

1.1. Summary of Pooled Budgets

1.1.1. **Schools in Financial Difficulty (DFFG)**

This funding is used to support individual maintained schools experiencing financial difficulty. We would propose that the current process of submitting applications to the Delegated Formula Funding Group (DFFG) should continue prior to a recommendation to this Forum for its formal approval.

1.1.2. **Schools in Financial Difficulty (Targeted Intervention)**

This funding is used to support the many maintained schools in vulnerable positions by means of projected Ofsted ratings. Failure to de-delegate this funding will mean that the LA could not support any maintained school requiring help and this will impact significantly on our ability to move Kent schools from satisfactory to good and potentially jeopardize the progress we have made this year. All payments are approved by the Director of Education, Quality and Standards and are made to maintained schools only.

1.1.3. **Free School Meal (FSM) eligibility**

This funding is used to fund a small team of staff who undertake checks on the Governments Hub database (run by DWP/HMRC) to confirm individual pupil's eligibility for Free School Meals.

This service has invested time and resources into procuring an on-line system to enable parents to confirm eligibility instantly. This system has the benefit of being able to provide immediate eligibility confirmation to the parent and at the same time send secure/confidential notification to the school / academy. This is a significant efficiency on the current system which has been in place for a number of years. The Local Authority is seeking approval to de-delegate this funding for maintained schools. Academies will be charged to access this service for 2016-17.

1.1.4. **County wide SiMS Licence**

KCC uses this funding to purchase a county wide SiMS licence from Capita, which is of benefit to all maintained schools in Kent. There are significant financial savings to maintained schools from this arrangement. This licence is owned by KCC and we pay Capita a single payment at the start of the financial year. As maintained schools convert to academy status during the year a credit is returned by Capita to KCC (only when the academy purchases a licence with Capita directly). The county wide contract is managed by EIS on behalf of the Council.

1.1.5. **Supply Cover - Trade Union Duties**

This funding is pooled with contributions from participating academies and used to fund the supply cover costs for releasing local trade union stewards to support members in schools and academies.

Schools and academies who employ trade union stewards are only able to reclaim supply cover costs when their steward supports an employee in a school or academy that has contributed to the pooled arrangement, i.e. all maintained schools and participating academies only.

1.1.6. **Supply Cover – School Personnel Services**

This funding is firmly linked to the work covered by the Schools in Financial Difficulty (Targeted Intervention) funding mentioned above in paragraph 7.3. It is used to fund SPS time where personnel support is needed in difficult cases to negotiate compromise agreements or work with Governing Bodies where action is needed in respect of the senior leadership team in the school. This funding only covers SPS support to maintained schools.