

SF 7 Appendix B Proposals to fund the DSG deficit

The proposed Schools Forum working group could develop these proposals further

Additional measures 18-19 & future years options		
	£m	
LA to continue to lobby for additional funding through the relevant bodies in particular for 16-25 which has never been properly funded		Revisit previous consultation responses and take forward with the relevant bodies. Lobby strategy to be developed along the lines of NFF.
Review of bandings and benchmarking in high needs top ups across the board, PRU, special, academy, resource units, mainstream. This may identify some areas for reduction.	TBC	See Formula report. Some top up rates may be higher than benchmarked levels for other LAs.
Alternative provision measures reductions	TBC	Includes virtual school being funded by part core (subject the Council's budget process and part LAC PPG holdback) rather than fund via DSG
Mainstream top ups 2 bands to 4 move savings as modelled.	TBC	Already been implemented – decision need on transitions and also refresh of modelling to identify savings to be factored in
Or have one top at band at very high level & then panel to bid in for additional support	TBC	New proposal – this has been done at other LA's with some evidence of savings/ cost reductions
Increase the notional SEN % and reduce top up levels	TBC	Consider for 19-20 formula if permissible under the NFF. This would be subject to SF consultation.
Review of central retentions to either cease, reduce, ask others to fund (NHS/ LA/ third sector/ Schools) or move to buyback funding.	TBC 0.3	Working group to review current areas being funded NHS being asked to fund EY SALT and also nurses at Cherry Tree Gardens currently being funded out of the High Needs block.
Special Schools to generate income from facilities and outreach to mainstream	TBC	Working group to review – this would largely be a mitigation measure to reduce/ contain top up levels - £50k satellite class in Cherry Tree Gardens 18-19 will need funding from buyback to save
Review of special school provision with significant unfilled places	0.1	Working group to review – any school receiving a subsidy for empty places which is not sustainable going forward.
Better commissioning of independent	TBC	Working group to review. Commissioning colleagues within LA to advise.

placements through review or London/ regional arrangements		
New special school provision coming on stream net of cost	TBC	Cherry Tree Gardens & Spa Free School – new places and top ups will need funding, but may save on out of borough provision – this needs to be modelled
Use of capital grant to enhance provision create more resource units/ post 16 provision	TBC	Working group to review
Cost recovery for PRU for exclusions as permitted by regulations with maintained schools and protocol with free schools and academies; Increase buy back charges for outreach – though being mindful of the need to avoid increase in exclusions.	0.1	Working group to review – SILs has received one off £100k additional payment 17-18 from high needs block which will cease 18-19 – additional income and review of current curriculum are being discussed with the LA to mitigate in future years
Schools with uncommitted excess balances be asked to fund own high needs cost within their own resources	TBC	Working group to review
Schools with falling rolls or expanded but not filling up to provide additional SEN provision/ capacity	TBC	Working group to review
Other measures	TBC	To flow from working group