

Members of the School Forum are requested to receive this report for information and action

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT GRANT

Balances 2007/2008

Members of the Schools Forum are asked to note that a small residual amount of standards fund grant has been identified - £28,143.

This amount will be distributed across all schools on a per pupil basis. It hoped to make the allocations to school budgets by 31st December 2007.

SDG 2008-2009

The Budget Settlement paper from the previous confirms the overall increase to the local authority will be in line with the MFG, but the schools guarantee is lower and will produce a sum of headroom funding for distribution. The funding mechanism used to distribute the funding is to be determined by the local authority in conjunction with the Schools Forum and must be fair and transparent.

Monitoring the deprivation differential – The DCSF will compare the SDG figure for each year to the proportion of pupils known to be eligible for FSM in each school, in each year. This will demonstrate the distribution of main SDG against relative deprivation, in each year.

They will then compare the differential in funding between the most deprived school and the least deprived, for each year. Should the differential narrow over two year, the DCSF will ask for an explanation and if we are unable to provide a satisfactory explanation, then the department will consider setting additional conditions on the authority's use of SDG in future years.

Recommendation

Agreement of Forum members to how the distribution method should be determined.

November 2007