

**Report to:** Schools Forum

**Date of Meeting(s):** 14<sup>th</sup> May 2015

**Subject:** Schools Block Funding Formulae 2015/16

**Report of:** James Winterbottom- Acting Director for Children and Families

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

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**Summary:** To provide details of the 2015/16 School Funding comparative data submitted to the Education Funding Agency by all Local Authorities

**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

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 In January 2015, local authorities in England submitted to the Education Funding Agency (EFA) their formulae for allocating their dedicated schools grant (DSG) schools block funding for 2015-16 to schools in their area. For 2015-16, schools are funded using a maximum of thirteen clearly defined factors. Details of the school funding arrangements for 2015-16 were described in the document Fairer schools funding: Arrangements for 2015 to 2016, which was published by the Department for Education (DfE) in July 2014.

## 2. Findings

- 2.1 The formula set by the Local Authority for Wigan Schools for 2015/16 was set in line with the then national level of 1: 1.27. Members of Forum requested that we prepare a report with details of the factors used in 2015/16 and specifically in relation to the ratio of funding. The appendix attached details the lowest, highest and average values across all 152 authorities across the different factors.

Below is a table summarising the position in relation to the ratio of funding across local authorities for 2015/16.

	Highest Ratio	Lowest Ratio	Average Ratio	Median Ratio	Wigan Value
National	1.60	1.18	1.28	1.29	1.29
Regional	1.40	1.21	1.32	1.32	1.29
AGMA	1.40	1.21	1.32	1.30	1.29

## 3. Recommendations

- 3.1 Forum to note the contents of the report and consider the use of this comparative data in the work required to set the 2016/17 formula.