



County Offices  
Newland  
Lincoln  
LN1 1YL

5 January 2016

**Lincolnshire Schools' Forum**

A meeting of the Lincolnshire Schools' Forum will be held on **Wednesday, 13 January 2016 at 1.00 pm in Committee Room One, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln LN1 1YL** for the transaction of the business set out on the attached Agenda.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Tony McArdle', written over a horizontal line.

Tony McArdle  
Chief Executive

**Membership of the Lincolnshire Schools' Forum**

**SCHOOLS' MEMBERS**

**Nursery (1)**

Joanne Noble (Head Teacher, Gainsborough Nursery School)

**Special (2)**

Nigel Sisley JP (Governor, St Francis Community Special School, Lincoln)  
1 vacancy

**Primary Maintained (7)**

**Primary Headteachers (4)**

Vicky Cook (Head Teacher, Welbourn Church of England Primary School)  
Patricia Ruff (Head Teacher, Dunholme St Chads Church of England Primary School)  
Ian Wilkinson (Head Teacher, Deeping St James Community Primary School)  
Geraldine Willders (Head Teacher, St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Grantham)

**Primary Governors (3)**

Marilyn Bell (Governor, The Fenland Federation)  
Roger Hewins (Governor, Corringham Church of England Primary School)  
1 vacancy

### **Secondary Maintained (1)**

1 vacancy

### **Pupil Referral Unit (1)**

Ron Hall (The Lincolnshire Teaching and Learning Centre)

### **Academies (12)**

#### **Secondary Academies (7)**

Ellenor Beighton (Head Teacher, De Aston School, Market Rasen)

David Bennett (Governor, Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Horncastle)

Professor Ken Durrands CBE (Governor, The King's School, Grantham)

Roger Hale (Head Teacher, Caistor Grammar School)

Jeremy Newnham (Head Teacher, Caistor Yarborough Academy)

James Storr (Governor, The Deepings School, Deeping St James)

1 vacancy

#### **Primary Academies (3)**

Mark Anderson (Head Teacher, Huntingtower Community Primary Academy, Grantham)

Helen Hilton (Head Teacher, Little Gonerby Church of England Infant School)

1 vacancy

#### **Special Academy (1)**

Lea Mason (Executive Head Teacher, Lincolnshire Wolds Federation, Louth)

#### **Alternative Provision Academy (1)**

Jerry Tucker (Head Teacher, The Acorn Free School, Lincoln)

### **NON-SCHOOLS' MEMBERS**

#### **Faith Groups (1)**

Bridget Starling (Church of England)

#### **Further Education / Post 16 Sector (1)**

Amanda Mosek (Principal and Chief Executive, Boston College)

#### **Staff Trade Unions (1)**

Helen Stokes (UNISON)

#### **Early Years Providers (1)**

Georgie Brock (Manager, Mulberry Bush Nursery, Uffington)

**LINCOLNSHIRE SCHOOLS' FORUM AGENDA  
WEDNESDAY, 13 JANUARY 2016**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Pages</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Apologies for Absence/Replacement Members</b>	
<b>2</b>	<b>Declarations of Members' Interest</b>	
<b>3</b>	<b>Minutes of the meeting held on 7 October 2015</b>	5 - 16
<b>4</b>	<b>2015/16 Section 251 Benchmarking Information</b> <i>(To receive a report from Lizzie Bowes, Strategic Finance Manager, Schools Finance Team, which advises the Schools' Forum of the latest S251 benchmarking data published by the Department for Education in September 2015)</i>	17 - 28
<b>5</b>	<b>School Funding Arrangements 2016/17</b> <i>(To receive a report from Mark Popplewell, Head of Finance, Children's Services, which advises the Schools' Forum of the funding arrangements for 2016/17; and seeks support for the Local Authority's proposals relating to a number of centrally held budgets)</i>	29 - 38
<b>6</b>	<b>Inclusive Lincolnshire Strategy - Pupil Reintegration Charge</b> <i>(To receive a report from John O'Connor, Children's Services Manager, Education Support, which asks the Schools' Forum to agree to the introduction of a pupil reintegration charge for those schools that cannot demonstrate that they have done everything reasonable to prevent an exclusion)</i>	39 - 62
<b>7</b>	<b>Alternative Provision Arrangements</b> <i>(To receive a report from Mark Popplewell, Head of Finance, Children's Services, which outlines to the Schools' Forum the Education Funding Agency high needs funding guidance arrangements for Alternative Provision; and provides information on the Alternative Provision providers in Lincolnshire and their present funding arrangements)</i>	63 - 70
<b>8</b>	<b>Scheme for Financing Schools</b> <i>(To receive a report from Lizzie Bowes, Strategic Finance Manager, Schools Finance Team, which highlights to the Schools' Forum the latest publication by the Department for Education of its revised guidance on Schemes for Financing Schools)</i>	71 - 72
<b>9</b>	<b>The School and Early Years Finance Regulations 2016/17</b> <i>(To receive a report from Lizzie Bowes, Strategic Finance Manager, Schools Finance Team, which advises the Schools' Forum of the response to the consultation of the School and Early Years Finance Regulations for 2016/17)</i>	73 - 76

- 10 Academies Update** 77 - 80  
*(To receive a report from John O'Connor, Children's Services Manager, Education Support, which provides the Schools' Forum with information on the latest number of academies, and pupils in academies)*
- 11 Lincolnshire Schools Forum - Forward Plan** 81 - 82  
*(This item provides the Schools' Forum with an opportunity to discuss potential items for future meetings which will subsequently be included on the Forward Plan)*

Democratic Services Officer Contact Details

Name: **Katrina Cope**

Direct Dial **01522 552104**

E Mail Address [katrina.cope@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:katrina.cope@lincolnshire.gov.uk)

**Please note:** for more information about any of the following please contact the Democratic Services Officer responsible for servicing this meeting

- Business of the meeting
- Any special arrangements
- Copies of reports

Contact details set out above.

All papers for council meetings are available on:  
[www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/committeerecords](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/committeerecords)



## LINCOLNSHIRE SCHOOLS' FORUM 7 OCTOBER 2015

### PRESENT:

Joanne Noble (Headteacher, Gainsborough Nursery School), Ian Wilkinson (Headteacher, Deeping St James Community Primary School), Geraldine Willders (Head Teacher, St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Grantham) (Vice-Chairman), Marilyn Bell (Governor, The Fenland Federation), Roger Hewins (Governor, Corringham Church of England Primary School), David Bennett (Governor, Horncastle Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School), Professor Ken Durrands CBE (Governor, The King's School, Grantham), Roger Hale (Head Teacher, Caistor Grammar School), Jeremy Newnham (Head Teacher, Caistor Yarborough Academy), James Storr (Governor, The Deepings School), Helen Hilton (Head Teacher, Little Gonerby Church of England Infant School), Mark Anderson (Head Teacher Huntingtower Community Primary Academy), Jerry Tucker (Head Teacher, The Acorn Free School, Lincoln), Bridget Starling (Business Manager, Church of England, Diocesan Education Centre), Helen Stokes (Branch Secretary, UNISON) and Georgie Brock (Manager, Mulberry Bush Nursery, Uffington).

Also in attendance:

David Morgan (NASUWT) attended the meeting as an observer.

Officers in attendance:-

Katrina Cope (Senior Democratic Services Officer), Debbie Barnes (Executive Director of Children's Services), Elizabeth Bowes (Team Leader, Schools Finance Team), Mark Popplewell (Assistant Head of Finance Children's & Specialist Services), Heather Sandy (Chief Commissioning Officer for Learning), Sarah Grundy (Historic Environment Officer), Tony Warnock (Operations and Financial Advice Manager) and Ian Marshman (Education & Outreach Officer – Heritage Lincolnshire).

### 1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

#### RESOLVED

That Mark Anderson be elected as the Chairman of the Lincolnshire Schools' Forum for 2015/16.

**MARK ANDERSON IN THE CHAIR**

**2**  
**LINCOLNSHIRE SCHOOLS' FORUM**  
**7 OCTOBER 2015**

**2**      ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED

That Geraldine Willders be elected Vice-Chairman of the Lincolnshire Schools' Forum for the year 2015/16.

**3**      APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE/REPLACEMENT MEMBERS

Due to the number of new members present at the meeting the Chairman invited all present to introduce themselves to the meeting.

Apologies for absence were received from Ron Hall (Interim Head Teacher of Lincolnshire Teaching and Learning Centre), Amanda Mosek (Further Education/Post 16 Sector), Lea Mason (Executive Head Teacher, Lincolnshire Wolds Federation, Louth), Patricia Ruff (Head Teacher, Dunholme St Chads Church of England Primary School) and Nigel Sisley (Governor, St Francis Community Special School, Lincoln).

**4**      DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTEREST

No declarations of Members Interests were made at this stage of the proceedings.

**5**      MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 22 APRIL 2015

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Lincolnshire Schools Forum meeting held on 22 April 2015 be agreed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**6**      SCHOOLS' FORUM MEMBERSHIP

The Senior Democratic Services Officer advised the Forum that elections had been held during August and September 2015. The vacancy situation following the election was as follows:-

- Primary School Governor – 1 vacancy;
- Secondary School Head Teacher - 1 vacancy; and
- Primary Academy Governor – 1 vacancy.

The Forum were also advised that two further resignations as a result of extra work commitments had been received from Bridget Robson (Head Teacher, Fortuna Primary School, Lincoln) and Jonathan Maddox (Head Teacher at Bourne Grammar School). The resignations had generated the following further two vacancies:

- Special School Head Teacher – 1 vacancy; and
- Secondary Academy Head Teacher – 1 vacancy.

It was reported that at present there was no intention to conduct a further election.

7 SCHOOLS' BLOCK FUNDING FORMULAE 2015/16: ANALYSIS OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES' SCHOOLS BLOCK FUNDING FORMULAE

Consideration was given to a report from Tony Warnock (Operations and Financial Advice Manager), which shared with the Forum the Department for Education's (DfE's) analysis of Local Authorities' (LA) school funding formulae for 2015/16. The purpose of the report was for the Forum to see how Lincolnshire's funding of mainstream schools compared to other LA's.

The Operations and Financial Officer guided the Forum through the report making particular reference to:

- The delay of the national fair funding formula until at least 2016/17;
- Appendix 1 to the report, which provided the LA's views of the DfE's latest analysis of LA's local funding formulae. It was highlighted that overall, the level of funding available through the Dedicated School Grant (DSG) had materially remained unchanged, and Lincolnshire's relative position had changed very little too. Details relating to the issues affecting Lincolnshire were shown on page 18 of the report in points 1 – 6;
- It was highlighted that it would be inappropriate for any LA to use the DfE's analysis to seek to gravitate towards the LA average, as each LA had different needs and these should be reflected in the funding formulae. Two areas for closer consideration and debate which might lead to a change in the local funding arrangements related to the amounts of funding distributed through the low prior attainment factor; and English as an additional language factor for primary schools; and
- The Forum noted that a letter had been sent to all schools in the County to support the F40 Group to petition members of Parliament regarding the introduction of a National Fair Funding Formula.

During discussion, the following points were highlighted:-

- Whether the LA was holding any monies back. The Forum was advised that Lincolnshire was a high delegating authority, as evidenced by the Section 251 benchmarking report which described Lincolnshire's planned spending. It was highlighted that a later report on the agenda regarding de-delegation described how the LA had distributed funding previously held centrally to schools. It was noted that a substantial contingency budget used to be held back for in-year adjustments, but that was now included in the school budgets. The Forum was advised that a report relating to Section 251 benchmarking would be presented to the 13 January 2016 meeting, as the information had not yet been published in time for this meeting; and
- It was noted that the LA was one of 40 lowest funded authorities. It was highlighted that 89% of the primary and secondary schools' funding was distributed through pupil-led factors. That was the same as the national average.

**4**  
**LINCOLNSHIRE SCHOOLS' FORUM**  
**7 OCTOBER 2015**

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

**8**      SCHOOLS' CARRY FORWARDS 2014/15

The Forum gave consideration to a report from Tony Warnock, Operations and Financial Advice Manager, which provided information regarding Lincolnshire's maintained schools' carry forwards as at 31 March 2015.

Elizabeth Bowes, Team Leader – Schools Finance Team, guided the Forum through the report and Appendix 1, which provided carry forward information at 31 March 2015. The Team Leader – Schools Finance Team responded to points raised which included the following:-

- Whether any consideration had been made to increase the percentage carried forward for secondary schools, to equal that of primary schools. The Forum was advised that no representation had ever been made from secondary schools on this. If a school was to make a representation, then the request would be looked at. Confirmation was given that representation had been made from the nursery sector in the past, which the LA had considered;
- It was highlighted that there had been a reduction in the number of schools in deficit. At the end of 2014/15 the number had been 5 representing a reduction of 4 on the previous year. The LA always worked with schools with an overspend, to ensure that appropriate systems were put in place, and to ensure that the deficit was recovered in a relatively short period;
- Some members expressed their concerns with regard to Agresso and the fact that it was very difficult for schools to operate prudently when it was difficult to obtain figures from the system. Some members felt that the failings of the system prevented effective governor monitoring of the budget position, making it challenging for them and Governing Bodies to fulfil their roles. Areas highlighted were payroll issues and accounts information. Reassurance was given that work was on going with the contractor Serco; although it was noted that the position was not acceptable and was being addressed at the highest level possible within the Local Authority. The Operations and Financial Advice Manager invited any member of the Forum from a maintained school with a problem with the Agresso system to stay behind after the meeting for further advice. The Forum noted further that the Value for Money Scrutiny Committee and the Audit Committee were currently looking into the situation with Serco and that with the help of the Council's finance staff the system would be working correctly in the very near future; and
- That secondary schools were losing grounds on primary schools. The Forum was advised that the percentage for each sector carried forward varied, and within sectors some schools' carry forwards were high, and some were low. It was felt that overall; carry forward levels in each sector were prudent.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

9      SCHOOLS' FINANCIAL VALUE STANDARD

Consideration was given to a report from Tony Warnock, Operations and Financial Advice Manager, which provide the Forum with an update on the Schools Financial Value Standard (SFVS). It was noted that as in previous years, the Department for Education (DfE) had launched the SFVS after the Financial Management Standard in Schools (FMSiS) had been withdrawn by the Secretary of State in November 2010.

Elizabeth Bowes, Team Leader – Schools Finance Team, guided the Forum through the report, making particular reference to the following:-

- That the SFVS was mandatory and was intended to assist maintained schools to manage their finances and to give assurance that some secure financial management was in place. LA's were expected to audit a school or issue a notice of concern when the SFVS was not completed. Maintained schools were required to complete the SFVS by 31 March each year, full details of the LA's submission to the DfE was detailed on page 38 of the report presented;
- It was highlighted that 12 schools had not submitted their returns and had been exempted as they were currently in the process of converting to an academy. Discounting those, the return had shown that 17 primary schools and one secondary school had failed to submit the completed return by the due date. The LA's Finance Team were in contact with the said schools, and at the time of writing the report; a total of 10 of the primary schools still had to submit their returns; and
- It was reported that the SFVS returns provided the LA with very little information on which to base sound reliable judgements of the effectiveness of school financial management. The LA would therefore not be placing significant reliance on those that had been submitted. The Forum were advised that since April 2015, the LA's Finance Team had been offering schools the opportunity to purchase an enhanced service to help them strengthened their financial management practices. Many schools had taken up this offer.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

10      DE-DELEGATION OF MAINTAINED PRIMARY SCHOOLS BUDGETS  
2016/17 AND 2017/18

The Forum gave consideration to a report from the Tony Warnock, Operations and Financial Advice Manager, which sought the maintained primary school representatives' approval to the Local Authority's (LA) proposals for the de-delegation of certain budgets in 2016/17 and 2017/18.

In guiding the Forum through the report presented, Mark Popplewell, Assistant Head of Finance – Children's and Specialist Services made reference to the following:-

- The background behind the radical reforms to school funding arrangements;
- For 2015/16 maintained primary schools had agreed to de-delegate funding for:-  
Contingency, i.e. termination of employment costs for schools in financial difficulty; and exceptional unforeseen costs; and  
Equality for minority communities.  
It was highlighted that no funds had been de-delegated for maintained secondary schools;
- The matters agreed in 2013/14 with regard to de-delegated budgets, details were shown on page 42 of the report presented;
- Proposals for 2016/17 and 2017/18, the report highlighted that it was proposed that the charges for 2016/17 would remain as those previously agreed and that for 2017/18, the charges would be set at:-  
Contingency £26.64 per pupil  
Ethnic Minority and Traveller education Team £5.44 per pupil  
This would then finance:-  
Termination of Employment costs £0.250m  
Interim head teachers £0.292m  
Exceptional unforeseen costs £0.380m  
Equality for minority communities £0.188m  
It was noted that the increase in the proposed charge for Contingency was due to the fact that the £1.080m underspend at 31 March 2015 would have been fully utilised and would be no longer available to subsidise future charges;
- Appendix 1 provided the Forum with details of the current service provision; and
- The Forum noted that the outcomes from the decision made by the maintained primary representatives on the Schools Forum would be reflected in maintained primary schools' future budgets.

During discussion, the following issues were raised:-

- The level needed for 2017/18, the Forum were advised that this would be kept under review and any changes would be notified to the Forum;
- Increase in the Contingency per pupil figure. It was highlighted that the 2015/16 reduction figure was only temporary; and
- Maintained schools representatives supported the proposals presented.

#### RESOLVED

That support was given by the maintained primary school representatives to the proposal for de-delegation of the budgets for the period 2016/17 and 2017/18, as detailed below:-

Proposals for 2016/17 and 2017/18

That the charges for 2016/17 would remain as those previously agreed in the previous year as set out in the report presented; and that the charges for 2017/18 would be set at:-

Contingency £26.64 per pupil

Ethnic Minority and Traveller education Team £5.44 per pupil

This would then finance:

Termination of Employment costs £0.250m

Interim headteachers £0.292m

Exceptional unforeseen costs £0.380m

Equality for minority communities £0.188m.

## 11 REVISED SCHOOLS' BUDGET 2015/16

Consideration was given to a report from Tony Warnock, Operations and Financial Advice Manager, which notified the Forum of the revised Schools Budget for 2015/16; and sought support for the proposed use of the underspending from 2014/15.

In guiding the Forum through the report presented, Mark Popplewell, Assistant Head of Finance – Children's and Specialist Services made reference to the following:-

- That the underspend carried forward as at 31/3/15 was £10.566m. This figure represented 2.15% of the £492.049m 2015/16 Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG), and reflected a one-off allocation of £5m of the 2013/14 DSG underspend to all schools; a one-off protection of £0.598m for schools as a result of changes made to Band 6 to 8 statements; and net underspendings of £2.289m on budgets held centrally within the DSG. Full details were contained within Appendix 1 to the report presented;
- It was highlighted that a thorough review of commitments had taken place and prudent estimates had been made, which totalled £4.810m. Details of which were contained within Appendix 2 to the report presented;
- Proposals for use of the uncommitted sum of £5.756m, it was reported that the LA proposed that the above said sum was not committed, but was held in reserves as this was considered prudent; and reasons for the action were detailed on page 54 of the report in points (a) to (g).  
The Forum were advised that the uncommitted sum only represented 1.1% of the DSG and was considerably lower than the average carried forward by maintained schools and, probably, academies; and
- The Forum was advised that the views of the Schools Forum would be reported to the Children's Services Departmental Management Team (DMT) and the Executive Councillor with responsibility for Children's Services before final decisions were made.

Discussion ensued, from which the following points were raised:-

- Some concern was expressed by some members as to whether the uncommitted sum should be distributed to schools, as schools were struggling and more money should be pushed out to them, if it was available. Clarification was given that it was not just the schools' money and the LA thought it prudent for the reasons given in the report to put the uncommitted sum in to reserves, because of future pressures and challenges on the horizon. It was highlighted that in the previous year £5m had been given out; pressures were highlighted relating to SEND reforms and exclusions;
- With regard to the committed sum of £1.524m to energy saving initiatives in schools, some members felt that this money could be better spent, as the Forum had received little evidence as to the benefits of this initiative; and
- Some members extended their full support to the recommendations as detailed in the report presented; the money should be left in the centre to help underperforming children, as and when required.

All but two members present supported the proposals as detailed in the report presented.

#### RESOLVED

1. That report presented be noted.
2. That support be given to the LA's proposals for use of the uncommitted sum, as outlined in paragraph 8 above.
3. That the Local Authority review commitments in relation to energy savings initiatives.

#### 12 SCHOOLS' REVENUE FUNDING 2016/17

Consideration was given to a report from Tony Warnock, the Operations and Financial Advice Manager, which advised the Forum of the government's plans for school revenue funding for 2016/17.

In guiding the Forum through the report particular reference was made to:-

- The school funding announcements for 2016/17, these were detailed on page 60, points 1 – 9 of the report presented;
- The Operational guide, members were advised of the website address which detailed on page 60 of the report. It was reported that the pre-16 minimum funding guarantee (MFG) for mainstream schools would continue and would be set at minus 1.5% per pupil in 2016/17. It was noted that the LA had no plans for any major changes to the local funding formulae for 2016/17. However, a £1.3m reduction to the primary and secondary schools age weighted pupil unit (awpu) funding might be necessary in 2016/17 to finance a behavioural outreach support service. It was noted further that this had received support from the Forum at its April 2015 meeting;

- It was reported that officers were currently reviewing the DfE's operational guide to ensure that the LA was compliant; and that any significant changes would be reported to the 13 January 2016 meeting; and
- The Forum was advised that the Outreach contract was currently out to the market. The results of which would be announce in due course.

#### RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

#### 13 PREHISTORY ON-LINE LEARNING RESOURCES FOR LINCOLNSHIRE

The Forum gave consideration to a report from Sarah Grundy, Historic Environment Officer, which advised the Forum of the intention to produce on-line prehistory learning resources specifically focussed on Lincolnshire, and to support a request for funding from the LEA to assist with their development.

The Historic Environment Officer and Ian Marsham, Education and Outreach Officer – Heritage Lincolnshire guided the Forum through the report.

It was reported that the idea for the project had been as a result of requests at Heritage Lincolnshire from teachers seeking advice and assistance teaching the new 'Stone Age to Iron Age' element of the National Curriculum. Many teachers had informally commented on how this particular period was hard to find resources to engage children.

Following a survey to Lincolnshire Schools (the results of which were detailed at Appendix A) the project team were going to commission a professional archaeological illustrator to create some high resolution reconstruction images for use on smart boards. It was also envisaged that a local story-teller would create some story-telling activities for the classroom which would be included in the resources. Overall, it was reported that the project would cost a maximum amount of £16,000 and that the project team would be seeking funding from external bodies, such as the Heritage Lottery Fund. The Forum was advised that it was hoped to have the project completed by the end of the financial year 2016/17.

#### RESOLVED

That support be given in principle to the development of on-line prehistory resources.

#### 14 DEVOLUTION - EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The Executive Director of Children's Services advised the Forum that a Bid for Greater Lincolnshire had been submitted. (A copy of the proposal was detailed on pages 83 - 94 of the report presented).

**10  
LINCOLNSHIRE SCHOOLS' FORUM  
7 OCTOBER 2015**

The guiding principle of the Expression of Interest being the risks of commissioning and delivery are devolved locally so that they are efficiently managed. This would then give Lincolnshire more opportunities for local decision making.

RESOLVED

That the verbal update be noted.

**15     ACADEMIES UPDATE**

Consideration was given to a report from John O'Connor, Children's Services Manager – Education Support, which provided the Forum with the latest position regarding the number of Academies and pupils in Academies.

It was reported that since the last meeting there had been five further conversions to Academy status. Four of the conversions had involved special schools, which represented an increase of 19%. The special schools that converted were Gainsborough Aegir Community School, Gainsborough Warren Wood Community School, Horncastle St Lawrence Schools and Louth St Bernard's School. Louth King Edward VI Grammar School had also converted to secondary academy status and Gainsborough Castle Wood had opened a new primary academy. The total rise in the number of Lincolnshire academies was six (1.7%) educating 1323 (1.3%) full time equivalent pupils.

Details of the projected six month status of all Lincolnshire schools was detailed on page 97 of the report presented.

It was noted that funding for the Alternative Provision Free School was now top sliced from the LA's DSG but it was not clear how, overall, the Free School was funded.

RESOLVED

1. That the report be noted.
2. That a report on the funding of the Alternative Provision Free School be presented to a future meeting of the Forum.

**16     FUTURE MEETING DATES**

The Forum gave consideration to the dates proposed and agreed:

RESOLVED

1. That Wednesday 13 January 2016 meeting should commence at 1.00pm;
2. That the 20 April 2016 date should be changed, and that an email should be sent out to all Schools Forum members once a new date and time is agreed; and

3. That the 29 June 2016 meeting should commence at 1.00pm.

17     INFORMATION PACK

RESOLVED

That the contents of the information pack be noted.

The meeting closed at 3.25 pm.

**This page is intentionally left blank**

# Agenda Item 4



## Regulatory and Other Committee

<b>NAME OF COMMITTEE:</b>	Lincolnshire Schools Forum
<b>DATE OF MEETING:</b>	13 January 2016
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	2015/16 Section 251 Benchmarking Information
<b>REPORT BY:</b>	Lizzie Bowes (Strategic Finance Manager, Schools Finance Team)
<b>NAME OF CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	Lizzie Bowes
<b>CONTACT OFFICER TEL NO:</b>	01522 554905
<b>CONTACT OFFICER EMAIL ADDRESS:</b>	Elizabeth.Bowes@lincolnshire.gov.uk
<b>IS REPORT CONFIDENTIAL?</b>	No

### SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to share with the Schools Forum the latest s.251 benchmarking data published by the DfE in September 2015.

### DISCUSSION

All Local Authorities (LA) are required to publish, prior to the start of the financial year, a statement showing their planned expenditure on Children's services. Lincolnshire traditionally presents a copy of its s.251 budget statement to the Schools Forum in April each year.

The statement is prescribed by the DfE and requires LAs to set out in a common format their planned spending on children's services for the forthcoming financial year. This has enabled the DfE to publish since 2003/04, comparative information for LAs and Schools Forum to consider. The latest s.251 benchmarking information was published by the DfE in September 2015 and is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/section-251-2015-to-2016>

A copy of the benchmarking data from the LA Table of s.251 is attached at Appendix 1. This report looks mainly at the 27 Upper Tier authorities (i.e. counties), because they are similar in character to Lincolnshire.

Although this information is very useful, it is important to note the following points:

1. Despite extensive DfE guidance on how to complete the s251 budget statement, it is likely that LAs interpret the guidance in different ways, this can explain some of the apparent variations in planned spending between LAs.
2. The DfE has used different divisors when calculating the per pupil funding figures. For example, in some cases the DfE has used total pupils aged 3 – 19 for maintained schools only, in some cases the DfE has used total pupils aged 3 – 19 for maintained schools and recoupment academies and in others it has used the total pupils for pupil aged 3 – 19 in maintained schools *and* all academies. In many cases, the divisors do not take account of specific cohorts, such as the actual number of early years children placed in independent settings, or the number of children actually transported to and from school, etc. Care is therefore needed when interpreting the figures.
3. Variation between LAs spending plans can arise due to differences in approach to delegation of services, or how corporate overheads have been assigned to budgets.
4. The Schools Forum's principal role is to focus on the use of the Dedicated Schools Grant, i.e. those lines up to 1.6.1 or Column 40. The other budget lines and columns beyond that will nevertheless be of interest to the Schools Forum, because they support schools and, more broadly, children's services across the county.

The report considers the key subtotals within Appendix 1 and highlights a number of key issues relating to them.

Table 1

Col	Budget line	Lincolnshire's funding per capita £	Upper Tier average funding per capita £	Lincolnshire's rank for Upper Tier authorities	England average (median) per capita £
1	Individual Schools Budget	4,033	4,123	22 <sup>nd</sup> highest	4,356

Comment: This budget line represents the funding delegated to schools, i.e. school budget shares. These figures are not surprising and are directly influenced by the fact that the DSG funding received by Upper Tier LAs from the DfE is the lowest in the country.

Table 2

Col	Budget line	Lincolnshire's funding per capita £	Upper Tier average funding per capita £	Lincolnshire's rank for Upper Tier authorities	England average (median) per capita £
11	De-delegated items	12	19	19 <sup>th</sup> highest	29

Comment: This budget line represents the funding that has been de-delegated from maintained schools. De-delegation was introduced for the first time in 2013/14 as part of the DfE's school funding reforms. From the figures in Appendix 1 it is clear that LAs and Schools Forums across the country have adopted very different approaches in relation to de-delegation. Some LAs are de-delegating significantly greater sums than Lincolnshire which has traditionally been a high delegator and one that gives schools greater freedom to procure services directly. The table shows that Lincolnshire's total sum for de-delegation is below the national average, this is a result of recent

underspends which were used to offset the de-delegation budget for 2015/16 and the decisions made by the Schools Forum at its meetings on 8 October 2014. This budget reduction is temporary until de-delegation reserves have been utilised.

Table 3

Col	Budget line	Lincolnshire's funding per capita £	Upper Tier average funding per capita £	Lincolnshire's rank for Upper Tier authorities	England average (median) per capita £
24	High Needs budget	290	280	10 <sup>th</sup> highest	302

Comment: This budget line represents the top-up funding for special educational needs (SEN) that is given to special and maintained schools, the Teaching and Learning Centre and independent providers. It also includes various SEN support services. Lincolnshire's figure is between the Upper Tier average and the England average.

Table 4

Col	Budget line	Lincolnshire's funding per capita £	Upper Tier average funding per capita £	Lincolnshire's rank for Upper Tier authorities	England average (median) per capita £
40	Total Schools Budget	4,567	4,677	25 <sup>th</sup> highest	4,943

Comment: This budget line represents the total for those lines preceding it. It essentially represents the total DSG funding that each LA receives from the DfE and the earlier budget lines simply demonstrate how each LA uses it. Schools Forum will recall that the DfE launched a consultation entitled 'Fairer Schools Funding in 2015/16', the report highlighted that a new national fair funding formula would not be introduced in 2015/16, however changes to LA funding for schools would be introduced to begin to address the unfairness of the current system and to provide some help to authorities that were least fairly funded. In 2015/16 an additional £390m was allocated to LAs who were most in need, Lincolnshire received an additional £4.5m, however this has had little impact on Lincolnshire's relative position and the county continues to receive one of the lowest levels of DSG funding in the country.

Table 5

Col	Budget line	Lincolnshire's funding per capita £	Upper Tier average funding per capita £	Lincolnshire's rank for Upper Tier authorities	England average (median) per capita £
52	School transport - SEN	84	73	9 <sup>th</sup> highest	63

Comment: This budget line shows the cost of home to school transport for pupils with SEN. Although s.251 requires LAs to separate SEN transport, it may not always be easy to do that accurately. Lincolnshire's spending is above the Upper Tier average and above the national average. This can be explained through an increase in numbers and the complexity of Higher Needs pupils in Lincolnshire. This has placed a significant financial cost on to the LAs budget.

Table 6

Col	Budget line	Lincolnshire's funding per capita £	Upper Tier average funding per capita £	Lincolnshire's rank for Upper Tier authorities	England average (median) per capita £
53	School transport	164	66	3 <sup>rd</sup> highest	16

Comment: Lincolnshire also receives a relatively low level of government funding for services that sit outside of the DSG. As previous reports to the Schools Forum have highlighted, the county has to fund a much greater transport cost per pupil than many Upper Tier authorities. The differential with the England average is even greater. So, not only does the county receive less funding than most other LAs, it also has to use a significantly greater element of its funding to pay for school transport. This means that there is less funding available to provide other support services to schools and children.

Table 7

Col	Budget line	Lincolnshire's funding per capita £	Upper Tier average funding per capita £	Lincolnshire's rank for Upper Tier authorities	England average (median) per capita £
81	Looked After Children	164	228	27 <sup>th</sup> highest	283

Comment: This line represents a range of services relating to children's social care, including fostering, adoption and residential care. The table indicates that not only is Lincolnshire's spending on these pupils the lowest of all the Upper Tier authorities, the level of spending is considerably below the levels of most other Upper Tier authorities. Despite this, a number of these services in Lincolnshire are judged to be outstanding. The level of Lincolnshire's spending is low due to Lincolnshire's Early Intervention Agenda and how the LA provides support to Looked After Children in particular through the use of their strong in-house foster carers. The LA places a relatively low number of Looked After Children out of county, which has allowed the per capita costs to be kept low.

Table 8

Col	Budget line	Lincolnshire's funding per capita £	Upper Tier average funding per capita £	Lincolnshire's rank for Upper Tier authorities	England average (median) per capita £
86	Total Safeguarding	156	140	9 <sup>th</sup> highest	169

Comment: This line represents a range of services relating to safeguarding. The table indicates that Lincolnshire's spending is between the Upper Tier average and the national average. Spending is above the Upper Tier Authorities average as the LA has a strong Early Intervention Agenda to try to reduce the number of Looked After Children.

Further comparisons can be made by referring to Appendix 1.

The s.251 benchmarking data will continue to be used by the LA each year to inform its future spending plans.

Once again, Lincolnshire's overall position has not changed significantly since last year. £390m was added to LAs 2015/16 budgets, this additional funding was allocated to 69 LAs but as this was only c.1% of the DSG it will not have had a dramatic impact on the benchmarking. The relatively minor changes in per capita spending and the ranking of LAs will be due to the modest re-alignment of budgets within LAs as they seek to respond to reduced government funding and their own priorities

and local service pressures. Lincolnshire's DSG funding remains low and as indicated in Table 4 above, the 'per pupil' spending on the Schools Budget is £376 less than the England average (median). This adverse situation continues to be compounded by the fact that Lincolnshire also spends £148 per pupil more on school transport than the England average (median).

On the 25<sup>th</sup> November 2015 the Chancellor announced the outcome of the Spending Review 2015. The government intends to introduce the first ever national funding formula for schools, high needs and early years, so that funding is transparent and fairly linked to a child's needs. The Government aims to end the unfair system where a child from a disadvantaged background in one school attracts half as much funding as a child in identical circumstances in another school, simply because of where they live. The government will launch a detailed consultation in 2016 and implement the new formula from 2017/18. Once this has been introduced the comparative figures may start to change materially.

<b>RECOMMENDATIONS</b>
------------------------

The Schools Forum is asked to note the content of the report.

<b>APPENDICES - these are listed below and attached at the back of the report.</b>
--

Appendix 1 – 2015/16 Section 251 benchmarking data for Upper Tier Authorities (LA Table - net)
--

**This page is intentionally left blank**



LA Benchmarking Tables 2012-13  
Per Capita Table (Net)

15-16 Budget LA Table (Net) £ per capita

Upper Tier Authorities

To print use the buttons below.

	Col 18	Col 19	Col 20	Col 21	Col 22	Col 23	Col 24	Col 25	Col 26	Col 27	Col 28	Col 29	Col 30	Col 31	Col 32	Col 33	Col 34
	1.2.7 Other alternative provision services****	1.2.8 Support for inclusion****	1.2.9 Special schools and PRUs in financial difficulty****	1.2.10 PFI and BSF costs at special schools*****	1.2.11 Direct payments (SEN and disability)*****	1.2.12 Carbon reduction commitment allowances (PRUs)*****	HN TOTAL	1.3.1 Central expenditure on children under 5****	1.4.1 Contribution to combined budgets**	1.4.2 School admissions**	1.4.3 Servicing of schools forums**	1.4.4 Termination of employment costs**	1.4.5 Falling Rolls Fund**	1.4.6 Capital expenditure from revenue (CERA)**	1.4.7 Prudential borrowing costs**	1.4.8 Fees to independent schools without SEN**	1.4.9 Equal pay - back pay**
<b>ENGLAND - Average (mean)</b>	<b>£10</b>	<b>£12</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£302</b>	<b>£22</b>	<b>£22</b>	<b>£8</b>	<b>£1</b>	<b>£4</b>	<b>£11</b>	<b>£4</b>	<b>£1</b>	<b>£2</b>	
<b>ENGLAND - Average (median)</b>	<b>£5</b>	<b>£7</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£302</b>	<b>£17</b>	<b>£14</b>	<b>£8</b>	<b>£1</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	
<b>ENGLAND - Maximum</b>	<b>£41</b>	<b>£74</b>	<b>£4</b>	<b>£11</b>	<b>£14</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£566</b>	<b>£128</b>	<b>£112</b>	<b>£35</b>	<b>£24</b>	<b>£40</b>	<b>£17</b>	<b>£104</b>	<b>£69</b>	<b>£59</b>	
<b>ENGLAND - Minimum</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£158</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	
<b>Average (median)</b>	<b>£4</b>	<b>£10</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£280</b>	<b>£16</b>	<b>£14</b>	<b>£6</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£1</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	
<b>Maximum</b>	<b>£39</b>	<b>£54</b>	<b>£1</b>	<b>£4</b>	<b>£5</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£448</b>	<b>£44</b>	<b>£107</b>	<b>£16</b>	<b>£1</b>	<b>£15</b>	<b>£4</b>	<b>£62</b>	<b>£21</b>	<b>£16</b>	
<b>Minimum</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£176</b>	<b>£4</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£1</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	
825 Buckinghamshire	£8	£22	£0	£0	£0	£0	£448	£17	£40	£16	£0	£3	£0	£48	£0	£16	
873 Cambridgeshire	£39	£20	£0	£0	£0	£0	£332	£5	£54	£5	£0	£0	£0	£18	£0	£0	
909 Cumbria	£0	£10	£0	£0	£0	£0	£271	£8	£14	£5	£1	£0	£0	£31	£8	£0	
830 Derbyshire	£21	£18	£0	£0	£0	£0	£300	£15	£34	£4	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£5	
878 Devon	£3	£7	£1	£0	£0	£0	£281	£8	£13	£3	£0	£9	£0	£0	£0	£0	
835 Dorset	£2	£2	£0	£0	£0	£0	£281	£15	£0	£9	£1	£7	£2	£0	£0	£0	
845 East Sussex	£11	£26	£0	£0	£5	£0	£280	£14	£107	£5	£1	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	
881 Essex	£6	£4	£0	£0	£0	£0	£252	£10	£19	£8	£0	£1	£2	£4	£14	£0	
916 Gloucestershire	£4	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£297	£44	£0	£8	£1	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	
850 Hampshire	£0	£7	£0	£0	£0	£0	£176	£16	£13	£5	£0	£4	£1	£34	£0	£1	
919 Hertfordshire	£35	£17	£1	£1	£0	£0	£239	£4	£7	£10	£0	£0	£3	£4	£0	£0	
886 Kent	£12	£36	£0	£0	£0	£0	£334	£18	£14	£9	£1	£15	£0	£0	£0	£0	
888 Lancashire	£18	£7	£0	£4	£0	£0	£243	£18	£9	£5	£1	£0	£0	£0	£1	£0	
855 Leicestershire	£0	£1	£0	£0	£0	£0	£297	£12	£2	£4	£0	£7	£0	£0	£0	£0	
925 Lincolnshire	£4	£27	£0	£0	£0	£0	£290	£6	£0	£5	£0	£1	£0	£62	£0	£0	
926 Norfolk	£0	£32	£0	£0	£1	£0	£268	£16	£3	£4	£1	£0	£0	£0	£0	£1	
815 North Yorkshire	£32	£54	£0	£0	£0	£0	£284	£18	£28	£9	£1	£0	£4	£16	£0	£0	
928 Northamptonshire	£0	£0	£0	£1	£0	£0	£248	£29	£21	£8	£0	£7	£0	£41	£0	£0	
891 Nottinghamshire	£0	£49	£0	£0	£0	£0	£247	£4	£21	£7	£0	£8	£0	£3	£0	£0	
931 Oxfordshire	£4	£5	£0	£0	£0	£0	£220	£37	£8	£6	£0	£0	£43	£17	£0	£0	
933 Somerset	£12	£4	£0	£0	£0	£0	£302	£4	£101	£4	£0	£0	£0	£0	£2	£3	
860 Staffordshire	£1	£13	£0	£0	£0	£0	£212	£23	£18	£6	£0	£11	£0	£19	£7	£0	
935 Suffolk	£4	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£202	£17	£83	£1	£0	£10	£0	£0	£0	£0	
936 Surrey	£20	£1	£0	£0	£0	£0	£363	£27	£12	£13	£0	£0	£4	£0	£0	£0	
937 Warwickshire	£27	£11	£0	£0	£0	£0	£365	£20	£9	£8	£0	£9	£0	£0	£3	£0	
938 West Sussex	£16	£20	£1	£0	£0	£0	£258	£7	£19	£8	£1	£4	£0	£0	£21	£3	
885 Worcestershire	£0	£6	£0	£0	£0	£0	£221	£19	£19	£9	£1	£2	£2	£13	£0	£0	

- 1) Pupil Divisors Used.
- \* Total pupils aged 3-19 from maintained schools
- \*\* Total pupils aged 3-19 from maintained schools
- \*\*\* Total pupils aged 3-19 from maintained schools
- \*\*\*\* Total population aged between 0-17.
- \*\*\*\*\* Total population aged between 0-19.
- \*\*\*\*\* Total population aged between 16-18
- \*\*\*\*\* Total population aged between 19-25
- \*\*\*\*\* Total pupils aged 3-15 from maintained schools

- 2) The national mean is calculated as the Total Bu
- 3) The national median is calculated as the media
- 4) England figures do not include data for City of L

LA Benchmarking Tables 2012-13  
Per Capita Table (Net)

15-16 Budget LA Table (Net) £ per capita

Upper Tier Authorities

To print use the buttons below.

	Col 35	Col 36	Col 37	Col 38	Col 39	Col 40	Col 41	Col 42	Col 43	Col 44	Col 45	Col 46	Col 47	Col 48	Col 49	Col 50	Col 51
	1.4.10 Pupil growth/ Infant class sizes**	1.4.11 SEN transport**	1.4.12 Exceptions agreed by Secretary of State**	1.4.13 Other Items**	1.5.1 Other Specific Grants**	<b>1.6.1 TOTAL SCHOOLS BUDGET (before Academy recoument)**</b>	2.0.1 Therapies and other health related services*	2.0.2 Central support services*	2.0.3 Education welfare services*	2.0.4 School improvement*	2.0.5 Asset management - education*	2.0.6 Statutory/ Regulatory duties - education*	2.0.7 Premature retirement cost/ Redundancy costs (new provisions)*	2.0.8 Monitoring national curriculum assessment*	2.1.1 Educational psychology service**	2.1.2 SEN administration, assessment and coordination and monitoring**	2.1.3 Parent partnership, guidance and information***
<b>ENGLAND - Average (mean)</b>	<b>£21</b>	<b>£3</b>	<b>£3</b>	<b>£4</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£5,025</b>	<b>£2</b>	<b>£7</b>	<b>£12</b>	<b>£31</b>	<b>£8</b>	<b>£43</b>	<b>£5</b>	<b>£1</b>	<b>£14</b>	<b>£13</b>	<b>£2</b>
<b>ENGLAND - Average (median)</b>	<b>£16</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£4</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£4,943</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£4</b>	<b>£12</b>	<b>£28</b>	<b>£6</b>	<b>£41</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£14</b>	<b>£12</b>	<b>£2</b>
<b>ENGLAND - Maximum</b>	<b>£108</b>	<b>£45</b>	<b>£220</b>	<b>£23</b>	<b>£11</b>	<b>£8,132</b>	<b>£26</b>	<b>£141</b>	<b>£51</b>	<b>£289</b>	<b>£45</b>	<b>£602</b>	<b>£50</b>	<b>£20</b>	<b>£34</b>	<b>£52</b>	<b>£18</b>
<b>ENGLAND - Minimum</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£3,542</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>-£2</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>-£2</b>	<b>-£3</b>	<b>-£1</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>
<b>Average (median)</b>	<b>£12</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£5</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£4,677</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£4</b>	<b>£10</b>	<b>£30</b>	<b>£5</b>	<b>£18</b>	<b>£2</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£14</b>	<b>£12</b>	<b>£2</b>
<b>Maximum</b>	<b>£37</b>	<b>£26</b>	<b>£59</b>	<b>£9</b>	<b>£5</b>	<b>£4,985</b>	<b>£11</b>	<b>£69</b>	<b>£21</b>	<b>£82</b>	<b>£22</b>	<b>£122</b>	<b>£50</b>	<b>£2</b>	<b>£22</b>	<b>£26</b>	<b>£4</b>
<b>Minimum</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£4,402</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£8</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£2</b>	<b>£0</b>
825 Buckinghamshire	£9	£0	£0	£6	£0	£4,729	£0	£0	£6	£20	£5	£34	£0	£0	£22	£11	£2
873 Cambridgeshire	£20	£0	£0	£4	£0	£4,734	£0	£3	£10	£47	£7	£15	£2	£0	£14	£8	£2
909 Cumbria	£4	£0	£0	£5	£0	£4,827	£0	£3	£5	£27	£0	£12	£0	£2	£18	£26	£0
830 Derbyshire	£19	£1	£59	£5	£0	£4,941	£0	£17	£0	£23	£7	£14	£6	£0	£13	£8	£2
878 Devon	£9	£0	£0	£5	£0	£4,695	£5	£0	£10	£31	£4	£32	£0	£0	£20	£13	£3
835 Dorset	£9	£26	£0	£8	£0	£4,760	£0	£6	£14	£34	£22	£56	£0	£0	£21	£12	£1
845 East Sussex	£27	£0	£4	£0	£0	£4,923	£0	£10	£8	£48	£0	£1	£4	£0	£16	£10	£4
881 Essex	£23	£7	£0	£9	£0	£4,635	£0	£7	£21	£82	£10	£0	£19	£0	£16	£19	£2
916 Gloucestershire	£9	£0	£0	£5	£0	£4,622	£0	£2	£11	£23	£3	£16	£2	£0	£12	£11	£4
850 Hampshire	£28	£0	£0	£3	£0	£4,769	£0	£4	£11	£23	£17	£55	£0	£1	£16	£10	£1
919 Hertfordshire	£26	£0	£0	£5	£0	£4,634	£1	£16	£13	£29	£0	£18	£5	£0	£18	£18	£2
886 Kent	£23	£0	£0	£5	£0	£4,669	£0	£2	£4	£26	£0	£17	£5	£0	£10	£6	£1
888 Lancashire	£9	£0	£0	£5	£0	£4,985	£11	£0	£10	£8	£4	£14	£9	£0	£10	£14	£2
855 Leicestershire	£0	£0	£5	£0	£0	£4,402	£0	£8	£0	£19	£10	£47	£0	£0	£13	£7	£2
925 Lincolnshire	£18	£0	£0	£5	£0	£4,567	£0	£11	£14	£48	£0	£58	£0	£0	£16	£16	£3
926 Norfolk	£8	£0	£0	£5	£0	£4,829	£2	£9	£17	£30	£7	£23	£50	£1	£14	£11	£2
815 North Yorkshire	£2	£0	£0	£5	£0	£4,776	£0	£2	£9	£35	£2	£5	£0	£1	£15	£17	£3
928 Northamptonshire	£13	£0	£0	£4	£0	£4,648	£0	£69	£0	£28	£9	£3	£33	£0	£11	£2	£2
891 Nottinghamshire	£8	£15	£0	£5	£0	£4,448	£0	£22	£2	£24	£2	£35	£0	£0	£0	£5	£2
931 Oxfordshire	£34	£7	£0	£5	£0	£4,611	£0	£37	£9	£50	£2	£57	£7	£0	£9	£25	£2
933 Somerset	£11	£0	£0	£5	£0	£4,677	£2	£0	£14	£21	£10	£13	£0	£1	£10	£9	£2
860 Staffordshire	£7	£2	£3	£0	£0	£4,657	£0	£3	£14	£39	£4	£16	£20	£0	£22	£19	£4
935 Suffolk	£12	£0	£0	£0	£5	£4,590	£0	£24	£8	£61	£17	£122	£0	£0	£13	£13	£2
936 Surrey	£37	£0	£0	£4	£0	£4,906	£0	£9	£20	£44	£9	£49	£3	£1	£19	£20	£2
937 Warwickshire	£13	£0	£0	£7	£0	£4,725	£0	£4	£15	£41	£1	£22	£12	£1	£10	£7	£2
938 West Sussex	£24	£6	£0	£4	£0	£4,574	£0	£0	£6	£29	£22	£12	£1	£0	£14	£13	£1
885 Worcestershire	£5	£0	£0	£5	£0	£4,588	£0	£0	£10	£41	£19	£51	£0	£0	£7	£14	£1

- 1) Pupil Divisors Used.
- ..... Total pupils aged 3-19 from maintained schools
- ..... Total pupils aged 3-19 from maintained schools
- ..... Total pupils aged 3-19 from maintained schools
- ..... Total population aged between 0-17.
- ..... Total population aged between 0-19.
- ..... Total population aged between 16-18
- ..... Total population aged between 19-25
- ..... Total pupils aged 3-15 from maintained schools

- 2) The national mean is calculated as the Total Bu
- 3) The national median is calculated as the media
- 4) England figures do not include data for City of L

LA Benchmarking Tables 2012-13  
Per Capita Table (Net)

15-16 Budget LA Table (Net) £ per capita

Upper Tier Authorities

To print use the buttons below.

	Col 52	Col 53	Col 54	Col 55	Col 56	Col 57	Col 58	Col 59	Col 60	Col 61	Col 62	Col 63	Col 64	Col 65	Col 66	Col 67	Col 68
	2.1.4 Home to school transport(pre16); SEN transport expenditure*****	2.1.5 Home to school transport(pre16); mainstream home to school transport expenditure*****	2.1.6 Home to post-16 provision; SEN/LLDD transport expenditure (aged 16-18)*****	2.1.7 Home to post-16 provision; SEN/LLDD transport expenditure (aged 19-25)*****	2.1.8 Home to post-16 provision; mainstream home to post-16 transport expenditure*****	2.1.9 Supply of school places***	2.2.1 Young people's learning and development***	2.2.2 Adult and Community learning***	2.2.3 Pension costs***	2.2.4 Joint use arrangements***	2.2.5 Insurance***	2.3.1 Other Specific Grant***	2.4.1 Total Other education and community budget (maintained schools only)*	2.4.1 Total Other education and community budget (maintained schools and academies)***	3.0.1 Funding for individual Sure Start Children's Centres****	3.0.2 Funding for local authority provided or commissioned area wide services delivered through Sure Start Children's Centres****	3.0.3 Funding on local authority management costs relating to Sure Start Children's Centres****
<b>ENGLAND - Average (mean)</b>	<b>£70</b>	<b>£46</b>	<b>£24</b>	<b>£4</b>	<b>£10</b>	<b>£3</b>	<b>£3</b>	<b>£4</b>	<b>£32</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£1</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£108</b>	<b>£192</b>	<b>£44</b>	<b>£7</b>	<b>£4</b>
<b>ENGLAND - Average (median)</b>	<b>£63</b>	<b>£16</b>	<b>£14</b>	<b>£1</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£2</b>	<b>£1</b>	<b>£1</b>	<b>£29</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£102</b>	<b>£171</b>	<b>£41</b>	<b>£2</b>	<b>£2</b>
<b>ENGLAND - Maximum</b>	<b>£432</b>	<b>£245</b>	<b>£235</b>	<b>£42</b>	<b>£115</b>	<b>£50</b>	<b>£58</b>	<b>£77</b>	<b>£117</b>	<b>£13</b>	<b>£11</b>	<b>£22</b>	<b>£841</b>	<b>£535</b>	<b>£196</b>	<b>£161</b>	<b>£67</b>
<b>ENGLAND - Minimum</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>-£4</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>-£1</b>	<b>-£7</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£12</b>	<b>£33</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>
<b>Average (median)</b>	<b>£73</b>	<b>£66</b>	<b>£18</b>	<b>£1</b>	<b>£12</b>	<b>£3</b>	<b>£1</b>	<b>£1</b>	<b>£27</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£84</b>	<b>£235</b>	<b>£45</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£2</b>
<b>Maximum</b>	<b>£129</b>	<b>£245</b>	<b>£103</b>	<b>£22</b>	<b>£89</b>	<b>£15</b>	<b>£14</b>	<b>£40</b>	<b>£65</b>	<b>£9</b>	<b>£2</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£231</b>	<b>£358</b>	<b>£91</b>	<b>£40</b>	<b>£20</b>
<b>Minimum</b>	<b>£29</b>	<b>£38</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>-£1</b>	<b>-£3</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£50</b>	<b>£153</b>	<b>£2</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>
825 Buckinghamshire	£94	£75	£6	£0	£12	£0	£4	£9	£30	£0	£0	£0	£64	£235	£38	£7	£2
873 Cambridgeshire	£88	£109	£0	£0	£0	£5	£1	£0	£31	£0	£2	£0	£84	£253	£42	£4	£1
909 Cumbria	£53	£166	£103	£0	£47	£6	£1	£3	£65	£0	£0	£0	£50	£358	£61	£0	£0
830 Derbyshire	£57	£38	£41	£7	£21	£0	£5	£0	£48	£0	£0	£0	£67	£186	£39	£0	£1
878 Devon	£79	£143	£18	£1	£20	£2	£2	£40	£52	£0	£0	£0	£84	£353	£69	£0	£0
835 Dorset	£119	£143	£0	£0	£5	£0	£1	£0	£26	£7	£0	£0	£132	£308	£51	£0	£3
845 East Sussex	£83	£48	£67	£13	£23	£2	£13	£0	£5	£8	£0	£0	£72	£216	£29	£26	£7
881 Essex	£45	£60	£26	£0	£8	£3	£0	£18	£11	£0	£0	£0	£139	£176	£33	£0	£0
916 Gloucestershire	£79	£66	£57	£21	£30	£3	£0	£2	£45	£0	£0	£0	£57	£245	£48	£0	£1
850 Hampshire	£77	£66	£34	£1	£0	£2	£6	£2	£18	£0	£1	£0	£111	£207	£22	£0	£0
919 Hertfordshire	£58	£38	£72	£16	£10	£11	£1	£0	£23	£0	£0	£0	£82	£186	£49	£2	£1
886 Kent	£93	£43	£0	£7	£16	£0	£2	-£1	£21	£0	£0	£0	£54	£171	£37	£0	£0
888 Lancashire	£90	£52	£0	£0	£0	£2	-£1	£1	£64	£0	£2	£0	£57	£230	£70	£2	£3
855 Leicestershire	£73	£59	£23	£0	£4	£4	£0	£0	£27	£0	£1	£0	£84	£183	£41	£0	£2
925 Lincolnshire	£84	£164	£17	£0	£15	£2	£7	£3	£43	£0	£1	£0	£131	£328	£13	£40	£2
926 Norfolk	£96	£113	£16	£0	£89	£3	£14	£2	£8	£0	£0	£0	£140	£277	£90	£0	£0
815 North Yorkshire	£52	£245	£40	£9	£14	£2	£0	£0	£14	£2	£0	£0	£54	£347	£11	£1	£20
928 Northamptonshire	£68	£59	£13	£17	£4	£15	£3	-£3	£5	£1	£0	£0	£142	£167	£61	£0	£0
891 Nottinghamshire	£29	£51	£24	£4	£9	£13	£1	£2	£42	£3	£1	£0	£85	£153	£91	£0	£3
931 Oxfordshire	£63	£94	£25	£1	£0	£5	£0	£3	£41	£9	£0	£0	£164	£246	£53	£1	£4
933 Somerset	£53	£123	£14	£1	£31	£5	£0	£0	£27	£0	£2	£0	£61	£239	£54	£0	£2
860 Staffordshire	£64	£49	£40	£3	£4	£4	£5	£4	£61	£0	£0	£0	£96	£237	£13	£3	£0
935 Suffolk	£62	£125	£0	£0	£37	£4	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£231	£215	£45	£0	£0
936 Surrey	£129	£66	£65	£1	£14	£3	£1	£4	£26	£0	£1	£0	£136	£283	£31	£7	£2
937 Warwickshire	£88	£114	£16	£22	£1	£2	£2	£4	£41	£0	£0	£0	£97	£272	£48	£0	£3
938 West Sussex	£73	£58	£0	£0	£0	£2	£1	£0	£17	£3	£0	£0	£70	£180	£49	£0	£2
885 Worcestershire	£63	£61	£9	£0	£34	£2	£0	£0	£6	£0	£0	£0	£121	£159	£2	£0	£0

- 1) Pupil Divisors Used.
- \* Total pupils aged 3-19 from maintained schools
- \*\* Total pupils aged 3-19 from maintained schools
- \*\*\* Total pupils aged 3-19 from maintained schools
- \*\*\*\* Total population aged between 0-17.
- \*\*\*\*\* Total population aged between 0-19.
- \*\*\*\*\* Total population aged between 16-18
- \*\*\*\*\* Total population aged between 19-25
- \*\*\*\*\* Total pupils aged 3-15 from maintained schools

- 2) The national mean is calculated as the Total Bu
- 3) The national median is calculated as the media
- 4) England figures do not include data for City of L

LA Benchmarking Tables 2012-13  
Per Capita Table (Net)

15-16 Budget LA Table (Net) £ per capita

Upper Tier Authorities

To print use the buttons below.

	Col 69	Col 70	Col 71	Col 72	Col 73	Col 74	Col 75	Col 76	Col 77	Col 78	Col 79	Col 80	Col 81	Col 82	Col 83	Col 84	Col 85
	3.0.4 Other early years funding****	3.0.5 Total Sure Start Children's Centres and Early Years Funding****	3.1.1 Residential care****	3.1.2 Fostering services****	3.1.3 Adoption services****	3.1.4 Special guardianship support****	3.1.5 Other children looked after services****	3.1.6 Short breaks (respite) for looked after disabled children****	3.1.7 Children placed with family and friends****	3.1.8 Education of looked after children****	3.1.9 Leaving care support services****	3.1.10 Asylum seeker services children****	3.1.11 Total Children Looked After****	3.2.1 Other children and families services****	3.3.1 Social work (including LA functions in relation to child protection)****	3.3.2 Commissioning and Children's Services Strategy****	3.3.3 Local Safeguarding Children Board****
<b>ENGLAND - Average (mean)</b>	<b>£11</b>	<b>£66</b>	<b>£74</b>	<b>£124</b>	<b>£22</b>	<b>£12</b>	<b>£15</b>	<b>£4</b>	<b>£6</b>	<b>£3</b>	<b>£20</b>	<b>£1</b>	<b>£281</b>	<b>£6</b>	<b>£141</b>	<b>£19</b>	<b>£2</b>
<b>ENGLAND - Average (median)</b>	<b>£9</b>	<b>£63</b>	<b>£71</b>	<b>£125</b>	<b>£23</b>	<b>£11</b>	<b>£11</b>	<b>£1</b>	<b>£5</b>	<b>£2</b>	<b>£20</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£283</b>	<b>£2</b>	<b>£144</b>	<b>£13</b>	<b>£2</b>
<b>ENGLAND - Maximum</b>	<b>£62</b>	<b>£241</b>	<b>£294</b>	<b>£350</b>	<b>£71</b>	<b>£45</b>	<b>£109</b>	<b>£43</b>	<b>£35</b>	<b>£20</b>	<b>£68</b>	<b>£15</b>	<b>£713</b>	<b>£113</b>	<b>£385</b>	<b>£94</b>	<b>£21</b>
<b>ENGLAND - Minimum</b>	<b>-£77</b>	<b>£12</b>	<b>£14</b>	<b>£12</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>-£21</b>	<b>£119</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>
<b>Average (median)</b>	<b>£7</b>	<b>£64</b>	<b>£62</b>	<b>£94</b>	<b>£19</b>	<b>£10</b>	<b>£11</b>	<b>£1</b>	<b>£4</b>	<b>£1</b>	<b>£12</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£228</b>	<b>£3</b>	<b>£119</b>	<b>£13</b>	<b>£1</b>
<b>Maximum</b>	<b>£29</b>	<b>£106</b>	<b>£103</b>	<b>£166</b>	<b>£29</b>	<b>£17</b>	<b>£47</b>	<b>£17</b>	<b>£13</b>	<b>£10</b>	<b>£52</b>	<b>£6</b>	<b>£370</b>	<b>£21</b>	<b>£196</b>	<b>£91</b>	<b>£14</b>
<b>Minimum</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£12</b>	<b>£26</b>	<b>£52</b>	<b>£9</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£3</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£164</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>
825 Buckinghamshire	£29	£75	£62	£89	£23	£11	£17	£14	£3	£0	£6	£2	£228	£0	£124	£91	£1
873 Cambridgeshire	£18	£65	£59	£97	£15	£8	£26	£7	£4	£4	£10	£1	£231	£0	£117	£23	£1
909 Cumbria	£7	£68	£69	£141	£19	£6	£1	£0	£8	£0	£9	£0	£251	£10	£152	£24	£0
830 Derbyshire	£7	£47	£57	£86	£21	£17	£1	£5	£0	£0	£31	£1	£220	£3	£101	£25	£1
878 Devon	£4	£73	£47	£88	£23	£13	£24	£2	£4	£4	£10	£0	£211	£4	£174	£8	£2
835 Dorset	£17	£71	£94	£75	£24	£0	£0	£1	£0	£4	£12	£0	£211	£21	£189	£12	£2
845 East Sussex	£0	£62	£46	£128	£20	£15	£11	£0	£4	£0	£7	£0	£230	£10	£114	£12	£14
881 Essex	£11	£44	£43	£99	£22	£11	£11	£9	£2	£1	£6	£0	£204	£5	£156	£0	£1
916 Gloucestershire	£1	£50	£28	£96	£20	£16	£12	£0	£5	£0	£17	£0	£194	£0	£104	£14	£1
850 Hampshire	£8	£32	£90	£92	£15	£5	£8	£0	£13	£3	£5	£0	£230	£2	£81	£2	£1
919 Hertfordshire	£11	£65	£61	£83	£21	£13	£24	£2	£12	£7	£11	£2	£238	£8	£129	£4	£1
886 Kent	£5	£42	£32	£104	£23	£14	£1	£0	£4	£4	£16	£0	£200	£21	£124	£15	£1
888 Lancashire	£7	£82	£80	£120	£12	£13	£21	£1	£5	£2	£3	£0	£258	£0	£68	£13	£1
855 Leicestershire	£7	£50	£49	£63	£9	£10	£0	£4	£0	£8	£20	£2	£166	£12	£92	£13	£1
925 Lincolnshire	£3	£59	£44	£60	£12	£8	£5	£2	£9	£1	£14	£0	£164	£1	£119	£36	£0
926 Norfolk	£26	£106	£93	£148	£22	£5	£47	£17	£0	£3	£34	£0	£370	£4	£0	£58	£1
815 North Yorkshire	£1	£34	£50	£98	£17	£10	£1	£1	£0	£0	£12	£0	£179	£0	£98	£8	£1
928 Northamptonshire	£4	£65	£86	£69	£23	£8	£22	£5	£6	£1	£15	£1	£236	£15	£151	£0	£2
891 Nottinghamshire	£11	£105	£96	£124	£29	£14	£22	£0	£0	£0	£8	£0	£295	£0	£134	£3	£5
931 Oxfordshire	£6	£65	£94	£52	£12	£8	£15	£0	£11	£1	£3	£0	£200	£6	£117	£2	£2
933 Somerset	£20	£76	£88	£98	£19	£10	£27	£8	£0	£0	£52	£0	£302	£4	£111	£8	£4
860 Staffordshire	£0	£15	£103	£131	£16	£14	£11	£0	£5	£0	£33	£2	£315	£0	£173	£17	£1
935 Suffolk	£8	£53	£54	£94	£15	£6	£10	£1	£1	£10	£17	£4	£212	£3	£137	£16	£1
936 Surrey	£24	£64	£67	£72	£16	£12	£22	£4	£11	£3	£15	£1	£221	£1	£157	£6	£1
937 Warwickshire	£3	£53	£26	£120	£13	£9	£8	£0	£13	£2	£8	£0	£200	£5	£196	£9	£1
938 West Sussex	£19	£71	£76	£81	£11	£9	£0	£13	£2	£1	£31	£6	£230	£0	£115	£25	£1
885 Worcestershire	£9	£12	£75	£166	£11	£5	£1	£0	£0	£1	£4	£2	£266	£0	£111	£23	£1

1) Pupil Divisors Used.  
 Total pupils aged 3-19 from maintained schools  
 Total pupils aged 3-19 from maintained schools  
 Total pupils aged 3-19 from maintained schools  
 Total population aged between 0-17.  
 Total population aged between 0-19.  
 Total population aged between 16-18  
 Total population aged between 19-25  
 Total pupils aged 3-15 from maintained schools

2) The national mean is calculated as the Total Bu  
 3) The national median is calculated as the media  
 4) England figures do not include data for City of L

LA Benchmarking Tables 2012-13  
Per Capita Table (Net)

15-16 Budget LA Table (Net) £ per capita

Upper Tier Authorities

To print use the buttons below.

	Col 86	Col 87	Col 88	Col 89	Col 90	Col 91	Col 92	Col 93	Col 94	Col 95	Col 96	Col 97	Col 98	Col 99
	3.3.4 Total Safeguarding Children and Young People's Services****	3.4.1 Direct payments****	3.4.2 Short breaks (respite) for disabled children****	3.4.3 Other support for disabled children****	3.4.4 Targeted family support****	3.4.5 Universal family support****	3.4.6 Total Family Support Services****	3.5.1 Universal services for young people****	3.5.2 Targeted services for young people****	3.5.3 Total Services for young people****	3.6.1 Youth justice****	4.0.1 Capital Expenditure from Revenue (CERA) (Non-schools budget functions and Children's and young people services)****	5.0.2 Total Children and Young People's Services and Youth Justice Budget (excluding CERA)(lines 3.0.5 + 3.1.11 + 3.2.1 + 3.3.4 + 3.4.6 + 3.5.3 + 3.6.1)****	Total Children and Young People's Services and Youth Justice Budget (inc CERA)(lines 5.0.2 + 4.0.1)
<b>ENGLAND - Average (mean)</b>	<b>£163</b>	<b>£7</b>	<b>£17</b>	<b>£4</b>	<b>£41</b>	<b>£6</b>	<b>£74</b>	<b>£20</b>	<b>£23</b>	<b>£43</b>	<b>£14</b>	<b>£7</b>	<b>£647</b>	<b>£654</b>
<b>ENGLAND - Average (median)</b>	<b>£169</b>	<b>£6</b>	<b>£16</b>	<b>£1</b>	<b>£40</b>	<b>£1</b>	<b>£74</b>	<b>£19</b>	<b>£19</b>	<b>£44</b>	<b>£13</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£659</b>	<b>£663</b>
<b>ENGLAND - Maximum</b>	<b>£425</b>	<b>£43</b>	<b>£64</b>	<b>£57</b>	<b>£121</b>	<b>£80</b>	<b>£184</b>	<b>£129</b>	<b>£91</b>	<b>£147</b>	<b>£61</b>	<b>£1,103</b>	<b>£1,519</b>	<b>£1,604</b>
<b>ENGLAND - Minimum</b>	<b>£40</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£-2</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£30</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£358</b>	<b>£358</b>
<b>Average (median)</b>	<b>£140</b>	<b>£6</b>	<b>£15</b>	<b>£2</b>	<b>£34</b>	<b>£1</b>	<b>£68</b>	<b>£7</b>	<b>£22</b>	<b>£44</b>	<b>£10</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£560</b>	<b>£560</b>
<b>Maximum</b>	<b>£215</b>	<b>£22</b>	<b>£45</b>	<b>£27</b>	<b>£121</b>	<b>£63</b>	<b>£154</b>	<b>£47</b>	<b>£68</b>	<b>£79</b>	<b>£21</b>	<b>£45</b>	<b>£712</b>	<b>£713</b>
<b>Minimum</b>	<b>£40</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£4</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£31</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£1</b>	<b>£15</b>	<b>£5</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£433</b>	<b>£434</b>
825 Buckinghamshire	£215	£1	£0	£27	£34	£5	£68	£5	£39	£44	£9	£0	£639	£639
873 Cambridgeshire	£141	£10	£9	£2	£72	£4	£98	£1	£38	£39	£10	£5	£584	£589
909 Cumbria	£177	£8	£38	£16	£39	£0	£100	£47	£1	£47	£9	£0	£663	£663
830 Derbyshire	£127	£6	£19	£0	£16	£0	£41	£20	£59	£79	£9	£0	£525	£525
878 Devon	£184	£22	£14	£2	£42	£0	£80	£29	£2	£30	£16	£0	£598	£598
835 Dorset	£202	£8	£11	£3	£21	£5	£48	£42	£20	£62	£11	£0	£626	£626
845 East Sussex	£140	£0	£36	£0	£42	£14	£91	£8	£20	£28	£8	£0	£570	£570
881 Essex	£157	£9	£0	£2	£42	£0	£52	£0	£19	£19	£14	£0	£495	£495
916 Gloucestershire	£119	£12	£19	£1	£42	£1	£76	£5	£49	£54	£11	£0	£504	£504
850 Hampshire	£83	£4	£21	£7	£24	£1	£56	£1	£22	£23	£9	£0	£434	£434
919 Hertfordshire	£134	£10	£20	£3	£26	£0	£59	£45	£15	£61	£13	£0	£577	£577
886 Kent	£140	£0	£24	£1	£39	£0	£64	£16	£6	£23	£9	£0	£500	£500
888 Lancashire	£82	£7	£15	£3	£57	£2	£85	£27	£18	£44	£11	£0	£562	£562
855 Leicestershire	£106	£11	£5	£2	£21	£0	£39	£0	£39	£39	£21	£3	£433	£436
925 Lincolnshire	£156	£3	£5	£5	£76	£8	£96	£27	£33	£61	£7	£0	£544	£544
926 Norfolk	£59	£3	£15	£1	£11	£63	£93	£24	£46	£71	£9	£0	£712	£712
815 North Yorkshire	£107	£4	£37	£1	£49	£4	£94	£4	£68	£72	£11	£3	£497	£500
928 Northamptonshire	£152	£4	£9	£3	£19	£0	£35	£37	£7	£45	£11	£45	£560	£605
891 Nottinghamshire	£142	£6	£45	£2	£19	£10	£83	£28	£31	£59	£6	£23	£690	£713
931 Oxfordshire	£121	£4	£14	£4	£66	£10	£99	£12	£38	£50	£6	£0	£546	£546
933 Somerset	£122	£4	£8	£0	£19	£0	£31	£5	£11	£15	£9	£0	£560	£560
860 Staffordshire	£191	£6	£24	£2	£4	£17	£53	£0	£23	£23	£15	£0	£613	£613
935 Suffolk	£153	£5	£18	£11	£30	£1	£66	£5	£27	£32	£15	£0	£533	£533
936 Surrey	£164	£9	£24	£1	£21	£3	£59	£7	£64	£71	£13	£0	£593	£593
937 Warwickshire	£206	£2	£12	£1	£19	£1	£36	£2	£15	£17	£15	£0	£532	£532
938 West Sussex	£40	£21	£13	£0	£121	£0	£154	£0	£22	£22	£5	£0	£522	£522
885 Worcestershire	£135	£3	£22	£1	£88	£8	£121	£1	£15	£16	£6	£0	£556	£556

- 1) Pupil Divisors Used.
- \* Total pupils aged 3-19 from maintained schools
- \*\* Total pupils aged 3-19 from maintained schools
- \*\*\* Total pupils aged 3-19 from maintained schools
- \*\*\*\* Total population aged between 0-17.
- \*\*\*\*\* Total population aged between 0-19.
- \*\*\*\*\* Total population aged between 16-18
- \*\*\*\*\* Total population aged between 19-25
- \*\*\*\*\* Total pupils aged 3-15 from maintained schools

- 2) The national mean is calculated as the Total Bu
- 3) The national median is calculated as the media
- 4) England figures do not include data for City of L

# Agenda Item 5

## Regulatory and Other Committee

<b>NAME OF COMMITTEE:</b>	Lincolnshire Schools Forum
<b>DATE OF MEETING:</b>	13 January 2016
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	School Funding Arrangements 2016/17
<b>REPORT BY:</b>	Mark Popplewell (Head of Finance – Children's Services)
<b>NAME OF CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	Mark Popplewell
<b>CONTACT OFFICER TEL NO:</b>	01522 553326
<b>CONTACT OFFICER EMAIL ADDRESS:</b>	mark.popplewell@lincolnshire.gov.uk
<b>IS THE REPORT EXEMPT?</b>	No
<b>IS REPORT CONFIDENTIAL?</b>	No

### SUMMARY

The purposes of this report are to:

1. brief the Schools Forum on school funding arrangements for 2016/17; and
2. seek support for the Local Authority's (LA) proposals relating to a number of centrally held budgets.

### DISCUSSION

#### Background

The government is not planning to make any changes to the school funding arrangements for mainstream schools in 2016/17. The government's direction of travel is to introduce a national fair funding formula. Should this policy be introduced by government, it seems likely that change will have to be phased over a period of several years. It appears unlikely that additional funding will be made available to bring the least well-funded up to the level of the highest funded LAs. So, a potential redistribution of funding will almost certainly require adequate protection arrangements to apply, perhaps through the use of 'floors' and 'ceilings'. As LA Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) per pupil funding varies from c.£4,000 to c.£7,000. To maintain stability, it is likely that greater equalisation could take a few years.

Nevertheless, at the meeting of the Schools Forum on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2015, the LA received support to invest in a behavioural outreach support service to provide a range of early intervention activities; preventions and support for Schools, Families and to the pupils experiencing social, emotional and behavioural difficulties in order to try and reduce the costs in exclusions which is rising. Lincolnshire's DSG does not have the financial capacity to meet the investment of £1.3m required; therefore support was received to meet this funding requirement by reducing mainstream schools Age Weighted Pupil Units (AWPUs). The October 2015 submitted DfE Authority Proforma Tool (APT) outlining Lincolnshire's mainstream schools funding formula for 2016/17 identified a reduction in AWPUs by 0.5% to fund this service, which equates to a per pupil reduction of £13.25 for the primary sector, and for Key Stage 3 and 4, this is a £18.08 and £22.25 reduction respectively. The AWPU funding reduction will be confirmed following the completion of the January 2016 APT that details the schools 2016/17 budget shares. It is important that the service successfully reduces exclusions or further school reductions could be necessary.

The LA is currently undertaking a review of Lincolnshire's special school funding formula; special unit provision, and alternative provision arrangements.

Since the 7<sup>th</sup> October 2015 Schools Forum meeting, the LA has:

1. Completed and submitted the DfE's APT reflecting the changes to AWPU funding for mainstream schools (31<sup>st</sup> October 2015).
2. Requested and received DfE approval for the one-off allocation made in 2015/16 from the 2014/15 DSG underspend to be excluded from future calculations of the Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) to ensure this one-off funding is not locked into the guarantee. No future one-off funding allocations are planned.
3. Submitted a high needs return to the DfE for places in academies (special and mainstream schools); FE institutions, and non-maintained special schools for the 2016/17 academic year (16<sup>th</sup> November 2015) following a consultation exercise.
4. Reviewed the DfE's 17<sup>th</sup> December 2015 announcement on DSG block allocations for 2016/17.
5. Reviewed and proposed provisional DSG centrally held budgets for 2016/17, as set out in this report.

A significant amount of further work still remains up to 29<sup>th</sup> February 2016 before school budgets can be published.

### **School funding announcements**

The information published by the DfE on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2015 can be found at:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dedicated-schools-grant-dsg-2016-to-2017?utm\\_source=EFA%20e-bulletin&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=e-bulletin&mxmroi=2305-31057-37259-0](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dedicated-schools-grant-dsg-2016-to-2017?utm_source=EFA%20e-bulletin&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=e-bulletin&mxmroi=2305-31057-37259-0)

The information confirms that the operation of the DSG will remain largely unchanged:

1. The DSG remains a ring-fenced grant that can only be used in accordance with the DfE's regulations.
2. The DSG will continue to be set out in three blocks: an early years block; a schools block, and; a higher needs block.
3. The schools block per pupil unit values for 2016/17 will be the same starting position as in 2015/16, subject to non-recoupment academy adjustments.
4. The MFG will continue to apply and will again be set at minus 1.5% per pupil for 2016/17. The MFG excludes sixth-form funding and academies Education Support Grant funding.
5. The schools block will continue to be based primarily on the preceding October census, but an uplift will be made to ensure that no LA loses out as a result of a child's deferred entry to reception.
6. The Early Years block will again be updated after the start of the financial year. For 2016/17, the block uses data from the January 2015 census, but this will be updated in 2016/17 for the

January 2016 census (5/12ths) and for the January 2017 census (7/12ths). The Early Years block funding will continue to be based on participation.

7. The Early Years block per pupil unit values; participation funding for 2 year olds from the most disadvantaged backgrounds, and the early years pupil premium for 2016/17 will remain at the same value as 2015/16.
8. The government have announced an additional £92.5m increase nationally in DSG high needs funding for 2016/17.
9. The LA's Chief Finance Officer will continue to be required to confirm that the DSG has been deployed in support of the Schools Budget. This duty will be discharged via the s.251 outturn statement and by appending a note to the LA's statements of account.

### **Education Support Grant announcement**

The Chancellor announced in the autumn spending review that around £600m savings will be made from the Education Support Grant (ESG) including phasing out the additional funding academy schools receive through the ESG. The government is reviewing the LA's role in running schools and its statutory duties, and will consult on policy and funding proposals in 2016.

The ESG provides funding for the additional responsibilities that academies acquire upon conversion. The general funding rate will fall from £87 to £77 per pupil in 2016/17. The rates for alternative provision academies and special academies will fall to £288.75 and £327.25 per place respectively. The retained duties rate that LAs receive for all pupils (regardless of whether they are educated at maintained schools or academies), will remain unchanged at £15 per pupil.

The DfE still intends to converge the academies ESG rates with those used for LA's (e.g. £77 per pupil). The academies protection continues to be set in tapered bands, so that academies currently receiving relatively low ESG payments will not be allowed to see a fall of more than 1% of their total funding, while academies currently receiving relatively high ESG payments will be allowed to see a fall of more than 1% of their total funding (up to a maximum of 3%).

Further information on the ESG can be found at:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/education-services-grant-esg-2016-to-2017?utm\\_source=EFA%20e-bulletin&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=e-bulletin&mxmroi=2305-31057-37261-0](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/education-services-grant-esg-2016-to-2017?utm_source=EFA%20e-bulletin&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=e-bulletin&mxmroi=2305-31057-37261-0)

### **Pupil premium announcement**

The funding for the pupil premium in 2016/17 will be protected at the 2015/16 current rates, which are:

1. £1,320 per primary pupil who is currently eligible for free school meals (FSM) or has been eligible for FSM in the past 6 years.
2. £935 for secondary FSM 'Ever 6' pupils.
3. £1,900 for looked-after children. Eligibility criteria includes those pupils who: have been in care for one day or more; have been adopted from care, or; have left care under a special guardianship order, a residence order and a child arrangement order.
4. £300 per pupil for service premium.
5. £0.53 per hour early years pupil premium for each eligible three and four year old up to the full 570 hours of free education entitlement.

Further details are available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/pupil-premium-information-for-schools-and-alternative-provision-settings>

### **2016/17 DSG allocations**

The DSG allocations announced by the DfE on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2015 are set out below.

Table 1: Lincolnshire's 2016/17 DSG block allocations

Block	Lincs £m	Lincs £ per pupil	England £ per pupil
Schools Block	403.477 <sup>1</sup>	4,374.31	4,636.42
Early Years block – 3 & 4 year old and Early Years Pupil Premium	24.761 <sup>2</sup>	3,974.07	4,281.81
Early Years block – 2 year old	5.755	4,607.50	4,774.79
High Needs block	63.095 <sup>3</sup>	n/a	n/a
Additions for non-block funding	0.134 <sup>4</sup>	n/a	n/a
Total	497.222	n/a	n/a

It is clear from Table 1 that there remain significant differentials between Lincolnshire's per pupil funding rates and the national averages even allowing for last year's fairer funding allocation to Lincolnshire's schools block. Both the local and national per pupil rates for the early years block remain unchanged from last year.

Overall, Lincolnshire's DSG will increase by 1.05% in 2016/17.

### **DSG School Budgets 2016/17**

As highlighted earlier in this report, the LA's main change to the 2016/17 mainstream schools funding formula relates to the planned 0.5% reduction in AWPU funding to fund the new behavioural outreach support service to provide a range of early intervention activities; preventions and support for Schools, Families and to the pupils experiencing social, emotional and behavioural difficulties.

The other proposed change to school funding relates to the DfE approval for the one-off allocation made in 2015/16 from the 2014/15 DSG underspend to be excluded from future calculations of the MFG to ensure this one-off funding is not locked into the guarantee.

At the time of writing this report, work is underway in calculating and checking the budget allocations to individual schools.

### **DSG Central budgets 2016/17**

As stated in previous years, it is important that the LA takes a prudent approach to the setting of central budgets within the DSG. This is necessary because:

1. Since the 2013/14 school funding reforms, the LA has been able to retain far fewer budgets centrally and so there will inevitably be lower levels of underspendings in future years (as reported in the October 2015 Schools Forum meeting), and therefore less capacity to respond to any significant emerging issues.
2. There are a number of budgets that are difficult to estimate and control (e.g. SEN related budgets, including out of county placements and for post-16 students with higher needs, and; the demand led early years budget).
3. Under current DfE's regulations, for an overspending on the DSG to be written off in the following year, approval from the Schools Forum would be required. Any overspend situation would almost certainly result in reduced budgets for schools, since the LA would be unable to fund the DSG overspend from its non-DSG budgets which have and will continue to be

<sup>1</sup> This includes an upward adjustment to the schools block until value from £4,371.82 to incorporate the transfer of the non-recoupment academies within the schools block.

<sup>2</sup> This includes £0.472m indicative allocation for the early year's premium.

<sup>3</sup> This includes a £1.142m share of the £92.5m additional funding provided nationally by government for the higher needs block.

<sup>4</sup> As happened in 2015/16, this provides schools with a share of a £10.2m national sum and is to help them to fund the induction of newly qualified teachers.

subject to significant cuts in future years, in stark contrast to the 'cash flat' protection given by the government to the DSG.

The LA has conducted its annual review of the DSG central budgets. The following table summarises the most significant planned changes.

Table 2: Main changes proposed to DSG central budgets

<b>Budget</b>	<b>Proposed change to the current budget Increase / (decrease) £</b>	<b>2016/17 Proposed budget £</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
Places in independent schools for non-SEN pupils (Stamford Endowed schools)	(£0.224m)	£0.434m	The contract provides for a phased reduction in the number of places purchased. The final term of the contract is Summer 2018.
SEN Out of County	£0.890m	£8.180m	The continued increase in Out of County expenditure is largely as a result of the rise in the number of young people with Autistic Spectrum Disorders. The LA is working with special schools to develop a strategy and to provide provision in meeting their needs. The growing number of pupils that Lincolnshire's schools are unable to meet need is a worrying trajectory. The governments increase in high needs funding for LA's in 2016/17 will offset this year's budget pressure, however this upward trend cannot be sustained financially.

The DfE regulations contain a number of provisions in relation to the setting of central budgets within the DSG:

1. The Higher Needs block and central licences negotiated by the Secretary of State can be retained by the LA before allocating the DSG to school budgets. Schools Forum approval is not required.
2. Funding for significant pre-16 growth to meet basic need, and places in independent schools for non-SEN pupils can be retained centrally with the agreement of the Schools Forum.
3. Budgets for Admissions and servicing of the Schools Forum can be retained, but no increase in expenditure from 2012/13 levels is permitted. The Schools Forum is required to confirm the amount for each budget line.
4. Capital Expenditure from the Revenue Account (CERA) and termination of employment costs can be retained centrally. No new commitments or increase in expenditure above 2012/13 levels are permitted. The Schools Forum is required to confirm the amount for each budget line.

In light of these regulations, Table 3 below sets out the budgets requiring Schools Forum approval.

Table 3: Budgets requiring Schools Forum decisions

Budget	Key points	Proposed budget 2016/17 £
	<i>Under DfE regulations, the following budgets can be set at any monetary value.</i>	
Funding for significant pre-16 growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This budget is essential for the LA to fulfil its statutory duty to provide sufficient of school places for pupils.</li> <li>• There has been major pressure on reception places for the last five years and this looks set to continue.</li> <li>• Funding is allocated in accordance with the LA's policy. This is when, as part of its strategic planning of places, the LA needs to ask a school to take in additional pupils above its planned admission number (PAN) temporarily or permanently.</li> <li>• It will continue to be the case that funding could be allocated to maintained schools or academies.</li> <li>• The number of new school places required and their location is uncertain and difficult to predict. The circumstances and hence the costs will vary from school to school, therefore it is therefore important that a prudent budget is set.</li> <li>• DSG funding for increases to pupil numbers is lagged for LA's until the following financial year, therefore earmarked funding is required to meet this obligation.</li> <li>• The budget proposed for next year is the same as that set for 2015/16.</li> </ul>	£2.000m
Places in independent schools for non-SEN pupils (Stamford Endowed schools)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This matter was referred to in Table 2.</li> <li>• The LA has a contractual agreement to purchase these places in Stamford.</li> <li>• The contract provides for a phased reduction over time in the number of places purchased.</li> <li>• The budget requirement is therefore due to decline by £0.224m next year and will continue to decline until the contract officially ends in August 2018.</li> <li>• Without this budget, the LA would be unable to meet its contractual liabilities and it would remain the LA's responsibility to make education provision for these young people.</li> </ul>	£0.434m
	<i>For the following items, LAs can propose budgets only up to the value committed in 2012/13</i>	
Broadband	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The budget continues to fund an aggregated broadband provision to all schools (including academies).</li> <li>• The budget proposed for next year is the same as that set for 2015/16.</li> </ul>	£1.617m

Admissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The LA has a statutory duty to operate the admissions arrangements in county schools.</li> <li>• Without this budget, the LA would be unable to fulfil its statutory duties.</li> <li>• The budget proposed for next year is the same as that set for 2015/16.</li> </ul>	£0.449m
Servicing of the Schools Forum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Historically, the cost has been very modest.</li> <li>• Without this budget, the Schools Forum would find it difficult to operate effectively.</li> <li>• It is proposed that the same budget for 2015/16 is set for 2016/17.</li> </ul>	£0.020m
Central expenditure from revenue (CERA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This funds the costs of the capital investment made by the LA in schools over previous years, and the PFI contractual commitments for the seven schools built under PFI a decade ago.</li> <li>• Without this budget, the LA would be unable to finance the on-going costs of these historic, contractual commitments. It is proposed that the same budget for 2015/16 is set for 2016/17.</li> </ul>	£5.045m
Schools centrally funded termination of employment costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The bulk of the 2012/13 budget had to be delegated to all schools from 2013/14, but a commitment remained for the Redeployment officer who continues to help all schools avoid redundancy costs by redeploying staff in other schools wherever possible.</li> <li>• Without this funding, this post could not be retained and schools would probably pick-up significantly greater costs from redundancies than would otherwise be the case.</li> </ul>	£0.045m

The budgets proposed above are prudent and have been determined following a detailed review.

Some minor refinements to these budgets may be necessary in light of officers' on-going work, but material changes are not expected. In accordance with established practice, the LA will report to Schools Forum in April 2016 the final budgets for 2016/17, as set out in the s.251 budget statement which has to be published by 31 March 2016. Any material changes from the figures reported here will be communicated to the Schools Forum at that time.

Members from the relevant sections of the Schools Forum agreed the de-delegation of a number of budgets at its meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2015. Those decisions will be reflected in the LA APT that will be submitted to the DfE in January 2016.

### **The financial outlook for schools, the Council and Children's Services**

School budgets have been protected by the government over the last five years. The DSG has remained 'cash flat', but significant additional funding (£2.5bn) has been added via the pupil premium since its introduction in 2011/12.

The provisional local government finance settlement for 2016/17 was published for consultation on the 17th December 2015. The consultation runs until 15th January 2015. The overall funding position is worse than was predicted for Lincolnshire County Council on the basis of the recent autumn spending review. Indeed, that is the general position faced by all authorities in shire areas.

The significant (and annually increasing) variance between the expected funding and what is now being proposed is arising as a result of a change in the funding distribution model for adult care services away from shire counties and towards metropolitan areas and London Boroughs. There has

been no prior consultation on this highly significant change and no smoothing in of the impact between the losers and gainers.

The funding shortfall for 2016/17 prior to the approval of savings initiatives, the use of capital receipts or the use of one-off reserves is c.£65m, which will increase to c.£75m by 2019/20. Current spending levels of the Council are £0.440m, therefore a 17% reduction in spend is required over this four year period.

The situation for the Council obviously has a major bearing on Children's Services budget. In the four year period 2010/11 to 2014/15, the Directorate has successfully delivered £30.367m of savings, and in 2015/16 Children's Services is on track to deliver £4.258m. Children's Services non-DSG budget for 2015/16 is £100.377m, and a significant proportion (c.45%) is children's social care.

The challenge of contributing to the Council's savings target is much more difficult for Children's Services in Lincolnshire, given that the home to school / college transport budget is significant (c.£25m p.a.) and much greater than almost all other LAs. Nevertheless, plans are being developed to contribute towards the Council's savings targets.

In summary, the Council faces very significant financial challenges beyond 2015/16 and this is likely to have a major impact upon Children's Services budgets in future years.

### **Next steps**

Checks will be made against the DfE's new School and Early Years Finance Regulations announced in December 2015, to ensure full compliance. The regulations apply to the 2016/17 financial year and will come into force on 7 January 2016.

The revised proforma for mainstream school budgets is due to be sent to the DfE by 21<sup>st</sup> January 2016. It will reflect the proposals reported to and supported by the Schools Forum on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2015.

Under the DfE regulations, the LA is required to publish mainstream (excluding sixth form funding) and special schools budgets by the 29<sup>th</sup> February 2016. The LA will however endeavour to publish all budgets as early as possible.

The LA will keep the school funding formula under review and will bring forward to Schools Forum any proposals for modifying the formula.

<b>RECOMMENDATIONS</b>
------------------------

The Schools Forum is asked to:

- a. Note the content of the report.
- b. Support the LA's proposals for the setting of the central budgets shown in Table 3 above.

<b>BACKGROUND PAPERS</b>			
The following reports were relied upon in the writing of this report.			
<b>PAPER TYPE</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>ACCESSIBILITY</b>
Report	Outreach Support Service – Challenging Behaviour	22 <sup>nd</sup> April 2015	County Offices, Newland, Lincoln

Report	De-delegation of Maintained Primary School Budget 2016/17 and 2017/18	7 <sup>th</sup> October 2015	County Offices, Newland, Lincoln
Report	Revised Schools Budget 2015/16	7 <sup>th</sup> October 2015	County Offices, Newland, Lincoln
Report	Schools Revenue Funding 2016/17	7 <sup>th</sup> October 2015	County Offices, Newland, Lincoln

<b>APPENDICES</b>
None.

**This page is intentionally left blank**

**Open Report on behalf of Debbie Barnes, Executive Director of Children's Services**

Report to:	<b>Lincolnshire Schools Forum</b>
Date:	<b>13 January 2016</b>
Subject:	<b>Inclusive Lincolnshire Strategy - Pupil Reintegration Charge</b>

**Summary:**

All pupils and schools in Lincolnshire are our collective responsibility where every pupil and school is known, valued and supported to achieve in all areas.

**Key Priorities**

- Schools, the Local Authority and other agencies to meet young people's behavioural needs in school wherever possible.
- Intervene early through high quality support in order to prevent further escalation of need and reduce exclusions
- Deliver a service which is integrated, and is responsive to pupil, family and school needs.
- Commission an outreach service which is able to support schools to provide for pupils with complex needs and challenging behaviour.
- Arrange swift and equitable reintegration into an appropriate setting.
- Improve and increase educational alternatives for young people aged 14-19 at risk of exclusion.
- Improve outcomes, including attainment, for young people with challenging behaviour.

This report submits the endorsed Inclusive Lincolnshire Strategy adopted by the Lincolnshire Learning Partnership Board. The strategy reports the significant issue within Lincolnshire of the growing number of permanent exclusions from schools. One element of this strategy is to seek approval from the Schools Forum to introduce a pupil reintegration charge that would be charged to those schools that could not demonstrate that they had done everything reasonable to prevent the exclusion of a pupil. Where schools could demonstrate this there would be no charge.

**Recommendation(s):**

To agreed to the introduction of a pupil reintegration charge for those schools that cannot demonstrate that they have have done everything reasonable to prevent an exclusion.

## Background

Nationally, both permanent and fixed-period exclusions have been steadily declining in the last few years to around 0.06% of the pupil population in 2014.

In contrast, Lincolnshire has seen an increase and remains a high excluding authority. Pupils in Lincolnshire are more likely to be excluded than in many other Local Authority (LA) areas and was ranked 135<sup>th</sup> out of 139 for permanent exclusions from all school types.

### Primary:

- Lincolnshire was ranked joint last position out of 95 publishing LAs
- 40 LA areas had no primary exclusions
- The national rate of permanent exclusion is 2 per 10,000 pupils; in Lincolnshire it is 7 per 10,000 pupils

### Secondary:

- Lincolnshire was ranked 110<sup>th</sup> out of 132 publishing LAs
- 6 LA area had no secondary exclusions
- The national rate of permanent exclusion is 13 per 10,000 pupils; in Lincolnshire it is 23 per 10,000 pupils

It is recognised by the Local Authority and all schools that the numbers of exclusions is rising and as a consequence more of the dedicated school grant (DSG) will have to be used to meet the needs of pupils excluded from Lincolnshire schools, reducing future funding for every school. At the same time, it is clear that schools do not have access to an appropriate behaviour outreach service that can help them meet the needs of pupils whose behaviour challenges them.

A working group of head teachers and LA officers was established in designing this strategy and recurrent funding of £1.3 million per annum was committed by the Schools Forum on behalf of all schools, to support its implementation. The specification for the service is due out to tender imminently with the hope to award the contract by April for a delivered service by September 2016

The Lincolnshire Learning Partnership is the vehicle to support and strategically lead school to school collaboration across Lincolnshire. The Lincolnshire Learning Partnership Board (led by schools for schools) has contributed to the development of this strategy and will promote and monitor its implementation and success across the county.

The 'Inclusive Lincolnshire' strategy is dependent on the commitment of all schools and the local authority to do all we can to protect pupils from the damaging effects of school exclusions. Consistent expectations must be transparent so that schools, the LA and locality panels can challenge and support one another. The 'Lincolnshire Ladder of Behavioural Intervention' (LLBI) has been developed with schools for schools and outlines what schools, using good practice expectations, can do for themselves to meet the needs of pupils whose behaviour is challenging. It includes reference to the services schools can access, and more specialist provision is available to meet those pupils with the most challenging needs.

### **Behaviour Outreach Support Service (BOSS)**

Working on behalf of schools, the LA will commission a new Behaviour Outreach Support Service that will operate on two levels for all schools, in addition to running a whole school restorative practice programme with 20 schools. The service will be encouraged to offer enhanced traded packages of support to schools, or clusters of schools, who decide that this is a strategic priority for them.

### **Targeted Outreach Support**

Accessible to all schools facilitated for individuals or small groups in the school setting and is focussed on pupils at risk of exclusion. This will involve bespoke interventions which increase capacity within the school setting and facilitate progress with individual pupils.

Schools should, at this point, consider the possibility of a managed-move as a means to avoid a permanent exclusion. Managed moves are a three-way agreement between the parent/pupil and the current and potential school. The outreach service will support schools to formalise a trial agreement where the pupil remains on the roll of the current school (as a dual registered – main registration) and as a subsidiary registration at the potential school. The current school is responsible for the transport arrangements of the pupil during the trial period. Transport costs will be met by the LA once the trial has ended successfully and all three parties are in agreement.

*(In order to protect capacity at this level of the service, schools will need to demonstrate that they have deployed the best practice strategies of school-led interventions)*

### **Escalating Need – Intensive Intervention**

A small minority of pupils will need more support than can be provided in the mainstream provision. The 'Inclusive Lincolnshire' strategy offers schools access to flexible, bespoke pre-exclusion placements in specialist behaviour provision. These will be time-limited interventions with pupils at the point of permanent exclusion. These placements will be flexible and pupils will remain on the role of their home school throughout the intensive intervention. This level of the strategy will be led by the Local Authority.

*(In order to protect capacity at this level of the service, schools will need to have accessed the targeted outreach support. As an interim measure a single, central decision-making panel will be created to gate-keep the access to services beyond the support of BOSS - targeted outreach support but in time this decision making will be delegated to locality panels, led by head teachers)*

In Lincolnshire, our pupil referral units are referred to as The Lincolnshire Teaching and Learning and Centre (LTLC). Provision across these four sites was judged to require special measures by Ofsted in February 2015. As a key strategic provision in Lincolnshire, it is essential that, through the 'Inclusive Lincolnshire' strategy, LTLC becomes the specialist centre delivering skilled interventions which enable the majority of pupils to return to mainstream school and their local community. By working in partnership with local primary and secondary schools, the LTLC will provide alternative flexible education pathways.

The LTLC has four sites located around the County at Lincoln, Baumber, Boston and Grantham. There are 110 placements available for key stages 1-3 pupils and a potential 186 (142 block and 44 spot purchase) placements for key stage 4 (Solution 4). Placements are purchased for a full year in advance so that the PRU can have a stable workforce and meet unpredictable demand.

The funding for the PRU comes from the dedicated schools grant (DSG) as does the activity of managing the exclusion from day 1, through day 6 provision, PRU placement/next school place and reintegration to future mainstream school. In essence this is a statutory duty placed on the local authority so the cost is determined by volume: the more pupils excluded the more expensive the provision. Each key stage 1-3 placement costs on average £26,225.35 per annum and key stage 4 placement costs on average £17,797.54 (average due to variations in transport costs).

The Inclusive Lincolnshire strategy contains 8 actions that make up the 'Inclusive Lincolnshire Contract', action 6 is as follows:

*'A reintegration charge will be introduced to be levied against those schools that do not engage with meeting the needs of pupils either through following good practice or accessing services available to them: those schools that do will not be fined. It is anticipated that, in line with other authorities, this could be in the region of £25k per exclusion.'*

The strategy was presented to the Lincolnshire Learning Partnership Board on 3<sup>rd</sup> December where it was endorsed with amendments; these amendments have been made and recirculated to the Board. The pupil reintegration charge stimulated much debate but no amendments were requested on this point. Comments included:

- clarity was provided that the pupil reintegration charge would only be levied when the BOSS was in place and that the evidence submitted by schools for the exclusion did not demonstrate that action 6 had been achieved
- having a different pupil reintegration charge for primary and secondary schools to recognise the impact of the charge on small schools (at the time of the meeting we had not calculated the average placement costs for primary and secondary placements: now we know the costs the recharge suggested of £25k would be just short of the true cost for a KS1-3 placement) and again it would only be levied if a school could not demonstrate the above action
- Who would be the decision maker on the levy of the pupil reintegration charge? A practical solution could be that Headteachers could fulfil this role as a virtual panel of 3 Headteachers, rotating each term. As the number is anticipated to be small this would not be an onerous task and would give visibility to other peers as to variations in practice.

The pupil reintegration charge is designed to limit the cost incurred in meeting the needs of an excluded pupil onto those schools that do not identify and meet the needs of pupils with behaviour that challenges them. At present the cost is borne by all schools as a top-slice off the DSG. Those schools that work to identify and meet

pupils' needs, using good practice recognised through the county, will not incur escalating costs associated with exclusions.

**Conclusion**

Whilst recognising that there is no single solution to reducing the number of exclusions, the Inclusive Lincolnshire strategy outlines synergistic change across schools, the Local Authority and providers in order to achieve better outcomes for Lincolnshire schools and pupils. We need to change the way that we support pupils with challenging behaviour and shift away from specialist and statutory intervention to **earlier help and support**. We want to ensure that capacity and skills are aligned at all levels, and the thresholds between each level are clearly understood and implemented.

The pupil reintegration charge is just one of eight measures within the Inclusive Lincolnshire strategy that will help achieve this objective.

**Consultation**

**a) Policy Proofing Actions Required**

n/a

**Appendices**

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Inclusive Lincolnshire Strategy - November 2015

**Background Papers**

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

This report was written by John O'Connor, who can be contacted on 01522 553213 or john.o'connor@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

**This page is intentionally left blank**

# ***'Inclusive Lincolnshire'***

***A strategy to build resilience across all schools to support all pupils, promote collective responsibility and reduce exclusion***

**Lincolnshire County Council  
Lincolnshire Learning Partnership**



LINCOLNSHIRE  
**LEARNING  
PARTNERSHIP**  
LED BY SCHOOLS FOR SCHOOLS

**December 2015**

Status: Post LLPB v2.2

## 1. The Vision

Whilst recognising that there is no single solution to reducing the number of exclusions, this strategy outlines synergistic change across schools, the Local Authority and providers in order to achieve better outcomes for Lincolnshire schools and pupils. We need to change the way that we support pupils with challenging behaviour and shift away from specialist and statutory intervention to **earlier help and support**. We want to ensure that capacity and skills are aligned at all levels, and the thresholds between each level are clearly understood and implemented.

All pupils and schools in Lincolnshire are our collective responsibility where every pupil and school is known, valued and supported to achieve in all areas.

### Key Priorities

- Schools, the Local Authority and other agencies to meet young people's behavioural needs in school wherever possible.
- Intervene early through high quality support in order to prevent further escalation of need and reduce exclusions
- Deliver a service which is integrated, and is responsive to pupil, family and school needs.
- Commission an outreach service which is able to support schools to provide for pupils with complex needs and challenging behaviour.
- Arrange swift and equitable reintegration into an appropriate setting.
- Improve and increase educational alternatives for young people aged 14-19 at risk of exclusion.
- Improve outcomes, including attainment, for young people with challenging behaviour.

## 2. The Context

Nationally, both permanent and fixed-period exclusions have been steadily declining in the last few years to around 0.06% of the pupil population in 2014. (See Appendix 1 for more detailed analysis of exclusion at a national and local level)

In contrast, Lincolnshire has seen an increase and remains a high excluding authority. Pupils in Lincolnshire are more likely to be excluded than in many other Local Authority (LA) areas and was ranked 135<sup>th</sup> out of 139 for permanent exclusions from all school types.

### Primary:

- Lincolnshire was ranked joint last position out of 95 publishing LAs
- 40 LA areas had no primary exclusions
- The national rate of permanent exclusion is 2 per 10,000 pupils; in Lincolnshire it is 7 per 10,000 pupils

### Secondary:

- Lincolnshire was ranked 110<sup>th</sup> out of 132 publishing LAs
- 6 LA area had no secondary exclusions
- The national rate of permanent exclusion is 13 per 10,000 pupils; in Lincolnshire it is 23 per 10,000 pupils

It is recognised by the Local Authority and all schools that the numbers of exclusions is rising and as a consequence more of the dedicated school grant (DSG) will have to be used to meet the needs of pupils excluded from Lincolnshire schools, reducing future funding for every school. At the same time, it is clear that schools do not have access to an appropriate behaviour outreach service that can help them meet the needs of pupils whose behaviour challenges them.

A working group of head teachers and LA officers was established in designing this strategy and recurrent funding of £1.3 million per annum was committed by the Schools Forum on behalf of all schools, to support its implementation.

The Lincolnshire Learning Partnership is the vehicle to support and strategically lead school to school collaboration across Lincolnshire. The Lincolnshire Learning Partnership Board (led by schools for schools) has contributed to the development of this strategy and will promote and monitor its implementation and success across the county.

### 3. **The 'Inclusive Lincolnshire' Strategy**

The 'Inclusive Lincolnshire' Strategy recognises and celebrates the fact that the vast majority of pupils in Lincolnshire have their social, emotional and behavioural needs met by the experts working within our school system and seeks to identify and share best practice for the benefit of all. It outlines a clear behaviour pathway with increased support for schools to build their resilience in supporting pupils with especially challenging behaviours and protecting our most vulnerable pupils from the damaging effects of exclusion.

Lincolnshire County Council is committed to the 'Inclusive Lincolnshire' strategy and has appointed a Service Manager for Inclusion to take a lead on this. The Pupil Reintegration Team has been remodelled and all schools will have access to a named behaviour specialist serving their locality area and supporting the development and implementation of the strategy. They will work with schools and become the guardian of a pupil's right to full time education, looking to accelerate the return of pupils back into mainstream provision.

There are already a range of services that are currently provided by the Council and other organisations (both locally and nationally) to support specific pupils and their needs.

Two new outreach services which started at the beginning of this academic year include: one for Physical Disabilities, provided by St Francis School. This service is responsible for responding to all Physical Disability Outreach queries, for pupils from Primary School age to the age of 18 years in the county of Lincolnshire.

The other outreach service is for Autism and Learning Difficulties which is provided by a consortium led by Gosberton House School. The service is responsible for responding to all autism, moderate and severe learning difficulties and social communication challenges which impact on cognitive development and learning potential for pupils from primary school age to the age of 18 years in the county of Lincolnshire.

Key elements of both services are:

- Working towards ensuring support is available for the pupils through direct intervention, legacy building, working with key stakeholders and support the pupil through key transitions.
- Building the resilience and skill set of the teaching staff in other schools across the cluster boundary.
- Providing a robust, integrated service which is part of a holistic package of support for pupils.

Lincolnshire County Council will seek to make these services and their parameters more visible to schools to enable ease of access at the point of need. Schools with excellent practice may also seek to offer their services to other schools through inclusion in the Local Offer<sup>1</sup> – how to do so can be found here: <http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/parents/support-and-aspiration/sen-and-d-reforms/the-local-offer/the-local-offer/121609.article> .

The 'Inclusive Lincolnshire' strategy is dependent on the commitment of all schools and the local authority to do all we can to protect pupils from the damaging effects of school exclusions. Consistent expectations must be transparent so that schools, the LA and locality panels can challenge and support one another. The 'Lincolnshire Ladder of Behavioural Intervention' (LLBI) has been developed with schools for schools and outlines what schools, using good practice expectations, can do for themselves to meet the needs of pupils whose behaviour is challenging. It includes reference to the services schools can access, and more specialist provision is available to meet those pupils with the most challenging needs

### **Behaviour Outreach Support Service (BOSS)**

Working on behalf of schools, the LA will commission a new Behaviour Outreach Support Service that will operate on two levels for all schools, in addition to running a whole school restorative practice programme with 20 schools. The service will be encouraged to offer enhanced traded packages of support to schools, or clusters of schools, who decide that this is a strategic priority for them.

### **Targeted Outreach Support**

Accessible to all schools facilitated for individuals or small groups in the school setting and is focussed on pupils at risk of exclusion. This will involve bespoke interventions which increase capacity within the school setting and facilitate progress with individual pupils.

Schools should, at this point, consider the possibility of a managed-move as a means to avoid a permanent exclusion. Managed moves are a three-way agreement between the parent/pupil and the current and potential school. The outreach service will support schools to formalise a trial agreement where the pupil remains on the roll of the current school (as a dual registered – main registration) and as a subsidiary registration at the potential school. The current school is responsible for the transport arrangements of the pupil during the trial

---

<sup>1</sup> Lincolnshire's Local Offer: <http://search3.openobjects.com/kb5/lincs/fsd/localoffer.page?familychannel=2>  
v2.2

period. Transport costs will be met by the LA once the trial has ended successfully and all three parties are in agreement.

*(In order to protect capacity at this level of the service, schools will need to demonstrate that they have deployed the best practice strategies of school-led interventions)*

### **Escalating Need – Intensive Intervention**

A small minority of pupils will need more support than can be provided in the mainstream provision. The 'Inclusive Lincolnshire' strategy offers schools access to flexible, bespoke pre-exclusion placements in specialist behaviour provision. These will be time-limited interventions with pupils at the point of permanent exclusion. These placements will be flexible and pupils will remain on the role of their home school throughout the intensive intervention. This level of the strategy will be led by the Local Authority.

*(In order to protect capacity at this level of the service, schools will need to have accessed the targeted outreach support. As an interim measure a single, central decision-making panel will be created to gate-keep the access to services beyond the support of BOSS - targeted outreach support but in time this decision making will be delegated to locality panels, led by head teachers)*

In Lincolnshire, our pupil referral units are referred to as The Lincolnshire Teaching and Learning and Centre (LTLC). Provision across these four sites was judged to require special measures by Ofsted in February 2015. As a key strategic provision in Lincolnshire, it is essential that, through the 'Inclusive Lincolnshire' strategy, LTLC becomes the specialist centre delivering skilled interventions which enable the majority of pupils to return to mainstream school and their local community. By working in partnership with local primary and secondary schools, the LTLC will provide alternative flexible education pathways.

Pupils will receive specialist intervention to enable them to make a fresh start in education. This will involve understanding individual's pupil needs and establishing a provision which can take account of their difficulties or barriers to learning. The aim will be to offer all pupils the opportunity to become confident learners within a supportive environment. Using a restorative philosophy, the LTLC will work to improve the self-esteem of pupils, allowing them to take responsibility for their behaviour and instill pride in their successes. The vast majority of pupils will access a period of support before going back to their mainstream school with a minority moving on to a more suitable school placement.

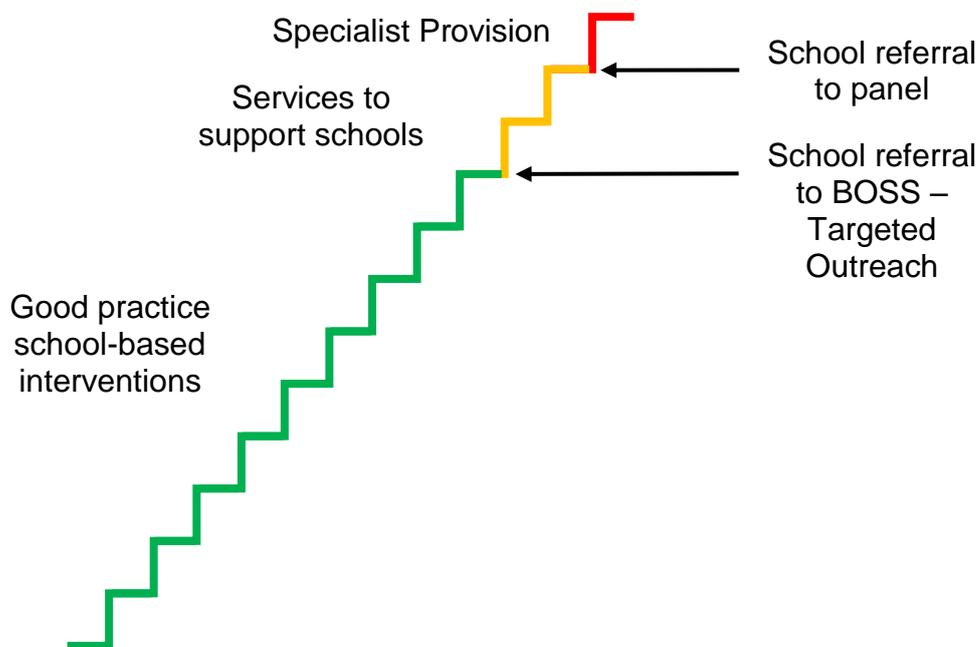
When pupils are ready to reintegrate to mainstream education, they will have a passport that provides a comprehensive overview of the progress the pupil has made and the strategies that have been proved successful in the pupil managing their behaviour. Schools, the LA, the behaviour outreach service and LTLC will work in collaboration to establish a shared successful supported plan for integration.

### **Permanent Exclusion**

The provision at the intensive intervention level will be provided to all pupils who are permanently excluded from mainstream provision, following a comprehensive assessment of need. However, locality panels, led by headteachers will evaluate the intervention provided and alternatives considered by the school through the exclusion documentation and supporting evidence. A reintegration charge will be levied against those schools that do not engage with meeting the needs of pupils either through following good practice or

accessing services available to them: those schools that do will not be fined. It is anticipated that, in line with other authorities, this could be in the region of £25k per exclusion.

Pictorially this concept can be represented by the following graphic, where the majority of pupil's needs are met by schools, with a small number requiring external support and an even smaller number requiring specialist provision:



### **'Inclusive Lincolnshire' Contract**

An alliance between all schools, the local authority, a commissioned outreach service and the LTLC will be established to allow this strategy to have the impact needed across our county. Commitment to this alliance is outlined below and all members need to challenge one another to deliver on this.

- I. All schools commit to identifying and meeting the needs of pupils demonstrating challenging behaviour at the earliest opportunity. Individual behaviour policies and local offers will reflect this commitment.
- II. The Lincolnshire Ladder of Behaviour Intervention, designed by schools, seeks to ensure that current best practice becomes common practice amongst Lincolnshire schools. A commitment to this will reduce the variation of interventions delivered between schools and will help to generate a consistent 'red-line' for exclusion.
- III. The Behaviour Outreach Support Service will support schools to meet the identified needs of pupils that exhibit challenging behaviour at the thresholds outlined in this strategy and through a more detailed specification.
- IV. Schools will work creatively, with the range of options available to them, to design an appropriate curriculum for all pupils. This may include Key Stage 4 alternative

provision and schools should commit to growing provision in their area to meet their pupil's needs. No pupil will be excluded because of a lack of appropriate curriculum.

- V. The LA will establish and update a directory of services available to support schools to meet the needs of all pupils through its Local Offer.
- VI. A reintegration charge will be introduced to be levied against those schools that do not engage with meeting the needs of pupils either through following good practice or accessing services available to them: those schools that do will not be fined. It is anticipated that, in line with other authorities, this could be in the region of £25k per exclusion.
- VII. Schools will commit to a 24 hour information turn-around on pre-excluded and excluded pupils to partners involved in supporting the pupil, to allow an effective provision to be made.
- VIII. Schools will consider the possibility of a managed-move with their colleagues as a means to avoid a permanent exclusion.

#### 4. **Impact**

The 'Inclusive Lincolnshire' strategy is underpinned by a clear set of performance indicators to enable the measurement of impact and progress. The Service Manager for Inclusion will report on progress against these indicators to the Lincolnshire Learning Partnership Board and the Schools' Forum.

- The reduction in the number of permanent exclusions
- Children and Young People reporting positive experiences of Behaviour Support
- Schools and services are certain about respective roles and pathways to access support
- Early intervention services are co-ordinated and delivered in the most effective way to prevent an escalation in need
- School based practitioners have been supported to develop their practice and skill base in relation to supporting vulnerable learners

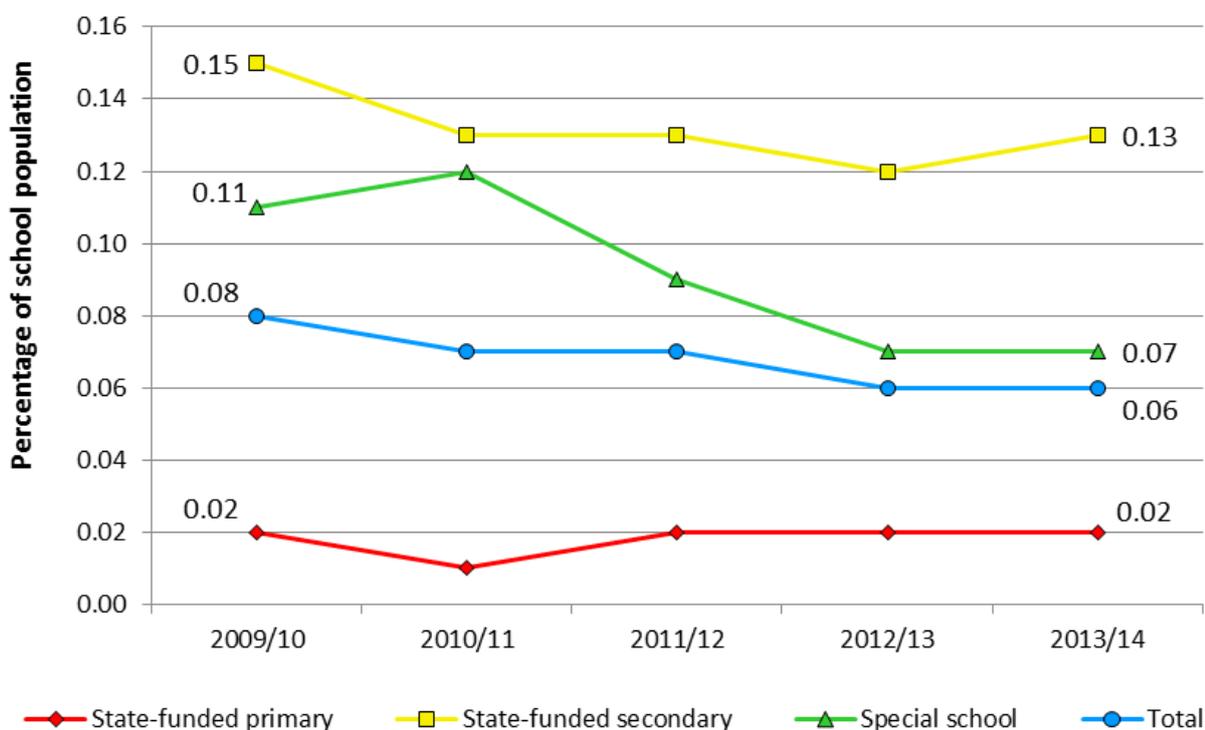
# Appendix 1 Detailed Data Analysis<sup>2</sup>

## The National Picture

Exclusions, both permanent and fixed-period, have been steadily declining in the last few years, but there were still 4,950 pupils permanently excluded in 2013/14 which represents 0.06% of the pupil population; for fixed-period there were 269,480 instances which is 3.50% of the pupil population.

Permanent exclusions:

The chart below shows the historical trend in the rate of permanent exclusions by school type.



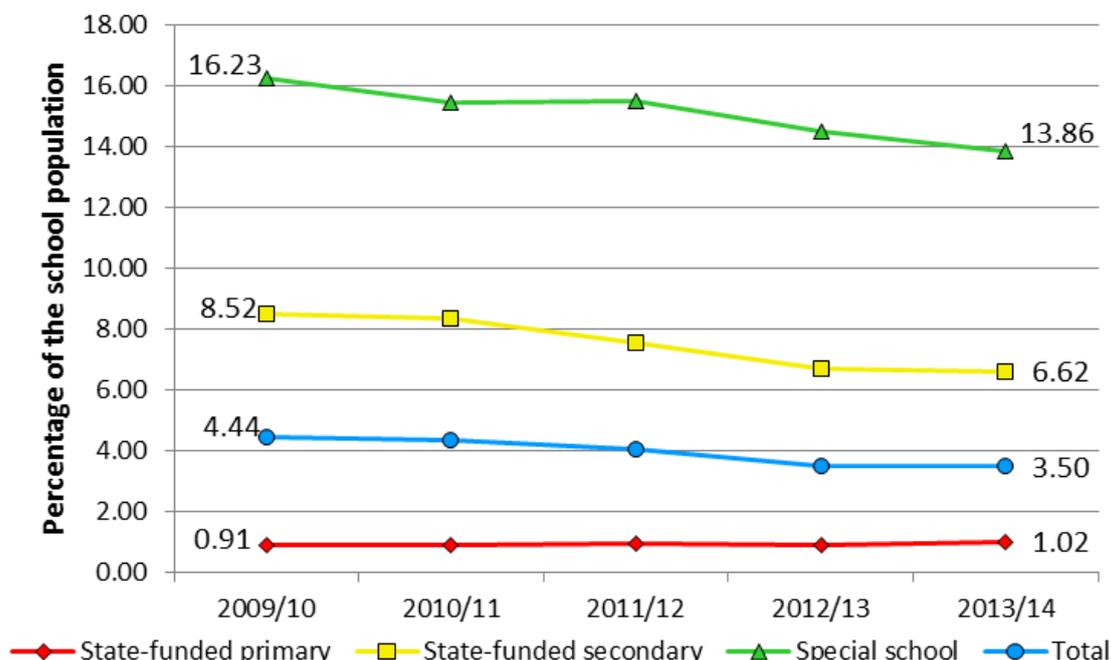
- Secondary school exclusions increased in 2013/14 having previously been on a downward trajectory
- Primary schools exclusions have remained the same since 2011/12 but have largely been consistent since 2009/10
- Special school exclusions have reduced by a third since 2009/10
- Boys are three times more likely to be permanently excluded than girls
- Girls are unlikely to be excluded from primary school but more likely to be excluded in years 9 and 10
- Boys are permanently excluded at all statutory ages but more likely to be excluded at secondary school peaking in years 9 and 10

<sup>2</sup>

[https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics?keywords=exclusions&topics%5B%5D=all&departments%5B%5D=department-for-education&from\\_date=&to\\_date=&commit=Refresh+results](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics?keywords=exclusions&topics%5B%5D=all&departments%5B%5D=department-for-education&from_date=&to_date=&commit=Refresh+results)

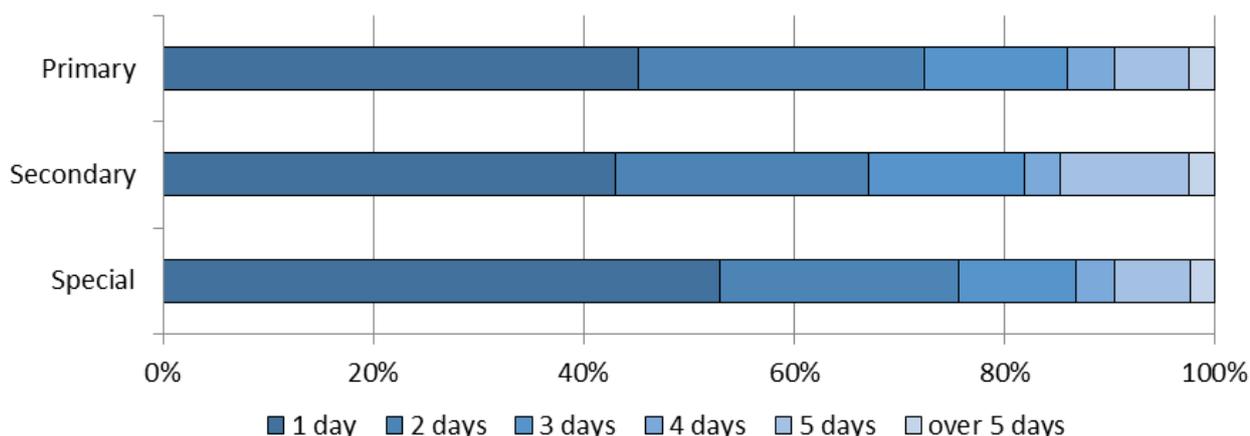
- Year 10 is the highest excluding year group
- Pupils with special educational needs (SEN) but without a statement/education, health and care plan (EHCP) are 8.3 times more likely to be permanently excluded
- Pupils with SEN and with a statement/EHCP are 5 times more likely to be permanently excluded
- Pupils of black (1.7x) and mixed (1.6x) ethnic group are more likely to be permanently excluded
- Pupils eligible for a free school meal (FSM) are 3 times more likely to be permanently excluded
- There is a direct relationship between the increase in severity of deprivation and an increase in permanent exclusions
- In primary schools the top three reasons for permanent exclusion are persistent disruptive behaviour (32%), physical assault against an adult (28%) and physical assault against a pupil (17%)
- In secondary schools the top three reasons for permanent exclusion are persistent disruptive behaviour (33%), other (18%) and physical assault against a pupil (14%) – the fourth would be drug and alcohol related (10%)
- In special schools the top three reasons for permanent exclusion are physical assault against an adult (32%) persistent disruptive behaviour (26%), and other (15%) – the fourth would be physical assault against a pupil (12%)
- In 2013/14 there were 400 reviews lodged for an independent review panel/appeal decision of which 93% were heard/determined resulting in 6% of pupils being offered reinstatement
- Academy schools are nearly 4 times as likely to have an appeal against a permanent exclusion lodged with them than a maintained school
- Primary academies have a higher permanent exclusion rate (0.03%) than maintained schools (0.02%) but secondary academies have a lower exclusion rate (0.12%) compared to maintained schools (0.13%)
- Converter academies have the same rate of primary exclusion as maintained schools (0.02%) but converter secondary academies have a lower rate of permanent exclusion (0.09%) compared to maintained secondary schools (0.13%)
- Sponsored academies have much higher rates of permanent exclusion in both primary (0.06%) and secondary (0.23%) academies; these rates remain consistently higher for each and every academic year after sponsorship
- Secondary free schools have a permanent exclusion rate double that of the maintained sector

Fixed-period (FP) exclusions:



- Secondary and special school FP exclusions have been declining since 2009/10
- Primary school FP exclusions in 2013/14 showed a 16% increase from the previous year; prior to that it has been relatively static
- Boys are three times more likely to have a FP exclusion than girls
- Boys and girls receive FP exclusions at all statutory ages but more likely to at secondary school peaking in years 8, 9 and 10
- Year 10 is the highest FP excluding year group
- Pupils with special educational needs (SEN) but without a statement/education, health and care plan (EHCP) are 3 times more likely to be receive a FP exclusion
- Pupils with SEN and with a statement/EHCP and 4 times more likely to receive a FP exclusion
- Pupils of black (1.2x) and mixed (1.3x) ethnic group are more likely to receive a FP exclusion
- Pupils eligible for a FSM are 2.5 times more likely to receive a FP exclusion
- There is a direct relationship between the increase in severity of deprivation and an increase in FP exclusions

Length of fixed period exclusions, 2013/14 academic year



- 44% of all FP exclusions lasted for a single day with the average number of days being 2.0 (primary) and 2.2 days (secondary) per FP exclusion;
- In primary schools the top three reasons for FP exclusion are persistent disruptive behaviour (27%), physical assault against an adult (26%) and physical assault against a pupil (23%)
- In secondary schools the top three reasons for FP exclusion are persistent disruptive behaviour (25%), verbal abuse/threatening behaviour against an adult (20%) and other (19%) - the fourth would be physical assault against a pupil (18%)
- In special schools the top three reasons for FP exclusion are physical assault against an adult (25%) persistent disruptive behaviour (21%), and physical assault against a pupil (16%)
- Primary academies have a higher FP exclusion rate (1.51%) than maintained schools (0.96%) but secondary academies have the same FP exclusion rate (6.62%) compared to maintained schools
- Primary converter academies (0.80%) have a lower rate of FP exclusion than maintained schools (0.96%) as do converter secondary academies (4.90%) compared to maintained secondary schools (6.62%)
- Sponsored academies have much higher rates of permanent exclusion in both primary (3.52%) and secondary (12.31%) academies; these rates remain consistently higher for each and every academic year after sponsorship with the exception of the primary academies in year 3 of their sponsorship
- Free schools have lower FP exclusion rate for both primary (0.33%) and secondary (6.59%) when compared to that of the maintained sector

## Lincolnshire's Current Position

A note of warning: analysing the national population by sub-groups is possible because the number of pupils within the subgroups is meaningful. When attempting the same level of analysis within the Lincolnshire population many of the sub-groups will be too few in number to draw meaningful conclusions.

The following 6 charts show the historical trend of Lincolnshire vs that of the national picture for each school type for both permanent and fixed-period exclusions. Only the following sub-groups within the Lincolnshire population: gender, SEN with or without a statement/EHCP and pupils with or without a FSM, will be sufficiently large to draw meaningful conclusions.

### Permanent Exclusions

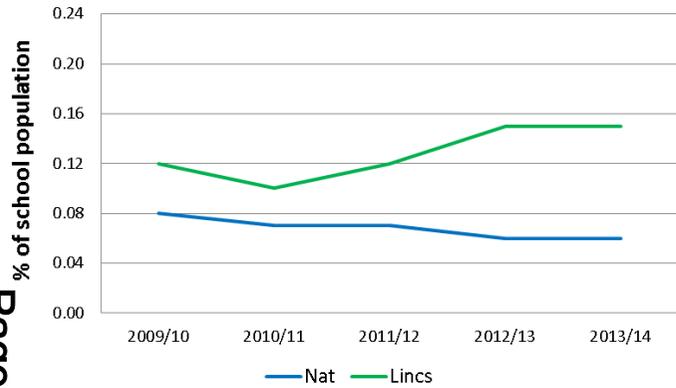
- From the first row of charts (on page 15) it can be seen that permanent exclusions are falling nationally but in Lincolnshire they are increasing: Lincolnshire remains a high excluding authority
- Boys in Lincolnshire are 4x (nationally 3x) more likely to be excluded than girls
- Girls are unlikely to be excluded from primary school (same as seen nationally) but more likely to be excluded in year 9 and year 11 (nationally = Y9 and Y10)
- Year 10 and early year 11 are the highest excluding year groups (nationally year 10)
- Pupils with special educational needs (SEN) but without a statement/education, health and care plan (EHCP) are 2.1x (nationally 8.3x) more likely to be permanently excluded
- Pupils with SEN and with a statement/EHCP are 2.8x LESS likely to be permanently excluded: this is a complete reversal of the national profile
- Pupils eligible for a FSM are NO MORE likely to be permanently excluded: this is true for all school phases
- In Lincolnshire primary schools the top three reasons for permanent exclusion are the same as that nationally: persistent disruptive behaviour, physical assault against an adult and physical assault against a pupil
- In Lincolnshire secondary schools the top three reasons for permanent exclusion are persistent disruptive behaviour, drug and alcohol related and other – with the fourth being physical assault on a pupil (nationally the order is persistent disruptive behaviour, other and physical assault against a pupil – the fourth would be drug and alcohol related)

### Fixed-period Exclusions

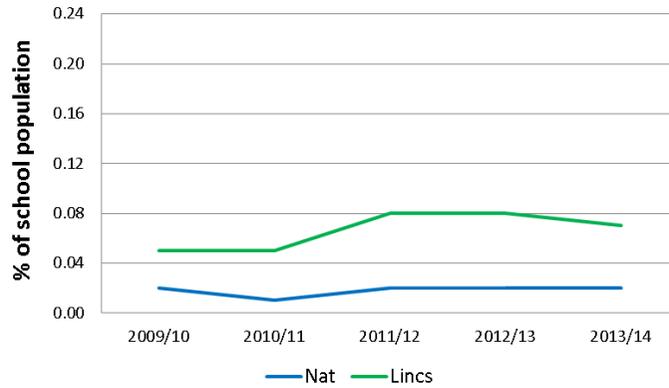
- Fixed-period exclusions have remained high in primary schools but in 2013/14 their rate fell to be only just above the national average
- Fixed-period exclusions in secondary schools have remained low and relatively stable although the reducing national rate means that the gap is getting smaller
- Lincolnshire boys are three times more likely (same as nationally) to have a FP exclusion than girls
- Lincolnshire boys and girls receive FP exclusions at all statutory ages but more likely to at secondary school peaking in years 8, 9, 10 and 11 (nationally just 8, 9 and 10)
- In Lincolnshire Year 11 (nationally Y10) is the highest FP excluding year group

- Lincolnshire primary pupils with special educational needs (SEN) but without a statement/education, health and care plan (EHCP) are 3.9 times more likely to be receive a FP exclusion, whereas there is no difference with Lincolnshire secondary aged pupils (nationally all pupils are 3x more likely)
- Lincolnshire primary pupils with SEN and with a statement/EHCP and 0.4 times LESS likely to receive a FP exclusion and secondary pupils 7x LESS likely
- Pupils eligible for a FSM are 2.5 times LESS likely to receive a FP exclusion
- In Lincolnshire primary schools the top three reasons for FP exclusion are the same as those nationally: persistent disruptive behaviour, physical assault against a pupil and physical assault against an adult
- In Lincolnshire secondary schools the top three reasons for FP exclusion are other, verbal abuse/threatening behaviour against an adult and persistent disruptive behaviour (nationally the order is persistent disruptive behaviour, verbal abuse/threatening behaviour against an adult and other - the fourth would be physical assault against a pupil)

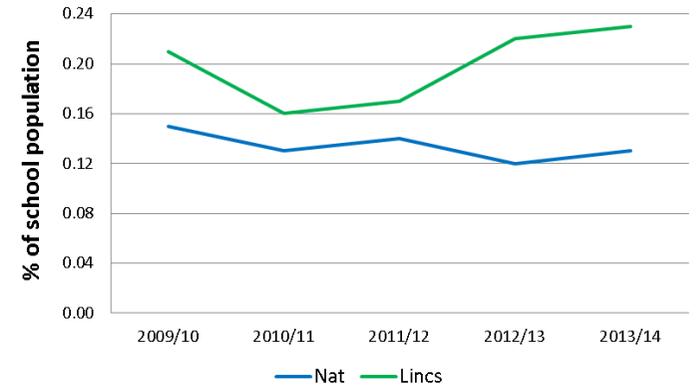
**Permanent Exclusions - All Schools**



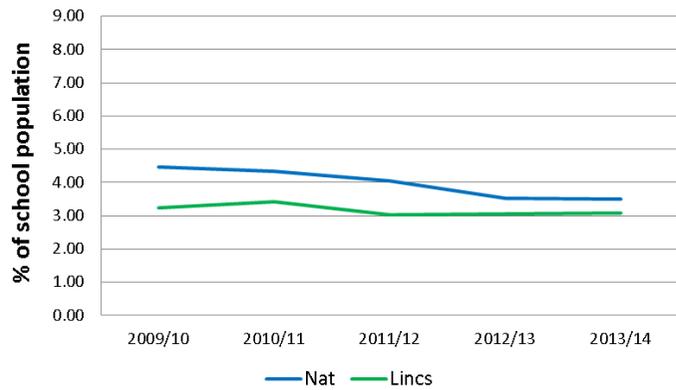
**Permanent Exclusions - Primary**



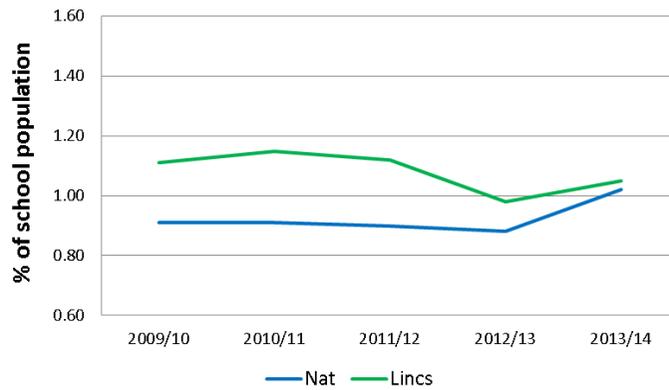
**Permanent Exclusions - Secondary**



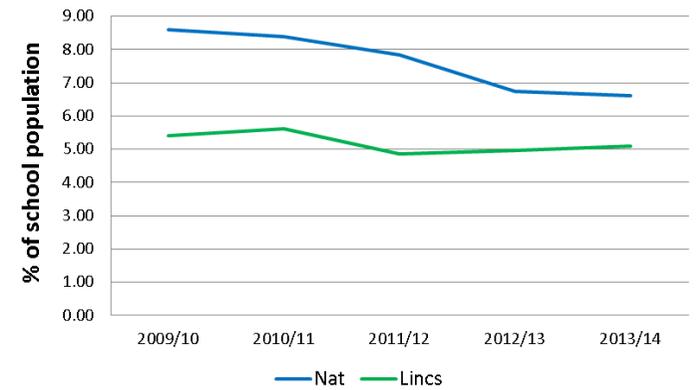
**Fixed-Period Exclusions - All Schools**



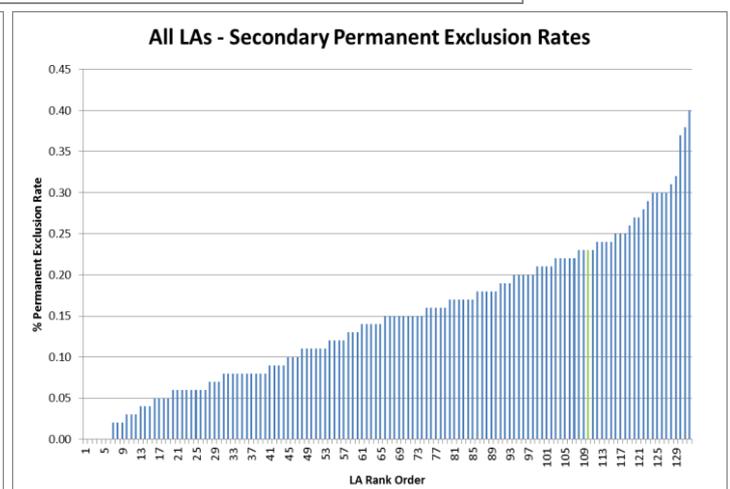
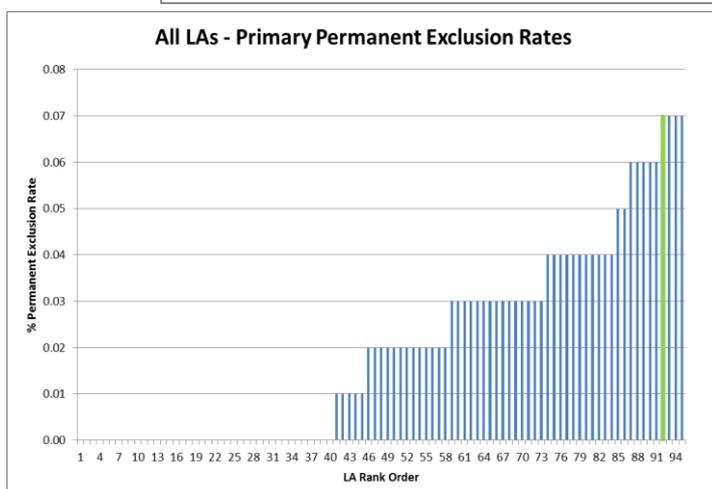
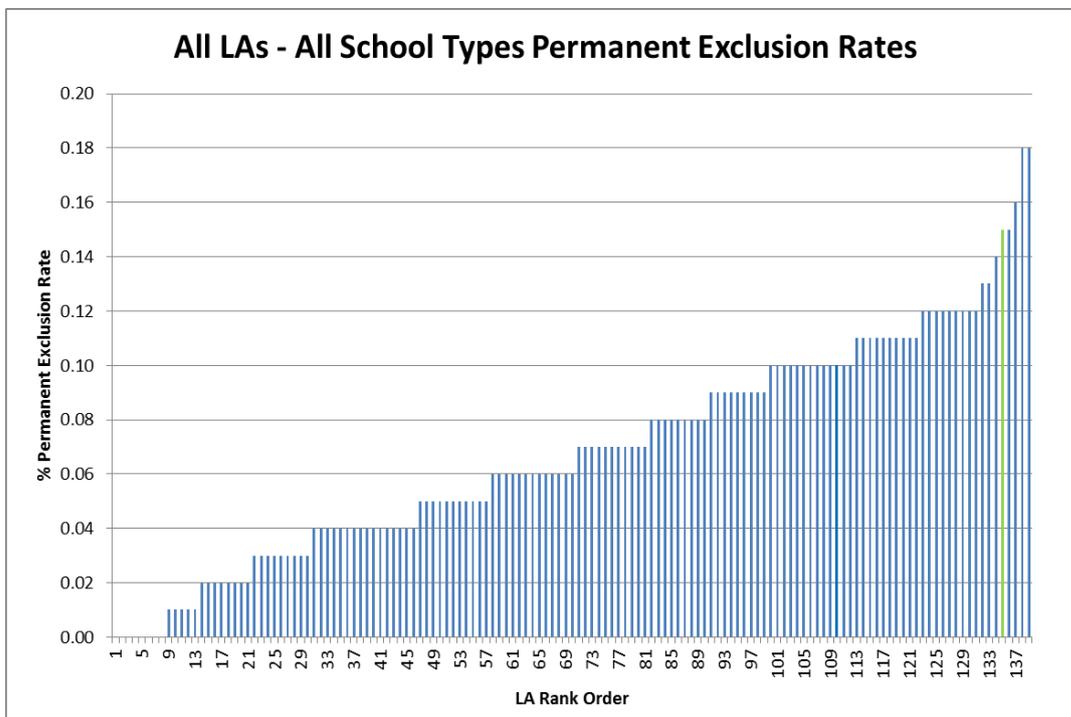
**Fixed-Period Exclusions - Primary**



**Fixed-Period Exclusions - Secondary**



Pupils in Lincolnshire are more likely to be excluded than in many other Local Authority (LA) areas. The chart below shows that for those LAs that have publishable data<sup>3</sup>, Lincolnshire was ranked 135<sup>th</sup> out of 139 for permanent exclusions from all school types.



**Primary:**

- Lincolnshire was ranked joint last position out of 95 publishing LAs
- 40 LA areas had no primary exclusions
- The national rate of permanent exclusion is 2 per 10,000 pupils; in Lincolnshire it is 7 per 10,000 pupils

**Secondary:**

- Lincolnshire was ranked 110<sup>th</sup> out of 132 publishing LAs
- 6 LA area had no secondary exclusions
- The national rate of permanent exclusion is 13 per 10,000 pupils; in Lincolnshire it is 23 per 10,000 pupils

<sup>3</sup> Where there are low numbers of exclusions, typically 10 or less, the data is suppressed from publication to prevent the potential identify of individuals.

The following table summarises Lincolnshire's key statistics on fixed-period exclusions compared to nationally published figures:

School Type	Rank position	% FP Exclusions		% 1 or more FP Exclusions		Ave No of Exclusions per Excluded Pupil		Average Days Lost per Excluded Pupil	
		Lincs	Nat	Lincs	Nat	Lincs	Nat	Lincs	Nat
Primary	98/151	1.05	1.02	0.59	0.49	1.78	2.08	3.71	4.08
Secondary	37/150	5.10	6.62	3.03	3.64	1.68	1.82	4.28	4.23
Special	61/150	11.32	13.86	Data suppressed – numbers too small					
All Schools	64/152	3.09	3.50	1.80	1.86	1.72	1.89	4.27	4.23

Key points from the table:

- Lincolnshire primary schools are more likely to use fixed-period exclusions, they are less likely to use a fixed-period exclusion with a pupil that has previously had one and the number of days excluded is lower, meaning less learning days lost.
- Lincolnshire secondary schools are less likely to use fixed-period exclusions, they are less likely to use a fixed-period exclusion with a pupil that has had one previously but they are more likely to exclude for more days, meaning more learning days lost

## Appendix 2: The Legal Framework for Pupil Exclusions

The principal legislation guiding pupil exclusions is:

- The Education Act 2002, as amended by the Education Act 2011;
- The School Discipline (Pupil Exclusions and Reviews) (England) Regulations 2012;
- The Education and Inspections Act 2006; and
- The Education (Provision of Full-Time Education for Excluded Pupils) (England) Regulations 2007

An interpretation of the above legislation can be found in the following statutory guidance: ['Exclusions from maintained schools, Academies and pupil referral units in England'](#) (February 2015). The key points from the guide are as follows:

- Good discipline in schools is essential to ensure that all pupils can benefit from the opportunities provided by education. The Government supports head teachers in using exclusion as a sanction where it is warranted. However, permanent exclusion should only be used as a last resort, in response to a serious breach, or persistent breaches, of the school's behaviour policy; and where allowing the pupil to remain in school would seriously harm the education or welfare of the pupil or others in the school.
- The decision to exclude a pupil must be lawful, reasonable and fair. Schools have a statutory duty not to discriminate against pupils on the basis of protected characteristics, such as disability or race. Schools should give particular consideration to the fair treatment of pupils from groups who are vulnerable to exclusion.
- Disruptive behaviour can be an indication of unmet needs. Where a school has concerns about a pupil's behaviour it should try to identify whether there are any causal factors and intervene early in order to reduce the need for a subsequent exclusion. In this situation schools should give consideration to a multi-agency assessment that goes beyond the pupil's educational needs.
- Schools should have a strategy for reintegrating pupils that return to school following a fixed period exclusion, and for managing their future behaviour.
- All children have a right to an education. Schools should take reasonable steps to set and mark work for pupils during the first five school days of an exclusion, and alternative provision must be arranged from the sixth day. There are obvious benefits in arranging alternative provision to begin as soon as possible after an exclusion.
- Where parents (or excluded pupil, if aged 18 or over) dispute the decision of a governing body not to reinstate a permanently excluded pupil, they can ask for this decision to be reviewed by an independent review panel. Where there is an allegation of discrimination (under the Equality Act 2010) in relation to a fixed-period or permanent exclusion, parents can also make a claim to the First-tier Tribunal (for disability discrimination) or a County Court (for other forms of discrimination).

- An independent review panel does not have the power to direct a governing body to reinstate an excluded pupil. However, where a panel decides that a governing body's decision is flawed when considered in the light of the principles applicable on an application for judicial review; it can direct a governing body to reconsider its decision. If the governing body does not subsequently offer to reinstate a pupil, the panel will be expected to order that the school makes an additional payment of £4,000. This payment will go to the local authority towards the costs of providing alternative provision.
- Whether or not a school recognises that a pupil has special educational needs (SEN), all parents (or pupils if aged 18 or over) have the right to request the presence of a SEN expert at an independent review panel. The SEN expert's role is to provide impartial advice to the panel about how SEN could be relevant to the exclusion; for example, whether the school acted reasonably in relation to its legal duties when excluding the pupil.
- Excluded pupils should be enabled and encouraged to participate at all stages of the exclusion process, taking into account their age and understanding.

# Agenda Item 7

## Regulatory and Other Committee

<b>NAME OF COMMITTEE:</b>	Lincolnshire Schools Forum
<b>DATE OF MEETING:</b>	13 January 2016
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Alternative Provision Arrangements
<b>REPORT BY:</b>	Mark Popplewell (Head of Finance – Children's Services)
<b>NAME OF CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	Mark Popplewell
<b>CONTACT OFFICER TEL NO:</b>	01522 553326
<b>CONTACT OFFICER EMAIL ADDRESS:</b>	mark.popplewell@lincolnshire.gov.uk
<b>IS THE REPORT EXEMPT?</b>	No
<b>IS REPORT CONFIDENTIAL?</b>	No

### SUMMARY

The purposes of this report are to:

1. outline the Education Funding Agency high needs funding guidance arrangements for Alternative Provision; and
2. outline the Alternative Provision providers in Lincolnshire and their present funding arrangements.

### DISCUSSION

#### Background

The Schools Forum regulations outline that the arrangements for Alternative Provision (AP) funding are properly discussed at local level – with engagement not only from the Local Authority (LA), which carries the overall legal responsibility for securing suitable education for all children and young people in its area, but also from the mainstream schools and academies, pupil referral units (PRUs) and AP in academies and free schools.

In September 2015, the Education Funding Agency (EFA) issued high needs funding guidance for AP arrangements for children of compulsory school age.

There will be instances where a mainstream school is not reasonably able to provide suitable education for a child and AP support would be in the child's best interests. Where a pupil remains on roll of a mainstream school, then they are effectively acting as a commissioner of AP and retain accountability for the child's education.

The EFA has highlighted that it is in the interests of LA's, its schools and academies and institutions offering AP, to agree a referral process.

### **Funding Arrangements**

Place funding for AP providers are funded by the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG), whether that is a Pupil Referral Unit (PRU), AP academy or AP free school. For PRUs and AP academies, place funding is an agreement between the provider and the LA considering demand for places. The EFA determine the AP free school places however, which is based on the free school plans and the number of pupils attending the free school.

It is important that the Schools Forum is engaged in discussions about where the funding comes from. Any increase in places would create a cost that would have to be funded out of Lincolnshire's DSG. There may need to be a discussion with schools and academies about whether such a cost or growth should be met by reductions in the schools' budget shares due to the financial capacity of the DSG. This will require schools and academies to think collectively about their use of AP, and how the full cost of provision, including the place funding, is to be met.

Cost transparency is an important feature of the new high needs funding arrangements. LA's, schools and academies should be aware of the full cost of AP in different institutions and be able to make placement decisions on the basis of the cost and quality of what is on offer. It is therefore important that Schools Forum discussions take place on how AP is funded; top up funding rates for AP institutions, and where the top up funding and place funding for AP comes from.

A standard top up funding rate is often set for each PRU, AP academy or AP free school, which reflects the overall budget needed to deliver the service for pupils and students attending.

The government has made it clear that LA DSG's high needs DSG block will not be funded for growth in AP placements; therefore the LA needs to ensure this area is closely monitored and controlled. Lincolnshire's DSG has limited financial capacity particularly with the growth in SEND out of county placements being made due to Lincolnshire schools unable to meet need, therefore there is a strong possibility that a growth in AP placements will need to be met through a reduction in schools delegated funding subject to minimum funding guarantee protection.

### **Lincolnshire's AP providers**

#### **Lincolnshire Teaching Learning Centre (LTLC)**

From September 2015, Lincolnshire DSG funds 110 places at LTLC for pupils permanently excluded (£1.100m). Top up funding for LTLC is £10,380 p.a.

The LTLC funding uses the special schools funding formula principles and cost drivers, and was built up from a zero-based budget review led by the LA. LTLC is subject to the top up adjustment process for pupils accessing the provision across the four sites.

The LA commissions LTLC to provide Key Stage 4 education provision for permanently excluded pupils. From September 2015, 142 places have been agreed with education providers along with 44 places being made available for schools to access through area panels to support inclusion and to prevent pupils being excluded. The place costs are £10,000 with an indicative top up of £2,194 p.a.

The funding formula is reviewed on a regular basis, and place numbers are agreed by the LA and LTLC on an annual basis prior to the academic year. Funding will continue to be met from Lincolnshire's high needs DSG block.

The LA is developing a strategy to support the inclusion of pupils in mainstream schools, and the LTLC will be an integral part of this plan.

### Pilgrim School

A review led by the LA has been undertaken on the delivery model of the Pilgrim school with engagement with the school.

The Pilgrim school provides education provision for those pupils with diagnosed medical needs where mainstream schools are unable to meet their needs. The pupils tends to be dual registered and are offered up to 25 hours education subject to their needs.

The review however identified that a number of mainstream schools were accessing the Pilgrim school without a LA referral process, although Pilgrim has its own referral process. The increased demands through this channel have resulted in cost pressures beyond its agreed funding of £1.001m determined through the agreed funding formula.

In January 2016, a robust initial referral gateway panel led by the LA will be implemented to enable all SEN / medical / emotional referrals to be assessed to determine the most appropriate pathway, and to provide advice and challenge to mainstream schools on support provided and further steps that could be taken to support pupils.

The Pilgrim school will have an agreed number of places available for short term assessment provision needs when the gateway panel agree a placement for a pupil. The Pilgrim school funding formula will be reviewed in light of the agreed delivery model, and the formula will continue to use the same principles adopted through the special schools funding formula. Funding will continue to be met from Lincolnshire's high needs DSG block.

It is the LA's statutory responsibility to transport pupils to their main school in line with the criteria outlined in the policy. For dual-registered pupils accessing AP provision (including the Pilgrim school), the LA has no duty to provide transport to an alternative provider. It remains the schools responsibility to source and pay for the transport and therefore, schools in future will need to source and pay for the AP transport with the LA giving a terms notice. No transport policy change is required.

The Pilgrim school will have the option to trade with schools when pupils do not meet the gateway panel's approval criteria; however a transparent charging protocol will need to be developed for schools that will include full placement costs and transport.

### Acorn AP Free School

The Acorn AP free school opened in Lincoln in 2013. EFA guidance outlines "alternative provision places in free schools will be funded from a central department budget for the first and second year the free school is open. From the third year the cost of the place funding will be met by deductions from the relevant local authorities' DSG", therefore the AP offered by free schools needs to be fully integrated into local planning and funding arrangements.

The places determined in AP free schools will be based on an assessment of the number of pupils from each LA, including those placed by schools and academies that have commissioned placed directly.

Lincolnshire received notification from the EFA outlining a funding deduction from its DSG of 29 full time places for the Acorn AP free school from September 2015 (at £10,000 per place) – full year

place cost of £290,000. The LA was not aware of the volume of funded places being accessed by Lincolnshire schools and academies at the Acorn AP free school, or whether a formal referral process by which the funded places could be accessed.

The place cost for the Acorn AP free school is an unplanned cost pressure to Lincolnshire's DSG. The LA has raised concerns to the EFA and Regional Schools Commissioner that prior to the EFA finalising place numbers, the LA is given sufficient information to understand and approve or challenge place numbers determined in line with practices adopted for other high needs institutions (namely, special maintained and academy schools, FE institutions etc.).

The LA presently has no control over the number of place numbers agreed increasing the risk of further cost pressures occurring in future years; no oversight of schools and academies placing in the Acorn AP free school; no transparency or an understanding of the Acorn AP free school's top up charging arrangements, and there is an inherent risk of double funding taking place due to the lack of oversight and visibility of the contractual relationship between the placing school and the AP free school since the LA is meeting the place costs for the Acorn AP free school from Lincolnshire's DSG in line with EFA high needs funding guidance and practice.

A letter was sent to the Acorn free school on the 26<sup>th</sup> November 2015 formally asking for the following information for inclusion within this report: total place numbers funded for; average FTE occupancy across the period, total income broken down by place funding, top up funding, one-off grants (revenue and capital), and other funding streams etc., however no information was forthcoming from the Acorn AP free school. Appendix A details the LA letter the Acorn AP free school.

It is therefore recommended that a robust initial referral gateway panel led by the LA is established for placement into the Acorn AP free school, which is consistent with other AP referral practices, namely the Pilgrim school and LTLC. This will provide a control mechanism in safeguarding the DSG financial position.

### **Conclusion and Next steps**

To ensure Lincolnshire's DSG and schools budgets are maximised effectively at a time where financial challenges exist, the LA wish to ensure Schools Forum understand the referral process and funding arrangements including having standard top up funding rates for each PRU, AP academy or AP free school, which reflects the overall budget needed to deliver the service for pupils and students attending.

The government has made it clear that LA DSG's high needs DSG block will not be funded for growth in AP placements, therefore the LA needs to ensure this area is closely monitored and controlled, and agreement is made with Schools Forum on how place number growth will be managed financially in future.

Next steps include:

- LA to work with schools to implement the behaviour outreach and support pathway.
- LA to implement a pre-exclusions referral process for AP placements.
- LA to communicate to schools that schools in future will need to source and fund transport for pupils on their roll if they attend an alternative provision place.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

The Schools Forum is asked to:

- a. Note the content of the report.
- b. Support the EFA's and LA's desire for transparency and openness of AP providers full costs across all institutions allowing LA's, schools and academies make placement decisions on the basis of the cost and quality of what is on offer.
- c. Support for the Pilgrim school delivery model, particularly the short term assessment provision approved through the referral gateway panel.
- d. Agree a consistent referral panel process for pre-exclusion places in AP.

## BACKGROUND PAPERS

The following reports were relied upon in the writing of this report.

PAPER TYPE	TITLE	DATE	ACCESSIBILITY

## APPENDICES

Appendix A: LA letter to the Acorn AP free school.

**This page is intentionally left blank**

Mr J Tucker  
Head teacher  
The Acorn Free School  
248 Calder Road  
Lincoln  
LN5 9TL

Mark Popplewell  
Head of Finance  
Children's Services  
Lincolnshire County Council  
Tel: 01522 553326

26<sup>th</sup> November 2015

Dear Jerry

**Subject: The Acorn Alternative Provision Free School Funding**

The schools forum regulations are intended to ensure that the arrangements for Alternative Provision (AP) funding are properly discussed at local level – with engagement not only from the Local Authority, which carries the overall legal responsibility for securing suitable education for all children and young people in its area, but also from the mainstream schools and academies, pupil referral units (PRUs) and AP in academies and free schools.

Lincolnshire received notification from the Education Funding Agency (EFA) in 2015/16 of a Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) funding deduction for 29 places identified for The Acorn Free School.

It is important that the schools forum is engaged in discussions about where the funding comes from. Any increase in places would create a cost that would have to be funded out of Lincolnshire's DSG. There may need to be a discussion with schools and academies about whether such a cost should be met by reductions in the schools' budget shares. This will require schools and academies to think collectively about their use of AP, and how the full cost of provision, including the place funding, is to be met.

Cost transparency is an important feature of the new high needs funding arrangements. Local Authorities, schools and academies should be aware of the full cost of AP in different institutions and be able to make placement decisions on the basis of the cost and quality of what is on offer. It is therefore important that schools forum discussions about how AP is funded should include information about top-up funding rates for institutions and where the top-up funding and place funding for AP comes from.

A standard top-up funding rate is often set for each PRU, AP academy or AP free school, which reflects the overall budget needed to deliver the service for pupils and students attending.

A report is being tabled at the January 2016 schools forum explaining AP funding arrangements to meet the schools forum regulations to have an open and

transparent discussion at local level. We feel it would be beneficial to have your input into The Acorn Free Schools funding arrangements, which includes the following:

2013/14 Financial Year

- Total Place Numbers funded for.
- Average FTE occupancy across the period.
- Total Income broken down by place funding, top up funding, one-off grants (revenue and capital), and other funding streams.

2014/15 Financial Year

- Total Place Numbers funded for.
- Average FTE occupancy across the period.
- Total Income broken down by place funding, top up funding, one-off grants (revenue and capital), and other funding streams.
- Draft 2014/15 financial accounts.

Please could you provide a response to the request for information by Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2015 to enable it to be incorporated within the report.

Yours sincerely

**Mark Popplewell**  
Head of Finance  
Children's Services

## Regulatory and Other Committee

<b>NAME OF COMMITTEE:</b>	Lincolnshire Schools Forum
<b>DATE OF MEETING:</b>	13 January 2016
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Scheme for Financing Schools
<b>REPORT BY:</b>	Lizzie Bowes (Strategic Finance Manager, Schools Finance Team)
<b>NAME OF CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	Lizzie Bowes (Strategic Finance Manager, Schools Finance Team)
<b>CONTACT OFFICER TEL NO:</b>	01522 554905
<b>CONTACT OFFICER EMAIL ADDRESS:</b>	Elizabeth.Bowes@lincolnshire.gov.uk
<b>IS THE REPORT EXEMPT?</b>	No
<b>IS REPORT CONFIDENTIAL?</b>	No

### SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to alert the Schools Forum to the latest publication by the DfE of its revised guidance on Schemes for Financing Schools.

### DISCUSSION

#### Background

Schemes for Financing Schools were first introduced under the Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998. The Local Authority (LA) is required to publish a scheme for financing schools. This sets out the financial relationship between the LA and the schools it maintains. Any amendments to schemes must be consulted on with all maintained schools and be approved by the Schools Forum. The Scheme is not relevant to academies. They have their own arrangements with the EFA.

The Schools Forum will recall that in addition to the amendments to the scheme as required by the DfE, the LA made its own change to the scheme in January 2015 to increase the carry forward limit for nursery schools from 8% to 10% of their budget share. The LA made a further amendment to the scheme in October 2013 requiring that all maintained schools submit a medium term finance plan (MTFP) to the LA by the 31<sup>st</sup> May each year.

## DfE changes

The DfE review the scheme on an annual basis and directs LAs to amend their schemes in accordance with the DfE revisions. The LA has updated the Scheme in those instances and has reported the changes to the Schools Forum. On 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2015, the DfE directed LAs to make further revisions to the Scheme. Details of the DfE's Scheme guidance are available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/schemes-for-financing-schools>

From Lincolnshire's perspective, the most important revisions to the Scheme from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 are:

- Maintained schools are required to publish a register of the business interests of their governors, along with any relationships with staff.
- Clarification that borrowing includes the use of finance leases and is not allowable, with the exception of certain schemes approved by the Secretary of State. Currently only Salix loans have such approval.

The LA will publish a revised scheme before April 2016 on the below link:

<http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/parents/schools/for-schools/s251-statements/>

## RECOMMENDATIONS

The Schools Forum is asked to note the content of the report.

## BACKGROUND PAPERS

The following reports were relied upon in the writing of this report.

PAPER TYPE	TITLE	DATE	ACCESSIBILITY
Report to Schools Forum	Scheme for Financing Schools	14 January 2015	County Offices, Newland, Lincoln.
DfE's guidance	LA schemes for financing schools	3 September 2015	Please see the web link above

## APPENDICES

None.

# Agenda Item 9



## Regulatory and Other Committee

<b>NAME OF COMMITTEE:</b>	Lincolnshire Schools Forum
<b>DATE OF MEETING:</b>	13 January 2016
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	The School and Early Years Finance Regulations for 2016/17
<b>REPORT BY:</b>	Lizzie Bowes (Strategic Finance Manager, Schools Finance Team)
<b>NAME OF CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	Lizzie Bowes
<b>CONTACT OFFICER TEL NO:</b>	01522 554905
<b>CONTACT OFFICER EMAIL ADDRESS:</b>	Elizabeth.Bowes@lincolnshire.gov.uk
<b>IS REPORT CONFIDENTIAL?</b>	No

### SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to advise the Schools Forum of the response to the consultation of the School and Early Years Finance Regulations for 2016/17.

### DISCUSSION

In December 2015, the DfE published the draft School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2015. The draft regulations are 41 pages in length and can be found at:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/school-and-early-years-finance-england-regulations-2015?utm\\_source=EFA%20e-bulletin&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=e-bulletin&mxmroi=2305-23704-37267-0](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/school-and-early-years-finance-england-regulations-2015?utm_source=EFA%20e-bulletin&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=e-bulletin&mxmroi=2305-23704-37267-0)

The Regulations apply to the 2016/17 financial year and will come into force on 7 January 2016. In summary their purpose is to put in place arrangements for Local Authorities (LA's) to set school budgets, and allocate funding to early years providers.

The Schools and Early Years Finance Regulations for 2016/17

There were 6 proposed changes to the Regulations which are summarised below:

- Ability of LAs to carry forward any unspent falling rolls fund or new schools fund.

The purpose of this change is to allow LAs to carry forward any unspent falling rolls fund or new schools fund for the same purpose in the following year, in line with their ability to carry forward any unspent funding for growing pupils and extra infant classes.

Lincolnshire does not have a falling rolls fund therefore this change is not applicable for Lincolnshire.

- Ability of LAs to use place-based funding for 2 year olds

Currently, LAs can fund early years providers on a place-based approach in certain circumstances. When the 2 year old entitlement was introduced, the option of using place-based funding was extended to all eligible 2 year olds on a temporary basis. LAs will no longer be able to fund all 2 year olds eligible for early years entitlement using place-based funding. The place-based approach will be limited to SEN children and children in need.

Lincolnshire's early years funding for 2 year olds was previously based on a place-based approach to build capacity within the sector, but has since moved to a participation based approach in 2015/16 in line with government expectations. The Regulation change ensures that the participation-based funding approach used for 3 and 4 year olds is consistently applied for 2 year olds.

- Definition of amalgamated schools

Amalgamated schools were previously defined as those schools where two or more schools have closed and a new successor school has opened. A common way of amalgamating is where one school closes and the other extends its age range. Currently, LAs have to submit a written request to treat these as amalgamated schools. The definition of amalgamated schools has therefore been extended, so that the requirements outlined above also apply where a school has had their upper or lower age range changed as a direct consequence of another school's closure. The purpose of the Regulation change is to avoid the need for LAs to submit requests in the above examples.

The purpose of this change is to avoid the need for LAs to submit requests when the above circumstances occur. This change helps to address the above issue for middle schools. Lincolnshire has no middle schools therefore this change is not applicable for Lincolnshire.

- Budgets of closed and amalgamated schools

The LA is required to calculate the budget share of an amalgamated school by adding together the budget share of the discontinued school which replaces it. In the following financial year, the amalgamated school is then entitled to 85% of the total lump sums the two predecessor schools would have received. The amendments to the Regulations allow the LA to add all or part of the unspent budget of the closed school to the budget of the successor, or expanded school.

Where Lincolnshire schools amalgamate, the LA will continue to apply the Regulations. If a closing school amalgamates and has an unspent surplus then this may be transferred, if the closing school has a deficit, the deficit reverts to the LA as a matter of law.

- Expenditure a LA can incur from their non-schools education budget

Section 15B of the Education Act 1996 outlines the functions of a LA in respect of education for persons over 19. A local education authority may secure the provision of education, training, of organised leisure time occupation and other provision.

Schedule 1 of the Regulations outlines the expenditure a LA can incur from their non-school education budget. The Regulations have been amended so that LAs functions outlined under section 15B of the Education Act 1996 are included under Section 1.

Lincolnshire will adapt this change as it will ensure that the Regulations reflect LAs existing responsibilities under Section 15B of the Education Act 1996. The change has no financial implication and makes no change to LAs responsibilities.

- Authorise expenditure in respect of Children and Young People with High Needs

Schedule 2 of the Regulations has been updated to allow LAs to authorise expenditure in respect of pupils at special academies and alternative provision academies, where it is unreasonable for the expenditure to be met from the general annual grant paid to an academy.

This change brings the Regulations in line with current responsibilities and practice, whereby LAs are responsible for paying top-up funding to all types of high needs providers, including special and alternative provision academies. Lincolnshire already complies with this change. Special academies do not receive place funding from the LA but instead receive the equivalent funding directly from the Education Funding Agency (EFA).

An additional amendment has been made to the Regulations that was not subject to the consultation.

LAs must include at least the equivalent amount per hospital education place, as they have included in the budget share for special schools or pupil referral units in the previous funding period.

Lincolnshire's special schools funding formula is transparent and clear between hospital schools and other special schools / pupil referral units. If a hospital schools numbers extend beyond capacity, they will trigger commissioned funding to cover the additional marginal costs. However hospital schools funding is not reduced if capacity is not reached. Lincolnshire is therefore already complying with this amendment.

The majority of respondents to the consultation agreed with the changes to the Regulations. The proposals were broadly welcomed as providing consistency, clarity and flexibility to the current funding system.

The results of the consultation can be found at:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/school-and-early-years-finance-england-regulations-2015?utm\\_source=EFA%20e-bulletin&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=e-bulletin&mxmroi=2305-23704-37267-0](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/school-and-early-years-finance-england-regulations-2015?utm_source=EFA%20e-bulletin&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=e-bulletin&mxmroi=2305-23704-37267-0)

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Schools Forum is asked to note the content of the report.

<b>BACKGROUND PAPERS</b>			
<b>PAPER TYPE</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>ACCESSIBILITY</b>
DfE Report	School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2015: Government Response	December 2015	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/school-and-early-years-finance-england-regulations-2015?utm_source=EF&amp;utm_medium=email&amp;utm_campaign=e-bulletin&amp;mxmroi=2305-23704-37267-0">https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/school-and-early-years-finance-england-regulations-2015?utm_source=EF&amp;utm_medium=email&amp;utm_campaign=e-bulletin&amp;mxmroi=2305-23704-37267-0</a>
DfE Report	School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2015: Consultation Document	September 2015	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/school-and-early-years-finance-england-regulations-2015?utm_source=EF&amp;utm_medium=email&amp;utm_campaign=e-bulletin&amp;mxmroi=2305-23704-37267-0">https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/school-and-early-years-finance-england-regulations-2015?utm_source=EF&amp;utm_medium=email&amp;utm_campaign=e-bulletin&amp;mxmroi=2305-23704-37267-0</a>

# Agenda Item 10



## Regulatory and Other Committee

<b>NAME OF COMMITTEE:</b>	Lincolnshire Schools Forum
<b>DATE OF MEETING:</b>	13 January 2016
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Academies Update
<b>REPORT BY:</b>	John O'Connor (Children's Services Manager: Education Support)
<b>NAME OF CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	Adrian Clarke
<b>CONTACT OFFICER TEL NO:</b>	01522 553216
<b>CONTACT OFFICER EMAIL ADDRESS:</b>	adrian.clarke@lincolnshire.gov.uk
<b>IS REPORT CONFIDENTIAL?</b>	No

### SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide information on the latest number of academies and pupils in academies.

### DISCUSSION

The Schools Forum asked for an update to be provided to each meeting on the number of academy conversions.

This is the position as at the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2015. The pupil figures are based on the October census data (i.e. the latest published).

Since the effective date of the last report (1<sup>st</sup> September 2015), there has only been one further conversion to Academy status. This was the sponsored conversion of North Somercotes Birkbeck - A Specialist Science, Maths and Art College, which is now sponsored by Tollbar Multi Academies Trust and has reopened as the Somercotes Academy. There are currently 236 pupils on role at the Somercotes Academy. This means that 90.9%

(+1.8%) of secondary schools in Lincolnshire are now academies and 91.6% (+0.5%) of secondary pupils are educated by academies.

One maintained primary school closed on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015. It is reflected in this report due the updated school census figures.

#### Current Status of All Lincolnshire State Schools

	Schools		FTE	
<b>Nursery</b>				
All	5		251	
Maintained	5	100.0%	251	100.0%
Academy	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
<b>Primary</b>				
All	280		54,982	
Maintained	208	74.3%	35,313	64.2%
Academy	72	25.7%	19,669	35.8%
<b>Secondary</b>				
All	55		46,317	
Maintained	5	9.1%	3,893	8.4%
Academy	50	90.9%	42,424	91.6%
<b>Special</b>				
All	21		1,768	
Maintained	12	57.1%	1,060	60.0%
Academy	9	42.9%	708	40.0%
<b>PRU</b>				
All	1		193	
Maintained	1	100.0%	193	100.0%
Academy	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
<b>Total</b>				
All	362		103,510	
Maintained	231	63.8%	40,710	39.3%
Academy	131	36.2%	62,800	60.7%

Following the election, it appeared that there would be an increase in the rate that schools converted to academy status. However, this is still to feed through into reality. There is an expectation that there will be an acceleration in the number of schools that convert or are required to convert as sponsored academies as we progress into the New Year.

By 1<sup>st</sup> June 2016 if conversions and sponsored conversions proceed according to their target dates, the position will be:

Projected Six Month Status of All Lincolnshire State Schools

	Schools		FTE	
<b>Nursery</b>				
All	5		251	
Maintained	5	100.0%	251	100.0%
Academy	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
<b>Primary</b>				
All	280		54,982	
Maintained	208	74.3%	35,747	65.0%
Academy	72	25.7%	19,234	35.0%
<b>Secondary</b>				
All	55		46,317	
Maintained	5	9.1%	3,893	8.4%
Academy	50	90.9%	42,424	91.6%
<b>Special</b>				
All	21		1,768	
Maintained	8	38.1%	871	49.3%
Academy	13	61.9%	897	50.7%
<b>PRU</b>				
All	1		193	
Maintained	1	100.0%	193	100.0%
Academy	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
<b>Total</b>				
All	362		103,510	
Maintained	227	62.7%	40,955	39.6%
Academy	135	37.3%	62,555	60.4%

There are currently four confirmed conversions due to happen prior to 1<sup>st</sup> June 2016. These are all special schools and all propose to become part of the Community Inclusive Trust. They are Spalding The Garth School, Spalding The Priory School and Boston John Fielding Community Special School; which are due to convert on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2016, and Spilsby The Lady Jane Franklin School which is due to convert on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016. This will bring the number of special schools that are academies to 13 (61.9%) and the number of special school pupils educated by academies to 897 (50.7%).

There are a further four schools (three primaries and one secondary) have engaged in the academy process but do not have confirmed conversion dates. Regular updates are being sought from the Department for Education and other involved parties.

<b>RECOMMENDATIONS</b>
------------------------

The Schools Forum is asked to note the contents of the report.

<b>APPENDICES - these are listed below and attached at the back of the report.</b>
--

None.
-------

# Agenda Item 11

## Lincolnshire Schools' Forum Work Programme

**Chairman:** Mark Anderson

**Vice-Chairman:** Geraldine Willders

**27 April 2016**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Contributor</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
Section 251 Budget Statement 2016/17	Mark Popplewell	To update the Schools Forum with regard to the Budget Statement for 2016/17
Academies Update	John O'Connor	To provide the Schools Forum with an update on the latest position regarding the number of Maintained schools and Academies and pupils in them
DfE Consultation: Fairer Schools Funding in 2017/18	Mark Popplewell	To seek the Schools Forum's view on the key issues prior to the LA submitting a response to the DfE
School Collaboration on Resource Efficiency (SCoRE) Update	Doug Robinson	To provide the Schools Forum with an update on the SCoRE Programme
Team Around the Child	Paula Whitehead	To update the Schools Forum with an update on the Team Around the Child
Annual report on Early Years – Analysis of the Local Authority's current Early Years Providers and Intentions 2016/17	Michelle Andrews	To receive an annual report on the Early Years' Service
Annual Report on Special Educational Needs	Sheridan Dodsworth	To receive an annual report on Special educational Needs

**29 June 2016**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Contributor</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
Election of Chairman/Vice Chairman	Katrina Cope	
Schools Block Funding Formulae 2016/17: Analysis of Local Authorities' School Block Funding Formulae	Mark Popplewell	To provide the Schools Forum with the DFE's analysis of local authorities' (LA) school funding formulae for 2016/17
Academies Update	John O'Connor	To provide the Schools Forum with an update on the latest position regarding the number of Maintained schools and Academies and the pupils in them

**5 October 2016**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Contributor</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
School Carry Forwards 2015/16	Mark Popplewell	To provide the Schools' Forum with information regarding Lincolnshire's maintained schools' carry forwards at 31 March 2016
School Financial Value Standard	Mark Popplewell	To provide the Schools' Forum with an update on the Schools Financial Value Standard
De-Delegation of Maintained Primary Schools Budgets 2017/18 and 2018/19	Mark Popplewell	To seek approval from the maintained primary school representatives approval to the Local authority's proposals
Academies Update	John O'Connor	To provide the Schools Forum with an update on the latest position regarding the number of Maintained schools and Academies and the pupils in them