

## SOMERSET SCHOOLS FORUM

27<sup>th</sup> November 2019

### Budget Monitoring 2019/20 Month 6 (excluding delegated schools)

Author: Adele McLean, Service Finance Manager – Childrens Services and Schools

Contact Details: 01823 356942

Email: [amclean@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:amclean@somerset.gov.uk)

#### 1. Summary

- 1.1 The forecast outturn position for the Dedicated Schools Grant in 2019/20 (excluding delegated schools budgets) is a £2.721m overspend.

The cumulative deficit brought forward from previous years is £6.702m. With the additional of the projected in year overspend this will increase to £9.423m by the end of 2019/20.

DSG Funding Blocks	Opening balance	2019/20 over/(under) spend	Planned use of reserves	Closing balance
De-delegated Services*	£0.294m	(£0.005m)	£0.000m	£0.289m
Central Schools Services	(£0.865m)	(£0.069m)	£0.000m	(£0.796m)
Early Years	(£0.015m)	(£0.113m)	£0.000m	(£0.128m)
High Needs	£7.288m	£2.908m	£0.000m	£10.196m
<b>Total DSG</b>	<b>£6.702m</b>	<b>£2.721m</b>	<b>£0.000m</b>	<b>£9.423m</b>

\*Maintained schools

#### 2. Background

- 2.1 **Schools De-delegated Services:** £0.005m underspend

There is currently a small underspend projected against the Trade Union contribution. Any under or overspend (including the cumulative deficit of £0.294m currently held in reserves) should be adjusted against the 2020/21 de-delegated values.

- 2.2 **Central Schools Services Block (excluding de-delegated):** £0.069m underspend

The majority of the underspend relates to a post previously supporting ethnic minority achievement that is not planned to be recruited to, reducing commitments

against the CSSB by £0.048m

### 2.3 **Early Years Block:** £0.113m underspend

The budget for 15 hours of funded provision for eligible 2 year olds is projected to overspend by £0.446m. This is offset by an underspend across the 3 and 4 year olds funding of £0.454m. The disability access fund is also projecting an underspend of £0.072m along with a further underspend of £0.028m in relation to Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP). All projections are currently based on trends in take up over the last 2 years to limit the volatility seen in previous years projections.

### 2.4 **High Needs:** £2.908m overspend

The Independent & Non-Maintained Special Schools budget is reporting a pressure of £2.595m based on 179 places.

Top up funding for other local authority special schools is projecting an overspend of £0.260m. Although the number of places being funded is in line with those included within the budget, the top up rate being charged is higher than anticipated. Top up funding for maintained special schools is also projected to overspend by £0.365m. Top up funding for Further Education and Independent Special Providers is projecting an underspend of £0.248m. The budget was based on 473 places with the current projection on 458.

## 3 **DSG Reserves**

- 3.1 The level of reserves brought forward from 2018/19 is a deficit of £6.702m, balances for each block can be found in the table in section 1 above.
- 3.2 There are currently no requests for use of reserves and none expected in 2019/20 given the overall DSG deficit position.