

2.4 De-Delegation Requests 2021/22

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1 Purpose

1.1 To give the **maintained primary** school members of the Schools Forum the opportunity to agree to de-delegate funding during the 2021/22 financial year for the specific purposes outlined in this report.

2 Recommendations

2.1 That **maintained primary** school members agree (by way of an individual vote for each item) to de-delegate £0.119m funding for the following items:

Service	Cost of Service 2021/22	Forecast C/fwd at 31 March 2021	De-Delegated Requirement	2021/22 Amount per pupil*	2020/21 Amount per pupil	Basis of Charge
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£	£	
Facilities Time - Teaching staff	30	26	4	0.26	0.00	Per pupil
Facilities Time - Support staff	25	0	25	1.63	1.72	Per pupil
Support for Ethnic Minority Pupils	110	20	90	5.88	6.06	Per pupil 50%, English as an additional language 50%
Total	165	46	119			

* The current amount per pupil has been calculated on the forecast pupil numbers excluding academy conversions. The amount per pupil will be adjusted once the October census figures are confirmed.

3 Background

3.1 Maintained schools can collectively agree annually through a vote at the schools forum, that a service should be centrally funded because it provides better value or pools risk. This only applies to specific items as set out in The School and Early Years Finance Regulations 2020.

3.2 For any item not de-delegated, the service will not be provided by the Local Authority from 1 April 2021. Schools will be expected to procure the service directly using their school budget share. All of the above services would look to provide a traded service

and the offer of this will be worked on following the outcome of the schools forum decision.

3.3 For any item that is de-delegated an amount will be deducted from the school budget share to create a central budget held by the Local Authority, ring-fenced within the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). This deduction would apply to all the maintained schools within the sector. It does not apply to academies, special schools, nurseries or PRUs, although they may be offered the opportunity to buy into any de-delegated service by local agreement.

3.4 If there is an underspend on any of the budgets de-delegated in a previous year, the balance will be carried forward and used for the purpose it was originally de-delegated, reducing the de-delegation requirement in the following year or be repaid to schools if the service ceases to be de-delegated. The following underspends are expected in 2020/21:

Facilities Time Teaching Staff £0.026m

- Provision of services was much lower in 2019/20 than had been anticipated.

Support for Ethnic Minority Pupils £0.020m

- The closure of schools due Covid-19 restricted the delivery of many of the planned activities for schools during the summer term, although the offer was adapted
- The EMA Network continued to offer schools support during the summer term but as the team operates predominately with relief consultants costs were kept to a minimum – only paying for time when needed
- Activities planned for the autumn term will resume but will be delivered differently with potential cost savings
- The EMA Network is acutely aware of the increased pressures on school budgets and will continue to work hard to reduce all possible costs while not reducing the quality of the service required by schools

3.5 The ability to de-delegate funding for services under the hard national formula is uncertain and it is possible this will be removed when the hard formula is introduced. However, the DfE funding guidance confirms this is able to continue in 2021/22.

4 Services to be De-delegated

4.1 The following services are offered to maintained primary schools for de-delegation in 2021/22:

- Facilities Time – Annex A
- Support for Ethnic Minority Pupils – Annex B

5 Services Ceasing to be De-delegated

- 5.1 The Social, Emotional and Mental Health Difficulties Specialist Teaching Team will no longer be offered from de-delegation from 1 April 2021. As the Primary Inclusion Partnership is now establishing, the decision has been taken not to develop a traded offer at this time. The 2020/21 forecast at present is to fully spend to budget but should there be any underspend at the year end, this would be disbursed back to primary maintained schools.