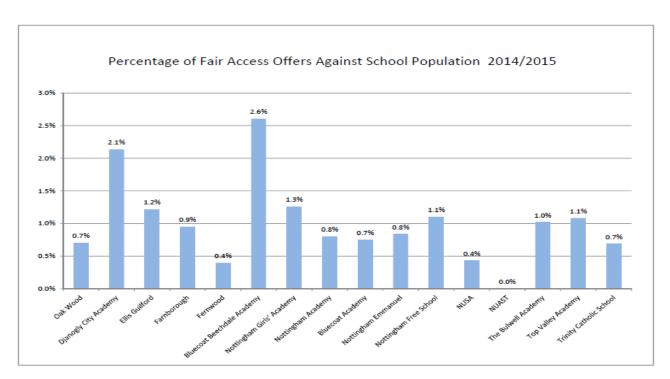
There have been fewer cases withdrawn from panel in the last year. This is partly due to cases being processed via the Managed Move Protocol. The reasons for withdrawal are mostly that it is deemed in the best interests of the pupil to remain at their current school and a recommendation may be made to access alternative provision, that a Managed Move has terminated or that parents/carers do not wish to engage with the process. There remain a small percentage of cases withdrawn from panel as the family move out of the area between submitting an admissions request and this being heard at panel. There has been a significant increase in the number cases and subsequent admissions into mainstream schools this year compared to last. The number of pupils accessing alternative provision remains similar over the past two years.



The graphs below show how the increased scrutiny over equitable distribution is having a positive effect. Despite the total number of cases increasing and that there are limiting geographical factors, those schools who were the highest receivers of pupils via this admissions process last year have seen a decrease in FA admissions this year. FA Admissions have increased for schools who have historically taken far fewer pupils. The new free schools are also part of the process. The second graph shows the impact that these complex admissions have statistically on school rolls.



FA Admissions remain significant for Djanogly but slightly reduced on last year. Bluecoat Beechdale Academy has been most significantly impacted this year.



Managed Move Protocol embedded within Fair Access process

The NCSEP Managed Move Protocol has been aligned closely with the Fair Access Protocol to ensure students at risk of permanent exclusion who transfer via this process are attributed to a school's fair access admission total. Pupils do not need to wait until a panel meeting to commence the managed move. The percentage of managed moves that meet fair access criteria has increased year on year (35.45% of all moves this academic year) illustrating the increased level of complexity and challenge and need for this strategy as an alternative to exclusion.

Managed Moves Data FAP Review July 2015					
	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15		
Managed Moves Requested	86	136	110		
FAP	21 (24.42%)	28 (20.59%)	39 (35.45%)		
Non Fap	65 (75.58%)	108 (79.41%)	71 (64.55%)		
Managed Moves Accepted on Ro	II 33	48	33		
FAP	8 (24.24%)	10 (20.83%)	11 (33.33%)		
Non Fap	25 (75.76%)	38 (79.17%)	22 (66.67%)		
Managed Moves Terminated during placement	27	24	22		
% of completed moves on roll	55%	67%	60%		

Last academic year (2013/14) 48 potential permanent exclusions were avoided and this year (2014/15) an additional 33 were also avoided by the use of this Protocol. These are significant figures given the very high rates of exclusions currently experienced in the City.

The At Risk FA cohort has reduced with the implementation of this Protocol.



Over 60% of completed managed moves were successful in the academic year 2014 – 2015. This is a slight reduction on the previous year although it represents sustained improvement on 2012- 2013.

There are two distinct Managed Move categories; at risk of permanent exclusion due to a significant and serious one off event and at risk due to sustained behavioural issues over time. The success rate for Managed Moves for the first category is significantly better. The success rate for the latter category could increase with more embedded multi-agency support and is the largest group processed by the protocol.

Intervention and complex placement support

A range of additional support and interventions are utilised by the Complex Case Coordinator either pre or post panel meetings to secure the best outcomes for vulnerable students and students exhibiting challenging behaviour. A high proportion of this time is spent making sure these students and their families are supported throughout the entire process to ensure the best possible outcomes and success rates. Following the panel, students are monitored and additional intervention provided to support engagement for a minimum of 4 weeks.



Case Study 1

Student A was a child in care previously on roll at a Nottingham school, until he moved to Derby in Jan 2014 due to being placed in foster care. Prior to his move, Student A was on the verge of permanent exclusion, was committing criminal offences and attending Alternative Provision. Derby LA took the decision to educate him in a PRU. He returned to Nottingham in April 2014 but was then rehoused in Birmingham. In Birmingham he attended a 14-19 independent school offering an alternative curriculum for learners disengaged with mainstream provision with SEBD and MLD on a part time basis. Student A attended although struggled to achieve and was not fulfilling his potential. Student A historically has a negative attitude towards his education placements and due to frequent moves has had a turbulent history.

Student A has now moved back into the City to the care of his mother, who lives in Radford. He is no longer in care and requires suitable education provision.

Interventions:

- Case managed by NCSEP Complex Case Co-ordinator
- Home visits meeting the student/families
- Identifying an appropriate alternative education provision (visits to providers, completing referrals, accompanying on visits)
- Support with paperwork including free school meals application
- Support with transport this has included picking up and dropping off to get bus pass on a monthly basis and ensuring confidence of bus route

- Monitoring attendance/behaviour for the academic year providing intervention where needed
- Attending multi agency meetings including housing, Social Care, local councillors, Police, YOT, Futures.

Outcomes:

Student A successfully attended alterative provision full time. He has completed a range of qualifications and accreditations including FL English level 1, FL Maths level 1 plus a CLA Sports Award in Football Coaching. Student A was at risk of offending and has not reoffended. Student A engaged with education and support and has secured a college course for next academic year.

Case Study 2

Student B's family moved to Nottingham in December 2013 due to parental relationship breakdown. Father suffers from anxiety and depression. An application was made at the beginning of January 2014 for a school place. Previous school information suggested children did not meet FA criteria. Only one of the siblings was offered a school place. Student B was refused a school place as the school was full in that year group. Parent wanted the siblings to stay together and in April 2014 applied for an alternate school. There was a prolonged period of time without an offer being made as the schools requested by parent did not offer places due to extenuating circumstances and concerns over parent explanation of challenging behaviour. By September 2014 both siblings remained out of education. This was investigated and in November 2014, having been out of education for one year a new application was received for another City school and the case brought to FAP. The school requested was not near the family address.

Interventions:

- Case managed by NCSEP Complex Case Co-ordinator
- Home visits meeting the student and family members
- Arranged school place for Student B's sibling at preferred school near home
- Identifying an appropriate alternative education provision for student B (visits to AP, pre visit contact, completion of referral forms and free school meals application)
- Support with transport this has included picking up and dropping off to get Bus pass on a monthly basis and ensuring confidence of bus route
- Monitoring attendance and behaviour for the academic year
- Attending multi agency meetings including housing, Social Care, Priority Families, MST, local councillors, Police, YOT, Futures, Frame work
- Supported parent with housing and access to new accommodation this included a number of agencies and facilitating the support the families needed
- Lead professional for the CAF

Outcomes:

Student B's sibling now accessing full time mainstream education. Student B accessing appropriate alternative provision where he completed a range of qualifications including FL English level 1, FL Maths level 1 and level 2, Safety at Work NVQ and an NVQ in Welding. His attendance improved to over 85% and a college course has been secured for progression for next academic year. The family have been successfully rehoused and parent is very appreciative of the extensive support received via the FA process and has shared this view with other agencies involved.

Over duration of the trial 100% of young people processed by panel have been tracked which demonstrates significantly improved safeguarding measures for this vulnerable cohort. In addition 77% of all cases were admitted in to schools within the 10 day timeframe aimed for within the FA Protocol. The remaining cases are awaiting their start date or already in the Managed Move process.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING VALUE FOR MONEY/VAT)

- 5.1 The DSG High Needs budget allocates £0.190m per annum to support Fair Access.
- 5.2 This report is requesting additional funding of £0.125m, for the 2015/16 academic year. This would need to be funded from the Statutory Schools Reserve (SSR) and a breakdown of the costs are as follows:
 - £0.100m to fund the additional costs of the needs led tiered finance model and the costs to NCSEP for running the panel on behalf of the Local Authority. Of this £0.100m, £0.057m is to fund NCSEPs Managed Move strategy which is now embedded in the Fair Access protocol and is contributing to decreasing permanent exclusions across the City.

This ensures that young people with complex behavioural difficulties are not moved from school to school including from the County to the City. 24 schools are currently actively engaged with the protocol.

The breakdown of the additional £0.057m is as follows:

- £0.042m for the Strategy Co-ordinator;
- £0.010m for administration and
- £0.005m for the online tracking system.
- £0.025m contingency. The funding model is needs led and the cohort unpredictable, therefore is appears prudent to allow for this cost.

- 5.3 The allocation of this additional High Needs expenditure, in academic year 2015/16 will need to be approved by the Local Authority through its constitutional approval process before any funds are earmarked.
- 5.4 In accordance with other funding arrangements and the Schools & Early Years Financial Regulation's 2014 the additional funding will be allocated based on actual expenditure with any unused balances being reallocated back into the Statutory Schools Reserve.

Confirmation of actual spend will be required in July 2016.

5.5 Any future funding past July 2016 will need to be included in the Dedicated Schools Grant budget setting process for 2016/17, with approval sought from the Local Authority (LA) and depending on value, alignment to the appropriate procurement process.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES (INCLUDING LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND CRIME AND DISORDER ACT IMPLICATIONS)

A service level agreement is in place between the Local Authority and NCSEP which includes monthly, termly and annual reporting including finance reporting.

The legal entity for NCSEP is the Bluecoat Multi-Academy Trust of which NCSEP is a discrete arm.

7. HR ISSUES

None

8. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Has the equality impact been assessed?	
Not needed (report does not contain proposals or financial decisions) No Yes – Equality Impact Assessment attached	
Due regard should be given to the equality implications identified in the EIA.	

9. <u>LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS OTHER THAN PUBLISHED WORKS OR</u> THOSE DISCLOSING CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION

Local Authority Review of Fair Access (Sharon Bramwell, April 2015)

10. PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT

Nottingham City Secondary Education Partnership (NCSEP) Inclusion Strategy (Board Report - September 2012 and March 2014)

Nottingham City Secondary Fair Access Protocol (September 2012)

School Admissions Code (January 2015)

