

**Report to:** Schools Forum

**Date of Meeting(s):** 12<sup>th</sup> January 2017

**Subject:** School Funding Formula (SFF) 2017/18 – High Needs Block Budget

**Report of:** James Winterbottom – Director Children and Families

**Contact Officer:** John McDonald Strategic Finance Manager

**Summary:** To update Schools Forum on the High Needs DSG allocation for 2017/18 and the proposed budget allocations.

**Recommendation(s):** For Schools Forum to note the contents of the report

**Implications:**

*What are the **financial** implications?* n/a

*What are the **staffing** implications?* n/a

**Risks:** n/a

Please list any appendices:-

Appendix number or letter	Description
N/A	

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Department for Education (DfE) issued the 2017/18 Dedicated School Grant (DSG) allocations in December 2016 for the Schools Block, High Needs Block and Early Years Block. The allocation for Wigan with regard to the High Needs Block is £27.446m. This compares with the 2016/17 high needs block funding of £26.473m. This includes Post 16 Funding paid direct to institutions, resourced units and AP provision in academies. The estimated figure after these deductions is £23.531m.
- 1.2 The increase in allocation is due to the DfE awarding an additional £130 million of funding which has been distributed across all local authorities, using a methodology based on population and future growth. Wigan has been awarded an extra £0.600m for 2017/18.

## 2. 2017/18 Budget

- 2.1 As reported at the last meeting of Schools Forum we requested an agreement in principle for a transfer from the Schools Block to High Needs to fund the estimated pressure of approximately £1m. The extra £0.600m funding alongside a review of services and charging policy will allow us to set a balanced budget for 2017/18. We will continue to monitor the position closely around Post 16 and Independent School Placements.
- 2.2 A revised budget for 2017/18 is proposed in the table 1.

Table 1

<b><u>High Needs Funding Block</u></b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>
	<b>2016/17</b>	<b>2017/18</b>
1. Maintained Special Schools	12.797	12.996
2. Statements	2.052	2.151
3. Sensory/TESS	1.485	1.425
4. Independent Special School Fees	1.940	1.940
5. Post 16 Base Funding Top Up Funding (External)	2.000	2.600
6. Alternative Provision (Top Up Funding)	0.970	0.963
7. Support Services	1.035	0.771
8. Resourced Provision	0.406	0.413
9. Children in Care Team	0.172	0.172
10. Disproportionate SEN allocation	0.100	0.100
	<b><u>22.957</u></b>	<b><u>23.531</u></b>

## 3. National Update

- 3.1 Please see Schools Block Report.

## 4. Conclusions

- 4.1 Forum members to note the contents of the report.