

***Delegated Decisions by Cabinet Member for Public Health & Education - Wednesday, 10 January 2018***

***Statement of Decision***

**Present:**

Councillor Hilary Hibbert-Biles, Cabinet Member for Public Health & Education

Officers: Sarah Fogden (Corporate Finance); Deborah Miller (Law & Governance).

**Questions from County Councillors**

Councillor Stefan Gawrysiak asked the following question:

The report states

“These protections and the increase in funding to Oxfordshire of £7m mean that the numbers published by the DfE show all Oxfordshire Schools gaining under the proposed National Funding Formula. This results in individual school budgets showing gains in a range of 0.2% to 2.9%.”

Can I please have a full analysis of the funding for Henley schools for 18/19/20?

It states above that gain will be between 0.2% to 2.9%. If inflation is running at 2.8% and there is a teachers’ pay settlement of 2% i.e. Total 4.8%. Does this not mean that school funding in real terms has been cut by the National Funding Formula?

Councillor Hibbert-Biles answered as follows:

The National Funding Formula allocation for Henley Schools as published by the DfE in September 2017 was as follows:

School Name	Phase	The school's	In the first year of the NFF local authorities			In the second year of the NFF LAs will		
		baseline fundin	Notional NFF funding in 2018-19 (year			Illustrative NFF funding in 2019-20 (year		
		Baseline funding (2017-18)	Notional total NFF funding in 2018-19	Percentage change compared to baseline	Percentage change in pupil-led funding	Illustrative total NFF funding in 2019-20	Percentage change compared to baseline	Percentage change in pupil-led funding
[a]	[c]	$[d] = [c]/[a] - 1$		[e]	$[f] = [e] / [a] - 1$			
Badgemore Primary School	Primary	£512,000	£514,000	0.4%	0.5%	£516,000	0.8%	1.0%
GILLOTTS SCHOOL	Secondary	£3,811,000	£3,878,000	1.8%	1.8%	£3,878,000	1.8%	1.8%
Nettlebed Community P.S.	Primary	£528,000	£530,000	0.4%	0.5%	£532,000	0.7%	1.0%
Peppard C.E. Primary	Primary	£432,000	£434,000	0.4%	0.5%	£435,000	0.7%	1.0%
Sacred Heart School	Primary	£665,000	£668,000	0.4%	0.5%	£671,000	0.8%	1.0%
Shiplake CE School	Primary	£736,000	£739,000	0.4%	0.5%	£742,000	0.8%	1.0%
Stoke Row CE Primary Scho	Primary	£411,000	£412,000	0.4%	0.5%	£413,000	0.7%	1.0%
Trinity CE Primary School	Primary	£1,009,000	£1,016,000	0.7%	0.8%	£1,018,000	0.9%	1.0%
VALLEY ROAD SCHOOL	Primary	£766,000	£771,000	0.6%	0.7%	£772,000	0.8%	1.0%

The numbers above are based on October 2016 census data.

The outcome of the consultation with Oxfordshire schools was to move to implement the National Funding Formula from 2018-19.

The delegated decision is to obtain agreement for the Oxfordshire funding model. The decision is not made with specific budgets to ensure that the model is approved, not the budgets it generates for individual schools. At this stage, individual school budgets are not published.

The Annex to the report therefore lists the unit values of each of the factors used in the formula. The model is submitted to the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) for scrutiny by the deadline of 19 January 2018. Schools are informed of budgets after this ESFA scrutiny. school budget shares will be published on the intranet as promptly as possible following approval of the model by the DfE. (The official deadline for publication is 28 February 2018, but schools' budgets have been released considerably earlier than this in Oxfordshire).

As Oxfordshire is proposing to adopt the National Funding Formula, school budgets will be in line with the NFF allocations published by the DfE (see the extracted table for Henley Schools above). There may be differences as the budget for 2018-19 reflects pupil data gathered in the October 2017 census. The DfE published new data on 19 December reflecting the numbers and characteristics of the pupils in a School as at October 2017. Applying this more recent data means that the school budget can vary from the published National Funding Formula position.

The following are extracts from Justine Greenings statement on 14 September 2017 which demonstrate the additional funding put into Schools:

*In my statement to the House on 17 July, I set out my Department's plans to increase spending on schools by £1.3 billion over the next two years, on top of our existing plans.*

*I informed the House that this would mean that we could press ahead with introducing a national funding formula for schools and high needs from April 2018*

*that would provide a per pupil cash increase in respect of every school and every local area, and maintain the overall budget in real terms, per pupil.....*

*As I said to the House in July, I am putting an additional £1.3 billion into core funding for schools and high needs so that the overall budget will now rise by around £2.6 billion in total, from almost £41 billion in 2017-18 to around £42.4 billion in 2018-19 and £43.5 billion in 2019-20.*

The National Funding Formula allocates the funding to Schools and Local Authorities based on pupil numbers, additional need factors, an Area Cost Adjustment, a minimum funding increase and a cap on gains (as set out in the report). It is these factors that determine the individual school allocations, and therefore the percentage increase in school budgets.

## **Petitions and Public Address**

### **Documentation considered:**

Report    Petitions and Public Address

*A copy is attached to the signed copy of this decision.*

Councillor Emma Turnbull asked a number of questions in relation to the funding formula.

## **Formal Approval of Schools Funding Formula 2018-19**

### **Documentation considered:**

Report    Formal Approval of Schools Funding Formula 2018-19

*A copy is attached to the signed copy of this decision.*

## **Summary of representations in person**

Sarah Fogden introduced the report. All schools had been consulted in Oxfordshire and had opted for the National formula. Officers were also happy with this decision.

## **Decision**

Having regard to the arguments and options set out in the documentation before me, the representations made to me and the further considerations set out above, I confirm my decisions on this matter as follows:

to approve the final funding formula for 2018-19.

Signed .....  
Cabinet Member for Public Health & Education

Date .....2018