

Recommendations of the Schools Forum to the Cabinet

Following discussion of schools' responses to the council's Consultation on Schools Funding Reform, the Schools Forum at its meeting on 1 October 2012 made the following recommendations to the Cabinet:

- 1 That in redistributing funding from those formula factors the council is no longer allowed to use, funding is not transferred between primary and secondary sectors, or between key stage 3 and key stage 4.
- 2 That the flat rate should be set at £135,000 per school.
- 3 That there should be an increase of £12.9m in deprivation funding for primary schools and £14.2m for secondary schools. (Option 3 in the schools' Consultation)
- 4 That SEN funding for the primary sector should be based on the number of pupils scoring below 78 in the national Foundation Stage Profile assessments.
- 5 That £2m should be transferred from primary sector SEN to deprivation (included in the £12.9m deprivation figure above).
- 6 That the total funding for high incidence SEN and low prior attainment in secondary schools should remain the same.
- 7 That the threshold, above which schools receive additional funding for statemented pupils, should remain at £4,440.
- 8 That the total sum allocated for English as an Additional Language (EAL) and under-attaining ethnic minorities within primary and secondary sectors should remain the same
- 9 That the existing basis of split site funding should be retained
- 10 That schools should continue to be funded for rents of essential accommodation, where the cost exceeds 1% of the school's budget. (LAs are not allowed to fund rents below 1% of budget).
- 11 That pupil mobility/casual admissions should no longer be funded in view of the removal of the council's right to target funding to schools with high levels of mobility
- 12 That schools should not receive funding for reception class pupils admitted after the October pupil count date, but before the January count date, but that

levels of late admissions after October 2012 will be reviewed and if significant, proposals will be submitted to fund them retrospectively in 2014/15.

- 13 That post 16 funding, over and above the Education Funding Agency grant, should remain the same in the short term
- 14 That there should be a ceiling on gains per pupil (currently estimated at 1%) to fund transitional support for schools facing losses. Note -Where a school would otherwise gain more than 1% per pupil from these changes, it would actually only receive an increase of 1%. (This percentage is likely to change when final data is available in December 2012).
- 15 That funding for growing schools (ie schools which are adding new classes from September, or which have bulge classes) should continue to be allocated, largely using the existing methods.
- 16 That funding for SEN centres and nursery classes should be increased to recognise costs of the upper pay spine for teachers.
- 17 The Schools Forum also recommended the basis of delegation of a number of budgets which the local authority is no longer allowed to hold centrally without approval from the Forum, as follows

<u>Service</u>	<u>Basis of Delegation to schools</u>
English as an Additional Language (EAL)	Using the number of "EAL3" pupils
Behaviour support	Using pupil numbers, free school meals and IDACI
Special staff costs	Using pupil numbers
Licences and subscriptions for schools	Using pupil numbers
Free milk for over 5s entitled to free school meals	Using pupils entitled to free school meals
School specific contingency funding	Using pupil numbers

Proposed formula factors for 2013/14

The table below lists the provisional values of the formula factors which Surrey proposes to use to fund its schools in 2013/14 in order to implement the proposals recommended by the Schools Forum and described in this report. These must be reported to the Education Funding Agency by 31 October 2012.

The values are estimated based on latest DfE data (from October 2011) and will be subject to amendment following receipt of 2012 data from the DfE in December 2012.

Proposed Surrey Formula factors

	Primary £	Secondary £
Basic entitlement (sum per pupil)	2,526.37	Key Stage 3: 3,410.04 Key Stage 4: 4,332.22 Post 16: 181.56
Social deprivation		
• per child on free school meals	• 4652.73	3,507.47
• per child in DfE IDACI* band 1		869.02
• per child in DfE IDACI band 2 or above		1,557.54
Looked after children (unchanged)	791.41	791.41
Per low attainer (high incidence SEN)	863.91	2,400.21
Per pupil with English as an Additional Language (EAL)	117.66	606.92
Flat rate/lump sum(must be same for all schools)	135,000	135,000

*IDACI – Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index. Analysis indicates that use of IDACI in addition to Free School Meals more accurately reflects deprivation levels in Surrey secondary schools and its use for 50% of deprivation funding is therefore proposed. No such benefits were identified in the primary sector and therefore 100% free school meals will remain the deprivation index for this sector.

Other funding to schools:

- Business rates are funded at cost (unchanged);
- Rents on rented property at cost where over 1% of budget (where applicable);

- Split site allowance on same basis as in 2012/13, where applicable;
- Additional funding for schools admitting bulge classes or increasing admissions number from September 2013 or schools which already have bulge classes opened within the last few years (largely on the same basis as now).
- Funding for individual statemented pupils, nursery classes and SEN centres (where applicable). Changes to the funding of nursery classes and SEN centres will be subject to separate consultations.