

Notice of Schools Forum

Date: Friday, 12 November 2021 at 9.00 am

Venue: Committee Suite, Civic Centre, Poole BH15 2RU / Via MS Teams



Membership:

Chairman:

Geoff Cherrill

Vice Chairman:

Patrick Earnshaw

Russell Arnold
Mark Avoth
Kate Carter
Jon Chapple
Lauren Dean
Ben Doyle
Linda Duly
Phillip Gavin

Brigid Hincks
Sue Johnson
Nadine Lapskas
Dorian Lewis
David Newman
Jacqueline Page
Jeremy Payne
Sean Preston

Michael Reid
Dave Simpson
Sian Thomas
VACANCY
Cllr N Greene
Cllr M White

All Members of the Schools Forum are summoned to attend this **hybrid** meeting to consider the items of business set out on the agenda below.

The press and public are welcome to attend this meeting in person and should email any request to do so to the meeting contact below, as there is limited space at the meeting venue.

<https://democracy.bcpCouncil.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?MId=5094>

If you would like any further information on the items to be considered at the meeting please contact: Chris Harrod on 01202 096660 or email democratic.services@bcpCouncil.gov.uk

Press enquiries should be directed to the Press Office: Tel: 01202 118686 or email press.office@bcpCouncil.gov.uk

This notice and all the papers mentioned within it are available at democracy.bcpCouncil.gov.uk

GRAHAM FARRANT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

4 November 2021



Maintaining and promoting high standards of conduct

Declaring interests at meetings

Familiarise yourself with the Councillor Code of Conduct which can be found in Part 6 of the Council's Constitution.

Before the meeting, read the agenda and reports to see if the matters to be discussed at the meeting concern your interests

Do any matters being discussed at the meeting directly relate to your registered interests?

Disclosable
Pecuniary Interest

Yes

Declare the
nature of the
interest

Do NOT
participate in
the item at the
meeting. Do
NOT speak or
vote on the
item EXCEPT
where you hold
a dispensation

You must leave
the room
during the
debate unless
you hold a
dispensation

Other Registerable
Interest

Yes

Declare the
nature of the
interest

You may speak
on the matter
ONLY if
members of the
public are also
allowed to
speak at the
meeting

Otherwise, do
NOT speak or
vote on the
matter and
leave the room
during the
debate unless
you hold a
dispensation

No

Does the matter **directly** relate to your
financial interest or well-being or those
of a relative or close associate?

Yes

You must disclose the interest.

Does the matter affect your financial
interest or well-being:
(a) to a greater extent than it affects the
financial interests of the majority of
inhabitants of the ward affected by
the decision and;
(b) a reasonable member of the public
knowing all the facts would believe
that it would affect your view of the
wider public interest

Yes

You may speak on the matter ONLY
if members of the public are also
allowed to speak at the meeting

Otherwise, do NOT speak or vote on
the matter and leave the room during
the debate unless you hold a
dispensation

What are the principles of bias and pre-determination and how do they affect my participation in the meeting?

Bias and predetermination are common law concepts. If they affect you, your participation in the meeting may call into question the decision arrived at on the item.

Bias Test

In all the circumstances, would it
lead a fair minded and informed
observer to conclude that there was
a real possibility or a real danger that
the decision maker was biased?

Predetermination Test

At the time of making the decision,
did the decision maker have a closed
mind?

If a councillor appears to be biased or to have predetermined their decision,
they must NOT participate in the meeting.

For more information or advice please contact the Monitoring Officer
(susan.zeiss@bcpcouncil.gov.uk)

Selflessness

Councillors should act solely
in terms of the public
interest

Integrity

Councillors must avoid
placing themselves under
any obligation to people or
organisations that might try
inappropriately to influence
them in their work. They
should not act or take
decisions in order to gain
financial or other material
benefits for themselves,
their family, or their friends.
They must declare and
resolve any interests and
relationships

Objectivity

Councillors must act and
take decisions impartially,
fairly and on merit, using the
best evidence and without
discrimination or bias

Accountability

Councillors are accountable
to the public for their
decisions and actions and
must submit themselves to
the scrutiny necessary to
ensure this

Openness

Councillors should act and
take decisions in an open
and transparent manner.
Information should not be
withheld from the public
unless there are clear and
lawful reasons for so doing

Honesty & Integrity

Councillors should act with
honesty and integrity and
should not place themselves
in situations where their
honesty and integrity may
be questioned

Leadership

Councillors should exhibit
these principles in their own
behaviour. They should
actively promote and
robustly support the
principles and be willing to
challenge poor behaviour
wherever it occurs

AGENDA

Items to be considered while the meeting is open to the public

1. **Apologies for Absence**

To receive any apologies for absence.

2. **Declarations of Interest**

Forum Members are requested to declare any interests on items included in this agenda. Please refer to the workflow on the preceding page for guidance.

Declarations received will be reported at the meeting.

3. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

5 - 8

To confirm the minutes of the previous meeting, held on 14 September 2021, as a correct record.

4. **Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Budget Monitoring 2021-22 and Draft High Needs Budget 2022-23**

9 - 14

The report considers the projected year end position for the DSG budget 2021-22 of £1.2 million overspent against the £9.6 million budgeted funding gap. In year this adds £10.8 million to the deficit.

The cumulative deficit at 31 March 2022 is forecast to be £18.6 million.

The report then considers the projected budget gap for 2022-23 of £17.7 million.

5. **Capital Projects 2019 - 2021**

15 - 20

This report sets out the capital programme for Children's Services special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) strategy since the Local Government Reorganisation in 2019. It provides a brief summary of projects which have been completed or are in progress, and of projects which have not yet been initiated. A review of inclusion practice in BCP schools and a revised SEND strategy is underway, led by the Director of Education. A further programme of capital works to help deliver that strategy will be brought forward imminently.

6. **Update – Mainstream SEND Banding Review**

21 - 24

The review of the Mainstream SEND Bandings and Descriptors is part of the SEND transformation work that is underway.

The main purpose of the review is to work in partnership to support BCP in delivering its commitment and aspiration of BCP being an inclusive place for SEND children and young people to thrive and be educated within; resulting in the long-term reduction of the overall overspend in the High Needs Block Budget.

7. Forward Plan

Forum Members are asked to raise any items they wish to be considered by the Chairman for addition to the Forum's Forward Plan.

8. Dates of Future Meetings

- 13 January 2022
- 24 June 2022

9. Any Other Business

To consider any other business, which, in the opinion of the Chairman, is of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration.

No other items of business can be considered unless the Chairman decides the matter is urgent for reasons that must be specified and recorded in the Minutes.

SCHOOLS FORUM

TUESDAY, 14TH SEPTEMBER, 2021

Present: Geoff Cherrill (Winchelsea Special School) – **Chairman**
Patrick Earnshaw (Highliffe School) – **Vice-Chairman**

Russell Arnold, The Quay School
Mark Avoth, Bourne Academy
Lauren Dean, Kings Park Academy
Kate Carter, TEACH Trust
Jon Chapple, Twynham Primary School
Ben Doyle, St Peters School
Phillip Gavin, Christchurch Learning Centre
Nadine Lapskas, LeAF Studio
Angela Malanczuk, Stanley Green Infant Academy
David Newman, Poole High School
Jeremy Payne, St James CE Primary School
Sean Preston, Hamwic Multi-Academy Trust
Dave Simpson, The Epiphany School
Sian Thomas, Ambitions Academies Trust

Also in Councillor Nicola Greene
Attendance: Councillor Mike White

Officers in Nicola Webb, Assistant Chief Financial Officer
attendance: Steve Ellis, Accountant - Education
Andrew Hind, Pupil Place Planning, Admissions & School Funding
Sarah Rempel, Director of Education
Rina Mistry, Early Help Performance Manager
Terry Reynolds, Interim Education Consultant, Community Learning & Commissioning

1 Introduction

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed all present.

2 Apologies for Absence

Jacqueline Page – Principal, Bournemouth and Poole College
Brigid Hincks – St Joseph's Primary School
Dorian Lewis – Headteacher, Bournemouth School
Linda Duly – Cuddles Day Nursery
Sue Johnson – Jack in the Box, Bournemouth

3 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests.

4 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 25 June 2021, having been previously circulated, be taken as read, signed and confirmed by the Chairman as a correct record subject to the corrections below.

Apologies noted should include Sean Preston.

Action to move to termly collection of data for EHCPs has been implemented.

All other matters arising are covered in the agenda.

5 Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) - Budget Monitoring 2021-22

Nicola Webb, Assistant Chief Finance Officer, BCP Council, presented the report.

This item was presented as a usual budget monitoring report.

Detail as contained in the report.

Sean Preston queried where any new evolving pressures might be.

The following were noted:

- Growth in EHCPs and where young people are placed. The aim is to reduce reliance on independent placements. This is built into the budget but is not yet being realised due to availability of places.
- Sufficiency is a concern and is an issue across the board. How pupils can be supported in mainstream is being looked at to avoid looking to independents.

RESOLVED that the report was noted.

6 Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) - Announcements in July to 2022-23

Nicola Webb, Assistant Chief Finance Officer, BCP Council, presented the report.

An increase of 5.4 M (2.4%) was noted in the Schools Block.

Funding for Central Schools Services continues to drop.

The % increase for HNB is in line with previous years and is allowed for in the MTFP – however this will not solve the HNB problem.

Early Years funding is not yet known but historically the sector has not received good increases.

There have been some tweaks to Schools Block NFF, as detailed in Para. 6 of the report.

DSG deficit management – BCP has an issue which needs a conversation with the DfE. The DfE has made some deals with some LAs. More LAs now have the same problem.

There is currently a live consultation from the DfE re future years about moving to a hard NFF. BCP has adopted this for the last couple of years and there is no indication we would not adopt again unless affordability is an issue. The consultation is open for others to make responses about a range of issues. Schools in receipt of split-site funding and multi-use may want to feed in as DfE are looking to find a national formula approach for these – but no details of how in the consultation.

Growth funding – no announcement yet. This will include moving to National methodology for this after next year. Schools can expect that BCP will be likely to stick with NFF.

Geoff Cherrill noted that one of the issues for schools is around the delayed Special Needs review. In order for BCP schools to respond the Director of Children's Services is keen to have bandings looked at to address support to mainstream schools – it is felt that this piece of work needs to be done rapidly.

Rina Mistry has been asked to provide the necessary data and resources to complete the banding review work. Contact Rina for any further information or to discuss anything around the review.

ACTION: anyone wanting to participate in the banding review work contact Rina Mistry directly.

Sian Thomas requested there be some analysis around Resource Base models and Schools Plus models to look at EHCPs and the impact of those models for particular schools. It would also help to look at any discrepancies around funding.

Terry Reynolds noted that the LA has been requested to respond to the recent SEND Inspection by presenting a Written Statement of Action (WSOA) which will require an in depth look at the SEND Strategy and also at provision within all schools and the pattern of that provision. We would not want to tackle the issues in a piecemeal way as the right balance will be needed across the whole of BCP to ensure the right provision for all children and young people in the system. A map of provision needs to be agreed with schools, parents and families.

Simon McKenzie noted that the primary focus is to have our children and young people educated in BCP schools. There is a need to look at schools who currently have additional funding for a School Plus model and look at the impact of this.

Dave Simpson queried if there were any thoughts on how the HN Subgroup will be involved in the work. It was noted that this discussion has now escalated as there is now a HNB Recovery Board chaired by Graham Farrant and we would need to look at how it fits in with that. There are overlaps in terms of overall LA budgets and for the HNB Recovery Board it would be how the subgroup feed into to that.

It was agreed to get the subgroup back up and running and to get the data and discussion underway as soon as possible then it can feed into the Schools Forum at the 12 November meeting.

ACTION: Date to be set for HN subgroup to meet.

It was requested that due to the number of issues to be discussed at 12 November meeting could consideration be given to it being face to face rather than virtual.

ACTION: LA to look into facilitating face to face meeting for 12 November Schools Forum.

7 Extension of Terms of Office for Schools Forum Members

It was proposed by the Chair to extend the terms of office of existing members to the end of the current academic year.

This was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED: Terms of Office for Existing Schools Forum Members be extended to the end of the current academic year.

8 Forward Plan

Feedback from banding review work

Feedback from HN Subgroup

9 **Dates of Future Meetings**

- Friday 12th November 21
- Thursday 13th January 22

10 **Any Other Business**

The Chair noted potential flag of concern around areas of 2022/23 lack of sufficiency – BCP are aware of this and planning is underway with discussions to start in January

David Newman queried under Item 5 the maintained schools retention figure. He noted that nothing in the central retention change would benefit schools or vulnerable children and queried if Forum could request that the 'topslice' be reviewed. Particularly as some schools cannot access some services i.e. asbestos management. It was suggested that this be a conversation outside of this Forum to give an opportunity to discuss in more detail and look at what actions are possible.

Nicola Webb explained that the central retention covered support activity that was not 'paid for' services.

ACTION: Nicola/David to discuss and inform the Chair of the outcome and whether this needs to come back to Forum and if so when.

Duration of the meeting: 9.00 - 9.45 am

**Chairman at the meeting on
Tuesday, 14 September 2021**

SCHOOLS FORUM



Report subject	Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Budget Monitoring 2021-22 and Draft High Needs Budget 2022-23
Meeting date	12 November 2021
Status	Public Report
Executive summary	<p>The report considers the projected year end position for the DSG budget 2021-22 of £1.2 million overspent against the £9.6 million budgeted funding gap. In year this adds £10.8 million to the deficit.</p> <p>The cumulative deficit at 31 March 2022 is forecast to be £18.6 million.</p> <p>The report then considers the projected budget gap for 2022-23 of £17.7 million</p>
Recommendations	To note the contents of the report.
Reason for recommendations	Budget monitoring is an important element of current year financial management and budget planning for future years.
Portfolio Holder(s):	Councillor Nicola Greene – Covid Resilience, Schools and Skills Councillor Mike White – Children and Young People
Corporate Director	Elaine Redding
Report Authors	Nicola Webb, Assistant Chief Finance Officer Steve Ellis, Management Accountant
Wards	Council-wide
Classification	For information

Summary DSG Forecast

1. The DSG budget for this year was set with a funding gap of £9.6 million, adding to the deficit brought forward. The quarter two projection is for a £1.2 million overspend against the budget set, adding £10.8 million to the DSG deficit.

Table 1: Summary DSG Forecast 2021-22

			Funding	Spend	Net
Early Years	Budget	£000's	-21,283	21,283	0
	Actual	£000's	-21,283	21,245	-38
	Variance	£000's	0	-38	-38
School Block	Budget	£000's	-227,785	227,624	-161
	Actual	£000's	-227,785	227,604	-181
	Variance	£000's	0	-20	-20
Central School Services Block	Budget	£000's	-2,058	2,058	0
	Actual	£000's	-2,058	2,049	-9
	Variance	£000's	0	-9	-9
High Needs Block	Budget	£000's	-48,850	58,587	9,737
	Actual	£000's	-48,916	59,917	11,000
	Variance	£000's	-66	1,329	1,263
Total DSG	Budget	£000's	-299,976	309,552	9,576
	Actual	£000's	-300,042	310,814	10,772
	Variance	£000's	-66	1,262	1,196

Estimated DSG Income

2. The forecast is unchanged from the quarter 1 position reported to Forum in September as we await adjustments for early years funding.

Estimated DSG Expenditure

3. The forecast for the early years, schools and the central schools support blocks remain unchanged from the position reported in September. The position of the High needs block however has worsened and is forecast to be £1.3 million overspent in addition to the £9.7 million budgeted for the year. Overall this would be £11.0 million overspent in-year. The forecast underspend on the early years and unallocated schools block funding reduces the overall DSG forecast deficit to £1.2 million
4. Appendix 1 provides a more detailed forecast for the current year and demonstrates that the growing use of independent and non-maintained special schools (INMSS) and alternative / bespoke provision, combined with a lower than expected placement of children in mainstream schools is the cause for this pressure.

Budget Requirement 2022-23

5. Appendix 2 details the budget requirement by provider type. There is forecast to be a funding gap of £17.7 million for 2022-23 before any mitigating actions or transfers from the schools block. This would take the cumulative deficit to £36.3 million at the

end of next year which equates to 70% of the provisional high needs block allocation.

6. The forecast budget requirement for 2022-23 is based on a continuation of trends used in the 2020-21 budget build. However, the increase in state special school placements cannot be repeated as the places created over the last year are full and there are currently no firm plans to increase capacity further, therefore it has been assumed that placements will spill over into the INMSS sector. The small increase in capacity is the full year impact of places created in September 2021.
7. The medium term financial plan (MTFP) currently assumes a funding increase of 8% per annum going forward as well as a 3% annual fee increase for INMSS and alternative providers. A continuation of growth trends above, with overall growth of EHCPs remaining at 10% per annum in line with the national average. However, there is no allowance for increased funding for mainstream schools as a result of the banding review and spend on excluded / medical pupils remains at current levels.
8. These assumptions without any mitigating actions over the course of the MTFP (five years) would lead to a cumulative deficit of £232 million by the end of 2026-27. In 2026-27 BCP would spend nearly double its annual high needs block allocation.
9. Action is urgently required to bring the high needs budget to balance

Recommendations

10. The forum is recommended to note the contents of the report

Summary of financial implications

11. The DSG deficit is forecast £10.8 million in 2021-22. The cumulative deficit at 31 March 2022 is therefore forecast to be £18.6 million.

Summary of legal implications

12. It is a requirement of the council to monitor budgets during the financial year and best practice that the schools forum is made aware of issues relating to the DSG.

Appendix 1

Budget Monitoring	Early Years £000's	Schools £000's	Central Services £000's	High Needs £000's	Total Budget £000's	Forecast	
						Outturn £000's	Variance £000's
DSG 2 year olds NFF	-2,427				-2,427	-2,427	0
DSG 3 year olds NFF	-18,661				-18,661	-18,661	0
DSG Pupil Premium	-118				-118	-118	0
DSG Disability Access Fund	-77				-77	-77	0
DSG Prior Year					0		0
DSG NFF School Block		-225,765			-225,765	-225,765	0
DSG Premises		-1,679			-1,679	-1,679	0
DSG Growth Fund NFF (final)		-1,435			-1,435	-1,435	0
Block Transfer		1,094		-1,094	0	0	0
DSG High Needs Block				-47,756	-47,756	-47,822	-66
DSG Central School Services Block			-2,058		-2,058	-2,058	0
Total Funding	-21,283	-227,785	-2,058	-48,850	-299,976	-300,042	-66
Providers - 2 year olds	2,364				2,364	2,364	0
Providers - 3 and 4 Year olds	18,037				18,037	18,038	0
Providers SEN top up grants	501				501	501	0
Early Years Pupil Premium	77				77	77	0
Disability Access Fund	118				118	118	0
Early Years LA duties	185				185	147	-38
Mainstream Schools Formula		227,344			227,344	227,324	-20
Growth Fund - budget		280			280	280	0
School Admissions			423		423	423	0
Servicing Schools Forum			18		18	10	-8
Ex ESG Services (all schools)			1,088		1,088	1,088	0
Commitments - Premature retirements			20		20	20	0
Commitments - ASD Base / other			275		275	275	0
Licences Purchased by DfE			234		234	233	-1
Place Funding				12,849	12,849	13,050	200
Top up Funding - State Sector				16,971	16,971	16,857	-114
Top up Funding - Independent/NMSS				15,351	15,351	16,602	1,252
Top up Funding - Post Schools				4,791	4,791	4,323	-468
Top up Funding - Pre schools				24	24	48	24
Top up Funding - Excluded Pupils/AP				1,844	1,844	1,475	-369
Commissioned Services including Outreach				1,534	1,534	1,578	44
Hospital Education Top up				98	98	0	-98
Bespoke SEN /Therapies				2,870	2,870	3,794	924
Support for Inclusion				141	141	71	-70
Special Schools Teachers Pay & Pension Grants				740	740	743	3
Early Years Central SEN support				616	616	616	0
Sensory Impaired Service				758	758	758	0
Total Expenditure	21,283	227,624	2,058	58,587	309,552	310,814	1,262
In-year (Surplus) / Deficit	0	-161	0	9,737	9,576	10,772	1,196
(Surplus) / Deficit bf						7,853	
(Surplus) / Deficit cf						18,624	

Appendix 2

13

	BCP 2021-22 BUDGET			2021-22 FORECAST			Change 21-22 to 22- 23 budget	2022-23 BUDGET		
	Budget		Average	Forecast		Average		Forecast		Average
	FTE	Cost	Top-Up	FTE	Cost	Top-Up		FTE	Cost	Top-Up
Independent Schools	185.50	8,614,900	46,442	202.71	9,361,359	46,180	5,328,100	293.13	13,943,000	47,566
Non-Maintained Special Schools	162.28	6,482,400	39,946	167.43	7,240,977	43,247	2,639,800	204.79	9,122,200	44,545
Total Independent & Non-Maintained	347.78	15,097,300	43,411	370.14	16,602,336	44,854	7,967,900	497.92	23,065,200	46,323
Colleges	352.97	1,014,700	2,875	351.45	901,450	2,565	6,600	386.59	1,021,300	2,642
Independent Colleges	80.94	3,776,300	46,656	128.10	3,821,943	29,835	731,800	155.81	4,708,100	30,217
Total Post 16	433.91	4,791,000	11,042	479.55	4,723,392	9,850	938,400	542.41	5,729,400	10,563
Special Schools	875.75	13,045,100	14,896	846.32	13,052,314	15,422	415,200	872.77	13,460,300	15,422
Mainstream	792.58	2,747,700	3,467	873.33	3,210,499	3,676	531,400	892.00	3,279,100	3,676
Mainstream Bases	79.37	1,178,400	14,847	44.29	594,189	13,415	-584,200	44.29	594,200	13,415
Total Mainstream and Special Units	871.95	3,926,100	4,503	917.63	3,804,688	4,146	-52,800	936.29	3,873,300	4,137
Medical/ Therapies	8.06	42,100	5,224	10.36	48,137	4,649	12,400	11.39	54,500	4,788
Bespoke	155.60	2,828,000	18,175	199.74	3,192,286	15,983	1,174,800	243.15	4,002,800	16,462
Pre-School	13.06	23,700	1,815	25.65	47,658	1,858	28,700	28.21	52,400	1,858
Zero Top-up	210.84	0	0	41.52	7,089	171	7,800	45.67	7,800	171
Awaiting school placement	6.63	253,400	38,220	13.77	126,442	9,184	-92,300	15.15	161,100	10,636
TOTAL EHCPs	2,923.58	40,006,700	13,684	2,904.66	41,604,343	14,323	10,400,100	3,192.96	50,406,800	15,787
Commissioned Services		3,049,300			3,023,466		217,300		3,266,600	
Pay & Pension Grants		740,100			743,491		21,000		761,100	
PLACES 20-21 SEN		10,362,900			10,575,433		477,100		10,840,000	
TOTAL SEN		54,159,000			55,946,733		11,115,500		65,274,500	
TOTAL AP		4,428,000			3,970,286		-370,600		4,057,400	
TOTAL HNB		58,587,000			59,917,020		10,744,900		69,331,900	
Total Funding Available		48,851,000			48,916,240		2,779,000		51,630,000	
NET		9,736,000			11,000,780		7,965,900		17,701,900	

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SCHOOLS FORUM



Report subject	Capital Projects 2019 - 2021
Meeting date	12 November 2021
Status	Public Report
Executive summary	This report sets out the capital programme for Children's Services special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) strategy since the Local Government Reorganisation in 2019. It provides a brief summary of projects which have been completed or are in progress, and of projects which have not yet been initiated. A review of inclusion practice in BCP schools and a revised SEND strategy is underway, led by the Director of Education. A further programme of capital works to help deliver that strategy will be brought forward imminently.
Recommendations	It is RECOMMENDED that: Schools Forum note the report.
Reason for recommendations	This report is intended to inform Schools Forum of the Children's Services SEND capital programme from April 2019 to October 2021.

Portfolio Holder(s):	Councillor Nicola Greene (Portfolio Holder for Covid Resilience, Public Health and Education)
Corporate Director	Elaine Redding (Director of Children's Services)
Report Authors	Sarah Rempel (Director of Education)
Wards	Not applicable
Classification	For Information

Background

1. The Children's Services Capital Programme mainly funds building projects in schools. Funding sources include:
 - a. Department for Education grants
 - b. Resources committed by the Council
 - c. Section 106 contributions arising from new housing development
 - d. Capital receipts from the sale of education assets
2. Projects include:
 - a. Condition works – maintenance of school buildings for which the council is directly responsible including health and safety works.
 - b. Sufficiency works – the addition of school places in either maintained schools or academies to ensure there is sufficient capacity to meet demand.
 - c. Suitability works – to ensure schools have suitable accommodation
 - d. Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) works – projects specifically intended to benefit pupils with SEND, whether at mainstream or special schools.
2. The Council may fund sufficiency and SEND works at Academies and Free Schools as well as at maintained schools in order to ensure there are sufficient school places, and sufficient and suitable provision for SEND.

Projects completed since 1st April 2019

3. This section briefly summarises projects completed since 1st April 2019 which have added capacity to SEND provision across BCP:

Provision	Primary Need	Spaces Filled/Created	Age	Cost	Av. Cost per Place	Date Opened
Modular classroom extension to Riggs Unit at Malmesbury Park Primary School	SLCN	12/8*	KS1 KS2	£240k	£30k	September 2019
Base at Kingsleigh Primary subsequently became Longspee Ensburry Park Satellite – LEPS	SEMH/ ASD	13/10*	KS2	£583k £20k	£58.3k £60.3k	September 2019 September 2021
Linwood Woodford satellite base at Somerford Primary School subsequently moved to Twynham Primary	Various	17/20	KS2	£50k £74k	£2.5k £6.2k	September 2020 September 2021
Winchelsea satellite at Magna Academy	MLD	21/20*	KS3 KS4	£234k	£11.7k	September 2020
Extension to Linwood Springwood campus at Heathlands Primary	ASD	18/18	KS1 KS2 KS3 KS4 KS5	£500k	£27.7k	November 2020
Resource base at Manorside Academy	SEMH/ ASD	10/10	EYFS KS1 KS2	£31.5k	£3.15k	September 2020
Resource base at Broadstone Middle School	SEMH/ ASD	14/15	KS2 KS3	£261k	£17.4k	September 2020
Winchelsea satellite at Old Town First School	MLD	22/24	EYFS KS1	£46k	£1.9k	September 2020
Mainstream + base at Cornerstones			KS3 KS4	£35k	£7k	September 2019
Mainstream + base at St Edward's			KS3 KS4	£180k	£18k	September 2019
Winchelsea satellite at Canford Heath Junior School	MLD	20/24	KS2	£75k	£6.25k	January 2021
Life Skills base at Winchelsea	MLD	13/6*	Post-16	£50k	£8.3k	September 2021
Longspee satellite at Bournemouth Learning Centre	SEMH/ ASD	40/54	KS4 KS5	£1,250k	£23.1k	January 2021
Total		200/209		£3,629.5k	£17.4k	

- Some provisions appear overfilled (marked with * on the table). This is because the numbers have gone over original planned capacity, creating further provision.
- A resource base provides necessary accommodation for a mainstream school to provide education to children with a specific category of special educational needs. A satellite is accommodation where a special school can provide education at another site, often within the site or building of a mainstream school.
- A decision to create a satellite of Winchelsea School at Somerford Primary School was taken by Cabinet on Wednesday 10th February 2021. This project was paused when a range of issues were discovered on site associated with the condition and structure of the existing Somerford building. In addition, the “2021 Appreciative Inquiry into Inclusion Practice in BCP Schools” led by Anthony Douglas CBE, the

recent Ofsted inspection of SEND provision in BCP, and the appointment of a Director of Education has prompted the commissioning of an updated SEND Strategy which will result in a programme of SEND capital works across BCP to improve inclusion practice.

8. The pausing of the Winchelsea Satellite at Somerford Primary School project was communicated to both schools in April 2021 to enable the scope of the project fully to take account of the new strategy. Senior officers led by the Director of Education have had discussions with governors and headteachers about the way ahead. It is important that the project at Somerford fits into the broader SEND strategy, and therefore that it should not proceed until that strategy has been developed, consulted on and adopted. This report therefore recommends that the establishment of a satellite at Somerford is formally deferred and put back to 2022-23 pending a future decision about the overall strategy for SEND and inclusion in BCP.

Options Appraisal

9. SEND projects must be informed by the SEND strategy.

Summary of financial implications

10. This report does not propose new projects so there are no direct financial implications. The capital programme under development will be of a size requiring Council approval. Any projects proposed for the financial year 2022-23 will be brought to the Council's February annual budget meeting with full financial details.

Summary of legal implications

11. This report sets out the current position of the capital programme. The recommendation to confirm the pause of the Winchelsea satellite at Somerford Primary School is required to defer the delivery of the project until the next school year. Any decision to initiate projects must be taken in accordance with the Constitution of the Council.

Summary of human resources implications

12. The commissioning of Children's Services capital projects rests principally with the Director of Education staff within the directorate. This includes client-side project management. Technical project management is provided by or commissioned through the Council's Asset Investment Team. The ongoing staffing of schools and academies is the responsibility of governing bodies and academy boards, with day-to-day professional leadership and management provided by headteachers and school staff. During the delivery phase of a capital programme additional technical staff, such as surveyors, may be required: such costs are generally capitalised.

Summary of sustainability impact

13. Any new project will take account of sustainability at the design stage as set out above.

Summary of public health implications

14. Children and young people with SEND may have associated health needs, and in some cases lifelong medical needs. The health needs of children and young people will be taken into account as part of the options appraisal and design works for any

project. This would include, for example, the provision of hygiene and first aid rooms.

15. The provision of outdoor play space and facilities for physical education will be considered as part of any project, as will the promotion of walking and cycling to school by the provision of appropriate facilities.
16. An approach to the SEND capital strategy which enables more children to attend a school in their local community will reduce journey times and distances, and potentially reduce emissions.

Summary of equality implications

17. All proposed capital projects will be developed in accordance with the Council's Equalities Policy. Children and young people with SEND often have a range of disadvantages, for example, economic deprivation. Better SEND provision is a means of mitigating these disadvantages and enabling children and young people to achieve more.

Summary of risk assessment

18. This report does not detail any new projects at this stage. However, the main risks and mitigations are set out below:
 - a. **Risk** - project costs exceed the approved budget.
Mitigation - all projects will be based on a professionally conducted feasibility study that takes account of all relevant site and building data, and current market conditions in respect of materials and labour.
 - b. **Risk** - the project is not delivered on time.
Mitigation - all projects will have a professionally produced project plan setting out the timescale for critical products.
 - c. **Risk** - the project is not delivered to the quality expected.
Mitigation - all projects will have a clear specification in terms of service outcomes (usually defined within Children's Services), and technical specifications (usually defined within the Asset Investment Team)
 - d. **Risk** - the project does not deliver facilities that are required.
Mitigation - all projects will have a business case that clearly sets out the rationale for the project and the results that are expected from it.
 - e. **Risk**: there is not a clear understanding of the respective responsibilities of the council and academy trusts in the delivery of a project on an academy site.
Mitigation: a development agreement, or memorandum of understanding, or "letter of comfort" will be produced for every such project as appropriate to ensure responsibilities are understood and agreed.

f. **Risk** - an unexpected event such as a major storm or flooding leads to unforeseen capital costs.

Mitigation - some condition funding is reserved for reactive maintenance. In extreme circumstances funds are vired from other capital budgets. Insurance.

Background papers

None

Appendices

None

SCHOOLS FORUM



Report subject	Update –Mainstream SEND Banding Review
Meeting date	12 November 2021
Status	Public Report
Executive summary	<p>The review of the Mainstream SEND Bandings and Descriptors is part of the SEND transformation work that is underway.</p> <p>The main purpose of the review is to work in partnership to support BCP in delivering its commitment and aspiration of BCP being an inclusive place for SEND children and young people to thrive and be educated within; resulting in the long-term reduction of the overall overspend in the High Needs Block Budget.</p>
Recommendations	<p>It is RECOMMENDED that:</p> <p>The Schools Forum note the progress update</p>
Reason for recommendations	To ensure that the Schools Forum is kept informed of the progress made so far.

Portfolio Holder(s):	Cllr Nicola Greene
Corporate Director	Elaine Redding
Report Authors	Rina Mistry
Wards	Council-wide
Classification	For Update

Background

1. The review of the Mainstream SEND Bandings and Descriptors is part of the SEND transformation work that is underway and links in closely with the work that is currently being undertaken to address the deficit in the High Needs Block.
2. As discussed at the previous School Forum (14th September 2021), a working group has since been established to take forward the review. Members of the working group includes Officers from BCP Council, School and partner agency representatives all of whom have either been nominated by the Corporate Director of Children's Services, the Director of Education and members of the Schools Forum.
3. The main purpose of the review is to work in partnership to support BCP in delivering its commitment and aspiration of BCP being an inclusive place for SEND children and young people to thrive and be educated within; resulting in the long-term reduction of the overall overspend in the High Needs Block Budget. This is to be achieved by the provision of better support to Mainstream Schools to meet the needs of SEND children and young people residing in the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole local authority area.
4. The Terms of Reference for the working group is currently being finalised.
5. Since its establishment the working group has made the following progress:
 - 3 sub-working have been formed and each group is responsible for:
 - **Descriptors** – Revising the current banding descriptors.
 - **Finance and Data** – Financial modelling, SEND data and cost analysis.
 - **Processes** – Review and revision of current processes followed by the BCP SEND Teams, Schools and Parents/Carers.
 - Research has been undertaken into bandings and matrix methods adopted by other Local Authorities to inform BCP's way forward
 - Draft Descriptors are in development
 - Timeline has been drafted
 - Consultation plans are in development
6. A further progress update will be provided at the next meeting in January 2022.

Options Appraisal

1. No options appraisal has been undertaken as this is a progress update

Summary of financial implications

2. Not applicable at present

Summary of legal implications

3. Currently not applicable as this is a progress update

Summary of human resources implications

4. Currently not applicable as this is a progress update

Summary of sustainability impact

5. Currently not applicable as this is a progress update

Summary of public health implications

6. Currently not applicable as this is a progress update

Summary of equality implications

7. Currently not applicable as this is a progress update

Summary of risk assessment

8. Currently not applicable as this is a progress update

Background papers

None available

Appendices

Presentation attached

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