



## NORTH YORKSHIRE SCHOOLS FORUM

<b>Date of meeting:</b>	Thursday 16 January 2025
<b>Title of report:</b>	<b>Overall DSG and the Schools Block 2025/26</b>
<b>Type of report:</b> Delete as required	For information
<b>Executive summary:</b> Including reason for submission	This paper sets out, for information, the overall DSG allocation and planned expenditure on the Schools Block Budget in 2025/26, following the consideration of proposals regarding its distribution at the Schools Forum meeting in November 2024 and formal agreement by the Council's Executive in January 2025.
<b>Budget / Risk implications:</b>	N/A
<b>Recommendations:</b>	That the North Yorkshire Schools Forum notes and approves the contents of this paper
<b>Voting requirements:</b>	Schools Forum Voting Members
<b>Appendices:</b> To be attached	None
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**1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 This paper sets out, for information, the planned expenditure on the Schools Block Budget in 2025-26, following the consideration of proposals regarding its distribution at the North Yorkshire Schools Forum meeting in November 2024 and formal approval by the Council's Executive in January 2025.

**2.0 DSG ALLOCATIONS 2025-26**

2.1 The Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) is made up of four blocks (Schools, High Needs, Early Years and Central School Services). In recent meetings the Forum considered the DfE announcements with regard to DSG funding allocations for 2025/26 including the impact of the ongoing National Funding Formula (NFF) developments.

2.2 The amount currently allocated for 2025-26 is in line with expectations. Overall, there has been an increase in the DfE published baseline figure of £68.85m to £648.82m. This is due to the following key factors:

- Additional funding allocated due to the new school funding settlement of £34.48m
- An increase in High Needs Block funding estimated to be in the order of £6.46m
- An increase in the Local Authority early years funding rates compared to the original 2024/25 DSG rates providing an additional £1.7m
- Additional early years funding in respect of the Government's expansion of free early education and childcare entitlements for children between 9 months and 2 years of working parents. The additional funding is £31.54m
- An overall net reduction in the mainstream school pupil population and in the take up of early years funded places for three and four-year olds and disadvantaged two-year-olds providing an estimated reduction in funding of £5.76m.

2.3 In summary therefore, the change in DSG (before deductions for Academies and other direct funding of High Needs Places by the DfE) shows:

	<b>£'000</b>
2024-25 base*	579,969
New funding settlement - NFF	43,023
Primary and Secondary schools - population	-5,419
Universal 3 & 4-year-old numbers	-462
Working parents (3 & 4-year-olds) numbers	298
Families receiving additional support 2-year-olds	-175
Early Years Free Entitlement Expansion – 2-year-olds of working parents	9,436
Early Years Free Entitlement Expansion – Under 2-year-olds of working parents	22,109
Early Years Pupil Premium	117

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Early Years Disability Access Fund	47
Maintained Nursery School Supplementary Funding	-7
Central School Services Historic Commitments Reduction	-117
Sub Total	648,819
High Needs Deductions**	-11,400
National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR) Deduction – DfE Central Payment Process	-5,268
Total DSG Allocation (after High Needs & NNDR deductions)	632,151

\* Original DSG baseline as at December 2023. Total DSG amounts change throughout the year based on academy conversion, high needs recoupment and import/export adjustments, and early years adjustments.

\*\*High Needs Recoupment as per the DfE is currently £7.7m, but the final figure is not confirmed until a later date. NYC internal calculations estimate the figure at £11.4m.

2.4 The final allocation is dependent on final early years' numbers and academy recoupment and therefore the total DSG will change throughout the financial year.

2.5 The allocation of the funding to each of the four blocks is as below.

<b>NYC Split</b>	<b>Schools</b>	<b>CSSB</b>	<b>High Needs</b>	<b>Early Years</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
2024-25 baseline*	436,583	3,386	82,151	57,849	579,969
NFF - funding settlement	34,475	389	6,462	1,697	43,023
Change in Primary & Secondary pupil numbers	-5,382	-37			-5,419
Change in Early Years funded entitlement take up				-339	-339
Early Years Free Entitlement Expansion – 2-year-olds of working parents				9,436	9,436
Early Years Free Entitlement Expansion – 2-year-olds of working parents				22,109	22,109
Other Early Years Adjustments				157	157
Historic Commitments reduction		-117			-117
<b>2024-25</b>	<b>465,676</b>	<b>3,621</b>	<b>88,613</b>	<b>90,909</b>	<b>648,819</b>
High Needs Recoupment**			-7,686		-7,686
National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR) Deduction – ESFA Central Payment Process	-5,268				-5,268

Initial DSG after HN Recoupment (as published by DfE)	460,408	3,621	80,927	90,909	635,865
Additional High Needs Recoupment estimated by NYC			-3,714		-3,714
	460,408	3,621	77,213	90,909	632,151

### 3.0 PLANNED SCHOOLS BLOCK EXPENDITURE

3.1 The Government's 30 October 2024 Budget announced total core school funding is increasing nationally by £2.3 billion in 2025/2026. This includes funding through the schools NFF, high needs funding, Central School Services Block (CSSB) of the DSG, and pupil premium. Of the £2.3 billion increase in total schools funding, £1.3 billion will cover:

- the remaining costs of the 2024 teachers' pay award in mainstream schools, so that the full 12 months of salary costs are fully funded at a national level;
- an increase to the mainstream schools NFF; and,
- increases to the pupil premium and other elements of core funding.

3.2 A summary of the DfE 2025-26 School NFF policy is as follows:

- The 2025-26 schools NFF will use the same factors as the 2024-25 NFF.
- The individual NFF factors for 2025-26 will operate in the same way as in 2024-25 except for some changes to the Private Finance Initiative (PFI) factor.
- The NFF in 2025-26 will continue to provide funding protections:
  - Minimum per pupil levels (MPPLs) - in 2025-26, MPPL values will remain compulsory in local authority funding formulae.
  - The funding floor - for 2025-26, split sites funding will sit outside the calculation of the funding floor. This means that split sites funding will properly reflect any changes in the organisation of schools' sites.
- Rolling in previous grants. The teachers' pay additional grant (TPAG) and the teachers' pension employer contribution grant (TPECG) 2024 will be rolled into the NFF for 2025 to 2026. The core schools budget grant (CSBG) will also be rolled into the schools NFF for 2025-26.
- Factor values have been increased to take account of the rolling in of these grants, and the remaining funding available for schools in 2025-26. The floor is 'cash flat' at 0%, after taking account of the funding that schools received through TPAG, TPECG and CSBG in 2024 to 2025.

- The DfE anticipate that further funding, in respect of the increase in employers' National Insurance contributions, will be provided in 2025-26 by a grant outside the NFF.

3.3 The Local Authority consulted schools in the Autumn 2024 term on a 0.5% funding transfer from the Schools Block DSG to the High Needs Block for the 2025/26 financial year. Whilst the majority of schools responding to the funding consultation supported the block transfer proposal, the Schools Forum rejected the proposal at its meeting in November 2024. The local authority acknowledges the reasons for the decision of the Schools Forum, however, the local authority has a corporate duty to address the forecast budget overspend of c.£29m on the High Needs budget by 31 March 2026. Against this background, and in order to mitigate the impact of current forecast overspends on the future funding position, the Local Authority submitted a disapplication request to the Secretary of State to transfer 0.5% from the Schools Block to the High Needs budget for the 2025/26 financial year. The disapplication request was not approved by the Secretary of State. The Local Authority will continue to work with stakeholders to develop strategies and mitigations to address the forecast continued High Needs budget deficit within North Yorkshire.

3.4 A detailed breakdown of the Schools Block funding provision available for 2025/26 school budgets is detailed in the table below:

	£'000	£'000
<b>Schools Block DSG (Prior to NNDR Deduction)</b>		<b>465,676</b>
Less:		
Schools Block DSG - Growth Funding Allocation	-1,665	
<b>Schools Block Funding Available for 2025/26 School Budgets</b>		<b>464,011</b>

3.5 A full summary of the Schools Block in 2025-26, including a list of de-delegated and centrally-managed budgets is shown below. The de-delegated budgets reflect the decisions made at the November 2024 meeting of the Forum. The budgets have been updated to take account of the October 2024 pupil census and the latest for academy conversions.

<b>Schools Block (£000s)</b>	£'000	
<u>Individual School Budget (ISB)</u>		
Indicative ISB	465,381	
Additional Recoupment of NNDR related to closed schools by DfE	98	
<b>Indicative Unadjusted ISB (School Delegated Budgets)</b>	<b>465,479</b>	

Adjustment: Carlton Holy Family School Closure 31 August 2025 – Funding Transfer to Ring Fenced Pupil Growth – Closed School Reserve (September 2025 to March 2026)	-1,362	
<b>Indicative Adjusted ISB (School Delegated Budgets)</b>	<b>464,117</b>	
<u>Central Budgets</u>		
Pupil Growth – New School Provision Reserve	500	
Carlton Holy Family Catholic High School Closure 31 August 2025 – Funding Transfer to Ring Fenced Pupil Growth – Closed School Fund	1,362	
<b>Indicative 2025/26 Central Budgets Funding Provision</b>	<b>1,862</b>	
<b>Total Indicative Schools Budget Funding Requirement</b>	<b>465,979</b>	
Funded by:		
Schools Block Funding Available for 2025/26 School Budgets	464,011	
Schools Block DSG - Growth Funding Allocation to School Budgets	1,665	
Pupil Growth – New School Provision Reserve (Keeble, Cambrai & Oakbridge additional year groups)	203	
School Block DSG Reserve	100	
<b>Total Indicative Schools Budget Funding Provision</b>	<b>465,979</b>	
<u>De-delegated</u>		
Schools in Financial Difficulty – Schools Causing Concern element	213	
Trade Union Costs	114	
School Improvement – Core Service	642	
	<b>969</b>	

- 3.6 The 2025/26 school budget funding requirement, based on National Funding Formula (NFF) values, providing a Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) of 0%, provision for the recoupment of closed school NNDR costs by the DfE (£98k) is calculated to be £465,479k (excluding provision for the transfer of the balance of funding related to the closure of Carlton Holy Family Catholic High School for the period September 2025 to

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March 2026 to the Pupil Growth – Closed School Fund (£1,362k)). The funding allocation available for the 2025/26 financial year is £465,379K. The available funding reflects the 2025/26 Schools Block DSG (£464,011k plus £1,665k Growth Funding), the deduction of the funding provision for Pupil Growth – New Schools (£500k), the use of the Pupil Growth – New Schools Reserve to fund the additional year groups at Keeble, Cambrai and Oakbridge (£203k), and the release of the annual Pupil Growth and Falling Rolls Funding allocation (£500k) to fund school budgets. After accounting for the above-mentioned adjustments, **a funding shortfall of £100k remains which will be funded from the Schools Block DSG General Reserve.**

- 3.7 Analysis of the reasons for the funding shortfall on the core 2025/26 Schools Block DSG funding has highlighted that there have been continued further significant changes in the profile of pupil characteristics between the October 2023 census and the October 2024 census within North Yorkshire. The characteristics where the largest changes have been experienced are in the areas of Free School Meals (FSM & FSM6) for both primary and secondary schools and English as an Additional Language (EAL) for both primary and secondary schools. The percentage of the primary pupil population eligible for FSM has increased by approx.1% (17.78% to 18.81%); this has resulted in an additional funding requirement of approx. £520k on the FSM and FSM6 funding formula factors. The percentage of the secondary pupil population eligible for FSM has increased by approx.1.3% (17.86% to 19.13%); this has resulted in an additional funding requirement of approx. £505k on the FSM and FSM6 funding formula factors. The percentage of the pupil population recorded as EAL has increased by approximately 0.3% for primary and secondary pupils resulting in an increased funding commitment of approximately £197k. The funding shortfall for the 2025/26 financial year has been mitigated by the use of Growth Funding (£1,165k) and the Schools Block DSG General Reserve (£100k) to support core school budgets and ensure that school funding levels reflect the 2025/26 NFF funding formula factor values.
- 3.8 The methodology used by the DfE to calculate 2025/26 schools block DSG allocations is based, in summary, on generating a primary unit of funding (PUF) and a secondary unit of funding (SUF) that is based on the 2025/26 NFF values applied to the pupil and school characteristics recorded in the October 2023 census and funded in the 2024/25 financial year. The units of funding are then applied to the pupil numbers recorded on the October 2024 census. Whilst this funding methodology reflects changes in pupil numbers, there is a time lag in the updating of the PUF and SUF values to reflect any increased funding requirement related to a change in the profile of the characteristics within the pupil population. The local authority will continue to monitor future school census data for further changes in the profile of the characteristics within the pupil population.
- 3.9 The DfE have confirmed that Holy Family Catholic High School will close on 31 August 2025. In accordance with the DfE school funding guidance, the balance of the school budget related to the period September 2025 to March 2026 will be allocated to a ring-fenced Pupil Growth – Closed School Fund. The Fund will be utilised to provide additional funding support to the schools and academies admitting pupils from the closed school for the period September 2025 to March 2026 for LA maintained schools and September 2025 to August 2026 for academies.



- 3.10 The DfE have recently confirmed approval for the provision of Exceptional Rents funding through the NFF for 2025/26 for 13 out of the 14 schools that received funding through this formula element in 2024/25. The local authority is currently seeking to challenge the DfE decision in respect of the school where the exceptional rent application was not approved by the DfE.
- 3.11 At the meeting on the 21 November 2024, the Schools Forum considered and approved a number of proposals with regard to the de-delegated contingency budgets for Schools in Financial Difficulty (including Schools Causing Concern and School Redundancy Support Costs contribution) and Unreasonable School Expenditure for the 2025/26 financial year. The proposals had regard to the cost pressures currently being faced by schools and the levels of reserve on the de-delegated contingency budgets. The agreed proposals are summarised as follows:
- £7.33 per pupil will be de-delegated in the 2025/26 financial year in relation to the Schools Causing Concern funding element of the Schools in Financial Difficulty de-delegated contingency budget. This is a 2.5% increase on the 2024/25 value. The de-delegated rate has previously remained unchanged for the 2024/25, 2023/24 and 2022/23 financial years.
  - Reserve funding will be utilised to support the Schools in Financial Difficulty element of the de-delegation contingency for the 2025/26 financial year with no de-delegation of funds for this element of the funding.
  - Reserve funding will be utilised to support the School Redundancy Costs Contribution element of the Schools in Financial Difficulty de-delegation contingency budget for the 2025/26 financial year, with no de-delegation of funds for this element of the funding.
  - Reserve funding will be utilised to support the Unreasonable School Expenditure de-delegation contingency budget for the 2025/26 financial year, with no de-delegation of funds for this element of the funding.

Schools Forum members have noted the risk that any demands on the contingency budgets in excess of the available reserves will result in a request for an increase in de-delegation rates for these contingency budgets in the 2026/27 financial year. The Schools Forum also requested that consideration was given to the use of the available reserves to contribute to the Schools Causing Concern de-delegation for the 2026/27 financial year.

- 3.12 The DfE applied a 50% reduction to the LA School Improvement Monitoring & Brokering Grant for the 2022/23 financial year, followed by full removal of the Grant in the 2023/24 financial year. The DfE also made provision within the School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations for the 2022/23 financial year to allow local authorities to fund all of their school improvement activity (including all core school improvement activities) via de-delegation from schools' budget shares. At the meeting on the 21 November 2024, the Schools Forum approved the continuation of the previously agreed methodology for the de-delegation of funding from school budgets to provide the funding required for the delivery of the core statutory school improvement service for the LA maintained primary and secondary schools within North Yorkshire for the 2025/26 financial year. The Schools Forum agreed a 2.5% increase to the 2024/25 de-delegation rate for the 2025/26 financial year. The agreed de-delegation methodology is as follows:





School Phase	Lump Sum	Amount Per Pupil
Primary	£3,280	£2.41
Secondary	£3,280	£2.93

- 3.13 At the November 2024 meeting, the Schools Forum approved the continued de-delegation of funding, based on £3.94 per pupil, to support local trade union facilities arrangements for the 2025/26 financial year; the de-delegation value represented a £0.50 increase on the 2024/25 amount.
- 3.14 The DfE approved the request, supported by Schools Forum in September 2024, to include an exceptional circumstance of up to £50,000 for very small sparse secondary schools, which would otherwise be unable to attract sufficient funding to remain viable, in the 2025/26 North Yorkshire school funding formula. Based on the October 2024 school census data, no secondary schools are eligible to receive the additional lump sum funding for very small, sparse secondary schools in the 2025/26 financial year.
- 3.15 The DfE NFF guidance requires local authorities to keep under review the calculation of their schools' notional SEN budgets to ensure that they are both proportionate to the costs and prevalence of pupils on SEN Support and that they meet additional support costs up to £6,000 per pupil of those with more complex needs. North Yorkshire Council undertook a significant review of the notional SEN budget calculation and consulted schools on a number of proposed changes in the 2024/25 financial year. The resultant changes implemented sought to:
- better reflect the notional SEN budget funding requirements within North Yorkshire schools and academies,
  - align to the average notional SEN budget funding levels and funding formula factor weightings of other local authorities with similar characteristics to North Yorkshire,
  - reflect the operating context and diversity of schools and academies within North Yorkshire, and;
  - ensure compliance with the DfE validation check that a LA's total notional SEN budget provides schools with a certain amount per pupil identified as on SEN support, having deducted £6,000 per pupil with an EHC plan.

The changes to the notional SEN budget calculation resulted in the notional SEN budget funding quantum within school budgets increasing from £31.07m in 2023-24 to £47.70m for the 2024/25 financial year. Analysis has been undertaken to consider the notional SEN budget funding requirement for the numbers of pupils within the SEN support category and the number of pupils attracting element 3 top-up funding to the school through an EHCP in North Yorkshire, based on the October 2023 census data against the 2024/25 notional SEN funding budget allocation. That analysis highlighted that based on the latest 2023/24 pupil data, the 2024/25 notional SEN budget allocation broadly reflects the estimated notional SEN funding requirement within North Yorkshire. In this respect it was not considered necessary to review the notional SEN budget funding formula calculation for the 2025/26 financial. The funding formula calculation will be reviewed annually to ensure that it continues to reflect the levels of pupils with SEN requirements in mainstream schools within North Yorkshire.

- 3.16 The 2025/26 Schools Block DSG includes Growth Funding of £1.665m. In previous years £500k of this funding has been allocated to the Pupil Growth and Falling Rolls Fund Contingency Funds that can be accessed by LA maintained schools and academies who meet the funding eligibility criteria. At the November 2024 meeting, the Schools Forum agreed for any funding requirements on the Pupil Growth and Falling Rolls Fund Contingency Funds to be met from reserve funding, with no contribution from Growth Funding to the Pupil Growth and Falling Rolls Fund for the 2025/26 financial year. As reported to the Schools Forum in September 2024, the estimated Pupil Growth and Falling Rolls funding requirement for the 2024/25 financial year is £244.5k. It is estimated that the reserves position as at 31 March 2025 will be £1,028.5k.
- 3.17 One new primary school is currently scheduled to open in North Yorkshire over the next 3-year period: Manse Farm in Knaresborough. In addition to this new school, it is expected that a further 3-4 new schools may be required within North Yorkshire over the next five to seven-year period. The new schools are mainstream free schools under the DfE free school presumption process and, as such, require an additional funding commitment from the LA in respect of pre-opening funding, post-opening diseconomies funding and delegated budget in relation to estimated pupil numbers. The additional funding commitment, based on the updated school pupil growth funding methodology, agreed by the Schools Forum in November 2022, for a new mainstream free school built under the DfE free school presumption route is between £900k and £1m over the initial seven years of operation until all year groups are established. In September 2024, the Schools Forum agreed to allocate £500k of the DfE Growth Funding for the 2025/26 financial year to the Pupil Growth - New Schools Fund, with the balance of the 2025-26 DfE Growth Funding being made available, if required, to support school budgets. The 2025/26 Growth Funding allocation is £1.665m; £1.165m will be utilised to support school budgets. The balance on the Pupil Growth – New Schools reserve is estimated to be £5.759m as at 31 March 2025. A further assessment will be undertaken at the end of the 2025-26 financial year as to the level of the reserve, the associated new school funding requirement and whether further funding contribution is required to the reserve.
- 3.18 The Pupil Growth – New Schools reserve will be utilised in 2025/26 to provide the funding for the additional year groups which will be added to Keeble Primary Academy, Cambrai Primary Academy and Oakbridge CE Primary Academy from September 2025. Keeble and Cambrai were new in September 2019 and Oakbridge was new in September 2024; the three schools are still not operating at their full cohort of year groups. The funding requirement is expected to be c£203k; the forecast Reception pupils for September 2025, as provided the North Yorkshire Council Strategic Planning Team, are currently subject to confirmation by the schools concerned.
- 3.19 At the time of writing the report to Schools Forum, work is continuing to be undertaken on verifying the funding data and confirming the final position with regard to Exceptional Rents funding with the DfE. Any changes or findings which materially affect the school funding position will be verbally reported to the meeting of the Schools Forum on 16 January 2025. The final position on the 2025/26 Schools Block DSG will be confirmed to the March 2025 meeting of the Schools Forum.

#### 4.0 2025/26 SCHOOL STAFF PAY COSTS

- 4.1 The DfE have confirmed that in addition to the funding allocated through the 2025/26 NFF, further funding in respect of the increase in employer's National Insurance contributions will be provided in 2025/2026 by a separate grant outside the NFF. At the time of writing this report, the grant details and conditions have not yet been published by the Department.
- 4.2 In respect of the Government evidence to the School Teachers' Review Body (STRB), the Department recommends a 2.8% teacher pay award to the STRB for September 2025. Within the evidence to the STRB, the Government outlines that the 2025/26 NFF funding increase will be required to cover pay award costs for the financial year. The Department states their assumption that *"in planning their budgets, schools will consider pay awards across the board, i.e. across both teachers and support staff. Any pay award assumptions which exceed what is affordable for a school overall will need to be covered through efficiencies. This includes steps necessary to achieve the proposed pay award for teachers."*

#### 5.0 HIGH NEEDS

- 5.1 North Yorkshire continues to experience significant challenges in ensuring that the high needs budget can operate on a sustainable basis. Previous reports to North Yorkshire Schools Forum have indicated a significant projected deficit to occur in 2024-25; latest forecasts indicate that an in-year projected deficit which, if confirmed will increase the accumulated deficit to c.£19m by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025.
- 5.2 Work is ongoing to set the budget for the 2025-26 financial year although initial indications suggest an in-year deficit of c.£9.9m and an accumulated deficit of c. £29m by 31 March 2026.
- 5.3 The ongoing deficit is a function of (a) continued increasing demands for support and (b) continued insufficient growth in High Needs DSG funding. The High Needs DSG in North Yorkshire has increased by 7.8% between 2024-25 and 2025-26 – total funding (before recoupment and import/export adjustment) is estimated to be £88.613 million. Funding for North Yorkshire continues to be relatively low in comparison to other local authorities – the 2025-26 allocation amounts to £798 per young person aged 2-18 which is only the 146th highest allocation amongst all 151 local authorities in England.
- 5.4 Medium term forecasts have incorporated the DfE published position that High Needs DSG will only increase nationally by 3% per annum for all financial years beyond 2025-26. This level of increase will be inadequate to meet the level of increases in demand. Within the DBV in SEND programme, higher level forecasts have been developed that indicate an unmitigated £85m accumulated deficit by the end of March 2028. More detailed work is underway to refine the financial model to support strategic financial planning.
- 5.5 The High Needs financial challenges continue to reflect the rate of increase in the number of children and young people assessed as requiring an EHCP, and the particularly significant rates of growth that have been experienced through the course of the last two calendar years. This is exemplified clearly through the increases in the

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number of requests for assessment. A total of 1,269 requests for statutory assessments for an EHC plan were received during the 2023 calendar year – which represented a 30% increase (+298) on the number received in 2022. However, in 2024, to the end of November, only 1,043 requests had been received, showing a slight decline. At the end of November 2024 there were 5,366 EHC plans funded by North Yorkshire Council – which represents a 76% increase on the same point in 2019 and over a 200% increase since the new Code of Practice was introduced in November 2015.

5.6 The authority is participating in the Delivering Better Value in SEND programme to assist in identifying opportunities to improve the operation of the high needs system and improve the financial sustainability of the high needs budget.

6.0 CENTRAL SCHOOLS SERVICES BLOCK EXPENDITURE (BUDGET)

6.1 The Central Schools Services Block (CSSB) is made up of the following budgets:

	£'000s
<u>Historic Commitments</u>	
Prevention Service	469
 <u>Ongoing Functions</u>	
Access management, Admissions and Appeals	828
Schools Forum	50
Copyright Licences	711
Education Services – Retained Duties	1,064
Centrally Employed Teacher Costs	499
 TOTAL	 <u><u>3,621</u></u>

6.2 The 2025/26 CSSB funding level of £3.621m reflects the ongoing reduction in the Historic Commitments element of the Block, with a reduction of £117k from £0.586m to £0.469m. There has been an increase of £352k in the grant income for Ongoing Functions; the funding increase includes provision for a 7.1% increase on the Copyright License fee for 2025/26 (£47k) and the mainstreaming of the 2024/25 TPECG and the CSBG related to centrally employed teachers for the 2025/26 financial year.

6.3 The Schools Revenue Funding Operational Guide outlines the functions that are covered under the former Education Service Grants. The functions include statutory and regulatory duties that the local authority must deliver. Many will not be directly visible to schools, but they reduce the risks to senior leaders and governing bodies by ensuring compliance with legal requirements. Retained duties include education welfare (functions relating to children excluded from school, school attendance,

responsibilities regarding employment of children), asset management, and statutory and regulatory duties (including planning for the education service as a whole, formulation and review of the school funding formula, budget preparation).

## 7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 The North Yorkshire Schools Forum is asked to note and approve the contents of this report.

Sir Stuart Carlton

Corporate Director – Children and Young People’s Service