

Luton Schools Forum
Wednesday 20 January 2021
5.00pm Zoom Meeting

Schools Dedicated Schools Grant
Budget 2020-21 P9 (Apr-Dec)
Forecast Update

Presenting Officer	Atif Iqbal Atif.Iqbal@luton.gov.uk 01582 547488
Reason for submission to Forum	Item for information
Voting	N/A
Executive Summary	At the end of P9 the DSG is showing a 2020-21 projected underspend position of £1.279m.
Recommendations	Forum to note and comment on the contents of the report.
Appendices (to be attached)	Appendix A – 2020-21 P9 DSG Budget Outturn Monitoring Spreadsheet
Background Papers	None

Background

1. The purpose of this report is to provide the schools forum with an update on the 2020-21 year end forecast outturn position for DSG Budget as at P9 which covers April 2020 to December 2020.

Report

2. The monitoring report highlights a potential year end underspend of £1.279m at the end of period 9 (December 2020) across the total of the DSG.

3. As we are now emulating the National Funding Formula there is no de-delegation and so there are no budgets.
4. The High Needs Block is showing a projected potential underspend of £966.3k, which is mainly due to a forecast cost reduction in alternative provision of £714k. This variation is due to of various factors including reduced costs in placements, re-negotiated contracts re external placements, reductions in external placement numbers and reduction in exclusions while budget remained the same as previous year and also due to of capital investments in schools to put more emphasis on inclusions. On top of this the unallocated amount at the beginning of the year of £445k has not been required. These under spends have been partially offset by an increase of £359k in Top Up Funding.
5. The Early Years Block is currently projecting an under spend of £291k. This is largely due to an adjustment by the DfE following the January 2020 census where the DSG received approximately an additional £340k of funding. This is to cover fluctuations in 3 and 4 year pupils and 2 year old pupils for both 19/20 and 20/21.
6. The central schools block budgets are forecast to under spend by £21.5k. The cause for this forecast under spend is an expected under spend in staffing costs within the Schools Admissions team.
7. Final under spends will be transferred to the specific DSG reserve at year end.

Proposal

8. For Schools Forum to:

Note and comment on the contents of this report.