

Cabinet – 20 October 2021

Proposed Schools Local Funding Formula 2022/23 – Update following School Forum

Portfolio: Councillor Towe, Education and Skills

Related portfolios: Councillor Bird, Leader of the Council

Service: Children's Services: Education

Wards: All

Key decision: Yes

Forward plan: Yes

1. Aim

- 1.1 This report provides Cabinet with the outcome of the recommendation from Schools Forum who met on 12 October 2021, where four proposed local funding formula options (set out in the main Cabinet Report for this items) for schools for 2022/23 were considered, and also provides Cabinet with updated recommendations based on Schools Forum's preferred option.

2. Summary

- 2.1 The Cabinet report previously circulated for the Proposed Schools Local Funding Formula 2022/23 for the 20 October 2021 meeting set out that a working group of Schools Forum members had developed a number of potential funding options for 2022/23, however the group had not reached a consensus on which option to recommend to Cabinet.
- 2.2 Consequently all four options were presented to all School Forum members at their meeting on 12 October 2021 who undertook a vote. The outcome of which was to recommend to Cabinet Option 1 which was to make no changes to the current funding formula factors, but will incorporate an allowance for inflation, with the understanding that once the outcome of the latest Department for Education (DfE) consultation on the National Funding Formula (NFF) be known that a working group is established to work through and present options back to Schools Forum to propose a funding formula for the 2023/24 financial year.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 That Cabinet approves the Schools Funding Formula Option 1 (Appendix 1 to the previously distributed Proposed Schools Local Funding Formula 2022/23) that was recommended by Walsall's Schools Forum at their meeting on 12 October 2021,

- 3.2 That Cabinet notes that the Department for Education may request revisions to the school funding formula and that values attributed in the formula may need to change once the Department for Education reviews the October 2021 census data.
- 3.3 Cabinet approves to delegate authority to the Executive Director of Children's Services in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Education and Skills to amend the formula in line with Department for Education requirements and to comply with all and any relevant Department for Education regulations for the 2022/23 Schools Funding Formula.

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Sally Rowe
Executive Director
15.10.2021



Councillor Towe
Portfolio Holder
15.10.2021