

Schools Forum

Date: Monday 4th June 2018

Time: 4.00pm

Venue: Council Chamber, Town Hall Extension

Everyone is welcome to attend this committee meeting.

Membership of the Forum

Secondary Sector Headteachers (1) Gillian Houghton

Secondary Sector Governors (1) Fiaz Riasat

Primary Sector Headteachers (4) Patricia Adams, Mike Cooke, Sarah Navin, Saeeda Ishaq

Primary Sector Governors (4) Brendon Jones, x 2 vacancies, Michael Flanagan

Special School Headteachers (1) Alan Braven

Special School Governor (1) vacancy

Academy Representative (6) Elizabeth Fritchley, Andy Park, Emma Merva, Ian Fenn, Joshua Rowe, Micheal Carson

Pupil Referral Unit Representative (1) Helen McAndrew

Nursery School Representative (1) Joanne Fenton

Non-School Members (9) Isobel Booler, Councillor Stone, Cath Baggaley, John

Morgan, Elizabeth Cummings, Antonio de Paola

Agenda

1. Urgent business

To consider any items which the Chair has agreed to have submitted as urgent.

2. Appeals

To consider any appeals from the public against refusal to allow inspection of background documents and/or the inclusion of items in the confidential part of the agenda.

3. Minutes

To approve as a correct record the minutes and notes of the meeting held on 15th January 2018 (enclosed).

- 4. Dedicated Schools Grant outturn 2017/18
- 5. Free School Meal eligibility and checking

Date of next meetings:

18th June 2018

16th July 2018

Information about the Forum

Schools are represented on the Forum by headteachers and school governors, elected to reflect all categories of school. In Manchester; there are non-school representatives from the teacher associations; additional non-voting places are reserved for invited elected members and representatives of other interested bodies.

The Forum members work together to provide a clear consensus of professional advice to education decision-makers, to achieve a transparent deployment of available resources. The Forum provides a formal channel of communication between the Council and schools for consultation concerning the funding of schools, and aims to agree recommendations which present the best possible compromise between competing claims on limited resources; has strategic oversight of ALL funding decisions affecting schools, and is involved in annual consultation in respect of the Council's functions relating to the schools budget in connection with the following:

- pupils with SEN (Special Educational Needs)
- early years
- o revisions to the Council's scheme for the financing of schools
- administration of central government grants to schools including Standards Funds
- o arrangements for free school meals

The Forum must be consulted on any proposed changes to the Council's school funding formula, and the financial effects of any proposed changes.

Joanne Roney Chief Executive Town Hall, Albert Square Manchester, M60 2LA

Further Information

For help, advice and information about this meeting please contact:

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Manchester Schools Forum

Minutes of the meeting held on 15 January 2018

Present:

Secondary Sector Headteachers: - Secondary Sector Governors: -

Primary Sector Headteachers: Mike Cooke, Sarah Navin, Patricia Adams

Primary Sector Governors: Brendon Jones

Special School Headteachers: - Special School Governor: -

Academy Representative: Andy Park, Emma Mervin

Pupil Referral Unit Representative: -

Nursery School Representative: Joanne Fenton

Non-school members: Cath Baggaley, Isobel Booler (Head of Inclusion)

PVI Sector Representative: Elizabeth Cummings

Council Officers: Reena Kohli, (Directorate Financial Lead, Children's), Amanda

Corcoran (Director of Education)

Apologies: Ian Fenn, Councillor Stone, John Morgan, Alan Braven, Gillian Houghton

SF/18/01 Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting were submitted for consideration as a correct record. Michael Flanagan highlighted that his apologies had not been recorded.

Decision

To agree the minutes subject to the amendment above.

SF/18/02 Dedicated Schools Grant Update 2018/19

The Forum considered a report of the Head of Finance for Adult Services Directorate and Children's Services Directorate which discussed the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) 2018/19 – the ring-fenced fund, the majority of which is used to fund individual school budgets in maintained schools, academies and free schools. It funds Early Years nursery free entitlement places for two, three and four year olds and provides for pupils with high needs (including Special Educational Needs (SEN), Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) special schools funding and specialist provision in and out of Manchester).

The report provided the confirmed DSG grant allocation of £518.57M which was announced by the Department for Education (DfE) in mid-December 2017 and outlined the budget across individual school budgets and the Local Authority retained schools budget.

In introducing the report, the Directorate Finance Lead - Children's and Schools Finance talked the Forum through the key points of the individual blocks. The Forum

noted an increase of just under £21M coming into the city as a result of the **Schools Block** (for 5-16 year olds in mainstream schools). It also noted that part of the figure included an increase of per pupil funding of approximately 0.5% to be passed on to schools.

DSG funding projections were set out over a number of years alongside an overview of the increase in the city's pupil numbers from 2013/14 through to 2018/19 (the latter of which had been drawn from October 2017 census data). This reported that just over 2000 additional pupils had arrived in the city since the last October census and was broadly in line with trends over the last few years. The rise in pupil numbers had led to the city receiving an extra £400M for mainstream schools. Both the calculation and allocation of the fund had significantly changed to that of previous years. This year the Authority would be allocated a national set amount per primary school aged pupil, with a set amount per pupil deemed eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) regardless of whether that is reflected in the Authority's local formula, as well as other set amounts per pupil depending on whether they demonstrate characteristics that are designated on the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) deprivation index. It was highlighted that per pupil funding in the National Formula is lower than the Council's local formula, on the whole the deprivation amounts are near local formula values or lower with the exception of FSM. The most significant factor was the lump sum allocated to the Authority which meant that the Council is not fully funded to pass on the 0.5% Minimum Funding Guarantee and therefore represented a significant challenge and a future debate for the Forum.

Moving to consideration of the **Central Schools Services Block**, the Directorate Finance Lead - Children's and Schools Finance explained that this had been lifted out of Schools Block to sit in its own right. The funding allocated to the block amounted to just under £4M for the purpose of funding the Council's statutory duties. Admissions sits within this block and was responsible for a large part of the budget. The Directorate Finance Lead - Children's and Schools Finance reminded the Forum that it had previously agreed funding principles for this bock at the latter end of last year. However since then it had emerged that an error had been made in that VAT had incorrectly been included in the costings for copyright licences. This therefore meant that £69,000 of the allocation was currently uncommitted. The Directorate Finance Lead - Children's and Schools Finance therefore asked the Forum's permission to use this money for a currently unfunded post. This was described as a dedicated post that would be responsible for the management of the Local Authority database which holds individual pupil records, and performs other important and significant functions such as admissions place planning.

With regard to the **High Needs Block** it was explained that funding allocation had changed this year and had moved away from the receipt of a fixed lump sum that was based on historic spend. The amount allocated had been increased periodically over the years but never matched the level of need in the city. This year the Authority had received an additional £2.46M as a result of the changed way in which the funding is allocated.

There was a discussion about the importance of the import / export adjustment, and through this the Forum acknowledged that the Department for Education draw their data direct from schools, meaning that if schools do not have their data correctly

recorded within the appropriate timescales, then funding will be missed. A member commented that the Local Authority should consider new ways of working with schools to help them to identify where data quality is poor so that there is scope for improvement in future years. The Directorate Finance Lead - Children's and Schools Finance explained that the timescale that the data was needed coincided with the settlement announcement from the DfE which presented a capacity issue. She said the crucial element was encouraging schools to submit this information through school census data to trigger funding at the earliest time and so that no funding is lost.

The Chair of the meeting, read out a comment from an absent Forum member about a statement within the report that indicated that high needs funding had previously been based on historical allocations plus small annual amounts of growth. The member asserted that in his experience (as Special School headteacher) there had been no increase in per pupil funding in the last three years. This, he asserted, had left schools in the difficult position of needing to absorb additional rising costs relating to pay increases as well as other employer costs and levys. He stated that were situation to continue, this would leave the schools with no option other than to reduce staffing. He went on to say that if the Local Authority did not plan to increase top up funding, they should then consider choosing not to increase partnership funding by £250,000 and instead allocate the money to increase by top up funding. The Director of Education said she would raise the matter at the next Special School Heads meeting to enable them to make a decision about whether partnership funding is used to balance out school budgets. The Directorate Finance Lead - Children's and Schools Finance then explained the new way in which the block is allocated and the importance of census data in driving the fund.

The Early Years block allocation would be calculated on January census data provided by schools and the Local Authority would receive notification of the final settlement in July 2018. The settlement was estimated at 42.7M and part of this amount would be allocated as part of the Working Parents the take up of which was low. The risk of a significant clawback of funding was highlighted. This was due to the amount the Local Authority received being calculated on the previous year's level of take-up. Due to the funding arrangements of this particular allocation, there was a predicted loss of approximately £2M. The Forum discussed the difficulties of encouraging parents to sign up to the offer. Members acknowledged the burden on parents to sign up to the scheme on a 3 monthly basis and agreed that this presented a significant barrier to take up, despite some schools offering incentives. There was a discussion about the creation of a citywide strategy – the Director of Education explained that the challenge for Manchester was that unlike other Authorities, parents were still able to obtain nursery places without signing up to Scheme meaning there was no incentive. There was a discussion about options to overcome the barriers and the challenges they in themselves presented: there was a suggestion that schools may wish to take a harder line with parents to require them to apply; another member suggested looking at innovative ways of working with parents to help with the bureaucratic burden; another member spoke about plans to consider a 'split' system where not all children were allocated full time places. The Directorate Finance Lead - Children's and Schools Finance agreed to share out examples of good practice through the Primary Heads group as some schools have been successful in encouraging parents to claim. She explained that should funding

be reduced due to poor levels of take up as reflected in January census data, this would leave the Authority significantly challenged to respond to increase in demand in the future. Additionally as a result of low levels of take up, the Forum also noted there would be a shortfall of £222,000 for the Local Authority retained element of the Early Years block as a result of a restriction on the amount that may be retained. In order to continue with previous levels of Early Years support in interventions like Speech and Language and Child and Parenting services it was proposed that the shortfall is taken up through the High Needs Block. The Directorate Finance Lead - Children's and Schools Finance assured the Forum that officers had undertaken considerable work to determine the extent of capacity within the Block to meet this additional need, however there remained a small risk this could lead to future funding pressures should unforeseen demands arise.

The Directorate Finance Lead - Children's and Schools Finance then talked through the finer detail of the **Schools Block**. She alluded to the Forum's decision in November to retain the Local Authority's local formula in 2018/19 and 2019/20 to retain an element of protection in schools budgets and the announcement that Local Authority would receive an additional 0.5% to pass on and fund schools. She confirmed that DfE published figures indicate an 0.5% increase in individual school budgets as part of the proposed National Formula. Therefore this increase has been accounted for in the budget for the Local Formula alongside an additional 0.5% increase across values driven by pupil characteristics. This had resulted in most schools requiring the Minimum Funding Guarantee. The implications of setting the MFG at 0% and 0.5% were explained. In summary these were, setting the MFG at 0% would result in headroom in the Schools Block of £332,000. In contrast setting the MFG at a higher rate of 0.5% would lead to a shortfall of £673,000 within the block and it was proposed that this pressure could be met by the Growth Fund and as there was capacity within that particular fund. The Forum discussed the implications for a number of options. There was a suggestion that the MFG be set at 0% and the remaining £332,000 is allocated to schools deemed to be most in need. It was explained that the local formula was quite constrained in that funding must be allocated a fair and consistent basis. It was also explained that it is not possible to predetermine budget shares in year; the next opportunity would be 2019/20. There was also a lack of clarity as to whether opting to hold the funding back ran the risk of the DfE claiming the unspent money back.

It was also suggested that the Forum considers setting the MFG to a lower level of 0.25% to mitigate funding pressures whilst giving schools a smaller increase in funding. The implications of this were summarised. A motion to take a vote on setting the MFG at 0.25% was proposed and seconded.

All Forum members then proceeded to vote on setting the MFG at 0%, 0.25% and 0.5% respectively. The votes to set the MFG at 0% and 0.25% were not carried. Noting that giving schools a higher baseline through retaining the local formula would leave schools better placed at the point the NFF is implemented, the Forum agreed to set the MFG at 0.5%

Decisions

1. To note the Dedicated Schools Grant settlement for 2018/19 of £518.57M.

- 2. To note that an adjustment to the funding of the two, three and four year old offer shall be received in June 2018.
- 3. To acknowledge the risk of a significant 'working parents offer' clawback in the Early Years block.
- 4. To note a shortfall of £222,000 for the Local Authority retained element of the Early Years block as a result of a restriction on the amount that may be retained.
- 5. To note that formula funding for 60 additional primary places and 240 additional secondary places is in line with Department for Education guidance.
- 6. To note proposals to create an additional 72 specialist school places.
- 7. To agree to set the Minimum Funding Guarantee rate at 0.5%, noting that this may lead to a shortfall in the Growth Fund in 2018/19.
- 8. To approve that the currently unallocated funding within the Central Schools Services Block of £69,0000 shall be used to fund a post as descried in the minutes.

[Andy Park declared an in interest as member of a Trust that will run a Free School which will be financed by the Growth Fund]

[Elizabeth Fritchley declared an interest as a member of a school that would benefit from either the Growth Fund or the Minimum Funding Guarantee]

SF/18/03 Schools Forum Constitution

The Forum considered a report of Head of Finance for Adult Services Directorate and Children's Services Directorate in respect of the Forum's Constitution. The report proposed changes to the Forum's formulaic composition. The report explained that due to the number of recent conversions of schools to Academies, a change had occurred in the balance of pupils across sectors significantly; therefore the Local Authority recommended that the membership should be changed from two to one secondary school governor so that academy membership could be increased. An additional new rule was also proposed for inclusion concerning attendance at meetings. A copy of the revised draft Constitution was appended to the report.

Decision

To approve the draft Constitution (as appended).

Constitution, Membership and Procedural Rules for the Conduct of Meetings - 2018

1. Interpretation and Chair's Ruling

- 1.1 These procedural rules apply to all meetings of the Schools Forum.
- 1.2 References in these rules to the Chair include the appointed Vice Chair, or any other member appointed by the Forum to act in their absence.
- 1.3 Any reference in the rules to "Forum" shall apply to any subgroups where appropriate.
- *1.4 These rules are subject to any statute or other enactment whether passed before or after they came into effect.
- 1.5 The ruling of the Chair on the application and interpretation of these rules is final.

2. Suspension of Rules

2.1 With the exception of rules marked with an asterisk (), any rule may be suspended at a meeting, either by a motion included in the agenda, or by a motion put to the meeting without notice and passed by a majority of those members present and voting.

3. Chair and Vice Chair

- *3.1 The Chair and Vice Chair will be elected annually at the second meeting after the start of the academic year. At the end of their term, both the Chair and Vice Chair shall be eligible for re-election.
- *3.2 In the interests of balance, the Forum should try to ensure that the Chair and Vice Chair are drawn from members representing different categories of interest. In addition, the Chair or Vice Chair cannot be an elected member or officer of the Council.
- *3.3 The Chair and Vice Chair shall be elected by a simple majority of the constituent members defined in rule 4.1 present and voting.
- *3.4 If there are an equal number of votes between candidates for the office of Chair or Vice Chair, those candidates will be deemed not to have been elected. The Clerk will then invite further nominations.
- *3.5 In the event of a casual vacancy in the office of Chair or Vice Chair, the Forum should elect a member to fill that vacancy at its next meeting. Any member elected will (subject to rule 4.6) hold office until the date of the meeting at which the Chair or Vice Chair would have held office had the casual vacancy not occurred. This will be subject to the provisions of rule 3.2 above continuing to be observed by such an appointment.

*3.6 A Chair or Vice Chair shall cease to hold office if (a) they resign their office by written notice given to appointing authority, or (b) ceases to be a member of the Forum.

4. Membership

- *4.1 The Forum shall consist of 29 members to represent the following groups -
 - (a) Nine non-school members as appointed by Manchester City Council.
 This will specifically <u>exclude</u> any Executive member of the Council, and any officer involved with responsibility for strategic resource management.
 (To include two union representatives see paragraph 4.9, one non executive member, one operational senior manager, one Private,
 - executive member, one operational senior manager, one Private, Voluntary & Independent sector representative and one 16-19 representative)
 - (b) Four members appointed to represent primary school headteachers;
 - (c) One member appointed to represent secondary school headteachers
 - (d) One member appointed to represent special school headteachers;
 - (e) One member to represent the governing bodies of secondary schools
 - (f) Four members appointed to represent the governing bodies of primary schools (*)
 - (g) One member appointed to represent the governing bodies of special schools (*)
 - (h) Six members to represent academies
 - (i) One member appointed to represent the governing bodies of nursery schools
 - (j) One member appointed to represent the headteachers of pupil referral units
 - (*) This excludes Executive Members of the Council who may not be regarded as a schools' member in their capacity of governor of any maintained school.
- 4.2 Manchester City Council will organise the elections for Schools Forum representatives. In doing so, the Council will ensure that all relevant bodies are involved in the election process within the relevant peer groups.
- 4.3 Individuals appointed to be members of the Forum shall hold and vacate office in accordance with their term of appointment which is for a period of 4 years from the date of appointment. Members will then be eligible for re-election. A non-schools' member shall remain in office until they resigns his office or until the relevant authority makes a further appointment to replace him/her or nominate from the relevant body.
- 4.4 Executive members and senior officers with responsibility for resource management are entitled to attend and speak at a Forum meeting.
- 4.5 A member may resign their membership at any time by giving written notice to the Council.

- 4.6 A member must vacate their office where -
 - (a) they cease to hold the office by virtue of which they became eligible for appointment to the Forum;
 - (b) their office as a member comes to an end or
 - (c) they resign as a schools' forum member.
- 4.7 A member will be deemed to have vacated their office if they fail to attend Forum meetings on three consecutive occasions without good cause or reason.
- 4.9 The local authority shall invite nominations from the other groups referred to in above and the relevant teacher and non-teaching unions for the two Union representatives, and seek nomination of LA Operational Senior Manager from the Head of Children's Services. The elected member will be appointed annually in May by the Constitutional and Nomination Committee. Rule 4.9 below will apply to these appointments. Non schools' member shall remain in office until they resign their office or until the relevant authority makes a further appointment to replace them or nominate from the relevant body.

5. Substitute and Alternate Members

*5.1 A member of the Forum may nominate a substitute member to attend meetings of the Forum in their absence. The absence of members of the Forum will however still be deemed to be accountable in accordance with rule **4.8 above.**

6. Clerk

6.1 Manchester City Council will appoint an independent clerk to the Forum

7. Notice of Meetings

- *7.1 The dates of meetings will be agreed between the Chair and the local authority, but, subject to rule 7.3 below, they shall comply with any direction in the matter -
- (a) given by the Forum at a previous meeting, or
- (b) given by the Chair, or in their absence, the Vice Chair, so far as such direction is not inconsistent with any direction given at (a) above.
- 7.2 Every member of the Forum shall be given at least five working days before the date of the meeting:
 - (a) written notice of the date, time and place of the meeting
 - (b) a copy of the agenda for the meeting and associated papers.
- 7.3 The Chair may cancel or postpone any meeting, prior to the issue of the agenda, or subsequently, if there is no business to be transacted.

8. Urgent Business

8.1 In the exceptional case where there is a genuine business need for a decision or formal view to be expressed by the Forum before the next scheduled meeting, and it is not possible to call an unscheduled meeting, clearance of proposals will be conducted via e-mail with a formal report then being brought to the next scheduled meeting.

9. Voting

- *9.1 Each member of the Schools Forum will have a single vote. The decisions on proposals presented to the Forum will be determined by a simple majority vote of those members attending and voting (i.e. excluding abstentions). Where there is an equal number of votes for or against a particular proposal, the Chair can exercise a casting vote.
- *9.2 The voting eligibility for members on different decisions is set out in table one below:

Table One:

| Schools Members | Academies Members | Non-School Members |
|---|--|--|
| Only primary representatives can vote on primary school dedelegation Only secondary representatives can vote on secondary school dedelegation All schools members can vote on any other Schools Forum business, including the consultation on the funding formula | No voting on dedelegation All academy members can vote on any other Schools Forum business, including the consultation on the funding formula | No voting on dedelegation Only PVI representatives can vote on the consultation on the funding formula. All non-school members can vote on any other business. |

9.3 The overall vote on the Forum must be recorded in the minutes including details of number of votes for, against and abstaining.

10. Quorum

- *10.1 The meeting will be quorate if at least two fifths of the total membership is present at the meeting. Based on current membership at the time of writing, the will be quorate with 12 members.
- *10.2 If the meeting is inquorate it can proceed only in terms of responding to authority consultation and give views to the authority but cannot legally take any decisions. This rule also applies if the number of members present falls below the quorum level during the course of a meeting.

10.3 If the Forum is required to take a vote on a decision, two fifths of the members that are eligible to vote on that decision must be present at the meeting.

11. Minutes of meetings

11.1 The Clerk will prepare the minutes of each meeting as soon as practical after the meeting. The minutes will be submitted for approval as a correct record at the following meeting.

12. Motions without notice

- 12.1 The following motions may be moved without prior notice:
 - (a) To appoint a member to Chair the meeting;
 - (b) To approve or correct the minutes of the previous meeting;
 - (c) To change the order of business on the agenda;
 - (d) To withdraw an item from the agenda;
 - (e) To require a member to leave the meeting;
 - (f) To suspend particular rules;
 - (g) To go to the next business item of business. If seconded, the vote will then be taken and if carried the item under discussion will be treated as withdrawn:
 - (h) Put the question immediately to a vote. If seconded, the vote will then be taken and if carried the mover of the original motion shall have a right of reply;
 - (i) To adjourn the meeting. If the motion to adjourn is carried, there will be no
 - right of reply allowed;
 - (g) To exclude the public during considerate and confidential business in accordance with access to information regulations.

13. Conduct at meetings

- 13.1 If the Chair calls the meeting to order, members shall be silent.
- 13.2 If a member behaves improperly or offensively, or deliberately obstructs business, the Chair may direct that member to be silent. If the member continues such behaviour, the Chair may direct either that the member leaves the meeting, or that the meeting be adjourned for a specified period.
- 13.3 If a member of the public interrupts the meeting, the Chair will warn the person concerned. If the interruption continues the Chair may order their removal from the meeting.

14. Public Admission to Meetings

- *14.1 All meetings are open to the public.
- *14.2 Members of the public can be invited to speak at the Chair's discretion.

*14.3 The public may be excluded from a meeting during the consideration of confidential business. The reasons for confidentiality must be recorded in the minutes.

15. Interests

- 15.1 A member of the Forum must declare an interest in an individual proposal which directly affects:
 - An individual school where they work;
 - an individual school at which their children attend, or
 - An individual decision where in which they might have a prejudicial interest in the decision made. A prejudicial interest is defined as one where the personal interest in an item of business could be perceived as prejudicial if a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard this as so significant that it is likely to prejudice your judgment of the public interest. Where such a declaration is made, a member must withdraw from the meeting and take no part in the decision.

16. Powers and Duties of the Forum

16.1 The powers and duties of the Forum and its relationship with Manchester City Council and the Department for Education and Skills are set out in table two.

Manchester City Council Report for Resolution

Report to: Schools Forum

Subject: Dedicated Schools Grant and School Balances 2017/18 –

Outturn Report

Report of: Director of Education

Head of Finance - Directorate for Children's

Summary

The provisional outturn for schools is an overall revenue surplus of £25.127m, which is a £2.371m increase in the total revenue surplus held compared to 2016/17. The final position on the centrally retained element of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) was an overspend of £769k.

This report summarises the:

- Outturn position on school balances as at 31 March 2018; and the
- Final outturn position on the DSG including the centrally retained DSG.

Recommendations

All School Forum members are asked to note and comment on:

- Maintained school balances as at 2017/18.
- Note the DSG deficit balance carried forward into 2018/19.

School Forum members are asked to decide if:

 The 2017/18 DSG deficit can be off-set against the school's block growth fund if it underspends at the end of the financial year.

Contact Officers:

Name: Reena Kohli

Position: Directorate Lead Children and Families Finance

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Name: Anne Summerfield

Position: Principal Finance Officer - Schools

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Background documents (available for public inspection):

The following documents disclose important facts on which the report is based and have been relied upon in preparing the report. Copies of the background documents

are available up to 4 years after the date of the meeting. If you would like a copy please contact one of the contact officers above.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The purpose of this report is to state and explain the final position of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) for 2017/18 in respect of schools and the Council. The 2017/18 DSG allocation plus underspend from 2016/17, after academy recoupment, was £317.4m, of which £296.5m was delegated to schools and £20.9m was retained centrally by the Council.

2. PROVISIONAL OUTTURN POSITION FOR SCHOOLS

- 2.1 The provisional outturn position for maintained schools is an overall revenue surplus of £25.127m. This is a £2.371m increase in the total revenue surplus held compared to 2016/17. Table one below shows total revenue balances by sector. This excludes school balances held on capital of £2.471m, which has decrease by £226k compared to 2016/17. Appendix 1 provides Individual School Revenue and Capital Balances (note: Capital Balances for Voluntary Aided schools are excluded and are not part of MCC balances).
- 2.2 Table one: Maintained School Balances by Sector 2017/18:

| | 2017/18 | | 2016/17 | | Difference | |
|-----------|---------|--------|---------|--------|------------|--------|
| | No. | £000's | No. | £000's | No. | £000's |
| Nursery | 2 | 212 | 2 | 327 | 0 | -115 |
| Primary | 96 | 20,447 | 99 | 17,196 | -3 | 3,251 |
| Secondary | 7 | 1,947 | 7 | 2,228 | 0 | -257 |
| Special | 14 | 2,497 | 14 | 3,005 | 0 | -508 |
| Total | 119 | 25,127 | 122 | 22,756 | -3 | 2,371 |

2.3 Table two: Surplus Revenue Balances

| | 2017/18 | | 2016/17 | | Difference | |
|-----------|---------|--------|---------|--------|------------|--------|
| | No. | £000's | No. | £000's | No. | £000's |
| Nursery | 2 | 212 | 2 | 327 | 0 | -115 |
| Primary | 95 | 20,538 | 99 | 17,196 | 2 | 3,342 |
| Secondary | 7 | 1,971 | 6 | 2,413 | -1 | -442 |
| Special | 11 | 2,571 | 13 | 3,378 | 0 | -807 |
| Total | 115 | 25,292 | 120 | 23,314 | 1 | 1,978 |

2.4 Table three: Deficit Revenue Balances

| | 2017/18 | | 2016/17 | | Difference | |
|-----------|---------|--------|---------|--------|------------|--------|
| | No. | £000's | No. | £000's | No. | £000's |
| Nursery | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Primary | 1 | -91 | 0 | 0 | 1 | -91 |
| Secondary | 0 | 0 | 1 | -185 | -1 | 185 |
| Special | 3 | -74 | 1 | -373 | 3 | 299 |
| Total | 4 | 165 | 2 | 558 | 3 | 393 |

2.5 Annually, an analysis of reserves review is completed for each school deemed to have excess balances. The following table provides details the excess balances for 2017/18 on all schools above the allowable revenue balance. This is classified to be 8% of the budget share for nursery, primary and special schools, and 5% of the budget share for secondary schools.

Table four: Excess Balances

| | 2017/18 | | 2016/17 | | Difference | |
|-----------|---------|--------|---------|--------|------------|--------|
| | No. | £000's | No. | £000's | No. | £000's |
| Nursery | 1 | 103 | 2 | 242 | 0 | -139 |
| Primary | 57 | 8,996 | 47 | 6,356 | 10 | 2,640 |
| Secondary | 3 | 437 | 4 | 812 | -1 | -375 |
| Special | 6 | 1,080 | 9 | 1,252 | -3 | -172 |
| Total | 67 | 10,616 | 62 | 8,662 | 6 | 1,954 |

2.6 Table five: Range of Excess Balance 2017/18

| | 2017/18 | | | | |
|-----------|---------|--------|--|--|--|
| | £000's | £000's | | | |
| | From | То | | | |
| Nursery | 0 | 103 | | | |
| Primary | 2 | 1,147 | | | |
| Secondary | 78 | 191 | | | |
| Special | 44 | 384 | | | |

2.7 Maintained schools are required to analyse their excess balances and return this to the Local Authority by the 8th June 2018.

3. RETAINED SCHOOL BUDGET 2017/18

- 3.1 The overall retained schools budget DSG position 2017/18 is an overspend of £769k. The table below sets out the note to the Council's Annual Accounts in respect of the DSG, which has been reported to the Department for Education. The Council's expenditure on schools is funded primarily by grant monies provided by the Department for Education, the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). An element of DSG is recouped by the Department for Education to fund Academy schools in the authority's area. DSG is ring-fenced and can only be applied to meet expenditure properly included in the Schools Budget as defined in the Schools Finance (England) Regulations 2011. The schools budget includes elements for a range of educational services provided on an authority-wide basis and for the Individual Schools Budget, which is divided into a budget share for each maintained school.
- 3.2 The table below sets out the note to the Council's Annual Accounts in respect of the DSG, which has been reported to the Department for Education. The Council's expenditure on schools is funded primarily by grant monies provided by the Department for Education, the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). An

element of DSG is recouped by the Department for Education to fund Academy schools in the authority's area. DSG is ring-fenced and can only be applied to meet expenditure properly included in the Schools Budget as defined in the Schools Finance (England) Regulations 2011. The schools budget includes elements for a range of educational services provided on an authority-wide basis and for the Individual Schools Budget, which is divided into a budget share for each maintained school.

3.3 Table six: 2017/18 DSG deployment

| Central Expenditure | Central Expenditure | Individual Schools Budget | Total |
|---|------------------------|---------------------------------|---------|
| Contral Exponential | £000s | £000s | £000s |
| Final DSG for 2017/18 before academy recoupment | | | 492,195 |
| Academy figure recouped for 2017/18 | | | 174,772 |
| Total DSG after academy recoupment for 2017/18 | | | 317,423 |
| Plus brought forward from 2016/17 | | | 45 |
| Less carry forward to 2018/19 agreed in advance | | | 0 |
| Agreed initial budgeted distribution in 2017/18 | 20,958 | 296,510 | 317,468 |
| In year adjustments | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Final budgeted distribution for 2017/18 | 20,958 | 296,510 | 317,468 |
| Less actual central expenditure | 21,727 | | 21,727 |
| Less actual ISB deployed to schools | | 296,510 | 296,510 |
| Plus local authority contribution for 2017/18 | - | - | 0 |
| Carry forward to 2018/19 | - 769 | 0 | - 769 |

3. DSG DEFICIT

- 3.1 For a considerable amount of time Forum have anticipated high needs block budget pressures, these pressures resulted in DSG £0.769m overspend at the end of 2017/18. It is proposed that the deficit of £0.769m will be incorporated into 2018/19 DSG budgets.
- 3.2 The 2017/18 high needs block overspend of £3.1m was offset by underspends in the early years (£1.5m) and the schools block (£0.7m). Previous reports have highlighted the impact of the continued growth in the population on the high needs block. Key pressure are being seen in: Education, Health and Care pan in mainstream school and Out of City placements.
- 3.3 In order to manage high needs block pressures the Council has already started to develop more local less costly provision, creating additional special school places to meet demand within Manchester. The growth in the City's pupil numbers continues to feed through to the high needs block and further increases in special school places and resource provision places in mainstream schools will be required in 2018/19.

3.4 The Council has reviewed the 2018/19 and has assessed that high needs block pressure totals £875k, please see table seven below.

Table seven:

| Budget | <u>Pressure</u> |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| | £000 |
| EHCPs – Mainstream Schools | 282 |
| Out of City Placements | 593 |
| Total | 875 |

- 3.5 It is not expected that this pressure will be on-going due to the full-year impact of a special school closure coming into effect 2019/20 onwards.
- 3.6 Based on this initial assessment it is high unlikely that any of the 2017/18 deficit can be set against the 2017/18 high need block. Despite early years block underspending in previous years it is not expected that this block will underspend in 2018/19, mainly due to the clawback on unclaimed early years working parents 30 hours funding. The schools block is expected to underspend by £1m due to uncommitted growth fund.
- 3.7 The Local Authority proposes that the deficit on central expenditure in 2017/18 is carried forward to 2018/19 and be off-set against underspends from the growth fund budget, if an underspend materialises at the end of the year. The Local Authority will continue to review DSG and will comeback to Forum will a deficit recovery plan should the DSG overspend again in 2018/19.

4. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.1 All School Forum members are asked to note and comment on:
 - Maintained school balances as at 2017/18.
 - Note the DSG deficit balance carried forward into 2018/19.
- 4.2 School Forum members are asked to decide if:
 - The 2017/18 DSG deficit can be off-set against the school's block growth fund if it underspends at the end of the financial year.

Appendix 1: Individual School Revenue & Capital Balances March 2018

| | | Schools Balance as at 31 March 2018 | | | |
|---------|---|-------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| DfE No | School Name | REVENUE | CAPITAL | TOTAL | Excess Balance Analysis of Reserves |
| Nursery | | £ | £ | £ | |
| 1008 | Collyhurst Nursery School | 163,137 | 30,779 | 193,917 | Υ |
| 1007 | Martenscroft Nursery School | 48,844 | 10,360 | 59,204 | |
| | Nursery Total | 211,981 | 41,139 | 253,120 | 1 |
| Primary | | | | | |
| 2001 | Abbott Community School | 161,087 | 6,522 | 167,609 | Υ |
| 2048 | Acacias Primary School | 314,029 | | 314,029 | Υ |
| 3301 | All Saints CofE Primary School (Newton Heath) | 55,515 | | 55,515 | |
| 2321 | All Saints Primary School (Gorton) | 94,827 | 0 | 94,827 | Υ |
| 2006 | Alma Park Primary School | 192,433 | | 192,433 | Υ |
| 3043 | Armitage CofE Primary School | 332,441 | 8,401 | 340,842 | Υ |
| 2010 | Ashbury Meadow Community Primary School | 730,088 | 51,933 | 782,021 | Y |
| 2326 | Baguley Hall Primary School | 193,928 | 5,329 | 199,258 | Υ |
| 2341 | Benchill Primary School | 105,163 | 32,122 | 137,285 | |
| 2328 | Birchfields Primary School | 672,270 | | 672,270 | Υ |
| 2039 | Bowker Vale Primary School | 88,703 | 8,860 | 97,563 | |
| 2298 | Broad Oak Primary School | -91,071 | | -91,071 | Rev.Deficit |
| 2247 | Broadhurst Primary School | 180,224 | 3,825 | 184,049 | Υ |
| 2340 | Button Lane Primary School | 47,196 | 0 | 47,196 | |
| 2057 | Cavendish Community Primary School | 198,269 | 5,707 | 203,976 | |
| 2058 | Chapel Street Primary School | 137,813 | 2,723 | 140,536 | |
| 2060 | Charlestown Community Primary School | 184,392 | 8,935 | 193,327 | Υ |
| 2288 | Cheetwood Community Primary School | 96,517 | 1,030 | 97,547 | Υ |
| 3003 | Chorlton CofE Primary School | 140,643 | 0 | 140,643 | Υ |
| 3402 | Christ the King RC Primary School | 138,056 | | 138,056 | |
| 2068 | Claremont Primary School | 742,479 | 203,474 | 945,953 | Υ |
| 3490 | CofE School of The Resurrection | 151,966 | | 151,966 | Υ |
| 2296 | Crab Lane Primary School | 256,456 | 37,078 | 293,535 | Υ |
| 2075 | Crosslee Community Primary School | 217,445 | 6,243 | 223,688 | Υ |
| 2076 | Crowcroft Park Primary School | 273,242 | 6,583 | 279,825 | Υ |
| 2327 | Crumpsall Lane Primary School | 92,363 | 0 | 92,363 | |
| 2129 | Heald Place Primary School | 1,408,243 | 1,147,687 | 2,555,930 | Y |
| 2303 | Higher Openshaw Community School | 61,420 | | 61,420 | |
| 3408 | Holy Name RC Primary School | 99,737 | | 99,737 | Y |
| 3005 | Holy Trinity CofE Primary School | 85,782 | | 85,782 | |

| Schools Balance as at 31 March 2018 | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|-----------|---------|---------|----------------------------|
| | | Jones Dai | | | |
| DfE | Cab and Name | DEVENUE | CARITAL | TOTAL | Excess Balance Analysis of |
| No | School Name | REVENUE | CAPITAL | TOTAL | Reserves |
| 2249 | Irk Valley Community School | 352,381 | 22,940 | 375,321 | Y |
| 2142 | Lily Lane Primary School | 55,311 | 0 | 55,311 | |
| 2305 | Manley Park Primary School | 63,631 | 4,932 | 68,563 | |
| 2161 | Mauldeth Road Primary School | 537,286 | 38,732 | 576,018 | Y |
| 2324 | Medlock Primary School | 139,076 | 12,981 | 152,057 | |
| 2164 | Moston Fields Primary School | 7,813 | 0 | 7,813 | |
| 2165 | Moston Lane Community Primary School | 195,507 | 0 | 195,507 | Y |
| 3503 | Mount Carmel RC Primary School | 81,646 | 47.050 | 81,646 | |
| 2184 | New Moston Primary School | 247,429 | 17,353 | 264,782 | Y |
| 2186 | Northenden Community School | 123,262 | 10,070 | 133,333 | Y |
| 2330 | Oswald Road Primary School | 174,465 | 10,991 | 185,455 | |
| 3475 | Our Lady's RC Primary School | 120,180 | 0.000 | 120,180 | Y |
| 3506 | Park View Community Primary School | 668,171 | 2,830 | 671,000 | Y |
| 2300 | Peel Hall Primary School | 89,084 | 284 | 89,368 | |
| 2302 | Pike Fold Primary School | 763,990 | 82,709 | 846,699 | Y |
| 2216 | Plymouth Grove Primary School | 140,683 | 9,735 | 150,418 | |
| 2232 | Rack House Primary School | 131,992 | 0 | 131,992 | |
| 2234 | Ravensbury Community School | 193,151 | 38,144 | 231,295 | Y |
| 2008 | Ringway Primary School Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School | 48,853 | 1,493 | 50,346 | |
| 3464 | Baguley | 301,132 | | 301,132 | Y |
| 3505 | Sacred Heart RC Primary School Gorton | 133,865 | | 133,865 | Y |
| 2301 | Sandilands Primary School | 148,858 | 441 | 149,299 | |
| 3491 | Saviour CofE Primary School | 242,211 | | 242,211 | Y |
| 3041 | St Agnes CofE Primary School | 272,232 | 19,467 | 291,699 | Y |
| 3415 | St Aidan's Catholic Primary School | 358,529 | | 358,529 | Y |
| 3418 | St Ambrose RC Primary School | 210,974 | | 210,974 | Y |
| 3310 | St Andrew's CofE Primary School | 102,977 | | 102,977 | |
| 3504 | St Anne's RC Primary School Ancoats | 105,035 | | 105,035 | Y |
| 3422 | St Anne's RC Primary School Crumpsall | 286,335 | | 286,335 | Y |
| 3011 | St Augustine's CofE Primary School | 204,629 | 17,760 | 222,388 | Y |
| 3473 | St Bernard's RC Primary School | 55,081 | | 55,081 | |
| 3429 | St Brigid's RC Primary School | 79,445 | | 79,445 | |
| 3432 | St Catherine's RC Primary School | 100,695 | | 100,695 | |
| 3434 | St Chad's RC Primary School | 149,139 | | 149,139 | Y |
| 3015 | St Chrysostom's CofE Primary School | 374,545 | 16,798 | 391,343 | Y |
| 3501 | St Clare's RC Primary School | 177,987 | | 177,987 | Y |
| 3042 | St Clement's CofE Primary School | 152,190 | 8,377 | 160,567 | Y |
| 3500 | St Cuthbert's RC Primary School | 103,919 | | 103,919 | |
| 3439 | St Dunstan's RC Primary School | 168,229 | | 168,229 | Υ |

| | Schools Balance as at 31 March 2018 | | | | |
|-----------|---|------------|-----------|------------|-------------------------------------|
| DfE No | School Name | REVENUE | CAPITAL | TOTAL | Excess Balance Analysis of Reserves |
| 3440 | St Edmund's RC Primary School | 688,757 | | 688,757 | Υ |
| 3445 | St Francis RC Primary School | 71,901 | | 71,901 | |
| 3316 | St James' CofE Primary School Birch-in- Rusholme | 98,137 | | 98,137 | Y |
| 3446 | St John Bosco RC Primary School | 112,700 | | 112,700 | Υ |
| 3045 | St John's CofE Primary School Longsight | 198,918 | 8,109 | 207,027 | Υ |
| 3489 | St John's RC Primary School Chorlton-Cum- Hardy | 156,898 | | 156,898 | Y |
| 3494 | St Joseph's RC Primary School | 99,516 | | 99,516 | Y |
| 5200 | St Kentigern's RC Primary School | 57,045 | | 57,045 | |
| 3044 | St Luke's CofE Primary School | 103,973 | 8,107 | 112,080 | |
| 3452 | St Malachy's RC Primary School | 84,116 | | 84,116 | |
| 3455 | St Margaret Mary's RC Primary School | 412,574 | | 412,574 | Υ |
| 3022 | St Margaret's CofE Primary School | 297,598 | 13,221 | 310,819 | Υ |
| 3028 | St Mary's CofE Junior & Infant School Moss Side | 267,581 | | 267,581 | Υ |
| 3484 | St Mary's CofE Primary School Moston | 55,291 | | 55,291 | |
| 3457 | St Mary's RC Primary School Levenshulme | 99,269 | | 99,269 | |
| 3460 | St Patrick's RC Primary School | 90,446 | | 90,446 | Υ |
| 3039 | St Paul's CofE Primary School | 114,679 | 38,521 | 153,200 | |
| 3465 | St Peter's Catholic Primary School | 64,963 | | 64,963 | |
| 3325 | St Philip's CofE Primary School | 164,495 | | 164,495 | Υ |
| 3482 | St Richard's RC Primary School | 147,407 | | 147,407 | |
| 3034 | St Wilfrid's CofE Junior & Infant School Newton Heath | 73,712 | 13,290 | 87,002 | |
| 3469 | St Wilfrid's RC Primary School Hulme | 157,000 | | 157,000 | Υ |
| 3472 | St Willibrord's RC Primary School | 228,276 | | 228,276 | Y |
| 2332 | Temple Primary School | 476,182 | 2,881 | 479,063 | Y |
| 3507 | The Divine Mercy RC Primary School | 155,974 | | 155,974 | |
| 2278 | Varna Street Primary School | 484,136 | 12,261 | 496,397 | Y |
| 2002 | Wilbraham Primary School | 261,393 | 11,587 | 272,980 | |
| 98 | Primary Total | 20,446,512 | 1,960,467 | 22,406,980 | 57 |

| Schools Balance as at 31 March 2018 | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|------------|-----------|------------|--|
| DfE No | School Name | REVENUE | CAPITAL | TOTAL | Excess Balance Analysis of Reserves |
| Secondary | | | | | |
| 4271 | Abraham Moss High School | 14,022 | 0 | 14,022 | |
| 4753 | Loreto High School | 402,327 | | 402,327 | Y |
| 4761 | Our Lady's RC High School | 252,139 | | 252,139 | |
| 4762 | St Matthew's RC High School | 94,150 | | 94,150 | |
| 4770 | St Peter's RC High School | 129,788 | | 129,788 | |
| 4768 | The Barlow RC High School | 448,318 | | 448,318 | Υ |
| 4276 | Wright Robinson Specialist College | 630,497 | 31,000 | 661,497 | Υ |
| 7 | Secondary Total | 1,971,240 | 31,000 | 2,002,240 | 3 |
| Special | | | | | |
| 7749 | Ashgate Primary School | 294,622 | 23,061 | 317,683 | Υ |
| 7014 | Buglawton Hall School | 6,143 | 658 | 6,800 | |
| 7023 | Camberwell Park School | 194,826 | 266,072 | 460,898 | |
| 7055 | Grange School | 649,240 | 21,016 | 670,256 | Υ |
| 7029 | Lancastrian School | -3,033 | 7,775 | 4,742 | Rev.Deficit |
| 7007 | Manchester Hospital Schools | 541,909 | 21,904 | 563,813 | Υ |
| 7042 | Meade Hill School | 17,119 | 571 | 17,690 | |
| 7061 | North Ridge High School | 336,212 | 27,428 | 363,640 | Υ |
| 7047 | Rodney House School | 57,348 | 3,329 | 60,677 | |
| 7056 | Southern Cross School | 151,119 | 0 | 151,119 | Υ |
| 7041 | The Birches School | 255,691 | 7,091 | 262,782 | Υ |
| 7959 | Southern Cross including Castlefield | 67,169 | 172 | 67,341 | |
| 1102 | Manchester PRU KS1 & 2 - Bridglea PRU Manchester PRU KS3 & 4 - | -31,745 | -6,064 | -37,808 | Rev.Deficit |
| 1105 | Crossley PRU | -39,306 | 66,258 | 26,951 | Rev.Deficit |
| 14 | Special Total | 2,497,314 | 439,270 | 2,936,583 | 6 |
| 121 | Total All Schools | 25,127,048 | 2,471,876 | 27,598,924 | 67 |

Note: Capital Balances for VA schools are excludes as they do not form part of the MCC balances.

Manchester City Council Report for Resolution

Report to: Schools Forum

Subject: Free School Meals

Report of: Head of Finance - Directorate for Children's

Summary

Manchester has undertaken a range of proactive measures in order to maximise Free School Meal funding to schools. Manchester has recently changed the way FSM eligibility is captured for funding purposes and undertaken a data exercise in order to assess whether FSM has been under-reported in the past. The report details recent work undertaken.

Recommendations

Schools Forum is asked to comment on the report.

Contact Officers:

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Position: Directorate Lead Children and Families Finance

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Background documents (available for public inspection):

The following documents disclose important facts on which the report is based and have been relied upon in preparing the report. Copies of the background documents are available up to 4 years after the date of the meeting. If you would like a copy please contact one of the contact officers above.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The costs of free school meals take-up is borne by schools from within their delegated budgets. Currently Manchester's local schools formula allocates out £495.47 and £475.37 for every primary and secondary pupil respectively ever eligible for Free School Meals in the last six years. The entitlement to free school meals also has a direct impact on the allocation of Pupil Premium, at the rate of £1,320 for primary and £935 for secondary.
- 1.2 In Manchester 24.8% of pupils are currently eligible for free school meals, as recorded on the October 2017 school census and 46% of pupils have ever been eligible for Free School Meals in the last six years.
- 1.3 The Local Authority is working to ensure free school meals eligibility is not under reported and in turn to maximise the levels of Pupil Premium and Dedicated Schools Grant resource to academies and maintained schools.
- 1.4 This report sets out:
 - Current Free School Meal eligibility in Manchester
 - Need to change way FSM is recorded in schools
 - Considers if FSM is under-reported in the City
 - Manchester City Council's Welfare Fund

2. FREE SCHOOL MEALS

2.1 Table one: Free school meal eligibility in Manchester from October 2016.

| | 2016/17 | | 2017/18 | | |
|-------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|--|
| | Total Pupils | % Eligible for FSM | Total Pupils | % Eligible for FSM | |
| Nursery | 210 | 13.8% | 102 | 30.4% | |
| Primary | 53,518 | 25.8% | 53,907 | 24.4% | |
| Secondary | 24,069 | 26.5% | 25,647 | 24.9% | |
| All Through | 2,880 | 22.3% | 2,983 | 21.6% | |
| Special | 1,299 | 48.6% | 1,427 | 46.8% | |
| PRU | 326 | 58.9% | 272 | 71.0% | |
| Total | 82,763 | 26.3% | 84,409 | 24.8% | |

- 2.2 The decline in FSM does not correlate with the increasing number of pupils living in the 10% most deprived area in the country, as measured by the IDACI index. In 2016 45.4% of Manchester's pupils live in the top 10% most deprived areas and in 2013 44.9% lived in the top 10% most deprived areas in the country.
- 2.3 Head teachers have reported that the FSM trend is not reflective of current need and does not correlate to the increases in the IDACI index. Moreover, it

has been reported by schools that the recent trend in FSM is due to: introduction of universal infant free schools meals, changes in benefits criteria and parent's not claiming rather than reduced level of need.

3. FREE SCHOOL MEAL ELIGIBILITY AND IMPACT OF ROLL OUT OF UNIVERSAL CREDIT

- 3.1 Due to the current roll out of Government's Universal Credit regime there will be some changes to the Free School Meal eligibility criteria. From April 2018, free school meal eligibility will be for children from households with an income of up to £7,400 a year, excluding benefits, which is the equivalent to £18,000 to £24,000 a year including benefits.
- 3.2 Analysis of the current Housing Benefit caseload for Manchester suggests that the changes will have the following impact:
 - 1,002 children currently getting FSM who would lose their FSM entitlement.
 - 3,827 children not getting FSM who would be entitled once the new earnings threshold of £7,400 is applied.
- 3.3 From April 2018, all existing claimants will continue to receive FSM during the rollout period (April 2018-March 2022), even if their earnings increase. Once fully rolled out, existing claimants that no longer meet the eligibility criteria will then continue to be eligible for FSM until their child has reached the end of their current phase of education (eg. primary, secondary).
- 3.4 In Manchester up until now, entitlement to free school meals has been identified as part of the claim process for housing benefit and Council Tax Support. This has meant that the eligibility of most families has been captured (the current gap has been in extended family groups where a separate claim has to be submitted for non dependents with children). As households with children move on to Universal Credit they will not make a claim for housing benefit; the rent element will be paid as part of their claim for Universal Credit. The Council will still be able to check if a family is entitled to free school meals, but only if it knows of an intention to claim. The change in the benefits regime and the reduced contact with the Council increases the risk that schools will not be able to identify a pupil's entitlement to free school meals.
- 3.5 To address this the Council has purchased a licence for <u>all maintained</u> <u>schools</u> to use FSM checker software to ensure that all children entitled to a free school meal and the Pupil Premium are identified.
- 3.6 The Council has been able to negotiate a significant reduction of 50% on the cost of the licence compared to the purchase price quoted for individual schools seeking to buy direct. However, this lower cost can only be secured if licences are purchased for three years. The Council will fund the first year from May 2018 and plans to seek Schools Forum permission to de-delegate c.£45k for the license at the beginning of 2019/20 and 2020/21.

- 3.7 Academies are responsible for carrying out their own FSM checks. Following the Council's negotiations with the FSM checking software provider it has been agreed that Academies in the City can also purchase the licence at the discounted rate but will need to fund the licence for the full 3 years in order to be eligible for this discounted price.
- 3.8 Schools have generally welcomed the change in FSM checking process. It is anticipated that this change will lead to more children being recorded as being eligible for FSM.

4. FREE SCHOOL MEAL DATA MATCH

- 4.1 In addition to changing the procedure for FSM eligibility checking the Council has reviewed FSM information at school level and cross matched this against data in order to assess whether FSM is under claimed.
- 4.2 The MOSAIC geodemographic model is based on postcode and can reflect target areas across the city. The key features of pockets areas have been grouped where that data implies that there could be a high proportion of FSM eligible pupils living in the area.
- 4.3 The pupil's home postcode, from the October school census, was then matched to the MOSAIC groupings to establish what percentage of each school's population live in the target areas. This was done for the five years from 2013 to 2017.
- 4.4 Looking at each school's population that are living in these target areas, the percentage of this population that was eligible for FSM, according to the October school census for each year, was then calculated.
- 4.5 The change in each of these measures was then compared and any schools where the percentage drop in FSM eligibility is more than 5 percentage points of the percentage drop in the total school population living is the target areas have been <u>highlighted</u>, please see Appendix one.
- 4.6 It should be noted that MOSAIC is only a model and it should not be taken that this is the exact proportion of pupils who we think should be eligible for FSM attending each school.

5. WELFARE FUND

- 5.1 Following the Children and Young People Scrutiny committee in February where there was some discussion about school staff providing children with food and clothing as a result of welfare reforms, the Council's Executive Committee have made the decision to allocate £50,000 for a schools' welfare fund.
- 5.2 It has been agreed that the most efficient way of administering this fund was to allocate a proportion of this funding to every school in the City so that schools can use this funding at their discretion to support children who are experiencing the impact of extreme poverty. All schools will be allocated a

lump sum of £200 and the remainder will be allocated based on free school meals on the October 2017 census.

6. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 Manchester has undertaken a range of proactive measures in order to maximise Free School Meal funding to schools. Manchester has recently changed the way FSM eligibility is captured for funding purposes and undertaken a data exercise in order to assess whether FSM has been underreported in the past. The report details recent work undertaken.
- 6.2 Schools Forum is asked to comment on the report.

Appendix one

| | % of pupils | | |
|---|-------------|---------------|-----------|
| | with data | | |
| | matched | | |
| | against | % FSM | |
| | MOSIAC | pupils living | |
| | groupings | in area | |
| | 2013-17 | 2013-17 | Diff in % |
| School Name | change | change | changes |
| Martenscroft Nursery School & Children's Centre | -5.9% | -6.6% | -0.7% |
| Collyhurst Nursery School | -14.7% | 4.0% | 18.7% |
| Abbott Community Primary School | -2.2% | 0.8% | 2.9% |
| Wilbraham Primary School | -7.3% | -11.1% | -3.8% |
| Chorlton Park Primary | 1.4% | -6.9% | -8.4% |
| E-ACT Blackley Academy | -5.9% | -29.6% | -23.7% |
| Alma Park Primary School | -6.2% | -5.7% | 0.4% |
| St Barnabas CofE Primary Academy | -2.7% | -7.3% | -4.5% |
| Ringway Primary School | -8.2% | -7.1% | 1.0% |
| The Willows Primary School | -5.5% | -10.8% | -5.3% |
| Ashbury Meadow Primary School | -8.7% | -17.3% | -8.6% |
| Rushbrook Primary Academy | -10.3% | -13.8% | -3.5% |
| Rolls Crescent Primary School | -5.3% | -2.1% | 3.2% |
| Oasis Academy Aspinal | -5.5% | -3.3% | 2.2% |
| Stanley Grove Primary Academy | 2.9% | 5.2% | 2.3% |
| Oasis Academy Harpur Mount | 2.1% | -27.2% | -29.3% |
| Beaver Road Primary School | -5.5% | -19.1% | -13.6% |
| Seymour Road Academy | -1.2% | -18.1% | -16.9% |
| Haveley Hey Community School | 0.5% | -13.7% | -14.2% |
| Abbey Hey Primary Academy | -7.1% | 4.1% | 11.2% |
| New Islington Free School | -4.3% | -9.4% | -5.1% |
| Longsight Community Primary | 16.6% | -11.6% | -28.2% |
| Manchester Communications Primary Academy | -10.8% | 15.1% | 25.9% |
| Cravenwood Primary Academy | -7.2% | -7.7% | -0.5% |
| Cringle Brook Primary School | 12.6% | -14.1% | -26.7% |
| St James' CofE Primary School Gorton | -1.3% | -2.3% | -1.0% |
| Unity Community Primary | 10.1% | -13.5% | -23.6% |
| Bowker Vale Primary School | -3.8% | -16.5% | -12.7% |
| Briscoe Lane Academy | -6.2% | -10.1% | -3.9% |
| West Didsbury CE Primary School | -0.5% | -2.4% | -1.9% |
| St Wilfrid's CofE Aided Primary School | | | |
| Northenden | -3.6% | -9.8% | -6.2% |
| Acacias Community Primary School | -0.4% | -3.4% | -3.0% |
| Cavendish Primary School | -3.5% | -7.5% | -4.0% |
| Chapel Street Primary School | -4.2% | -8.7% | -4.4% |
| Charlestown Community Primary School | -7.0% | -12.8% | -5.8% |
| Claremont Primary School | -2.5% | -19.0% | -16.5% |

| | % of pupils | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------|
| | with data | | |
| | matched | | |
| | against | % FSM | |
| | MOSIAC | pupils living | |
| | groupings | in area | |
| | 2013-17 | 2013-17 | Diff in % |
| School Name | change | change | changes |
| Crossacres Primary Academy | -6.9% | -11.3% | -4.4% |
| Crosslee Community Primary School | -10.0% | -12.3% | -2.3% |
| Crowcroft Park Primary School | -7.4% | -16.0% | -8.5% |
| Brookburn Community School | -4.7% | -0.2% | 4.5% |
| Green End Primary School | 0.2% | -8.6% | -8.8% |
| Heald Place Primary School | -4.5% | -14.2% | -9.7% |
| Ladybarn Primary School | 1.9% | -6.9% | -8.8% |
| Lily Lane Primary School | 4.8% | -9.2% | -13.9% |
| Mauldeth Road Primary School | -9.4% | -6.4% | 3.0% |
| Moston Fields Primary School | 3.0% | -10.7% | -13.7% |
| Moston Lane Community Primary School | -0.6% | -12.4% | -11.8% |
| Newall Green Primary School | 3.3% | 7.0% | 3.7% |
| New Moston Primary School | -3.1% | -14.8% | -11.7% |
| Northenden Community School | -3.6% | 1.9% | 5.5% |
| Plymouth Grove Primary School | -0.3% | -9.8% | -9.5% |
| Rack House Primary School | -5.2% | -22.4% | -17.2% |
| Ravensbury Community School | -0.5% | -22.4% | -21.8% |
| Broadhurst Primary School | -4.0% | -25.0% | -21.0% |
| Irk Valley Community School | -13.3% | -16.5% | -3.2% |
| Varna Community Primary School | 2.5% | -13.3% | -15.8% |
| Cheetwood Primary School | -6.0% | -7.9% | -1.9% |
| Crab Lane Primary School | -3.6% | -14.5% | -10.9% |
| Broad Oak Primary School | 2.5% | 0.0% | -2.5% |
| Peel Hall Primary School | 1.1% | 8.7% | 7.6% |
| Sandilands Primary School | 0.6% | -14.4% | -14.9% |
| Pike Fold Primary School | -6.8% | -13.4% | -6.6% |
| Higher Openshaw Community School | -7.6% | -24.8% | -17.2% |
| Manley Park Primary School | -2.5% | -11.0% | -8.5% |
| All Saints Primary School | -3.3% | -27.4% | -24.1% |
| Webster Primary School | -6.3% | -32.4% | -26.1% |
| Medlock Primary School | -7.8% | -4.3% | 3.4% |
| Barlow Hall Primary School | 8.3% | -15.0% | -23.3% |
| Baguley Hall Primary School | -0.8% | 2.9% | 3.8% |
| Crumpsall Lane Primary School | -4.2% | -11.3% | -7.1% |
| Birchfields Primary School | -8.1% | -2.5% | 5.7% |
| Old Hall Drive Academy | -1.9% | -16.3% | -14.4% |
| Oswald Road Primary School | -0.1% | -3.2% | -3.1% |
| Temple Primary School | 0.7% | -4.9% | -5.6% |
| Old Moat Primary School | 1.9% | 4.4% | 2.5% |

| | % of pupils | | |
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| | with data | | |
| | matched | | |
| | against | % FSM | |
| | MOSIAC | pupils living | |
| | groupings | in area | |
| | 2013-17 | 2013-17 | Diff in % |
| School Name | change | change | changes |
| Button Lane Primary School | -10.5% | -7.8% | 2.6% |
| Benchill Primary School | -6.2% | -20.4% | -14.2% |
| Chorlton CofE Primary School | -3.0% | -10.4% | -7.5% |
| Holy Trinity CofE Primary School | -4.5% | -11.4% | -7.0% |
| St Augustine's CofE Primary School | -2.1% | -26.2% | -24.0% |
| St Chrysostom's CofE Primary School | -13.0% | -23.1% | -10.1% |
| St Margaret's CofE Primary School | -3.8% | -18.4% | -14.7% |
| St Mary's CofE Junior and Infant School | -3.3% | -14.6% | -11.3% |
| St Wilfrid's CofE Junior and Infant School | -3.1% | -9.5% | -6.4% |
| St Paul's CofE Primary School | -1.6% | -8.8% | -7.2% |
| Cheetham CofE Community Academy | 1.8% | -3.5% | -5.3% |
| St Agnes Cof E Primary School | -1.0% | -12.3% | -11.3% |
| St Clement's CofE Primary School | 0.8% | 10.9% | 10.1% |
| Armitage CofE Primary School | -4.2% | -10.9% | -6.6% |
| St Luke's CofE Primary School | -0.5% | -18.0% | -17.4% |
| St John's CofE Primary School | -8.5% | -9.2% | -0.7% |
| All Saints CofE Primary School | -8.5% | -7.7% | 0.8% |
| Didsbury CofE Primary School | 0.1% | -4.2% | -4.3% |
| St Andrew's CofE Primary School | -4.2% | -8.9% | -4.8% |
| St James' CofE Primary School, Birch-in-Rusholme | -4.4% | 7.0% | 11.4% |
| St Philip's Church of England Primary School | -2.8% | -31.1% | -28.3% |
| Christ The King RC Primary School Manchester | -3.8% | -16.4% | -12.6% |
| Holy Name Roman Catholic Primary School Manchester | -9.5% | -12.7% | -3.3% |
| St Aidan's Catholic Primary School | 8.6% | -12.7% | -25.1% |
| St Ambrose RC Primary School | 10.1% | -10.5% | -20.5% |
| St Anne's RC Primary School Crumpsall | 10.1% | -10.5% | -20.5% |
| Manchester | 5.6% | -11.6% | -17.2% |
| St Anthony's Catholic Primary School | -3.0% | -5.3% | -2.3% |
| St Brigid's RC Primary School | 2.3% | -11.7% | -14.0% |
| St Catherine's RC Primary School | 2.4% | -0.3% | -2.7% |
| St Chad's RC Primary School | -3.6% | -5.0% | -1.4% |
| St Dunstan's RC Primary School | 0.8% | -0.5% | -1.3% |
| St Edmund's RC Primary School | -2.5% | -9.5% | -7.0% |
| St Francis RC Primary School | -2.0% | -12.1% | -10.1% |
| St John Bosco RC Primary School | -3.5% | -9.0% | -5.5% |
| St John Fisher and Thomas More Catholic Primary | 3.570 | 3.570 | 3.370 |
| School | -0.1% | -21.0% | -20.9% |
| St Malachy's RC Primary School | -16.3% | -5.9% | 10.4% |
| St Margaret Mary's RC Primary School | -2.3% | 1.7% | 4.0% |

| | % of pupils | | |
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| | with data | | |
| | matched | | |
| | against | % FSM | |
| | MOSIAC | pupils living | |
| | groupings | in area | |
| | 2013-17 | 2013-17 | Diff in % |
| School Name | change | change | changes |
| St Mary's RC Primary School Manchester | -0.6% | 0.3% | 0.9% |
| St Patrick's RC Primary School | 0.3% | -0.1% | -0.4% |
| Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School | 0.4% | -9.2% | -9.6% |
| St Peter's Catholic Primary School | -10.0% | -16.2% | -6.2% |
| St Wilfrid's RC Primary School | 1.0% | -2.4% | -3.3% |
| St Willibrord's RC Primary School | -5.6% | -9.0% | -3.4% |
| St Bernard's RC Primary School Manchester | -2.2% | -2.1% | 0.1% |
| St Elizabeth's Catholic Primary School | -5.5% | -22.9% | -17.5% |
| Our Lady's RC Primary School Manchester | -10.4% | -12.8% | -2.5% |
| St Richard's RC Primary School | -4.5% | -10.1% | -5.6% |
| St Mary's CofE Primary School Moston | -4.7% | -4.8% | -0.1% |
| St John's RC Primary School | 1.4% | -5.2% | -6.7% |
| CofE School of the Resurrection | 4.7% | -15.0% | -19.7% |
| Saviour CofE Primary School | -0.8% | -18.0% | -17.2% |
| St Joseph's RC Primary School Manchester | 4.9% | -20.8% | -25.7% |
| St Cuthbert's RC Primary School | 8.7% | -12.5% | -21.1% |
| St Clare's RC Primary School | -4.0% | -2.1% | 1.9% |
| Mount Carmel RC Primary School | -4.5% | -5.4% | -0.8% |
| St Anne's RC Primary School | -2.6% | -5.7% | -3.2% |
| Sacred Heart RC Primary School | -5.9% | -6.1% | -0.2% |
| Park View Community Primary | -10.0% | -17.9% | -7.8% |
| The Divine Mercy Roman Catholic Primary School | -2.8% | 2.2% | 5.0% |
| King David Primary School | 1.1% | -23.6% | -24.7% |
| Cedar Mount Academy | -7.2% | -16.2% | -9.0% |
| Connell Sixth Form College | -12.4% | 15.8% | 28.3% |
| Manchester Creative Studio | 11.9% | -23.2% | -35.0% |
| Levenshulme High School | -0.8% | -11.0% | -10.2% |
| Newall Green High School | -5.5% | 13.1% | 18.6% |
| Dean Trust Ardwick | -0.1% | -0.9% | -0.8% |
| Parrs Wood High School | -4.9% | -3.2% | 1.7% |
| Burnage Academy for Boys | -3.5% | -9.9% | -6.4% |
| Whalley Range 11-18 High School | -3.0% | -8.0% | -5.0% |
| Abraham Moss Community School | 4.8% | -12.8% | -17.6% |
| Wright Robinson College | -3.4% | -5.8% | -2.4% |
| Chorlton High School | -6.5% | -11.2% | -4.7% |
| Loreto High School Chorlton | -3.9% | -8.2% | -4.3% |
| Our Lady's RC High School | -8.7% | -6.7% | 2.0% |
| St Matthew's RC High School | 0.8% | -0.3% | -1.0% |
| Trinity CofE High School | -3.7% | -9.9% | -6.1% |

| | % of pupils | | |
|--|-------------|---------------|-----------|
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| | matched | | |
| | against | % FSM | |
| | MOSIAC | pupils living | |
| | groupings | in area | |
| | 2013-17 | 2013-17 | Diff in % |
| School Name | change | change | changes |
| Saint Paul's Catholic High School | 3.5% | -11.7% | -15.2% |
| The Barlow RC High School and Specialist Science | 2.00/ | -11.6% | 14 70/ |
| College | 3.0% | | -14.7% |
| St Peter's RC High School | 0.7% | -14.7% | -15.4% |
| The King David High School | 2.8% | -3.9% | -6.7% |
| St Kentigern's RC Primary | -3.6% | 1.3% | 4.9% |
| Manchester Academy | -4.4% | -13.5% | -9.1% |
| William Hulme's Grammar School | -1.3% | -5.8% | -4.5% |
| Manchester Enterprise Academy | -1.0% | -13.2% | -12.2% |
| Manchester Health Academy | 2.0% | -3.6% | -5.6% |
| Manchester Creative and Media Academy | -5.7% | -7.4% | -1.7% |
| The East Manchester Academy | -7.0% | -10.1% | -3.1% |
| Manchester Communication Academy | -1.8% | -14.9% | -13.0% |
| The Co-operative Academy of Manchester | 1.2% | -22.3% | -23.5% |
| Buglawton Hall School | -47.1% | -41.7% | 5.5% |
| Camberwell Park Specialist Support School | -6.7% | -7.0% | -0.4% |
| Lancasterian School | 0.6% | 10.3% | 9.6% |
| Piper Hill High School | -2.5% | -5.8% | -3.3% |
| The Birches School | -4.2% | -14.4% | -10.2% |
| Meade Hill School | -0.8% | -14.6% | -13.9% |
| Melland High School | -2.8% | -14.0% | -11.2% |
| Rodney House School | 7.3% | -31.2% | -38.6% |
| Grange School | -5.7% | 3.3% | 8.9% |
| Southern Cross School | 1.0% | 11.0% | 10.0% |
| North Ridge High School | -0.2% | -2.6% | -2.4% |
| Ashgate Specialist Support Primary School | 5.5% | 6.6% | 1.1% |