

Record of decision taken under delegated powers by a council officer



Title:	Approval of amendments to the funding rates in the schools funding formula following receipt of the DSG settlement and DfE pupil data in December 2023
Divisions Affected:	Surrey-wide
Key Decision:	No
Decision taken under delegation by virtue of:	Cabinet, 28 November 2023 Minute ref: 181/23

Summary

The decision is to approve final funding rates for the 2024/25 mainstream schools funding formula, to be submitted to the Department for Education for approval by their deadline of 22 January 2024. The funding rates have been changed since those considered by Cabinet, in order to ensure that they are affordable using the latest data, which had not been received from DfE at the date of the Cabinet meeting, and that they distribute the whole of the available grant (less the agreed transfer to high needs block), as required by legislation. In particular, the number of children required to be funded in the formula for additional needs has increased. The accompanying annex provides further information.

Please note: the published funding formula and rates could be amended following review by DfE and hence should not yet be regarded as final.

Decision made

Decision made:

It was AGREED that the proposed formula funding rates should be approved for submission to DfE, in line with the DfE's national funding formula.

Reasons for Decision:

To comply with legislation and to allow maintained schools to be advised of their budget shares by the required deadline. The proposed funding rates are consistent with the recommendations of Cabinet and of the Schools Forum on 6 October 2023 and 9 January 2024

Decision taken by:	Julia Katherine Director for Education and Lifelong Learning
Decision taken on:	17 Jan 2024
To be implemented on:	22 January 2024

Alternative options considered

Please see papers for Schools Forum 3 October 2023 and 9 January 2024. Alternative options were subject to consultation prior to the Cabinet meeting and at Schools Forum on 9 January 2024

Summary of any financial implications

The cost of the funding formula will be contained within available Dedicated Schools Grant, which can only be used for this purpose.

Declarations of conflicts of interest

None

Consultation/Process Followed

The Cabinet member for Education and Learning and the Executive Director of Children, Families and Lifelong Learning have been consulted, and supported the decision.

Background Documents

Exempt:

Proposed 2024/25 funding rates (attached)

Cabinet report and Schools Forum papers (already on website)

DfE Dedicated Schools Grant tables

[Local authorities: pre-16 schools funding - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-authorities-pre-16-schools-funding)

DFE schools funding revenue guide [Pre-16 schools funding: local authority guidance for 2024 to 2025 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pre-16-schools-funding-local-authority-guidance-for-2024-to-2025)