



NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL
SCHOOLS FORUM

Date: Thursday, 23 April 2015

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

Acting Corporate Director for Resources

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

AGENDA

Pages

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2	DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS	
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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

CITIZENS ATTENDING MEETINGS ARE ASKED TO ARRIVE AT LEAST 15 MINUTES BEFORE THE START OF THE MEETING TO BE ISSUED WITH VISITOR BADGES

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 Loxley House on 12 February 2015 from 1.48pm - 3.22pm

Membership

Present

Mark Precious (Chair)
Sian Hampton (Vice Chair)
Susie Artis
Caroline Caille
Carole Fearria
Paul Halcro
Gary Holmes
Andy Jenkins
Janet Molyneux
James Strawbridge

Absent

Bev Angell
Carol Barker
Sally Coulton
Judith Kemplay
Richard Matthews
Terry Smith
Wendy Vincent

Substitutes

Eleanor Tweedie (for Wendy Vincent)

Colleagues, partners and others in attendance:

Alistair Conquer	- Head of Education Partnerships
Pat Fielding	- Director of Education
Jennifer Hardy	- Project Manager, School Organisation
Julia Holmes	- Finance Analyst, Children and Adults
Lucy Juby	- Project Manager, School Organisation
Martin Smith	- Sport, Outdoor Learning and Adventure Services Manager
Kathryn Stevenson	- Finance Analyst, Children and Adults
Jon Rea	- Engagement and Participation Lead Officer
Ceri Walters	- Finance Business Partner, Children and Adults
Councillor Sam Webster	- Executive Assistant
Laura Wilson	- Governance Officer
Phil Wye	- Governance Officer
Ann Witheford	- Public

28 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Bev Angell (The Nottingham Nursery)
Carol Barker (Special Schools)
Richard Matthews (Maintained Primary Schools)

29 CHANGE OF MEETING DATE

RESOLVED to reschedule the Schools Forum meeting on 23 July 2015 to 18 June 2015

30 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR

RESOLVED to appoint Sian Hampton as Vice-Chair

31 CHANGE TO MEMBERSHIP

Paul Halcro was welcomed to the Schools Forum as a new secondary academy representative.

32 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None.

33 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Forum confirmed the minutes of the meeting held on 18 December 2014 as a correct record and they were signed by the Chair.

In relation to minute 21(4), Ceri Walters, Finance Business Partner, Children and Adults, reported that a link has now been provided in Scene with further details of the Health and Safety benefits for schools.

34 WORK PROGRAMME

The work programme for the April meeting of the Forum was noted with the addition of the following reports:

- (a) Reserves Update from Ceri Walters, Finance Business Partner, Children and Adults, and
- (b) Building Resilience and Character: A Programme of Education in Nottingham from Martin Smith, Sport, Outdoor Learning and Adventure Services Manager.

35 UPDATE ON THE PUPIL GROWTH CONTINGENCY FUND

Jennifer Hardy, Project Manager, School Organisation gave a verbal update on the Pupil Growth Contingency Fund, highlighting the following points:

- (a) the remaining fund currently stands at £187,933;
- (b) the spend for two schools has changed since October:
 - the figure for Bluecoat Primary has reduced as the original amount included classroom set up costs which are no longer needed;
 - the figure for Rufford Primary has increased as the previous amount was an estimate which has been revised based on information provided by the school;
- (c) 33 children are now on roll at Bluecoat Primary which opened in January.

36 BUILDING RESILIENCE AND CHARACTER: A PROGRAMME OF EDUCATION IN NOTTINGHAM

Martin Smith, Sport, Outdoor Learning and Adventure Services Manager, gave a presentation on Building Resilience and Character: A Programme of Education in Nottingham, and highlighted the following points:

- (a) a series of interventions are taking place nationally around character and resilience building in children. Nottingham is in an ideal position to take advantage of this;
- (b) it is now recognised that too much focus is on academic qualifications and not enough is on resilience and character building. Development of the 'whole child' is therefore seen as a priority;
- (c) there has also been research internationally into these problems, for example in the USA and in Singapore. There is now evidence to show that a child with positive character traits will better develop their creativity and problem solving skills. As an example it has been demonstrated that boys who take part in outdoor activities improve their writing skills;
- (d) evidence from research can be used for social mobility of disadvantaged children, and to see if government schemes such as the Pupil Premium are being used effectively to give these children equal opportunities. This will help to put them on an equivalent footing for future employment and training prospects;
- (e) character and personal development ought to be a part of everyday school life and integrated into the curriculum. Lessons can be learnt from health services where similar evidence-based approaches have been used to improve outcomes;
- (f) the related programme in Nottingham is being called 'Opportunity Notts', which has 125 things that you must do in Nottingham before you leave school over 5 different levels. This will help all pupils to make a positive contribution to their community;
- (g) a website will go live for 'Opportunity Notts' which will engage with young people and encourage them to complete the challenges. Schools and Youth Groups will also be able to use this as a tool for accessing the activities. The website is currently in development;
- (h) four separate DfE character bids have already been made from various agencies across Nottingham. This programme will help to bring these together and build on existing partnership work;
- (i) a bid will be brought to the next Schools Forum for funding of £1m over 3 years.

The following comments were made in the discussion that followed the presentation:

- (j) schools can use Opportunity Notts to engage with the offer in the city, however it is not just aimed at schools. Children can also involve themselves or with their families. Children will choose their own mentors, which can be any adult, be it a teacher, a parent or somebody else;
- (k) the scheme has not been launched to schools yet but this will be soon so that their engagement can be gauged and monitored;
- (l) the bid would be welcomed by schools but it needs to be clear, well thought out and sustainable. It will need to visibly show what will be required from schools and teachers as their time can be limited;
- (m) opportunities for young people in Nottingham already exist, so duplication should be avoided. Martin is already aware of many of these and hopes to integrate as many existing opportunities as possible;
- (n) there are barriers which exist for some families such as the cost of membership or travel. The programme needs to be robust in order to allow these families to engage fully.

RESOLVED to

- (1) note the content of the presentation;**
- (2) agree for Martin Smith to return to the next meeting with a full report outlining the bid.**

37 SCHOOLS FORUM SUB-GROUP WORK PLAN AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

Ceri Walters, Finance Business Partner, Children and Adults, presented her report detailing the Terms of Reference and work plan for the Schools Forum Sub-Group (SFSG), as agreed in the last meeting on 18 December 2014. She highlighted the following points:

- (a) the SFSG has no formal powers and is purely a consultative body for the Schools Forum;
- (b) the SFSG will discuss priorities for school improvement as a part of its remit.

RESOLVED:

- (1) to approve the SFSG Terms of Reference;**
- (2) for Ceri Walters to find out if the Trade Union representative will be able to attend the SFSG meetings;**
- (3) to approve the membership of the SFSG for the financial year 2015/16, subject to determining if the Trade Union representative will be able to attend.**

38 SCHOOLS BUDGET 2015/16

Ceri Walters, Finance Business Partner, Children and Adults, presented her report outlining the Schools Budget for 2015/16, highlighting the following points:

(a) the following Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) allocations have already been approved by the Schools Forum:

- Behaviour Support (approved for maintained primary schools only);
- Ethnic Minority Achievement;
- Trade Union Senior Representative Cover Time;
- Sports Safe Gym Maintenance Services;
- Copyright Licensing Agreement/Music Publishing Association Licenses;
- Building Maintenance Services;
- Schools and Early Years central budgets;

(b) the DSG figure does not include:

- Pupil Premium;
- year 7 Catch up Premium Grant;
- Pupil Premium Summer Schools Funding;
- funding for 2 year olds;

(c) there has been an increase in funding of £13.864m in 2015/16 compared to 2014/15. This is due to:

- transfer of responsibility to the Local Authority for non-recoupment academies and free schools budgets;
- Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC) energy scheme rate increase;
- increased pupil numbers;
- indicative early years pupil premium;
- increase in high needs;

(d) the number of parents submitting forms to confirm their eligibility for free school meals has reduced amongst Key Stage 1 pupils as they are now automatically entitled to free school meals. This has not had much impact on Pupil Premium funding yet but is likely to in future years. More research needs to be done to assess the future impact of this and ways to avoid it, possibly by researching how other authorities deal with it. The Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) also guarantees that schools will lose no less than 1.5% of their funding per year.

The following comments were made during the discussion:

(e) although a funding allocation was agreed for building maintenance services, more information will be expected about this in future so that the Forum can make a balanced decision as to whether it represents value for money;

- (f) clarity would be helpful to see how funding is affected by a school or nursery's Ofsted performance.

RESOLVED to

- (1) note the value of the 2015/16 DSG schools budget is £235.459m;**
- (2) note that any unallocated DSG funds will be transferred to the Statutory Schools Reserve (SSR);**
- (3) note the allocation of Pupil Premium, Summer Schools Funding and Year 7 Catch up Premium will be confirmed in Summer 2015 and will be allocated to schools in accordance with the grant conditions;**
- (4) approve the use of reserves to support split site catering costs in 2014/15 currently totalling £0.083m.**

SCHOOLS FORUM WORK PROGRAMME

Title of report	Report or presentation	Author – name, title, telephone number, email address
18 June 2015		
1. Outturn Report	Report	Ceri Walters, Finance Business Partner, Children and Adults Tel: 0115 8764128 Email: ceri.walters@nottinghamcity.gov.uk
2. Allocation of ICT funding to school expansion projects	Report	Sarah White, Senior Project Manager, Major Programmes Tel: 0115 8763410 Email: sarah.white1@nottinghamcity.gov.uk
3. Update on the pupil growth contingency fund	Verbal update	Lucy Juby, Project Manager, School Organisation Tel: 0115 8765041 Email: lucy.juby@nottinghamcity.gov.uk
Meeting dates for the 2015/16 academic year	Discussion item	Phil Wye, Governance Officer, Constitutional Services Tel: 0115 8764637 Email: phil.wye@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

Deadlines for submission of reports

Date of meeting	Draft reports (10.00 am)	Final reports (10.00 am)
18 June 2015	28 May	8 June
24 September 2015	3 September	14 September

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SCHOOLS' FORUM – 23 APRIL 2015

Title of paper:	Revised Membership and Constitution for Nottingham City Schools' Forum
Director(s)/ Corporate Director(s):	Alison Michalska, Corporate Director for Children and Adults
Report author(s) and contact details:	Alistair Conquer, Head of Education Partnerships Alistair.conquer@nottinghamcity.gov.uk 0115 9476202
Other colleagues who have provided input:	Laura Wilson, Constitutional Services Officer laura.wilson@nottinghamcity.gov.uk 0115 8764301 Phil Wye, Constitutional Services Officer phil.wye@nottinghamcity.gov.uk 0115 8764637
Summary	
<p>The Schools' Forum membership and constitution need to be refreshed in light of new guidance issued by the Education Funding Agency (EFA) in December 2014, to reflect the change in its required membership and consultation roles.</p> <p>The revised guidance means that the Forum membership needs to be increased to include representation from Alternative Provision (AP) Academies and Free Schools, and Special Academies.</p> <p>This report outlines the required changes for implementation from April 2015.</p>	
Recommendation(s):	
1	To note the appointment of Chris Manze from Stone Soup Academy as the AP Academy representative.
2	To note the appointment of Tracey Ydlibi from Nethergate School as the Special Academy representative.
3	To note the new consultation roles of the Schools' Forum as detailed in paragraph 1.3 below.

1. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 The EFA issued new guidance in December 2014 which provides clear instructions on revised membership and consultation roles for Schools' Forums.
- 1.2 In order to comply with the EFA guidance, membership of the Schools' Forum will be widened to include:
 - a) a representative of AP Academies and Free Schools, where they exist;
 - b) a representative of Special Academies and Free Schools, where they exist.
- 1.3 In order to comply with the EFA guidance, the Forum's consultation role will be extended to include:

- a) special places to be commissioned by the authority in different institutions, and the arrangements for paying top-up funding;
- b) AP places to be commissioned by the authority and by schools in PRUs and other providers of AP, and the arrangements for paying top-up funding.

2. BACKGROUND (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)

- 2.1 In December 2014 the EFA issued guidance entitled 'Schools Revenue Funding 2015 to 2016 – Operational Guide'. This guidance includes an update to the required membership and consultation roles of Schools' Forums.
- 2.2 The guidance requires that the Forum must have a representation from AP Academies and Free Schools. As Stone Soup Academy is the only AP Academy within Nottingham City, a representative has been sought from this school and Chris Manze has been appointed. There are no AP Free Schools within Nottingham City.
- 2.3 The guidance also requires that the Forum must have a representative from Special Academies and Free Schools. As Nethergate School is the only Special Academy within Nottingham City, a representative has been sought from this school and Tracey Ydlibi has been appointed. There are no Special Free Schools within Nottingham City.
- 2.4 The revised constitution reflecting these changes can be found at Appendix 1 to this report. Changes have been made to include the following:
 - a) the changed membership as outlined in paragraph 1.2 above;
 - b) the changed consultation role as outlined in paragraph 1.3 above.

3. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 No other options were considered as the membership and constitution need to be updated in the light of the new EFA guidance.

4. OUTCOMES/DELIVERABLES

- 4.1 The recommendations in this report aim to contribute to efficient, effective and lawful decision making by the Schools' Forum.

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

- 5.1 There are no direct financial implications or value for money issues arising from this report.

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

- 6.1 The risk of having a constitution which is not in line with the EFA guidance is to expose the Forum to unlawful decision making.

7. HR ISSUES

- 7.1 None.

8. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

8.1 An equality impact assessment is not needed as the report does not relate to new or changing policies or functions.

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

9.1 None.

10. PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT

10.1 Schools' Revenue Funding 2015 to 2016 Operational Guide, Education Funding Agency, December 2014

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/390387/Schools_revenue_funding_2015_to_2016_operational_guide_Dec_2104.pdf

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Update on pupil growth contingency fund 2014/15 – Schools’ Forum (April)

School	Category	February figure	April figure (costs TBC)	Comments
Dunkirk	Bulge year	38,716		
Huntingdon	Bulge year	38,716		
Westglade	Bulge year	38,716		
Forest Fields	Bulge year	38,716		
Whitemoor	Bulge year	46,716		
Westglade	Classrooms	6,000		
Rufford	Classrooms	16,000		
Riverside	Classrooms	24,000		
Glenbrook	Classrooms		24,000	Funding for up to 3 new classrooms from Sept 14. Awaiting breakdown of costs from school before releasing funding.
Heathfield Primary	Increased pupil numbers	30,555		
Nottingham Academy	Increased pupil numbers		65,000	Movement of classes to other facilities and outdoor work required to make an area of the playground safe for Reception children. Saved us a minimum of £300k as alternative to hiring mobile classrooms.

Summary – April 2015 (TBC)	
Total fund	1,523,000
Bulge year	201,580
Classroom set up	70,000
Increased pupil numbers	95,555
Late admissions	289,888
Planned expansion	767,044
Total spend	1,424,067
Remaining fund	98,933

Glenbrook	Late admissions	66,370		
Sycamore	Late admissions	66,370		
Heathfield Primary	Late admissions	66,370		
Dunkirk	Late admissions	90,778		
Bluecoat Primary	Planned expansion	47,578		
Blue Bell Hill	Planned expansion	38,716		
Djanogly Northgate	Planned expansion	38,716		
Djanogly Northgate	Planned expansion	22,904		
Riverside	Planned expansion	38,716		
Dunkirk	Planned expansion	38,716		
Forest Fields	Planned expansion	38,716		
Rosslyn	Planned expansion	54,970		
Nottingham Academy	Planned expansion	77,432		
Heathfield Primary	Planned expansion	38,716		
Sycamore	Planned expansion	38,716		
Glenbrook	Planned expansion	77,432		

Rufford	Planned expansion	38,716		
Djanogly Northgate	Planned expansion	177,000		
TOTAL SPEND		1,335,067	1,424,067 TBC	

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Update on pupil growth contingency fund 2015/16 – Schools' Forum (April)

School	Category	April 15 figure	Comments
Fernwood Primary	Bulge year (staffing / utilities)	38,716	Added since Dec 14
Fernwood Primary	Bulge year (classrooms)	8,000	Added since Dec 14
Huntingdon Academy	Bulge year (staffing / utilities)	38,716	Added since Dec 14
Huntingdon Academy	Bulge year (classrooms)	8,000	Added since Dec 14
Westglade	Bulge year (staffing / utilities)	38,716	Added since Dec 14
Westglade	Bulge year (classrooms)	8,000	Added since Dec 14
Fernwood Nursery	Classrooms	16,000	Added since Dec 14
Glenbrook	Classrooms	8,000	
Heathfield	Classrooms	48,000	
Riverside	Classrooms	8,000	
Rosslyn Park	Classrooms	16,000	Increased by £8,000 for 1 additional classroom
Rufford	Classrooms	8,000	
South Wilford	Classrooms	8,000	Added since Dec 14
Whitemoor	Increased pupil numbers	27,654	Additional 5/12ths to fund Academy full financial year

Summary – April 2015	
15/16 fund	1,046,936
14/15 C/F balance	98,933
TOTAL FUND	1,145,869
Bulge year	140,148
Classroom set up	112,000
Increased pupil numbers	27,654
Late admissions	0
Planned expansion	774,709
Current total spend	1,054,511
Remaining balance	91,358

Blue Bell Hill	Expansion	38,716	
Blue Bell Hill	Expansion	27,654	Additional 5/12ths to fund Academy full financial year
Bluecoat Primary	Expansion	52,630	Additional 5/12ths to fund Academy full financial year
Djanogly Northgate	Expansion	38,716	
Djanogly Northgate	Expansion	27,654	Additional 5/12ths to fund Academy full financial year
Djanogly Northgate	Expansion (Schools Forum paper)	103,000	
Dunkirk	Expansion	38,716	
Fernwood Nursery	Expansion - new Nursery - staff costs	50,185	Added since Dec 14. To fund lag in Early Years funding - TBC
Forest Fields	Expansion	38,716	
Glenbrook	Expansion	38,716	
Glenbrook	Expansion	55,308	Additional 5/12ths to fund Academy full financial year
Nottingham Academy	Expansion	27,654	Additional 5/12ths to fund Academy full financial year
Riverside	Expansion	38,716	
Riverside	Expansion	27,654	Additional 5/12ths to fund Academy full financial year
Rossllyn Park	Expansion	22,904	Additional 5/12ths to fund Academy full financial year
Rossllyn Park	Expansion	38,716	
Rufford	Expansion	28,442	
South Wilford	Expansion	14,242	Added since Dec 14

Sycamore	Expansion	38,716	
Sycamore	Expansion	27,654	Additional 5/12ths to fund Academy full financial year
TOTAL SPEND		1,054,511	

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SCHOOLS FORUM – 23 APRIL 2015

Title of paper:	STATUTORY SCHOOL RESERVE UPDATE
Director(s)/ Corporate Director(s):	Alison Michalska, Corporate Director for Children and Adults Geoff Walker, Chief Finance Officer
Report author(s) and contact details:	Ceri Walters, Acting Head of Departmental Financial Support 01158 764 128 ceri.walters@nottinghamcity.gov.uk
Other colleagues who have provided input:	Sarah Molyneux Legal Service Manager and Solicitor 01158 764 335 sarah.molyneux@nottinghamcity.gov.uk
Summary This report presents the balance on the Statutory Schools Reserve (SSR) and the latest approved commitments aligned to the SSR.	
Recommendation(s):	
1	Note the total value SSR as at 1 April 2014 was £12.781m as referred to in section 5.1.
2	Note the latest commitments against this balance are £7.034m as detailed in Appendix A .
3	Note the latest uncommitted balance of the SSR is £5.747m as per section 5.2.
3	To note the values identified in the risk register set out in Table 1 are £0.818m.

1. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 To provide Schools Forum with an update on reserve balances and current commitments. This will enable the funding of future decisions to be taken with the appropriate consideration.
- 1.2 To ensure the financial risks identified for 2015/16 could be contained within the SSR balance.

2. BACKGROUND (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)

- 2.1 This report sets out the updated position of the reserve balances which will enable the robust consideration of future funding decisions presented to the Schools Forum.

3. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 No other options are available as the recommendations align to the financial regulations issued by the Department for Education (DfE) and resemble good practice.

4. OUTCOMES/DELIVERABLES

- 4.1 To ensure that Schools Forum are aware of the reserves balances held, current commitments agreed and potential future risks to ensure decisions about funding future requests are considered with an awareness of all resources available.

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

5.1 The opening reserve balance as at 1 April 2014 was £12.781m. The detail behind the balance was included in the Reserve Update report dated 18 December 2014.

5.2 **Appendix A** sets out the commitments currently aligned to the reserve totalling £7.034m which leaves an **uncommitted balance of £5.747m**.

The balance is 2.47% of the 2015/16 DSG allocation. There are no formal guidelines outlining best practice of this percentage, the guidance only relates to school balances which are 5% for secondary and 8% for primary and specials schools.

The Local Authority's Medium Term Financial Strategy recommends between 2%-4% of its overall settlement.

5.3 Use of this reserve has to align to the Schools and Early Years Finance Regulations 2014.

5.4 In assessing the robustness of the reserves a review of the potential risks have been evaluated using a Risk Assessment Matrix set out in **Table 1** below.

TABLE 1: RISK ASSESSMENT			
POTENTIAL RISK	Worse Case £m	Assessment of risk £m	Estimated exposure £m
Academy DSG recoupmnt Impact on services provided by Local Authority. Risk of reduction of services in conjunction with academisations.	0.700	H	0.630
Deficit Balances for sponsored academy conversions LA has to pick up deficits for academies converting with a sponsor. Worse case is based on the total projected year-end deficits.	0.376	M	0.188
TOTAL	1.076		0.818

The estimated exposure for 2014/15 was £3.916m based on identified risks in February 2014; the rationale for the reduction to £0.818m is set out in **Table 2** below:

TABLE 2: RISK RESERVE MOVEMENT		
POTENTIAL RISK	Increase/ (reduction) £m	Rationale
Academy DSG recoupment	0.066	Exposure reflects the impact to the LA from de-delegated services if all services were not brought back from academies.
Children & Families Bill	(1.319)	Financial impact from the bill is now reflected in the High Needs budget.
High Needs Inter Authority Recoupment	(0.945)	This related to the possibility of historical claims over and above budget, applicable under previous financial regulations. Time lag, review of the 2013/14 actuals and the 2015/16 budget should now be sufficient to accommodate any historical claims.
Extension of FSM	(0.900)	This risk has been removed as the initial concern regarding the payment of £2.30 per meal being insufficient, does not appear to be an issue since its implementation in September 2014.
TOTAL	(3.098)	

- 5.5 As part of the closedown process any 2014/15 underspends will be incorporated into the reserve and carried forward. The drawdown in 2015/16 of any central expenditure underspends will be in accordance with the School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2014.
- 5.6 Use of the reserve has to align to the Education, Children and Young People's Services budget and outturn statements; this return specifies the category's where expenditure can be met from the reserve. These categories are in addition to Schools, Academies and Private, Voluntary and Independent Sector educational settings. Analysis of this is set out in **Table 3** below:

TABLE 3: EXPENDITURE CATEGORIES

HIGH NEEDS BUDGET Top-up funding – maintained schools Top-up funding – academies, free schools and colleges Top-up and other funding – non-maintained and independent providers Additional high needs targeted funding for mainstream schools and academies SEN support services Hospital education services Other alternative provision services Support for inclusion Special schools and Pupil Referral Units (PRU's) in financial difficulty PFI/ BSF costs at special schools and AP/ PRUs Direct payments (SEN and disability) Carbon reduction commitment allowances (PRUs)
EARLY YEARS BUDGET Central expenditure on children under 5
CENTRAL PROVISION WITHIN SCHOOLS BUDGET Contribution to combined budgets School admissions Servicing of schools forums Termination of employment costs Falling Rolls Fund Capital expenditure from revenue (CERA) Prudential borrowing costs Fees to independent schools without SEN Equal pay - back pay Pupil growth/ Infant class sizes SEN transport Exceptions agreed by Secretary of State Other Items

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

6.1 The current law in force in this area is the School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2014. The spend from the SSR needs to align with the requirements of the Regulations, which this report addresses.

7. HR ISSUES

7.1 Not applicable

8. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

8.1 An EIA is not needed as the report does not contain proposals or financial decisions.

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

9.1 None.

10. PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT

10.1 Schools Forum - Schools Budget 2015/16 – 12 February 2015.

10.2 DfE - Schools and Early Years Financial Regulations 2014

2014/15+ RESERVE COMMITMENTS

		Date Approved	Funding Narrative	2014/15 £m	2015/16 £m	2016/17 £m	Other Comments
1	Re-phased BSF Wave 5 funding	29 March 2012 - Agenda Item 12-03-10		0.174			See comment above in Appendix A.
2	Early Years – 2 Year old funding	DfE	Ring fenced funding and underspend in central expenditure carried forward as per financial regulations 2014, Part 2, Chapter 1 paragraph (8).		0.537	0.753	2015/16 drawdown aligns to the 2014/15 budget report.
3	Strategic Partnership Bids	24 Jan 2013 - Agenda Item 7		0.061			This is the balance remaining from the £0.500m initially earmarked within this reserve for one off educational investment.
Page 28	Inclusion Strategy	21 March 2013 - Agenda Item 9	Partnership's inclusion strategy to support young people displaying challenging and/or antisocial behaviour in schools and the community. The report stated that this would be achieved by empowering the Partnership to provide a range of services which would fulfil the statutory duties of the Local Authority.	0.677			Balance recouped from school exclusions – element to be allocated to Nottingham City Secondary Education Partnership. £0.190m for Fair Access for 2014/15 comes from DSG annual budget. £0.867m paid in total.
5	E-learning Centres	27 Jan 2011 - Agenda Item 11-01-17	To underwrite the service until fully traded. The allocation was £0.456m in 2011/12 and £0.364m in 2012/13.	0.150			Slippage in spend due to income received from schools however changes to this service are being implemented, no income being received and this balance is required to fund the changes and underwrite a traded post to address the new primary curriculum.

		Date Approved	Funding Narrative	2014/15 £m	2015/16 £m	2016/17 £m	Other Comments
6	Development of Modern Languages and International Education	29 March 2012 - Agenda Item 12-03-07	The retention of a post responsible for International Dimension and Modern Languages as a means of providing schools with the necessary expertise and support to develop their curriculum and external outlook. Agreed at £0.060m per annum for 2012/13 and 2013/14.	0.120			Will be spent during 2014/15 and 2015/16. The full underwrite was not required during 2012/13 and 2013/14, however due to the requirements of the new national curriculum this underwrite will be required over the next 2 years. No further underwrites will be requested.
7	School Improvement	30 Sept 2010 - Agenda Item 10-09-10	£0.270m to ensure the continuation of teaching and learning consultant support for primary schools. This funding was to mitigating any balance in income generated up to that value.	0.090			
Page 29 8	Communication, Language and Literacy Development	27 Jan 2011 - Agenda Item 11-01-14	The amalgamation of grants into the DSG in 2011/12 resulted in funding received funds the cost of a CLLD Consultant. This funding ceased and it was agreed that the post of CLLD Consultant is extended for a further 3 years to focus on the transition between the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and Year 1, as Year 1 indicates lower progress than at other transition points. Funding was for £0.055m per annum for 2011/12 – 2013/14.	0.038			Slippage into 2014/15, not further funding required after this funding is used.

		Date Approved	Funding Narrative	2014/15 £m	2015/16 £m	2016/17 £m	Other Comments
9	Sustainable Schools Co-ordinator (Apr 14 – Aug 14)	29 March 2012 - Agenda Item 12-03-08	<p>In March 2010 Schools Forum released funding to recruit two Sustainable School Coordinators to develop, support and deliver sustainability projects, and provide guidance and support to the 101 Nottingham City Schools, over a two-year period. It was decided to focus this work on the internationally recognised Eco-School programme as a sustainable framework within which schools can be accredited for their work. For the top award, the Green Flag Award, there is a clear requirement to develop work on Energy Management.</p> <p>In summer 2009 Nottingham City Council set an ambitious target to reduce its own carbon emissions by 31% by 2016. The Council is a participant in the national CRC Energy Efficiency scheme, and therefore failure to achieve our carbon target will bring a substantial fine for the Council. Schools account for 35% of carbon dioxide emissions from Nottingham City Council buildings, so any work undertaken in schools saves money as well as carbon. Funding was for £0.067m per annum for 2012/13 and 2013/14.</p>	0.030			Slippage of £0.030m due to a delay in recruitment.
10	Nottingham City Secondary Education Partnership (NCSEP) – Capital Expenditure	21 March 2013 - Agenda Item 8	A number of sites have been identified to house the PRU from September onwards and discussions are still being considered to secure the most appropriate site for the PRU.		0.825		
11	Safety on school visits	24 April 2014 - Agenda Item 8	Continuation of access to advice and guidance from Education Partnerships to ensure that a consistent approach to the management of off-site visits across schools in the City is maintained and that both schools and employers are compliant with their health and safety obligations. Funding was for £0.030m for 2014/15.	0.030			

		Date Approved	Funding Narrative	2014/15 £m	2015/16 £m	2016/17 £m	Other Comments
12	Increased capacity at Westbury School	18 July 2013 - Agenda Item 7	The Local Authority (LA) has increasingly limited capacity in specialist maintained provision for pupils with social, emotional and behavioural difficulties whose needs cannot be met within mainstream schools. This issue is further compounded by the rising birth rate which is already putting significant pressure on primary places across the City. Without increasing the capacity of Westbury School, the LA will need to commission independent specialist day provision to meet the needs of this growing cohort of young people. £0.094m will be required to fund a modular building to accommodate 16 additional learners at Westbury. Spend in 2014/15 academic year.	0.037			
Page 31	Behaviour Support Team Underwrite	5 Dec 2013 - Agenda Item 8	Support of the non statutory element within this service in 2014/15.	0.106			
14	Sustainable Schools Co-ordinator (Sep 14 - Aug 16)	26 August 2013 - Agenda Item 7	<p>The approval for this funding was originally for 2 posts for 2 years. Due to delays in recruitment the current approved funding is sufficient to fund the posts up to September 2014. The additional two years funding being requested will enable the officers to continue and develop their program until September 2016.</p> <p>The funding will enable implementation of technical and behavioural change measures, coupled with teaching from foundation aged children upwards and advice sessions for adults, using available data, over a six month period the project has reported the following savings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £42,000 energy savings pro rata inclusive of CRC • 132 tonnes of CO₂ savings pro rata 	0.034	0.067	0.034	

		Date Approved	Funding Narrative	2014/15 £m	2015/16 £m	2016/17 £m	Other Comments
15	Exclusions – Primary	DfE financial regs		0.022			Review requirement as part of Schools Forum Sub Group
16	Exclusions – Secondary	DfE financial regs		0.353			Review requirement as part of Schools Forum Sub Group
17	Fixed Costs for split site kitchens	12 Feb 2015	To support the fixed costs associated with split site kitchens	0.083			This is incorporated in the formula from 2015/16 onwards.
18	Education Service Grant reduction	23 Feb 2012	Aligns to academising schools and the impact to LA services.	0.484			
19	Nethergate place funding	BSF Wave 5	Seven additional places from September 2013. £0.041m allocated in 2013/14 and £0.029 in 2014/15.	0.029			
20	Inter authority recoupment	DfE financial regs	This relates to children who cross borders to attend special schools. There will be no new commitments associated with this based on the new funding formula and any future charges will relate to outstanding charges from other authorities.	0.386			Figure based on last years actual.
21	Contribution to Nottingham Safeguarding Children's Board	5 Dec 2013 - Agenda Item 6	Approve an annual contribution of £13,000 from the Dedicated Schools Grant to the NCSCB on an ongoing basis to ensure the shortfall between the income generated by the Schools and Education Safeguarding Team through the safeguarding training and the £33,000 committed is met.	0.013	0.013	0.013	
22	Funding to support an expanding school – exempt report	24 April 2014 - Agenda Item 14	Funding to support an expanding school	0.164	0.117		
23	Late Admissions to Schools	DfE	Requirement to fund any pupils admitted late to schools.	0.290			
24	Additional growth funding	16 Oct 2014 – Agenda item 10	To fund the shortfall of funding required so support the growth of school places in 2014/15.	0.513			
25	Funding to support an expanding school – exempt report	16 Oct 2014 – Agenda item 14	Funding to support an expanding school	0.165	0.150		

		Date Approved	Funding Narrative	2014/15 £m	2015/16 £m	2016/17 £m	Other Comments
26	Deficit Funding	DfE	Deficit budgets from converting schools	0.270			Currently estimated
27	Business Rate Funding	DfE	Backdated business rate charge to Farnborough	0.206			The DSG has to fund the cost of business rates.
TOTAL COMMITTED				4.525	1.709	0.800	
CUMULATIVE TOTAL				7.034			
BALANCE REMAINING				5.747			

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SCHOOLS FORUM – 23 APRIL 2015

Title of paper:	ENHANCING CAPACITY
Director(s)/ Corporate Director(s):	Alison Michalska, Corporate Director for Children and Adults
Report author(s) and contact details:	P A and S A Fielding, Joint Directors of Education 01158 764 128 ceri.walters@nottinghamcity.gov.uk
Other colleagues who have provided input:	Sarah Molyneux Legal Service Manager and Solicitor 01158 764 335 sarah.molyneux@nottinghamcity.gov.uk Ceri Walters, Acting Head of Departmental Financial Support 01158 764 128 ceri.walters@nottinghamcity.gov.uk
Proposal	
Funding restrictions dictate that our Consultant Support Team (specialising in Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), Primary, Secondary and support roles) now operates on a traded service basis.	
In order to complement the School Advisory Team with the intellectual capacity and expertise of the Consultant Support Team it is necessary to fund 1 post within the team from the Statutory School Reserve (SSR). This will release a resource from operating on a traded activity basis to focus on developing city wide, cross phase projects funding c. 200 days of activity to develop and enhance the effectiveness of all schools.	
This proposal requires funding of £0.061m from the SSR in 2015/16.	
Recommendation(s):	
1	Agree to assign £0.061m from the SSR in 2015/16 to support specific work required to enhance and deepen the support and challenge we can provide in relation to securing improvements in the effectiveness of our city schools and academies.

1. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 To commit £0.059m within the SSR in order to ensure the Consultant Support Team is able to complement the work of the School Advisory Team making full and effective use of existing and expertise within the city.

2. BACKGROUND (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)

- 2.1 The fund will not be spent on compliance with bureaucratic initiatives but on working directly with school and academy leaders and teachers to develop effective practice. The team will work across EYFS to Key Stage (KS) 4 and with schools and academies. It will not simply focus on those that are vulnerable but also those that are good and outstanding. This is about protecting and deploying a high quality service that has evolved on our doorstep, is committed to city children and has much to offer at a time when we have much to gain.

Our School Improvement Service Core Offer has been designed primarily to enable us to *know our schools and academies* within the City. From this informed basis, we are able to develop improvement plans and broker support appropriate to individual need. The depth and extent of this support is determined by the budget restrictions within which it operates and whilst it can be a provider, it will inevitably have to commission and broker support.

2.3 However, we do not simply want to focus on *knowing our schools and academies* and commission work to a third party; we want to be in a position to commission our Consultant Support Team with its contextual knowledge and expertise. Our expectation is that it will provide a strategic response to city wide need, in a timely fashion, from a team our schools and academies know and own and that has a track record of bringing about rapid change.

2.4 What will the Local Authority Consultant Support Team provide?

In addition to its statutory responsibility for Statutory KS1 and KS2 SATS Assessment, Moderation/statutory phonic screening test checks and work it carries out on a traded basis the funding will support a post within this team, preventing them from having to focus on trading their activity and complementing the work and findings of the School Advisory Team by:

- delivering bespoke and central support and development for individual schools and academies needs. This will centre on securing improvements in teaching, learning and leadership.
- Evaluating and driving core intervention activities for all schools and academies to enable them to become and sustain good or better provision e.g. those that focus on disadvantaged groups – Free School Meals, Children Looked After, English as an Additional Language
- Supporting a strategic approach to curriculum development by leading those activities influencing schools and academies citywide e.g.
 - 1) The EYFS Baseline assessment
 - 2) Assessment without levels (core and foundation subjects)-tracking, moderation, exemplars.
 - 3) Phonics screening-evaluation, advice and training.
 - 4) KS 2 - 3 transition projects.

2.5.1 They will also;

- keep school leaders up to date with current thinking and advice;
- search out and engage in innovative practice (local and national) e.g. Department for Education pilot projects;
- monitor the horizon for local/national change, challenge and initiatives.

3. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 No other options are available to fund this activity.

4. OUTCOMES/DELIVERABLES

4.1 All tasks and activities undertaken will have clear outcome and impact measures. These will be agreed with individual schools and academies, the Local Authority, Teaching School Alliance's, Multi Academy Trust's and other partnership arrangements dependent on circumstances.

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

- 5.1 This report seeks approval to allocate £0.061m within the SSR to support the cost of a resource within the Consultant Support Team, preventing them from having to trade for 2015/16 and focus on city wide projects.
- 5.2 Use of the reserve has to align to the Schools and Early Years Finance Regulations 2014 and the categories of expenditure.

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

- 6.1 The current law in force in this area is the School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2014. Spend from the SSR needs to align with the requirements of the Regulations as noted in section 5.2.

7. HR ISSUES

- 7.1 Not applicable

8. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 8.1 An EIA is not needed as the report does not contain proposals or financial decisions.

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

- 9.1 None.

10. PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT

- 10.1 DfE - Schools and Early Years Financial Regulations 2014.

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SCHOOLS FORUM – 23 APRIL 2015

Title of paper:	STRATEGIC ALLIANCE - ACTIVITY FUNDING
Director(s)/ Corporate Director(s):	Alison Michalska, Corporate Director for Children and Adults
Report author(s) and contact details:	P A and S A Fielding, Joint Director's of Education 01158 764 128 ceri.walters@nottinghamcity.gov.uk
Other colleagues who have provided input:	Sarah Molyneux Legal Service Manager and Solicitor 01158 764 335 sarah.molyneux@nottinghamcity.gov.uk Ceri Walters, Acting Head of Departmental Financial Support 01158 764 128 ceri.walters@nottinghamcity.gov.uk
<p>Creating an enabling environment within which collaboration can flourish. This report proposes the formulation of a match funded budget that is designed to facilitate the development of a 'strategic alliance' across the City of Nottingham, providing clarity, focus and coherence, making the best use of resources available and engaging Teaching Schools, Multi-Academy Trusts, schools working in Trust arrangements and individual schools and academies to work together to improve overall education provision and outcomes for Children and Young People and reduce the gap in achievement between advantaged and disadvantaged pupils.</p>	
Recommendation(s):	
1	Approve the allocation of £0.600m from the Statutory Schools Reserve (SSR) in 2015/16 to develop a citywide strategic alliance and fund focussed improvement activities. City Council has agreed to match fund £0.600m to the project.
2	If the proposal is accepted the alliance will present further update reports to Schools' Forum identifying spending streams and their impacts aligning to section 4 of the report.

1. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 To assign £0.600m within the SSR; this will match fund the Local Authority's (LA) contribution to support collaborative activity carried out by the Strategic Alliance.

2. BACKGROUND (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)**2.1 Context - The London Challenge**

A decade ago, parents were leaving inner London to avoid sending their children to local schools. Today, all pupils are more likely to perform better in the capital than anywhere else in the country. Much of this is down to the London challenge policy of school collaboration.

City challenge was distinctive in a number of ways. It was underpinned by a belief that the educational problems facing urban areas should be addressed at area level, and that LAs, schools and academies need to work together to do this.

It aimed to improve educational provision and school performance across a broad geographical area, not simply in a specific group of participating schools. City Challenge focused on all aspects of the education system: working strategically at area level and with LAs, community organisations, parents and pupils and developing a range of specific school interventions which were closely focused on the intended outcomes of City Challenge. There was no single view of what schools needed to do to improve; all the interventions involved local solutions with key stakeholders centrally involved in the decisions. The various activities and interventions were characterised by:

- a belief that school-to-school collaboration has a central role to play in school improvement;
- a recognition of the importance of school leadership and;
- a data-rich approach to tackling issues and sharing learning.

2.2 The Nottingham Challenge

There is a growing consensus that there needs to be a city wide, all party 'strategic alliance' if we are to tackle the challenges we face in Nottingham.

Whilst the London Challenge provides a starting point for discussion our alliance has to be appropriate to local circumstances and will only work where we have the consent and active participation of the operational partnership formed by schools/academies in the area- we are encouraged by the discussions held with all our key partners to collectively commit to the challenges we face in the city of Nottingham, and, given the breadth and depth of expertise across the City of Nottingham this is the right time to unleash the enormous potential an alliance of this kind has to offer.

2.3 Cultural shift

A key aspect of the alliance will be to recognise that people, schools and academies, tend to thrive when they feel trusted, supported and encouraged. Success is also more often realised when participants have ownership and involvement in the changes rather than being 'done to'. It is important that this is not seen as an LA initiative and propose the Education Improvement Board, independently chaired (Professor Sir David Greenaway) and representing all key stakeholder groups in the city manage the Governance and leadership of the alliance and distribute the fund to an agreed range of activities and interventions.

2.4 In the first instance the alliance has agreed to focus upon securing improved outcomes in mathematics across city schools and academies.

The improvement activities in 2015/16 will focus upon developing 'world class' and 'cutting edge' teaching and learning in mathematics (Early Years Foundation Stage – Key Stage 4). This will also include developing further strands to include:

- Transition;
- Leadership;
- Subject knowledge and expert teaching;
- Mastery;
- STEM;
- Recruitment;
- New technologies;

- Learning behaviours;
- Innovative learning environments and parental/community engagement.

The fund will then continue to enable the alliance to drive further focused strands of activity over the next 3 years. The work will be launched at a City Head Teacher Conference on the 3 July 2015 hosted at Nottingham University's Jubilee Campus site.

2.5 Assigning funds within the SSR match funded by the LA will enable the development of a budget to support agreed activity. Approval to spend the allocation from the SSR will form part of a separate report during 2015/16.

2.6 This fund will initially be used to secure improvements in mathematics across the city. Once improvements have been secured the strategic alliance will agree the next priority according to the city's need.

3. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 No other options are available to fund this activity.

4. OUTCOMES/DELIVERABLES

4.1 Objectives

To establish an all-partner, city wide strategic alliance designed to;

- reduce the number of underperforming schools and academies;
- increase the number of good and outstanding schools and academies;
- improve the educational outcomes for all children;
- break the link between deprivation and attainment.

4.2 This will be achieved by:

- having a clear focus for improvement across the city;
- experimenting on the ground- developing leading edge practice led initiatives;
- providing strong project management across different strands of work;
- recognising the importance of effective leadership, networking and collaboration, system leadership roles and sustainability;
- using the assets in the system efficiently; drawing on existing assets in the system rather than seeking to recreate or replace them;
- establishing and deploying a city wide team of school improvement experts, working in all schools and academies at a strategic and an operational level. Expertise will be found in National Leaders of Education, Local Leaders of Education and other head-teachers, consultants, Specialist Leaders of Education, Nottingham's 2 Universities, local Maths hubs within and beyond the city, LA officers, and in expert teachers from city schools and academies;
- developing a mutually supportive and sustainable model for school and academy improvement;
- promoting the best teachers into the poorest performing schools and academies; tracking pupil progress properly; and creating citywide networks of schools and academies that collaborate to raise achievement.

4.3 Accountability / Evaluation

Accountability will be shared across the alliance and will focus upon:

- Delivery and implementation - How efficient were the monitoring processes for the key interventions and how can they be improved? / What can be said about the effectiveness of the interventions?
- Assessing impact - What impact has each of the programmes had at school/academy and system level in the short, medium and long term?
- Future policy recommendations - What issues are relevant to the sustainability of successful interventions / approaches?

The evaluation will include, in the first instance, four main methods:

- A mathematics quality review;
- Analyses of documents and achievement data;
- A survey sent to schools and academies receiving support through the strategic alliance programme;
- Qualitative research including:
 - a) Interviews with key stakeholder across the City and
 - b) In-depth case studies of schools/academies receiving support through the programme.

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

- 5.1 This report seeks approval to spend £0.600m within the SSR to support a strategic alliance of activity with match funding from the LA. This will create an initial budget of £1.2m for collaborative activity.
- 5.2 Use of this reserve has to align to the Schools and Early Years Finance Regulations 2014 and the categories of expenditure as set out in the SSR report presented to Schools Forum on 23 April 2015.
- 5.3 As at 23 April the 2015/16 forecast opening balance of the SSR is £5.747m which equates to 2.47% of the Dedicated Schools Grant. A reduction of £0.600m would reduce it to 2.21%, which is still within the recommended range included in the LA's Medium Term Financial Strategy.

The risks for 2015/16 are valued at £0.818m;

- 5.4 If approval from Forum is gained, in accordance with the Local Authority's constitution, a report will be presented to Executive Board for approval.

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

- 6.1 The current law in force in this area is the School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2014. Spend from the SSR needs to align with the requirements of the Regulations as noted in section 5.2.

7. **HR ISSUES**

- 7.1 Not applicable

8. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

8.1 An EIA is not needed as the report does not contain proposals or financial decisions.

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

9.1 None.

10. PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT

10.1 DfE - Schools and Early Years Financial Regulations 2014.

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