

**Open Report on behalf of Open Report on behalf of Peter Duxbury,
Executive Director (Children's Services)**

Report to:	Schools' Forum
Date:	21 April 2010
Subject:	Additional Needs - update

Summary:

There has been a briefing pack for all Head Teachers, SENCOs and SEN Governors giving budget information to schools to provide baseline financial data for monitoring. The fact sheet for schools also provided details about Bands 6-8, Medical Funding, Primary inclusion funding, Looked After children interim support, children in school with statements from another authority. Interim information and guidance to mainstream schools on the implementation of changes to SEN funding arrangements for mainstream schools was also distributed, together with the most frequently answered questions.

The monitoring and accountability strategy is in development following three meetings of a sub group of the original Stakeholder Group. This will form the basis of a further report to the Schools Forum in September.

There is also a current review of arrangements to include a look at prior attainment indicators in the primary phase and other pupil support budgets (primary inclusion funding, college support budget and medical needs) to consider if and how these should be delegated.

There have been further meetings with all secondary Head Teachers at the Council for British Teachers (CfBT) conference (when a number of questions were answered) and with Governors at evening briefing sessions.

Senior Officers met with the National Strategies Team (NST) following correspondence from parents and LASH. The NST are satisfied that the Local Authority is acting in accordance with DCSF guidelines 'Managing SEN Expenditure'.

CfBT has established a Stakeholder Group to consider special school funding with widespread representation from schools, the Parent Partnership and the Parent Carer Council.

Recommendation(s):

That the Schools' Forum endorse the content of the report.

1. Background

This paper is an update following the School Forum's decision to delegate SEN Funding to schools.

2. Conclusion

The Schools' Forum is asked to endorse the content of the report.

3. Consultation

a) Has Local Member Been Consulted?

Yes

b) Policy Proofing Actions Required

n/a

4. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

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