

SCHOOLS FORUM – 16 OCTOBER 2014

Title of paper:	Update on Pupil Growth Contingency Fund
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Summary	
<p>The pupil growth contingency fund is a School's Forum fund quantified by the School Organisation Team. The fund is distributed to schools to support reorganisation, predominantly where schools have expanded. In recent years, Nottingham has seen a significant increase in the demand for school places and have therefore delivered an extensive capital programme to add more places; these places have required lagged funding from the pupil growth contingency fund.</p> <p>The purpose of this report is to update Schools' Forum on how the 2013/14 fund was spent and share projected spend for future years. The pupil growth contingency fund was increased at the start of this financial year but this report demonstrates that there is still a shortfall between the level of funding and the requirements of the fund.</p>	
Recommendation(s):	
1	To note the 2013/14 actual spend in Table 2 and the 2014/15 projected spend detailed in paragraphs 2.6-2.7.
2	To agree to allocate additional funding of £0.513m to support further school expansion, increasing the pupil growth contingency fund to £1.523m from the Statutory Schools Reserve.
3	To note that the Pupil Growth Contingency Fund required for 2015/16 will be incorporated into future budget reports.

1. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 Since 2010 Nottingham City Council has added additional school places across the city to meet the increase in birth rates and also the challenges of inward migration to the city. This capital outlay has been funded by Basic Need Funding from Central Government. The part year impact of any increases to pupil numbers is funded from the Pupil Growth Contingency Fund which is allocated from the annual Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG).
- 1.2 In 2013/14 the Pupil Growth Contingency Fund was £0.500m agreed by School's Forum but due to the increase in demand this increased to £1.010m for 2014/15. This report recommends that this fund is increased to £1.523m for 2014/15 to meet the level of demand set out in section 2.

2. BACKGROUND (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)

- 2.1 Table 1 below demonstrates the level of growth in Nottingham in both primary and secondary schools in the last five years. These figures are taken from the annual May school census:

Year	Total number on roll - May census	Percentage increase (from previous year)
2009	27,969	-
2010	32,216	15.18%
2011	32,675	1.42%
2012	34,181	4.61%
2013	38,031	11.26%
2014	42,461	11.65%

Between May 2009 and May 2014, there has been a 51.8% increase in the number of children on roll in Nottingham schools.

- 2.2 To meet this increase in demand, additional school places have been added across the city since 2010. In 2013/14, 1,712 additional places were added and in 2014/15 a further 1,050 places. This includes permanent expansions and where schools have admitted one off bulge years.
- 2.3 In addition to these places, there are expansions still underway and in the planning stages and a further 1,599 places are estimated to be added in Nottingham schools by September 2016.
- 2.4 In 2013/14, £0.559m was allocated to schools through the pupil growth contingency fund. The total fund available was £0.550m. Table 2 below breaks down how the fund was spent:

Category	Spend £m
Amalgamations	0.050
Classroom set up	0.077
Planned expansions	0.250
Increased pupil numbers	0.159
Miscellaneous	0.023
Total	0.559

- 2.5 **Appendix A** contains a more detailed breakdown of how the 2013/14 fund was spent. Each of the above categories is explained in turn below:

Amalgamations - Allocated to a school when an amalgamation takes place, mostly to cover the cost of recruiting a new Head Teacher, when required.

Classroom set up - £8,000 is available per additional classroom required by a school to meet increased need for school places.

Planned expansions – this is where schools that have been expanded are entitled to ongoing lagged funding to cover staffing costs for pupils until they are reflected in the school’s budget. Pupils are admitted in September and are counted in the October census, so the increased numbers are then reflected in the school’s budget the following financial year. The pupil growth contingency fund provides funding for the gap between when pupils are admitted and when they are reflected in the budget and this is known as lagged funding.

Increased pupil numbers – this is where a school has experienced an increase in pupil numbers outside of a planned expansion.

- 2.6 For 2014/15, the estimated funding required for the pupil growth contingency fund to date is £1.341m. A breakdown of the allocated spend in April 2014 (at the time of the last report to Forum) and October 2014 is set out below in **Table 3**:

TABLE 3: 2014/15 GROWTH FUND ESTIMATES			
Spend category	April 2014 £m	October 2014 £m	Increase/ (Decrease) £m
Classrooms	0.040	0.062	0.022
Late admissions	0.290	0.290	0
Planned expansions	0.448	0.757	0.309
Estimate	0.232	0	(0.232)
Bulge years	0	0.202	0.202
Increased pupil numbers	0	0.030	0.030
TOTAL	1.010	1.341	0.331

- 2.7 A number of factors have contributed to the increase estimated demands on the pupil growth contingency fund between 2013/14 and 2014/15 and also between the figures presented to Forum in April and those presented in this report. Each category is explained in turn:

Classroom set up – this has increased since April 2014 to cover the cost of kitting out classrooms where schools have taken bulge years, but this figure is in line with the spend last year.

Late admissions – in September 2013, the additional demand for school places reached an unprecedented level and four schools across the city agreed to take extra pupils to meet the demand for places. However, these children were all admitted after the October census. This means they were partly funded through the 2013/14 contingency fund but they will require funding for a full year through the 2014/15 contingency fund until they are reflected in the 2015/16 budget. This is a one off cost and was the driver for securing five schools to organise bulge classes in time for September 2014. This cost has not increased since April 2014.

Planned expansion – this figure is significantly higher than last year’s figure because more school expansions have completed which means more schools have started to take additional children which requires lagged funding. Also, the nature of the expansions is now different. Previously, schools were expanded by a single form of entry but 2014/15 has seen the start of four school expansions where schools have increased by 420 pupils per school which means double the demand on the pupil

growth contingency fund. There has been an increase in this category of cost since April also and this is due to the expansion of Djanogly Northgate Academy from September 2014, the planned expansion of Bluecoat Academy and changes to the planned expansion of Glenbrook Primary.

Estimate – in April 2014, a number of assumptions were made about projected demands on the pupil growth contingency fund. The latest breakdown of the fund no longer has this category because the demands on the 2014/15 fund are further developed now.

Bulge years – To meet the anticipated demand for school places for September 2014, five schools were asked to admit one off bulge years, which is where a school admits an additional class of pupils as a one off instead of as part of a planned expansion. Appendix 2 details the planned spend of the 2014/15 pupil growth contingency fund and shows the schools who admitted bulge classes in more detail. These classes were for Reception and Year 1 pupils in schools across the city.

Increased pupil numbers – this cost is where appeals have been lost which have caused a breach in infant class size which has required additional staffing.

- 2.8 The increased demands on the pupil growth contingency fund, predominantly due to the level of school expansions that are now complete in the city, means the £500k contingency fund agreed last year is no longer fit for purpose. It is recommended the fund is increased by £0.513m to £1.523m to cover the costs outlined above and to allow a sum of £0.187m to be used for contingency as solutions to the increased level of children still without a school place is addressed. Any money not spent will be returned to Schools' Forum at the end of the financial year.

3. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 No other options have been considered when making these recommendations because the local authority is responsible for providing lagged funding through the pupil growth contingency fund for all expanding schools and academies. They are also responsible for ensuring there are enough school places in the city and are responsible for the education of every child who lives within the city boundaries.

4. OUTCOMES/DELIVERABLES

- 4.1 Provision of school places and teaching staff to meet increased need for places in Nottingham.

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

- 5.1 As per paragraph 2.8 this report seeks approval to increase the Pupil Growth Contingency from £1.010m to £1.513m, which is an increase of £0.513m. This request is to meet the increase in demand outlined in paragraph 2.1. It is requested that the increase of £0.513m in 2014/15 is funded from the Statutory School Reserve to ensure that budgets allocated to schools align with the Funding Formula principles.
- 5.2 As stated in paragraph 2.8 any unspent monies at the end of the financial year will be returned to the Statutory School Reserve.
- 5.3 The 2015/16 Pupil Growth funding will be incorporated in 2015/16 budget reports.

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

6.1 Not applicable

7. HR ISSUES

7.1 Not applicable

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. 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 None

Detailed breakdown of the 2013/14 pupil growth contingency fund was spent

School	Category	Description	Amount £
Berridge Primary School	Amalgamation	Amalgamation of Infant and Junior schools - funding to meet associated costs	25,000
Seely Primary School	Amalgamation	Amalgamation of Infant and Junior schools - funding to meet associated costs	25,000
Forest Fields Primary School	Classrooms - expansion	School expanded - 7 classrooms required kitting out	56,000
Seely Primary School	Classrooms - expansion	2 classrooms needed to accommodate increased pupil numbers	6,310
Rosslyn Park Primary School	Classrooms - expansion	Funding needed for new classroom set up in Children's Centre building - to support increased pupil numbers	6,672
Heathfield Primary School	Classrooms - expansion	Funding needed to kit out temporary classroom with furniture etc	8,000
Dunkirk Primary School	Planned expansion	School has previously been expanded and they will receive funding for staff requirements for a new class of 30 children every September	38,716
Riverside Primary School	Planned expansion	School has previously been expanded and they will receive funding for staff requirements for a new class of 30 children every September	35,648
Riverside Primary School	Planned expansion	Second instalment to fund teacher April 13 to July 13 following increased Reception numbers in 2012.	10,000
Djanogly Northgate Academy	Planned expansion	School has previously been expanded and they will receive funding for staff requirements for a new class of 30 children every September	32,066
Rosslyn Park Primary School	Planned expansion	School admitted 18 additional Reception children ahead of planned expansion in September 2013 - this is funding for a TA.	14,242
Rosslyn Park Primary School	Planned expansion	School took an extra class of Year 1 pupils in February 2014 and required funding for a Teacher and a TA. This money funded them for two months of the 2013/14 financial year.	9,162
Sycamore Primary School	Planned expansion	Sycamore expanded their numbers by 30 Reception children and required funding for a TA	14,242
Sycamore	Planned expansion	Sycamore expanded their numbers by 30 Reception children and required funding for an additional teacher	17,824
Heathfield Primary School	Planned expansion	Heathfield took an extra Reception class ahead of their planned expansion in February 2014. This funding is to cover the period from February to the end of March 2014.	11,062
Rufford Primary School	Planned expansion	School took extra children ahead of their planned expansion and required funding to meet staff costs.	28,432
Blue Bell Hill Academy	Planned expansion	School were expanded and 13/14 is their 4th year of taking 30 extra pupils.	38,716

School	Category	Description	Amount £
Berridge Primary School	Increased pupil numbers	Berridge experienced significant increases in pupil numbers in 2013/14 - this funded a new teacher required from September 2013.	38,716
Berridge Primary School	Increased pupil numbers	School has admitted 102 extra children since September - some as part of a planned expansion and the rest due to an increase in population in the area. The funding is for 3 TAs, 4 midday supervisors and utility costs	62,126
Djanogly Strelley Academy	Increased pupil numbers	Djanogly Strelley experienced an increased demand on places and required funding for an additional teacher.	17,824
Dunkirk Primary School	Increased pupil numbers	Dunkirk admitted a mixed class of reception and Year 1 pupils to meet demand in the area and were funded to meet their staffing costs.	22,306
Heathfield Primary School	Increased pupil numbers	Lost some appeals in Reception which causes a breach in infant class size - which required an additional teacher.	17,824
Farnborough School	Miscellaneous	Lease issue	22,917
		Total	558,805

Detailed breakdown of anticipated costs for 2014/15

School	Category	Description	Amount £
Dunkirk	Bulge year	Took a bulge year in September 2014 - Reception	38,716
Huntingdon	Bulge year	Took a bulge year in September 2014 - Reception	38,716
Westglade	Bulge year	Took a bulge year in September 2014 -- Reception	38,716
Forest Fields	Bulge year	School are taking a mixed Year 1/Year2 bulge year in September 2014	38,716
Whitemoor	Bulge year	School are taking a bulge Reception class in September. They have been funded for all staffing costs plus £8,000 classroom set up costs	46,716
Westglade	Classrooms	School needs £6,000 for classroom set up for the bulge class	6,000
Rufford	Classrooms	The building work at Rufford means two new classrooms will be required - these are the estimated costs to equip them.	16,000
Riverside	Classrooms	Building work will be complete for September 2014 and the school will need 3 classrooms kitting out	24,000
Bluecoat Primary	Classrooms	If Bluecoat primary opens in January they will require funding to set up two classrooms	16,000
Heathfield Primary	Increased pupil numbers	Heathfield lost two appeals last year which means their numbers in KS1 are still over the 30 per class. Therefore another teacher is required for a full academic year.	30,555
Glenbrook	Late admissions	Glenbrook will be taking extra pupils from April 2014. They will require a whole 12 months of funding until the children are allocated for in the 2015/16 budget	66,370
Sycamore	Late admissions	Sycamore took extra children in 2013 after the census so they need funding for 12 months until the children are allocated for in the 2015/16 budget.	66,370
Heathfield Primary	Late admissions	Took extra children from February 2014. Need a whole year's funding until children are allocated for in the 2015/16 budget	66,370
Dunkirk	Late admissions	Took extra Reception and Year 1 children in February 2014. They need the 38,716 funding plus a TA (14,242) which is £52954 (based on 7/12ths). For a whole year this figure is £90,778	90,778
Bluecoat Primary	Planned expansion	Funding for two classes from January 2015 until the end of March 2015	47,578
Blue Bell Hill	Planned expansion	School expanded from 210 to 420 in 2010/11 and are eligible for annual funding until all 7 extra classes are on stream. 2014/15 will be the fourth year of funding.	38,716
Djanogly Northgate	Planned expansion	School was expanded and has three more years of annual funding requirements - until 2016/17	38,716
Djanogly Northgate	Planned expansion	5/12ths funding figure for the class admitted in September 2013 (to fund them from April to	22,904

School	Category	Description	Amount £
		September)	
Riverside	Planned expansion	Annual funding to support their expansion from 210 to 420 pupils from September 2013. They will need funding until 2018/19	38,716
Dunkirk	Planned expansion	Dunkirk increased from 210 to 420 places. Additional pupils were admitted from September 2012/13 so they are eligible for additional funding until 2018/19	38,716
Forest Fields	Planned expansion	School expanded from 420 to 630 from 2013/14 and are eligible for annual funding of £38,716 until 2019/20	38,716
Rosslyn	Planned expansion	School expanded from 500 places to 630 places from 2013/14. Funding requirements are variable because the school won't always need a new teacher each year. Estimated cost of funding for 14/15 is based on cost of a teacher and a TA - £32066 for 7/12ths so this is £54970 in total. Will be different each year.	54,970
Nottingham Academy	Planned expansion	School formally expanding from 420 to 840 places from September 2014, but started to take extra pupils in 2013/14. They will need funding until 2019/20	77,432
Heathfield Primary	Planned expansion	School is expanding from 280 to 700 places from September 2015 but they have started to take extra pupils already. In September 2014, they will take 30 extra Reception children so will need funding for this - £38,716. From September 2015 they will need funding for two classrooms until 2019/20	38,716
Sycamore	Planned expansion	Sycamore are increasing from 210 to 420 places so are eligible for annual funding. This started in 13/14 so the funding is eligible until 2019/20	38,716
Glenbrook	Planned expansion	Glenbrook are increasing their capacity from 210 to 420 pupils. They started taking extra pupils in 2013/14 so are eligible for annual funding until 2017/18. They are taking two extra forms in September 2014 but following that they will need funding for one class per year.	77,432
Rufford	Planned expansion	School expanded formally from September 2013, from 210 to 420 places but they had been taking extra children for three years so some extra staff have been employed. Funding requirements for 2014/15 are estimated at £28,442 which is the amount they needed last year. Awaiting confirmation on final figure from the school.	28,442
Djanogly Northgate	Planned expansion	Djanogly Northgate is expanding by 420 places. In September 2014 they will take 4 classes of 30 children so they will need four lots of the funding.	177,000
		Total	1,340,793

Equality Impact Assessment

Name and brief description of proposal / policy / service being assessed				
Proposal to increase the Pupil Growth Contingency Fund allocation to £1.5M from £500k.				
Information used to analyse the effects on equality				
Analysis of the May School census for all schools in Nottingham, to understand the impact of this funding on the pupil population of the city.				
	Could particularly benefit (X)	May adversely impact (X)	How different groups could be affected: Summary of impacts	Details of actions to reduce negative or increase positive impact (or why action not possible)
People from different ethnic groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	This paper discusses funding to support schools across Nottingham so the latest school census data, May 2014, was used to assess equalities impact. 26.1% of pupils in Nottingham speak English as an Additional Language, 31.8% of children qualify for free school meals (data collected before free school meals became available for all Key Stage One pupils) and 13.4% of children in Nottingham Schools have special educational needs.	Not needed.
Men, women (including maternity/pregnancy impact), transgender people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Disabled people or carers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
People of different faiths/beliefs and those with none.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Lesbian, gay or bisexual people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Older or younger people	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Other (e.g. marriage/civil partnership, looked after children, cohesion/good relations, vulnerable children/adults)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Outcome(s) of equality impact assessment:				
No major change needed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adjust the policy/proposal <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse impact but continue <input type="checkbox"/> Stop and remove the policy/proposal <input type="checkbox"/>				
Arrangements for future monitoring of equality impact of this proposal / policy / service:				
Not needed				
Approved by (manager signature): Jennifer Hardy, Project Manager 23 September 2014			Date sent to equality team for publishing: 23 September 2014	