



## NORTH YORKSHIRE SCHOOLS FORUM

<b>Date of meeting:</b>	Thursday 18 January 2024
<b>Title of report:</b>	<b>Overall DSG and the Schools Block 2024/25</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 2024/25, following the endorsement of proposals regarding its distribution at the Schools Forum meeting in November 2023 and formal agreement by the Council's Executive in January 2024.
<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
<b>Report originator and contact details:</b>	Sally Dunn, Head of Schools and Early Years Finance
<b>Presenting officer:</b> If not the originator	Howard Emmett, Assistant Director – Strategic Resources <a href="mailto:howard.emmett@northyorks.gov.uk">howard.emmett@northyorks.gov.uk</a> 01609 532118

## 1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 This paper sets out, for information, the planned expenditure on the Schools Block Budget in 2024-25, following the endorsement of proposals regarding its distribution at the North Yorkshire Schools Forum meeting in November 2023 and formal approval by the Council's Executive in January 2024.

## 2.0 DSG ALLOCATIONS 2024-25

- 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 2024/25 including the impact of the ongoing National Funding Formula developments.

- 2.2 The amount currently allocated for 2024-25 is in line with expectations. Overall, there has been an increase in the DfE published baseline figure of £45.57m to £579.97m. This is due to the following key factors:

- Additional funding allocated due to the new school funding settlement of £21.80m
- An increase in High Needs Block funding estimated to be in the order of £4.29m
- An increase in the Local Authority early years funding rates compared to the original 2023/24 DSG rates providing an additional £4.97m
- 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 £17.89m
- 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 £3.38m.

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

	£'000
2023-24 base*	534,399
New funding settlement - NFF	31,206
Primary and Secondary schools - population	-2,120
Universal 3 & 4-year-old numbers	-812
Working parents (3 & 4-year-olds) numbers	171
Disadvantaged 2-year-olds	-620
Early Years Free Entitlement Expansion – 2-year-olds of working parents	10,405
Early Years Free Entitlement Expansion – Under 2-year-olds of working parents	7,154
Early Years Pupil Premium	156

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Early Years Disability Access Fund	131
Maintained Nursery School Supplementary Funding	45
Central School Services Historic Commitments Reduction	-146
Sub Total	<u>579,969</u>
High Needs Deductions**	-7,403
National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR) Deduction – ESFA Central Payment Process	-4,956
Total DSG Allocation (after High Needs & NNDR deductions)	<u>567,610</u>

\* Original DSG baseline as at December 2022. 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 ESFA is currently £6.9m, but the final figure is not confirmed until a later date. NYC internal calculations estimate the figure at £7.4m.

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
2023-24 baseline*	416,884	3,406	77,859	36,249	534,398
NFF - funding settlement	21,803	143	4,292	4,968	31,206
Change in Primary & Secondary pupil numbers	-2,104	-17			-2,121
Change in Early Years funded entitlement take up				-1,260	-1,260
Early Years Free Entitlement Expansion – 2-year-olds of working parents				10,405	10,405
Early Years Free Entitlement Expansion – 2-year-olds of working parents				7,154	7,154
Other Early Years Adjustments				333	333
Historic Commitments reduction		-146			-146
2024-25	<u>436,583</u>	<u>3,386</u>	<u>82,151</u>	<u>57,849</u>	<u>579,969</u>
High Needs Recoupment**			-6,928		-6,928
National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR) Deduction – ESFA Central Payment Process	-4,956				-4,956

Initial DSG after HN Recoupment (as published by DfE)	431,627	3,386	75,223	57,849	568,085
Block Transfer – 0.5% Transfer from Schools Block to High Needs Block	-2,183		2,183		0
Additional High Needs Recoupment estimated by NYC			-475		-475
	429,444	3,386	76,931	57,849	567,610

### 3.0 PLANNED SCHOOLS BLOCK EXPENDITURE

3.1 In July 2023 the Department for Education (DfE) provided information in relation to National Funding Formula (NFF) developments for the 2024-25 financial year. Subsequently, on 6 October 2023, the DfE provided revised 2024/25 school funding information after the identification of an error made by DfE officials during the initial calculations of the NFF and processing of forecast pupil numbers. Nationally, the overall cost of the core schools budget is 0.62% greater than originally allocated resulting in the funding through the mainstream schools national funding formula (NFF) increasing by 1.9% per pupil in 2024/25, compared to 2023/24; the original increase announced in July 2023 was 2.7% per pupil.

3.2 A detailed breakdown of the Schools Block funding provision available for 2024/25 school budgets is detailed in the table below:

	£'000	£'000
<b>Schools Block DSG (Prior to NNDR Deduction)</b>		<b>436,583</b>
Less:		
0.5% Block Transfer	-2,183	
Schools Block DSG - Pupil Growth Funding Allocation	-2,284	
<b>Schools Block Funding Available for 2024/25 School Budgets</b>		<b>432,116</b>

3.3 A full summary of the Schools Block in 2024-25, including a list of de-delegated and centrally-managed budgets is shown below. The de-delegated budgets reflect the decision made at the November 2023 meeting of the Forum. The budgets have been updated to take account of the October 2023 pupil census and the latest for academy conversions.

<b>Schools Block (£000s)</b>	<b>£'000</b>	
<u>Individual School Budget (ISB)</u>		
Indicative ISB – Unadjusted	435,300	
Required Capping & Scaling Adjustment (Indicative)	-1,919	
<b>Indicative Adjusted ISB (School Delegated Budgets)</b>	<b>433,381</b>	
Funded by:		
Schools Block Funding Available for 2024/25 School Budgets	432,116	
Pupil Growth – New School Provision Reserve (Keeble & Cambrai additional year groups and Oakbridge initial delegated budget from September 2024)	265	
Release of Schools Block DSG - Pupil Growth Funding Allocation to School Budgets	500	
Schools Block General DSG Reserve	500	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>433,381</b>	
<u>Central Budgets</u>		
Pupil Growth – New School Provision Reserve	1,784	
	<b>1,784</b>	
<u>Funded by:</u>		
Schools Block DSG - Pupil Growth Funding Allocation	1,784	
	<b>1,784</b>	
<b>Total Indicative Schools Block Funding Requirement</b>	<b>435,165</b>	
Funded By:		
Schools Block DSG Funding Available for 2024/25 School Budgets	432,116	
Pupil Growth – New School Provision Reserve (Keeble & Cambrai additional year groups and Oakbridge initial delegated budget from September 2024)	265	
Schools Block DSG - Pupil Growth Funding Allocation	2,284	
Schools Block General DSG Reserve	500	

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>435,165</b>	
<u>De-delegated</u>		
Schools in Financial Difficulty – Schools Causing Concern element	227	
Trade Union Costs	109	
School Improvement – Core Service	703	
	<b>1,039</b>	

- 3.4 The 2024/25 school budget funding requirement, based on National Funding Formula (NFF) values and providing a Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) of 0.5%, is calculated to be £435,300k. This results in a funding shortfall of £1,919k against the £433,381k funding available for the 2024/25 financial year. The available funding reflects the 2024/25 Schools Block DSG (£436,583k), after the deduction of the 0.5% (£2,183k) transfer of funding from the Schools Block DSG to the High Needs Block, the deduction of the funding provision for Pupil Growth – New Schools (£1,784k), the use of the Pupil Growth – New Schools Reserve to fund the additional year groups at Keeble and Cambrai (£142k) and the initial 2024/25 delegated budget for Oakbridge (£123k), the release of the annual Pupil Growth and Falling Rolls Funding allocation (£500k) to fund school budgets and the use of Schools Block DSG General Reserve of £500k to provide support towards any funding shortfall.
- 3.5 Analysis of the reasons for the funding shortfall, in addition to the transfer of funding to the High Needs block (£2,183k) has highlighted that there have been further significant changes in the profile of pupil characteristics between the October 2022 census and the October 2023 census within North Yorkshire. The characteristics where the largest changes have been experienced is in the areas of Free School Meals (FSM & FSM6) for secondary schools, English as an Additional Language (EAL) for both primary and secondary schools and low prior attainment for primary schools. The percentage of the secondary pupil population eligible for FSM has increased by approx. 1.7% (16.18% to 17.85%); this has resulted in an additional funding requirement of approx. £537k on the FSM and FSM6 funding formula factors. The percentage of the pupil population recorded as EAL has increased by approximately 0.25% for primary and secondary pupils resulting in an increased funding commitment of approximately £203k. The percentage of primary pupils attracting low prior attainment funding has increased from 27.17% to 28.15% resulting in an increased funding commitment of £474k; the DfE have indicated that the change to the use the 2022 attainment data as a proxy for the missing assessments in 2021 for 2024/25 financial year has been reflected in the 2024/25 funding levels (This is a change from the 2023/24 methodology where 2019 was used as the proxy for 2021)
- 3.6 The methodology used by the DfE to calculate 2024/25 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 2024/25 NFF values applied to the pupil and school characteristics recorded in the October 2022 census and funded in the 2023/24 financial year. The units of funding are then applied to the pupil numbers recorded on the October 2023 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

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increased funding requirement related to a change in the profile of the characteristics within the pupil population. The local authority will monitor future school census data for further changes in the profile of the characteristics within the pupil population.

- 3.7 The funding shortfall, after use of reserves and release of the annual funding allocation for Pupil Growth & Falling Rolls to school budgets, of £1,919k will be managed through the use of the DfE school NFF capping and scaling mechanism that can be utilised at a local level in order to ensure affordability of the funding formula. At the November 2023 meeting of the North Yorkshire Schools Forum, it was considered that, in the event of the capping and scaling mechanism being required to be utilised to manage any funding shortfall on the 2024/25 Schools Block DSG, a higher funding gains cap and higher scaling back percentage should be used for managing the recovery of any funding shortfall. For the 2024/25 financial year, based on the current analysis, a funding gains cap of 1.70% and scaling back rate of 100% is required for the management of the £1,919k funding shortfall. The provision of 0.5% MFG and the statutory MPPL<sup>1</sup> funding protections for the 2024/25 financial year is not impacted by the use of the capping and scaling mechanism. In the event of there been further shortfalls in funding in future years, it may be necessary to again consider the application of the school funding formula capping and scaling mechanism at a local level in order to ensure affordability of the funding formula.
- 3.8 A further complexity of the funding calculation for 2024/25 has been the number of duplicate pupil records that have been identified which, if left unaddressed, would result in a risk of double-funding and a further funding pressure. The schools and academies identified as having duplicate records have been contacted in order for them to resolve the issue. In the event of the issue being unable to be resolved, the local authority will deduct the duplicate pupils from the school or academy in order to avoid a double funding position and to reflect the number of pupils funded by the DfE within the schools' block DSG.
- 3.9 The DfE have not yet confirmed approval for the provision of Exceptional Rents funding through the NFF for 2024/25 for 14 schools that receive funding through this formula element. It is anticipated that the funding decision will be provided by the DfE in January 2024.
- 3.10 At the meeting on the 23 November 2023, 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 2024/25 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:
- £7.15 per pupil will be de-delegated in the 2024/25 financial year in relation to the Schools Causing Concern funding element of the Schools in Financial Difficulty de-delegated contingency budget. This is the equivalent value de-delegated for this element of the contingency budget in 2022/23 and 2023/24.
  - Reserve funding will be utilised to support the Schools in Financial Difficulty element of the de-delegation contingency for the 2024/25 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 2024/25 financial year with no de-delegation of funds for this element of the funding.

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<sup>1</sup> Minimum Per Pupil Funding Level



- Reserve funding will be utilised to support the Unreasonable School Expenditure de-delegation contingency budget for the 2024/25 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 2025/26 financial year.

- 3.11 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 23 November 2023, the Schools Forum approved the continuation of the methodology and values used in the 2023/24 financial year 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 2024/25 financial year. The agreed de-delegation methodology is as follows:

School Phase	Lump Sum	Amount Per Pupil
Primary	£3,200	£2.35
Secondary	£3,200	£2.86

- 3.12 At the November 2023 meeting, the Schools Forum approved the continued de-delegation of funding, based on £3.44 per pupil, to support local trade union facilities arrangements for the 2024/25 financial year; the de-delegation value has been held at the 2023/24 amount.
- 3.13 The ESFA approved the request, supported by Schools Forum in September 2023, 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 2024/25 North Yorkshire school funding formula. Based on the October 2023 school census data, no secondary schools are eligible to receive the additional lump sum funding for very small, sparse secondary schools.
- 3.14 The DfE require 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. The DfE guidance recommends that a review of the notional SEN budget calculation for 2024-25 is undertaken to ensure that the identified funding is sufficient for the reasonable additional costs that may be incurred by schools. The DfE require local authorities to subsequently review the notional SEN budget calculation on an annual basis. The 2024/25 North Yorkshire notional SEN budget calculation has been updated to reflect the proposal endorsed by the Schools Forum in November 2023 to change the notional SEN budget calculation to better reflect the notional SEN budget funding requirements within North Yorkshire schools and academies, to align to the average notional SEN budget funding levels and funding formula factor weightings of other local authorities with similar characteristics to North Yorkshire, to reflect the operating context and diversity of schools and academies within North Yorkshire, and to ensure compliance with the DfE



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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 have 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.

- 3.15 The 2024/25 Schools Block includes Growth Funding of £2.284m. 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 2023 meeting, the Schools Forum approved for this funding to be utilised for school budgets for the 2024/25 financial year and any funding requirements on the Pupil Growth and Falling Rolls Fund Contingency Funds would be met from reserve funding. As reported to the Schools Forum in November 2023, the estimated Pupil Growth and Falling Rolls funding requirement for the 2023/24 financial year is £310.1k. It is estimated that the reserves position as at 31 March 2024 will be £1,218.3k.
- 3.16 Two new primary schools are currently scheduled to open in North Yorkshire over the next 3-year period: Oakbridge CE Primary Academy in Northallerton and Manse Farm in Knaresborough. In addition to these two new schools, 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 new 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. It is proposed to use the balance available from the 2024/25 Schools Block Pupil Growth funding, after the release of £500k to support the funding of school budgets, to further develop reserve provision for the additional funding commitment associated with the funding requirement for new schools. The balance is currently estimated to be £1.784m; this is subject to the finalisation of the 2024/25 school budget calculation. The balance on the Pupil Growth – New Schools reserve is estimated to be £4.364m as at 31 March 2024.
- 3.17 The Pupil Growth – New Schools reserve will be utilised in 2024/25 to provide the funding for the additional year groups which will be added to Keeble Primary Academy and Cambrai Primary Academy from September 2024. The two schools were new in September 2019 and are still not operating at their full cohort of year groups. The funding requirement is £142k. The Pupil Growth – New Schools reserve will also be utilised in respect of the opening of Oakbridge CE Primary Academy in Northallerton in September 2024. The estimated initial funding requirement for the 2023/24 and 2024/25 financial years is £286k in relation to pre-opening funding (£75k), post-opening diseconomies funding (£88k) and initial delegated budget (£123k) including estimated pupil numbers; £25k of the £75k pre-opening costs funding allocation will be paid in Spring 2024.
- 3.18 At the time of writing the report to Schools Forum, work is continuing to be undertaken on verifying the funding data and resolving the duplicate pupil records; DfE confirmation in respect of the Exceptional Rents funding also remains outstanding. Any changes or findings which materially affect the school funding position will be verbally reported to the meeting of the Schools Forum on 18 January 2024. The final position

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on the 2024/25 Schools Block DSG will be confirmed to the March 2024 meeting of the Schools Forum.

**4.0 2024/25 TEACHERS PAY ADDITIONAL GRANT**

4.1 The DfE have provided additional grant through the Teachers Pay Additional Grant (TPAG) to support schools in meeting the costs of the 2023-24 teachers pay award of 6.5%. The additional grant is intended to fund the cost of the pay award above 3.5%. The TPAG will be paid as a separate grant for the period September 2023 to March 2024 and the 2024/25 financial year. The TPAG base funding rates for mainstream schools for the 2024/25 financial year are as follows:

- a basic per-pupil rate of £62 for primary pupils, including pupils in reception
- a basic per-pupil rate of £86 for key stage 3 pupils
- a basic per-pupil rate of £98 for key stage 4 pupils
- a lump sum of £2,306
- a FSM6 per-pupil rate of £53 per eligible primary pupil
- a FSM6 per-pupil rate of £77 per eligible secondary pupil

4.2 The DfE published the outcome of the valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme based upon 2020 data in November 2023. The outcome confirmed an increase in the employer contribution rate of 5% from 1 April 2024 to 28.68%. The DfE have confirmed that additional funding will be provided, in addition to the TPAG, to cover the increase in the employer contribution rate for directly funded scheme employers for the financial year 2024/25. This includes mainstream 5-16 schools; high needs settings; post 16 and further education settings; and eligible early years providers. The subsequent costs for directly funded scheme employers for future years will be looked at as part of subsequent spending review rounds. At this stage, no specific detail is available on the provision of the additional funding.

**5.0 HIGH NEEDS**

5.1 North Yorkshire has experienced 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 2023-24; latest forecasts indicate that an in-year projected deficit which, if confirmed will increase the accumulated deficit to c.£13m by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024.

5.2 Work is ongoing to set the budget for the 2024-25 financial year although initial indications suggest an in-year deficit of c.£7.5m. This will be reduced by c.£2.18m, representing the value of the block transfer from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block. This will leave an in-year net deficit of c.£5.3m.

5.3 The ongoing deficit is a function of (a) increasing demands for support and (b) insufficient growth in High Needs DSG funding. The High Needs DSG in North Yorkshire has increased by 4.8% between 2023-24 and 2024-25 – total funding (before recoupment and import/export adjustment) is estimated to be £82.151 million. Funding for North Yorkshire continues to be relatively low in comparison to other local authorities – the 2024-25 allocation amounts to £716 per young person aged 2-18 which is only the 145th highest allocation amongst all 151 local authorities in England.

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- 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 2024-25. 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 £87m 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 number of requests for assessment. A total of 971 requests for statutory assessments for an EHC plan were received during the 2022 calendar year – which represented a 33% increase (+242) on the number received in 2021. However, in 2023, to the end of October, 1,063 requests had been received. Consequently, at the end of November 2023 there were 4,763 EHC plans funded by North Yorkshire Council – which represents a 73% increase on the same point in 2018 and a 152% increase since the new Code of Practice was introduced in November 2015.
- 5.6 The authority has been 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. The local authority has submitted a grant application to the DfE and are optimistic that this will secure £1 million of support from the DfE to support a transformation programme. Further details on this programme will be discussed elsewhere on this agenda.
- 5.7 One particular development that is being evaluated is the issuing of new guidance by the DfE in December 2023 regarding 'Arranging education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs. Within this document, there is a proposition that "the local authority and home school may wish to consider the transfer of a portion of the school's funding associated with that child to the alternative provision. This would ensure that the funding follows the child." (with the proviso that this arrangement would cease when the child is reintegrated back to their home school or are no longer on the roll of the home school). This guidance is being reviewed and further discussions will be undertaken with the High Needs Funding Sub-Group with a view to implementing any changes from April 2024.
- 6.0 **CENTRAL SCHOOLS SERVICES BLOCK EXPENDITURE (BUDGET)**
- 6.1 The 2024/25 CSSB funding level of £3.386m reflects the ongoing reduction in the Historic Commitments element of the Block, with a reduction of £146k from £0.732m to £0.586m. There has been an increase of £126k in the grant income for Ongoing Functions. The overall impact provides a net decrease in Central Schools Services Block grant allocation of £20k compared to the 2023/24 baseline figure.
- 6.2 The CSSB budget for the following financial year is usually reported to the January meeting of the Schools Forum. However, for the 2024/25 financial year, the DfE have informed local authorities that negotiations are still ongoing with some of the copyright management organisations for new agreements resulting in a delay in the announcement of the Copyright License fee for the 2024/25 financial year. In this respect, the 2024/25 CSSB budget expenditure cannot be finalised by the local

authority until this information has been received. The 2024/25 CSSB budget will be reported to the March 2024 meeting of the Schools Forum for approval.

7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

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

STUART CARLTON

Corporate Director – Children and Young People's Service