

SCHOOLS' FUNDING FORUM

SUBJECT	Local Authority (LA) Maintained Schools in deficit Year End March 2015 (period 2014-15)
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DATE:	22 May 2015

SUMMARY OF REPORT:

This report provides details of the schools that were and are in deficit during the period 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015 and any progress made to reduce their deficit balance.

FOR:	For Information
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1. Introduction

1.1 The table in section 2 details that 18 schools brought forward a deficit balance into April 2014, of those 11* have now returned to a surplus position and Knockhall Primary and Lansdowne have converted to academies. Schools Financial Services (SFS) has worked with all those schools listed to improve the financial position and put a recovery plan in place.

1.2 It is important to note that this has involved a significant amount of collaboration with School Improvement and SFS staff often work together to support schools with financial difficulties, issues with standards and Ofsted etc to ensure the best outcome for the school.

2. Analysis of schools in deficit

2.1 When the December monitoring was submitted Community College Whitstable and St Barnabus Primary were forecasting a deficit, these two schools have both been visited to analyse the position and SFS will continue to work with them during the budget setting process. Northfleet Nursery was not forecasting a deficit, the school is having their funding reviewed by the budget team and once completed SFS will begin to work with this school.

2.2 The changes listed result in there now being eight maintained schools with a deficit with a total value of £2,650,000, as shown the majority of this is with Furness who are under consultation to close.

	Actual Rollover 2013/14	2014/15 Year end forecast as per 3 Year Plan	Year-end forecast 2014/15 as at 9 month monitoring	Actual outturn 2014/15
Furness School	-£868,578	-£1,578,247	-£1,631,520	-£1,535,517
Stone Bay School	-£485,715	-£982,453	-£710,755	-£555,813
West Kent Health Needs Educ. Ser.	-£167,756	-£166,867	-£138,822	-£38,153
Pent Valley Technology College	-£117,582	-£415,902	-£438,423	-£405,548
Borough Green Primary School	-£66,171	-£8,468	£18,433	£79,383 *
Chaucer Technology School	-£63,062	£325,239	£155,830	£173,418 *
Knockhall CPS	-£62,291		Converted	
Lansdowne Primary School	-£60,521	-£33,294	Converted	
Oakfields Education	-£55,012	£10,421	£4,225	£6,949 *
Horsmonden Primary School	-£17,702	-£10,277	-£13,620	-£10,545
Staplehurst School	-£12,836	-£17,283	-£18,179	£872 *
Leeds & Broomfield CEP School	-£10,589	£1,930	£6,422	£31,030 *
Shoreham Village School	-£7,806	£3,132	£9,569	£19,403 *
St Edmund's Catholic School	-£7,452	£115,232	£182,300	£337,282 *
St Edward's RCP School, Sheerness	-£5,194	£9,372	£2,554	£19,574 *
St Mary's CEP School, Chilham	-£3,863	£3,355	£10,025	£8,474 *
Stansted CEP School	-£3,043	£16,666	£24,405	£16,217 *
Palace Wood Primary School	-£1,479	£56,315	£38,368	£68,335 *
Northfleet Nursery	£3,334	£26,022	£381	-£16,869
St Barnabus	£14,919	£7,091	-£48,005	-£49,267
The Community College Whitstable	£201,385	£34,117	-£30,252	-£38,468
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Deficits £	£2,016,652	-£3,212,791	-£3,029,576	-£2,650,180
	18 Schools			8 Schools

3. Potential Deficit School in 2014/15

3.1 The table below shows the schools which SFS have supported during the last year due to financial concerns. SFS has had contact with all these schools, with Littlebourne, Mundella and Ridgeview receiving support to prepare budget forecasting. Holmesdale Technology is listed due to concerns over the next four years.

School Name	Actual Rollover 2013/14	2014/15 Year end forecast as per 3 Year Plan	Year-end forecast 2014/15 as at 9 month monitoring	Actual outturn 2014/15
Littlebourne CofE Primary	£11,876	£14,131	-£24,381	£6,162
Mundella Primary School	£53,250	-£47,024	-£18,918	£47,737
Boughton-under-Blean & Dunkirk	£42,935	£18,932	-£5,748	£28,412
Ridge View School	£57,218	-£107,698	-£2,244	£172,514
Sandhurst Primary School	£40,630	£37,184	£97	£26,672
Leigh Primary School	£2,149	£3,711	£2,641	£6,599
Hugh Christie Technology College	£84,879	£99,500	£35,886	£1,106
Minterne Community Junior School	£100,881	£43,144	£57,408	£119,631
Oaks Community Infant School	£136,676	£43,185	£112,245	£161,366
Judd School	£192,460	£136,482	£151,093	£195,784
Holmesdale Technology College	£126,889	£186,692	£278,454	£411,498
Cranbrook	£7,975	£19,733	£587	£20,827

Causes of Deficits

3.2 The last year has seen the following three areas which have led to financial difficulties in schools:

- Place Plus funding, as it responds immediately as pupils leave. This is difficult for special schools, particularly residential schools, to react to in a timely manner
- Reduction in secondary school numbers particularly in non-selective high schools
- Ofsted outcomes which can lead to a unsettled/costly leadership and high cost for intervention

Recommendations

Members of the SFF are requested to note the contents of this report.