



Hillingdon Schools Forum

AGENDA

15 September 2026 – 1pm Online

<https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/349460483069298?p=bmZqZ55T2SsD5DSHky>

Meeting ID: 349 460 483 069 298

Passcode: vB9YC3ip

Item		Approx Timings	Lead	Paper/ Verbal
1.	Welcome, apologies & opening comments	5 mins	Chair	Verbal
2.	Minutes and actions from previous meeting 07.07.26	5 mins	Chair	Paper
3. Items for Information				
3a	Review Constitution	10 mins	Chair	Paper
3b	Schools Forum Membership – review membership numbers against pupil numbers	10 mins	Chair	Paper
3c	Training Review	5 mins	Chair	Verbal
3d	Reminder to complete SF Annual Review/Feedback form Hillingdon Schools Forum Review 2026 -Schools Forum Members – Fill in form	5 mins	Chair	Verbal
3e	Reminder to complete SF members declaration of interests Hillingdon Schools Forum Members Declarations of Interest 2026-2027 – Fill in form	5 mins	Chair	Verbal
4. Items for Consultation				
4a	Schools Block Transfer (consultation to run to 29 th Sept)	20 mins	AP	Paper
4b	Education Statutory Duties De-delegation (consultation to run to 29 th Sept)	20 mins	AP	Paper
5. AOB –				
6. Next Meeting Date				
	Meeting Dates for 2026/2027 Tuesday 13 October 2026 @ 1pm – In Person @ Ruislip Gardens Primary School Tuesday 19 January 2027 @ 1pm - Online Tuesday 23 March 2027 @ 1pm – In Person Tuesday 6 July 2027 @ 1pm - Online Confirmation of schools hosting in-person meeting (March 27 TBC)	5 mins	Chair	
7. Closing Comments				

Schools Forum Agreed Actions 07.07.26.

Item	Action	Responsibility
3	Members were once again asked to encourage academy colleagues to join	Academy Members
4a	KK/LH to review accuracy of academy financial data provided from DfE and discuss further with academy members.	LH/KK

4b	Schools Forum to be informed of SEND reform plan funding outcome once DfE confirmation is received.	AP
4d	Capital team to review and update the capital contributions policy and improve communications to schools regarding the process and required contributions.	Capital Team
4e	- Share SEND Reform presentation slides with Forum members. - Arrange borough-wide SEND Reform briefing session in September. - Establish co-design working groups with schools. - Develop engagement process for support bases, sensory rooms and specialist provision bids.	AP/DM
5	LH to arrange payment of the Barnhill invoice of £39,844 for TUFT	LH
6	Any school who wishes to host either the January or March meeting to contact HB.	HB

Voting Members

ORGANISATION		ROLE	TERM ENDS
Maintained Nursery (1)			
Shabana Aslam	McMillan Early Childhood Centre	Headteacher	Sep 2026
Maintained Primary (6)			
Becky Broadhurst	Hayes Park School	Headteacher	Sep 2029
Vicky Jarvis	Field End Infant School	Headteacher	Sep 2029
Carly Rissen	Colham Manor	Headteacher	Sep 2028
John Buckingham	Minet Junior School	Governor	Sep 2028
Tony Eginton	Minet Infant & Nursery Schools and Hillside Junior School	Governor	Sep 2028
Phil Haigh	Cherry Lane Primary School & Meadow High School	Governor	Sep 2028
Maintained Secondary (1)			
Cathy Mosdell	Harlington School	Governor	Sep 2029
Maintained Special			
Pearl Greenwald	Hedgewood School	Headteacher	Sep 2027
Academy Primary (4)			
Harshindar Buttar	The Park Federation	Principal – Lake Farm Park Academy	Sep 2027
Nicola Edwards	William Byrd School	Headteacher	Sep 2028
Nicola Kelly	Charville Academy	Headteacher	Sep 2029
Roseline Wilkinson	Charville Academy	Governor	Sep 2029
Academy Secondary (8)			
Gareth Davies	Ruislip High School	Headteacher	Sep 2030
John Garner	Ruislip High School	Governor	Sep 2026
Roger Leighton	Partnership Learning Trust	CEO	Sep 2029
Liam McGillicuddy	Bishopshalt School	Headteacher	Sep 2027
Jaskamal Sidhu	Guru Nanak	Executive Principal	Sep 2030
Ben Spinks (Chair)	Middlesex Learning Partnership	CEO	Sep 2028
Vacancy x 2			
Special Academy (1)			
Sudhi Pathak	Eden Academy Trust	COO	Sep 2026
Alternative Provision (1)			
TBC	The Skills Hub		Sep 2030
Private, Voluntary & Independent Early Years Providers (2)			
Elaine Caffary	4 Street Nursery	Nursery Manager	Sep 2028
Naazish Haq	Little Companions	Manager/Owner	Sep 2027
14-19 Partnership (1)			
Dylan McTaggart	HRUC Group	Executive Principal	Sep 2030
Diocesan Representative (1)			
Nicola Dallibar	St Andrews CofE Primary School	Headteacher	Sep 2029

Attendees (non voting)

NAME	REPRESENTING	ROLE
Nicky Bulpett	Ruislip Gardens	Headteacher
Louise Crook	Coteford Infant School	Headteacher
Graham Cunningham	Meadow High School	Headteacher
Nicola Forster	Pinkwell Primary School	Principal
LA Officers		

Kathryn Angelini		Assistant Director of Education & SEND
Gary Binstead		Head of Commissioning Education & SEND
Helen Boundy		LA Clerk to Schools Forum
Luisa Hansen		Head of Finance – Children & SEND
Michael Hawkins		Head of Education
Kamaljit Kaur		Lead Finance Business Partner
Dominika Michalik		LA Assistant Director of SEND & Inclusion
Abi Preston		LA Director of Education & SEND
Philip Ryan		LA Families Information Service Manager
Sonal Sisodia		SEND Service Manager



HILLINGDON SCHOOLS FORUM

MINUTES

Tuesday 7 July 2026 @ 1pm

Online – Via Teams

ORGANISATION		ROLE	Attendance	TERM ENDS
Maintained Nursery (1)				
Shabana Aslam	McMillan Early Childhood Centre	Headteacher	Apologies	Sep 2026
Maintained Primary (6)				
Becky Broadhurst	Hayes Park School	Headteacher	Apologies	Sep 2029
Vicky Jarvis	Field End Infant School	Headteacher	Attended	Sep 2029
Carly Rissen	Colham Manor	Headteacher	Attended	Sep 2028
John Buckingham	Glebe Primary School	Governor	Attended	Sep 2028
Tony Eginton	Minet Infant & Nursery Schools and Hillside Junior School	Governor	Attended	Sep 2028
Phil Haigh	Cherry Lane Primary School & Meadow High School	Governor	Attended	Sep 2028
Maintained Secondary (1)				
Cathy Mosdell	Harlington School	Governor	Apologies	Sep 2029
Maintained Special (1)				
Pearl Greenwald	Hedgewood School	Headteacher	Attended	Sep 2027
Academy Primary (4)				
Harshindar Buttar	The Park Federation	Principal – Lake Farm Park Academy	Attended	Sep 2027
Nicola Edwards	William Byrd School	Headteacher	Attended	Sep 2028
Nicola Kelly	Charville Academy	Headteacher	Attended	Sep 2029
Roseline Wilkinson	Charville Academy	Governor	Attended	Sep 2029
Academy Secondary (8)				
Gareth Davies	Ruislip High School	Headteacher	Attended	Sep 2030
John Garner	Ruislip High School	Governor	Attended	Sep 2026
Roger Leighton	Partnership Learning Trust	CEO	Attended	Sep 2029
Liam McGillicuddy	Bishopshalt School	Headteacher	Attended	Sep 2027
Jaskamal Sidhu	Guru Nanak	Executive Principal	Apologies	March 2030
Ben Spinks (Chair)	Middlesex Learning Partnership	CEO	Attended	Sep 2028
Vacancy x 2				
Special Academies (1)				
Sudhi Pathak	Eden Academy Trust	COO	Attended	Sep 2026
Alternative Provision (1)				
Karen McCarthy	The Skills Hub	Interim Principal	Attended	Sep 2030
Private, Voluntary & Independent Early Years Providers (2)				
Elaine Caffary	4 Street Nursery	Nursery Manager	Apologies	Sep 2028
Naazish Haq	Little Companions	Manager/Owner	Apologies	Sep 2027
14-19 Partnership (1)				
Dylan McTaggart	HRUC Group	Executive Principal	Apologies	Sep 2030
Diocesan Representative (1)				
Nicola Dallibar	St Andrews CofE Primary School	Headteacher	Attended	Sep 2029

Other attendees (non-voting)

NAME	REPRESENTING	ROLE
Nicky Bulpett	Ruislip Gardens	Headteacher
Louise Crook	Coteford Infant School	Headteacher
Graham Cunningham	Meadow High School	Headteacher
Nicola Forster	Pinkwell Primary School	Principal
LA Officers		
Kathryn Angelini		Assistant Director of Education & SEND

Gary Binstead		Head of Commissioning Education & SEND
Helen Boundy		LA Clerk to Schools Forum
Luisa Hansen		Head of Finance – Children & SEND
Michael Hawkins		Head of Education
Janine Jimmy	Observing	Parenting Programmes Coordinator
Kamaljit Kaur		Lead Finance Business Partner
Tim Martin		Senior Programme Manager – Contracts Service
Dominika Michalik		LA Assistant Director of SEND & Inclusion
Abi Preston		LA Director of Education & SEND
Philip Ryan		LA Families Information Service Manager

Item	
1.	Welcome, apologies & opening comments - BS welcomed everyone to the meeting, with formal introductions to the group. - New members of the forum were noted, Gareth Davies, Nicola Forster and Karen McCarthy and Dylan McTaggart Apologies were received from Cathy Mosdell, Shabana Aslam, Becky Broadhurst, Nicola Edwards, Nicky Bulpett, Jaskamal Sidhu, Elaine Caffray, Naazish Haq
2.	Minutes and actions from previous meeting 25.03.26 - Minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record. - Actions are listed below with an update of the status, all completed.
3.	Membership Update - Dylan McTaggart, Executive Principal HRUC as 14-19 sector member. - Gareth Davies, Ruislip High School has joined as a member to represent secondary academies - Two secondary academy vacancies remain. Members were once again asked to encourage academy colleagues to join. Membership representation has improved significantly and is now close to the required proportional balance.
4	Items for Information
4a	Schools Balances on 31 March 2026 inc. progress with deficit policy impact – Presented by Kamaljit Kaur. (Detailed paper shared ahead of the meeting) Maintained Schools - Total maintained school balances reduced by £1.3m (16.9%) compared with the previous year. - Deficits on primary school budgets are currently over £2m - Number of maintained schools now in deficit has increased from 12 to 17. Of these, we are applying for licensed deficit for nine schools. Schools that are academising or amalgamating have been excluded. This request will go to Cabinet on 23 July. These schools will have termly meetings with Finance and the School Improvement team so that we can review the actions that the schools have put in these license deficit applications and whether they're meeting those actions. Two schools have SRMA services currently undertaking a review with a further five planned. - Falling rolls remain the primary factor affecting school finances, with pupil numbers having reduced by over a thousand. Academy Balances - Academy balances reported as increasing by approximately £3m to £34m. - It was noted that academy and maintained school financial years differ, limiting direct comparison. - SF Members from Academies raised concerns regarding the accuracy and interpretation of the academy balances which have been taken from the DfE's benchmarking data and finance positions for each of the schools. RL noted the accounts that are published shows a full financial position of the Trust, but not of the individual schools or the reserves of the trust. As such, he was unclear how individual school balances had been calculated by the DfE and noted that at least some of those for his schools were inaccurate.

	- BS noted that, as a snapshot, the data can also be misleading. For example, Barnhill looks as though it has significant reserves, which sadly is not the case - it is due to the timings of a 25-year PFI contract closing, which saw some finances returned to the school for essential capital works that weren't completed during the PFI . Reiteration of caution when reading finance data from DfE. - GD noted that Trusts with primary schools are also impacted by the falling rolls, it's not just an issue in the maintained sector. Action: KK/LH to review accuracy of academy financial data provided from DfE and discuss further with academy members. - Significant financial pressures facing maintained schools. The LA continues to work with schools through finance and school improvement colleagues. - Increasing risks of further deficits if current trends continue. - Pressures created by falling pupil rolls, temporary admissions caps are implemented where necessary. - GB reiterated that the LA takes a very strategic approach. Strategic pupil place planning is undertaken the School Organisation Plan (SOP) contains projections for pupil numbers and is updated and published annually. It is organised by planning area. Noted that there is an indication that pupil numbers will start to rise again in coming years. - Understand that the financial position of many schools remains challenging, with guidance and support being provided from LA's Finance team to schools experiencing deficits.
4b	2025/26 DSG Outturn Presented by Luisa Hansen (Detailed paper shared ahead of the meeting) LH outlined headline figures. - Overall DSG overspend: £9.9m - High Needs Block overspend: £10.2m - Early Years Block underspend: £0.2m - Schools Block underspend: £0.1m - Cumulative DSG deficit increased from £65.9m to £75.8m SEN Reform Funding - Government proposals indicate funding of up to 90% of historic deficits. - Current estimates suggest approximately £71.8m may be funded, leaving around £4m unfunded. - Final confirmation awaited from DfE, expect outcome in September 2026 subject to ministerial approval of the SEND Reform Plan with funding to be received in October. If the plan is not approved in the first round and additional information is required, the next date for a decision would be February 2027. Once funds are received there will be a considerable reduction to the interest payments the LA currently makes on this deficit. Action: Schools Forum to be informed of SEND reform plan funding outcome once DfE confirmation is received.
4c	Update on exceptional funding for mainstream schools – AP (Detailed report shared ahead of the meeting) - AP outlined that the annual exceptional funding payments continue to support schools with disproportionately high numbers of EHCPs. - Demand for EHCPs is increasing significant rise in parental requests and requests from schools have been noted since SEN Reform proposals were announced. DfE are aware of this situation within LAs. This has caused a small backlog in applications, something which we previously did not have. - The funding remains non-statutory and cannot be guaranteed annually. - Schools were advised not to budget against future receipt of this funding as the decision is reviewed annually. - Funding remains valued and appreciated by schools, AP is determined to keep giving this to those schools with the higher % of EHCPs where possible but reiterated it's not a guarantee.

	- Noted that the disproportionality of schools with increasing high numbers of EHCPs and this will be a key part of the reforms for the local area partnership to address. - Demand pressures are growing across all local authorities.
4d	2026/27 Schools Maintenance Programme – presentation by Tim Martin - Programme funded through DfE School Condition Allocation. - Focus remains on: - Fire safety works. - Roof replacements. - Mechanical and electrical systems. - Building condition improvements. - Summer projects for schools were listed these include roofing works, adaptation works, fire door replacement programmes, building refurbishment works. - SF members raised concern regarding the financial contributions that the LA are requesting from some schools and lack of clarity in communication as to how these contributions are calculated. - The Local Authority confirmed a policy is in place setting out contribution arrangements. - The policy will be reviewed and refreshed to improve clarity. Action: Capital team to review and update the capital contributions policy and improve communications to schools regarding the process and required contributions.
4e	Update on SEND Reform Plan – AP shared presentation. - The SEND Reform Programme aligns strongly with Hillingdon's existing SEND and AP Strategy. - Whole SEND reforms concept is around moving away from reactive responses and being more consistent across the board. - Focus is on early intervention and create a fully inclusive, fair and sustainable SEND system where every child is supported early and able to thrive with education, health and care working as one partnership. - The Experts at Hand, funding and support are a key part of this. Move towards a system where less children need to be supported through an EHCP process and instead can have their needs met earlier without the need for statutory intervention. - Increased high quality mainstream inclusion, further the work on OAP and adaptive teaching. Provide screening tools, advice and early help. Inclusion framework is being published, and the special school outreach programme will start from September 2026. - A SENCO outreach model is also to be developed to ensure consistency across the borough. Some strong SENCOs will be identified to lead on this. Also part of CAAS and PINS project. A dyslexia screening programme will be available to every primary school, hopefully from early autumn term of 2026. - AP outlined the cluster model that is being proposed – schools work in 6 geographical clusters intention to align education, health and social care services, strengthen local partnerships and improve locality-based support. Transition support will be delivered in the cluster as well as therapy support which is a significant part of “Experts at Hand”. - In partnership with CNWL, SALT and OT support has been commissioned using an external company to speed up recruitment and be able to start this next academic year. Funding will also be put aside from HN budget for the parent champion. - SF Members particularly from Trusts questioned how the geographical clusters will impact the MAT structures e.g. SENCO leads that work across all schools in the MAT across the borough. - Concern regarding the risk of existing "magnet" schools will continue to attract disproportionate numbers of pupils with SEND. - Support will be introduced in phases from September 2026 onwards. - Expansion of specialist provision within mainstream schools, initially in secondaries.

	- Development of sensory rooms with some capital funding available for this and for creating more specialist bases in schools. - Expansion of secondary SEND provision. - Looking to develop an Early Years specialist provision models. - As part of the leadership and governance of this plan, further developing Power BI dashboards, to monitor outcomes of these activities and able to evidence that our plan is effective and having the impact needed. - SF members warmly welcomed the increased support for mainstream schools as well as the focus for early years provision. Provides an opportunity for schools to shape future provision. Actions: - Share SEND Reform presentation slides with Forum members. - Arrange borough-wide SEND Reform briefing session in September. - Establish co-design working groups with schools. - Develop engagement process for support bases, sensory rooms and specialist provision bids.
5	AOB: Trade Union Facility Time Fund Clerk note: Ben Spinks declared an interest due to Barnhill School being part of his trust. - Historic issue of the trade union invoice submitted by Barnhill School for £39,844 relating to NEU facility time arrangements 2024-2025. - Schools Forum had requested further detail on the service delivered, a robust email was received 07.07.26 from Simon Warne, Regional Officer outlining that they will not be providing any further detail of the work provided. Highlighted that Hillingdon is an outlier in its arrangements leaving the NEU branch and other unions in a position where there will be no branch level facility capacity for the coming year. - Discussion was had regarding this, but all acknowledged the fact that Barnhill had incurred costs in good faith and the need to bring the longstanding issue to a conclusion. <i>Proposal (all maintained schools eligible to vote) Does Schools Forum agree to settle the TUFT invoice submitted</i> <i>Outcome: Unanimous vote by maintained school representatives to approve the payment of this invoice</i> Action: LH to arrange payment of the Barnhill invoice of £39,844 will be paid from the remaining facility time fund balance and formally close the historic issue. The matter is considered concluded.
6	Meeting Dates for 2026/2027 confirmed and calendar invites sent. Tuesday 15 September 2026 @ 1pm – Online Tuesday 13 October 2026 @ 1pm – In Person Tuesday 19 January 2027 @ 1pm - Online Tuesday 23 March 2027 @ 1pm – In Person Tuesday 6 July 2027 @ 1pm - Online Confirmation of schools hosting in-person meeting (October 26 and March 27 TBC) Action: Any school who wishes to host either the January or March meeting to contact HB.

Schools Forum Agreed Actions 07.07.26.

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6	Any school who wishes to host either the January or March meeting to contact HB.	PR

Hillingdon Schools Forum Constitution

September 2026



HILLINGDON
LONDON

www.hillingdon.gov.uk

Constitution for the Hillingdon Schools Forum

September 2026

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1. Powers and Responsibilities

Hillingdon Schools Forum is set up under the requirements of Section 47A of the School Standards & Framework Act 1998, in compliance with the requirements of the [Schools Forums \(England\) Regulations 2012](#). Where any procedural matter relating to the working of the Forum is not specifically covered in the Constitution, the [Schools Forums: Operational and Good Practice Guidance](#), issued by the Department for Education (DfE) in December 2015 (or the latest version thereof) shall apply.

The Constitution will be reviewed annually, in the summer term. This will include reviewing the proportionality of membership against the January School Census data.

The Schools Forum is a statutory consultative body, with clearly defined roles and responsibilities. It is not a committee of the Council and therefore sits outside the legislation relating to Council Committees. Its powers and responsibilities have been defined by the Department for Education (DfE): [Schools forum powers and responsibilities](#).

2. Purpose and strategy

The purpose of Schools Forum is to oversee financial decision making in relation to funds designated for the benefit of all pupils in Hillingdon. Schools Forum oversees all aspects of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG), including funding for high needs and Early Years.

Schools Forum will be effective if:

- School leaders have confidence that the Dedicated Schools Grant for Hillingdon is being deployed to provide the most value possible for all pupils in state-funded schools.
- School leaders have confidence in decisions made by the Forum, and feel they have been given clear, timely and suitable opportunities to make their views known on matters that affect them.
- Members of Schools Forum feel they have benefitted from their time as members through the learning and development available to them.

3. General Principles of Conduct

In carrying out their duties in respect of Schools Forum, Members will be expected to observe the following Nolan Principles of conduct.

Selflessness

Members should take decisions solely in terms of the public interest. Members should serve only the public interest and should never improperly confer an advantage on any person or individual school.

Integrity

Members should not place themselves under any financial or other obligation to outside individuals or organisations that might influence them in the performance of their official duties. Members should not place themselves in situations where their honesty and integrity may be questioned, should not behave improperly and should on all occasions avoid the appearance of such behaviour.

Objectivity

In carrying out public business, including making public appointments, awarding contracts, or recommending individuals for rewards and benefits, members should make choices on merit.

Accountability

Members are accountable for their decisions and actions to the public and must submit themselves to whatever scrutiny is appropriate to their office. Members should be accountable for their actions and the manner in which they carry out their responsibilities, and should co-operate fully and honestly with any scrutiny appropriate to their role

Openness

Holders of public office should be as open as possible about all the decisions and actions that they take. They should give reasons for their decisions and restrict information only when the wider public interest clearly demands.

Honesty

Holders of public office have a duty to declare any private interests relating to their public duties and to take steps to resolve any conflicts arising in a way that protects the public interest.

Leadership

Holders of public office should promote and support these principles by leadership and example.

Should any member of Schools Forum be found to have committed a serious breach of any of the seven principles in any dimension of their professional role, whether in relation to matters relating to Schools Forum or in any other matter, that member may be subject to a motion of censure by the Forum:

This may only be considered in relation to the most serious matters.

A breach may only be established by prior investigation under formal powers (e.g. safeguarding, council complaint procedures, DfE, Ofsted).

- Any member of the Forum may propose a motion in relation to a breach of conduct, which must be made in writing to the Clerk. (see section 3.4).
- A decision must be taken by the local authority within a calendar month whether to allow the motion to be proposed to a vote by the Forum at a formal meeting.

- The local authority, having decided to allow the motion to be proposed, must first seek the resignation from the Forum of the member subject to the motion, and must do so at least ten working days before a meeting agenda is published containing such a motion.

4. Composition of Hillingdon Schools Forum

Regulations prescribe that:

- School and academy members must make up at least two-thirds of the membership of the Schools Forum.
- Representation for each sector (e.g. primary, secondary, special etc) must be proportionate to the number of pupils in the sector and will be reviewed annually based on January census data of pupil numbers. This review will take place in the July meeting.
- School representation may be provided by Headteachers or Governors, or for academies, alternative representatives can be members.

In accordance with the regulations, the Schools Forum must comprise of members from maintained schools, academies (if they exist) and non-school members. School members and Academies members must comprise at least two thirds of the membership of the Schools Forum and at least one member must be a representative of the governing bodies of maintained schools and at least one member must be a representative of the headteachers of maintained schools. For the maintained primary sector, a minimum of 50% of members must be Headteachers. Ideally a similar proportion of representatives for academies to maintained settings would be preferable, however, academies can decide to put forward any representative, therefore, this will be guidance for academies only.

The determination of the number of school representatives on Schools Forum will be based on the proportionality of pupil numbers in schools within a given category of school membership (e.g. primary maintained, secondary academy etc) when compared to the total number of pupils in schools.

To become a member of the Schools Forum, the relevant group is responsible for electing their own representative.

The membership of the Schools Forum is set out in the following table:

Category	No. of reps	Number of pupils 2026	Elected by
Maintained School members - 9 (min 50% Headteachers for Maintained)			
Nursery	1	138	Automatic
Primary/ Infant/ Junior	6	15,809	Hillingdon Primary Forum
Secondary	1	2,684	Hillingdon Secondary Forum
Special	1	490	Agreed between the 2 x schools
Academy members - 15			
Primary /Infant/Junior	5	11,831	Formal election process with academy schools
Secondary	8	19,495	
Special	1	753	Formal election process with special academies
Alternative Provision	1	76	Automatic
Non-School members - 4			
PVIs	2	4920 (approx.)	Local Authority
14 – 19 Partnership	1	n/a	
Diocesan Representative	1	n/a	
Total	28		

(1:2500 pupils)

4.1 Conduct of elections

In the conduct of elections, all persons eligible to stand for Schools Forum must be given a reasonable opportunity to stand:

- A communication must be delivered to all eligible institutions who must be given a window of opportunity to express an interest in standing for office.
- Notice of the opportunity to stand must also be published by the local authority and in regular communications to all schools.
- If the number of persons expressing an interest in standing for election does not exceed the number of available places, no ballot will be held.
- If a ballot is held, this must be conducted by email and not in a general meeting, and the voting record of individuals must remain confidential.
- Ballots will be counted by the Clerk and Director of Education & SEND. The candidate with the most votes will be elected, followed by the next most votes, continuing until all available positions are filled. Any remaining candidates will not be elected.

4.2 Conduct of School members elections

Maintained schools

The Clerk to the Forum will write to all Headteachers and Clerks inviting nominations (either via the weekly briefing and/or directly). Nominations must be submitted to the Clerk to the Forum. Once received, all nominations for Headteachers and governors will be shared with

Hillingdon Primary Forum or Secondary Forum for secondaries who will vote (maintained schools only) for the representatives for maintained schools.

Academies

The Clerk to the Forum will write to all Headteachers and Clerks/ Chairs of Trustees of Hillingdon academies (either via the weekly briefing and/or directly) to alert them to the vacancies and request nominations. Secondary academy representatives will be selected via an election process by Hillingdon Secondary Forum. For primary academy representatives, Primary Forum will manage the election process.

Special Schools

The Clerk to the Forum will write to the Headteacher and Clerks/ Chair of Governors/ Trustees of Hillingdon special schools (either via the weekly briefing or directly) to invite self-nomination. An election will be run by the LA with special academy schools to select the representative. For maintained special schools, as there are only two maintained special schools in the borough, the schools will decide who is best to be represented as a member.

4.3 Conduct of Non-Schools members elections

Non-Schools members refers to:

- PVI's representatives
- 14-19 representatives
- Diocese representatives

Private, Voluntary and Independent Providers (PVI)

The Head of Education Improvement & Partnerships will write to all Hillingdon PVI members to invite self-nominations. A ballot will be undertaken at the Early Years Sub-Group.

14-19 Partnership

The Clerk to the Forum will write to the Principals of 14-19 settings which serve the locality. The LA will identify the representative from nominations put forward.

Diocesan Representative

The Head of Education Improvement & Partnerships will write to the Diocese to ask for the representative they wish to put forward.

5. Membership

5.1 Terms of Office

Members are representatives not delegates. They should act in accordance with what they consider to be the best interests of Hillingdon's children and young people. A forum member remains in office until:

- a. The member's term of office expires. In accordance with this constitution, this is 4 years from the anniversary date of appointment.
- b. The member ceases to hold the office by virtue of which the member became eligible for election, selection or appointment to the forum
- c. In the case of a non-school member, the member is replaced by the local authority, at the request of the body which the member represents, by another person nominated by that body.
- d. The member fails to attend 3 consecutive meetings
- e. The member resigns, providing 1 months' notice
- f. A member has served two terms (2 x 4 years) or more, at which point an election will take place. Members who have served two terms or more can be nominated again, however, new members will be prioritised over those members who have served two terms or more, to enable a broad representation across the settings and a range of contributions from different members.

5.2 Appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair

Schools Forum will need to elect a Chair and Vice-Chair in the first meeting at the beginning of the academic year running from September through to August. The Schools Forum must elect a Chair from amongst its own members, so it is not possible to elect an independent Chair. In addition, any elected member of the local authority or officer of the local authority who is a member of a Schools Forum may not hold the office of Chair.

The Chair and Vice-Chair will remain in office for two years from the date of election unless:

- a) The member ceases to hold the office by virtue of which the member became eligible for election, selection or appointment to the forum
- b) The member resigns, providing 1 months' notice

The Chair and Vice Chair can remain in post for up to two terms (four years), following elections, if members vote to agree to a second term. Following this period, the Chair and Vice Chair should change to an alternative member.

A local authority officer will be responsible for the conduct of any election required. The method for voting will be by a confidential ballot.

Only voting members of the Forum can be elected as Chair or Vice Chair.

At any meeting where both the Chair and Vice Chair are absent the Forum shall elect, from those voting members present, a person to take the Chair for that meeting only.

The Chair and / or the Vice-Chair may be removed from office by a majority of votes cast by secret ballot. Any call for a ballot to remove the Chair and / or Vice-Chair must be made in writing, signed by at least 25% of the total voting membership and received by the Clerk at least 7 days in advance of the meeting at which the ballot would be taken. The Clerk must advise the Chair and Vice Chair immediately any such motion is received.

5.3 Local Authority officers and elected members

Professional advice to the Forum will be provided by officers of the local authority who will be entitled to attend and speak at meetings of the Forum and any sub-groups/ task and finish groups that it convenes. Local Authority officers do not have voting rights.

Regular attendees of LA officers will be:

- Director of Education & SEND
- Assistant Director of SEND & Inclusion
- Assistant Director of Education
- Assistant Director of Commissioning and Sufficiency
-
- Head of Education Improvement & Partnerships
- Finance Business Partner
- Head of Children's Finance
- Clerk

Other LA officers will attend the forum meetings as appropriate, depending on the agenda and items to be discussed.

Executive members with responsibility for education/children's services or resources of the local authority are able to participate in Schools Forum meetings. By doing so such elected members are able to contribute to the discussion and receive first-hand the views of the Schools Forum. The regulations provide the right for executive members to attend and speak at Schools Forum meetings. However, there is no requirement for this to happen. There should be clear channels of communication between the Schools Forum and executive members.

5.4 Appointment of Sub-Group Chairs

In the event that Schools Forum sets up subgroups, Schools Forum will need to elect a Chair at the meeting where it was decided to set up such a sub group.

The Chair of the Subgroup will remain in office for two years from the date of election unless:

- a) The member ceases to hold the office by virtue of which the member became eligible for election, selection or appointment to the forum
- b) The sub group is no longer required
- c) The member resigns, providing 1 months' notice

5.5 Changes to membership:

- If a member is moving from their current school, they must inform the Schools Forum Clerk who will advise on whether this will affect their ability to continue as a member of Schools Forum.
- A member will be seen as a non-attender when they have failed to attend three consecutive meetings. At this stage, their position will be advertised as a vacancy and the nomination process will begin.
- Where a member has resigned, or been deemed to resign, a nomination and election process will be held within a 3 month period following the resignation. Their membership will be ratified at the first meeting following their election.
- Membership will be reviewed each July following the school census where any changes will be reflected.

5.6 Quorum & substitute members

For meetings to be quorate, at least 40% of members (excluding vacancies) must be present. Schools Forum may not legally take decisions when it is not quorate. Voting methods will be confirmed within each meeting.

If a member is unable to attend a meeting, they may send a representative on their behalf to act as a substitute. Substitute members will have the same constitutional powers and responsibilities as full members.

It is the responsibility of the elected representative to:

- Notify their substitute if they are unable to attend a meeting.
- To forward any papers and meeting invites to the substitute.
- Notify the Forum Clerk that their substitute is attending on their behalf at least 2 working days before the meeting.

6. Conduct of Meetings

6.1 Agenda and documentation

- The agenda will be agreed at a pre-meeting of the Chair, Vice Chair and local authority officers, held at least 10 working days prior to the meeting. All items for the agenda must be raised and agreed in the pre-meeting.
- Members wishing to add items to the agenda should notify the Chair, Vice Chair or clerk one month before the meeting.
- Agendas, including relevant papers, will be published at least 5 working days prior to the meeting, via the Schools Forum pages of the local authority website and via email to members.
- Reports to the Schools Forum should be submitted using the standard template which indicates the purpose of the item and which members are eligible to vote if applicable.

The Schools Forum should set its own agenda within the remit as set out in the regulations. A forward plan will be in place to detail the key items that will be presented at each meeting. Additional items can be agreed through the pre-meetings or via agreement in forum meetings. Meeting dates will be set at/ by the last meeting of the academic year for the next academic year.

The Schools Forum must meet at least **four** times in a year, where the timing and location of meetings should be determined by the Schools Forum.

Meetings should take place in public, although confidential items, such as commercially sensitive information regarding contracts, may be considered in private with the agreement of the forum.

The Regulations provide that the Secretary of State can appoint an observer to attend and speak at Schools Forum meetings, e.g. a representative from the Department for Education (DfE). This allows a conduit for national policy to be discussed at a local level and provide access for Schools Forum to an additional support mechanism, e.g. where there are highly complex issues to resolve.

6.2 Frequency

The Forum will meet formally at least four times a year.

Meeting dates will be set at the last meeting of the academic year for the next academic year.

Dates will be set to fit with key decision points in the year. Forum members may be invited to join informal meetings for the purposes of CPD.

Where necessary, additional meetings may be called. This includes Task and Finish groups for specific pieces of work. The Forum will agree clear terms of reference for such groups, using a standard template.

6.3 Record of meetings

The meeting record will include formal minutes of the meeting and a record of actions. These will include:

- Details of any papers presented before or during the meeting

- Details of attendees, and any declarations of interest
- Main discussion points
- Decisions and actions
- Voting record
- Details of subsequent meetings

These will be published within 10 working days of the meeting, via the [Schools Forum](#) pages of the local authority website, following sign-off by the Chair.

Notification of decisions made in Schools Forum meetings will be included in the weekly Schools Bulletin circulated to all Hillingdon schools and governing bodies.

The minutes will be ratified at the next formal meeting of the Schools Forum.

Meetings will be recorded in line with the process for public meetings.

Although the business of Schools Forums must be open and transparent, it is recognised that from time to time items of a confidential nature will need to be discussed.

6.4 Conflict of Interest and Participation in voting

Any member who has a declared conflict of interest in relation to a matter under consideration must disclose the nature of that interest at the start of the meeting. The Chair will decide if the nature and extent of the conflict of interest will prevent the member from participating in any vote.

7. Urgent matters

- Where the Chair or Local Authority identifies an urgent issues / proposal needs to be considered outside the planned meetings, members may be consulted via email.
- The Chair & Vice Chair may also give a view to the Local Authority on an urgent issue but have no power to take a decision on behalf of the Forum in any circumstances.
- If a decision is needed outside of the planned meeting, the Chair may call an additional meeting to discuss the urgent issue and make a decision. The additional meeting will be held in public and every effort will be made to ensure that as much notice as possible is given and papers published ahead of the meeting.

8. Support to the Schools Forum

8.1 Clerk to the meetings

Hillingdon Council will provide a Clerk to support the Schools Forum. The Clerk will work with the Chair, Vice Chair and local authority officers to arrange and support meetings, including additional meetings of the Forum as the need is identified. This includes:

- Meeting invitations for members
- Publication of meeting details via the Schools Forum website
- Collation and publication of papers prior to meetings
- Preparation and publication of minutes
- Managing the voting process (private or public) at meetings
- Advertising membership vacancies
- Overseeing the nomination, election and ratification of new members
- Providing new members with the relevant information to support them in undertaking the role
- Preparing communications for schools and providing written updates to be published in the weekly Schools Bulletin
- Ensuring up to date information about the Forum is available via the Schools Forum website.

8.2 Training and development

In order to be effective in their role, a member of Schools Forum should have a good understanding of financial management as it relates to education. This understanding is not assumed, and all members of Schools Forum have the right to expect that good learning and development opportunities be made available to them to enable them to meet their obligations.

Hillingdon Council will provide:

- An induction pack to newly appointed Schools Forum members
- A programme of learning and development in relation to financial management for Schools Forum members to access on a voluntary basis.
- Information about relevant learning and development opportunities available to Schools Forum members including, but not exclusively, the programme provided by the Department for Education (DfE).
- Opportunities for staff employed in education in Hillingdon who are not members of Schools Forum to be informed about the workings of the group, and about financial matters generally.

9. Functions

9.1 Consultation on financial issues

The London Borough of Hillingdon must consult the Schools Forum annually in respect of the authority's functions relating to the schools budget, in connection with the following:-

- a) amendments to the school funding formula;
- b) arrangements for the education of pupils with special educational needs;
- c) arrangements for the use of pupil referral units and the education of children otherwise than at school;
- d) arrangements for early years provision;

- e) administrative arrangements for the allocation of central government grants paid to schools via the authority

9.2 Consultation on contracts

The London Borough of Hillingdon must consult the forum, at least one month prior to the issue of invitations to tender, on the terms of any proposed contract for supplies or services (being a contract paid or to be paid out of the schools budget) where the estimated value of the proposed services contract is not less than the specified threshold which applies to Hillingdon in pursuance of Regulation 8 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2006.

9.3 Powers under Department for Education regulations

Schools Forums generally have a consultative role. However, there are situations in which they have decision-making powers. The overarching areas on which Schools Forums make decisions on local authority proposals are:

- a) De-delegation from mainstream school budgets (approval will be required by the relevant phase members of Schools Forum), for prescribed services to be provided centrally.
- b) To create a fund for significant pupil growth in order to support the local authority's duty for place planning and agree the criteria for maintained schools and Academies to access this fund.
- c) Funding for prescribed historic commitments where the effect of delegating this funding would be destabilising.
- d) Funding for the local authority in order to meet prescribed statutory duties placed upon it. Approval is required to confirm the amounts for each duty and no new commitments or increases in expenditure from 2014/15 are permitted.
- e) Funding for central early years expenditure, which will include funding for checking eligibility of pupils for an early years place and/or free school meals.
- f) Authorising a reduction in the schools budget in order to fund a deficit arising in central expenditure that is to be carried forward from a previous funding period.

In each of these cases, the local authority can appeal to the DfE if the Schools Forum rejects its proposal.

10. Support for Schools Forum

Hillingdon Council will provide a Clerk to support the Schools Forum

The Clerk will work with the Chair, Vice Chair and local authority officers to arrange and support meetings, including additional meetings of the Forum as the need is identified.

10.1 The treatment of forum costs in relation to the LA's budgetary arrangements.

The costs of administering the forum and any expenses reimbursed or the costs of any work commissioned by the Schools Forum will be a charge against the Schools' Budget for the year.

11. Register of Interests

All members of the Schools Forum are required to provide and maintain their entry in the register of interests.

Appendix 1: London Borough of Hillingdon Schools Forum Member Roles & Voting

De-delegation Primary	De-delegation Secondary	Schools Block Transfer to High Needs	Scheme for financing schools	Schools Funding Formula	Central spend – pupil growth/ falling rolls	General Duties	Retained Duties	Central spend – EY, CSSB	last updated 2025	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
Voting									Phase	Role
Schools Members										
		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Maintained nursery	Head
x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Maintained Primary	Head/ Gov
	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Maintained Secondary	Head
			x	x	x	x	x	x	Maintained Special	Head/ Gov
Academies Members										
		x		x	x		x	x	Primary Academy	Head
		x		x	x		x	x*	Secondary Academy	Head/ Gov
							x	x*	Special Academy	Finance Rep
							x	x*	Alternative Provision	Head
Non-School Members										
								x	PVI	Head
								x*	14-19	Head
Other Attendees										
No voting rights									INMSS	Finance rep
									Shadow reps	Head

*for CSSB only

Appendix 2: Weblinks

Schools Forums (England) Regulations 2012 - <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2012/2261/contents/made>

Schools Forums: Operational and Good Practice Guidance - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/schools-forums-operational-and-good-practice-guide-2015>

Schools forum powers and responsibilities -

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/971711/2021_Schools_forums_powers_and_responsibilities.pdf

Schools Forum - <https://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/schools-forum>



Hillingdon Schools Forum membership

September 2026

- Maintained Nursery (1)
- Maintained Primary (6)
- Maintained Secondary (1)
- Maintained Special (1)
- Academies Primary/ Secondary (15)
- Special Academies (1)
- Alternative Provision (1)
- Private Voluntary & Independent Early Years Providers (2)
- 14-19 Partnership (1)
- Diocese (1)

Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair of Forum & Sub-groups – 2 years			
NAME	CATEGORY / ORGANISATION	APPOINTED	EXPIRES
Ben Spinks Chair of Schools Forum	CEO Middlesex Learning Partnership - Academy	May 2025	May 2027
Rebecca Broadhurst Vice Chair of Schools Forum	Maintained Primary Headteacher – Hayes Park Primary School	Sept 2025	Sept 2027
High Needs Group			
Phil Haigh Chair of High Needs Group	Governor at Cherry Lane and Meadow High School	May 2025	May 2027
Early Years Group			
Carly Rissen Chair of Early Years Group	Colham Manor Headteacher	May 2025	May 2027

Key:

HT – Headteacher

G – Governor

O – Other

CEO – Chief Executive Officer

Schools Forum members - 4 years from the September anniversary date of appointment				
NAME	TYPE	ORGANISATION	APPOINTED	EXPIRES
Maintained Nursery (1)				
Shabana Aslam	HT	McMillan Early Childhood Centre	Sep 2022	Sep 2026
Maintained Primary - Schools (6)				
Becky Broadhurst (VICE CHAIR)	HT	Hayes Park School	Sept 2025	Sep 2029
Vicky Jarvis	HT	Field End Infant School	Sept 2025	Sep 2029
Carly Rissen	HT	Colham Manor	Sep 2024	Sep 2028
John Buckingham	G	Glebe School	Sep 2024	Sep 2028
Tony Eginton	G	Minet Infant & Nursery School Hillside Junior School	Sep 2024	Sep 2028
Phil Haigh	G	Cherry Lane Primary School & Meadow High School	Sep 2024	Sep 2028
Maintained Secondary (1)				
Cathy Mosdell	HT	Harlington School	Nov 2025	Sep 2029
Maintained Special (1)				
Pearl Greenwald	HT	Hedgewood School	Nov 2022	Sep 2027
Academy Primary (5)				
Harshindar Buttar	HT	The Park Federation	May 2023	Sep 2027
Nicola Edwards	HT	William Byrd School	Nov 2023	Sep 2028
Nicola Kelly	HT	Charville Academy	Sep 2024	Sep 2028
Roseline Wilkinson	G	Charville Academy	Sep 2024	Sep 2028
Academy Secondary (8)				
Gareth Davies	HT	Ruislip High School	Jul 2026	Sep 2030
John Garner	G	Ruislip High School	Mar 2022	Sep 2026
Roger Leighton	CEO	Partnership Learning Trust	Sep 2025	Sep 2029
Liam McGillicuddy	HT	Bishopshalt School	May 2023	Sep 2027
Ben Spinks (Chair)	CEO	Middlesex Learning Partnership	Jan 2024	Sep 2028
Jaskamal Sidhu	HT	Guru Nanak Sikh Academy	Mar 2026	Sep 2030
(Vacancy)				
(Vacancy)				
Special Academies (1)				
Sudhi Pathak	O	Eden Academy Trust	Mar 2022	Sep 2026
Alternative Provision (1)				
	HT	The Skills Hub	Jul 2026	Sep 2030
Private Voluntary & Independent Early Years Providers (2)				
Elaine Caffary	O	4 Street Nursery	Sep 2024	Sep 2028
Naazish Haq	O	Little Companions	June 2023	Sep 2027
14-19 Partnership (1)				
Dylan McTaggart	O	HRUC Group	May 2026	Sep 2030
Diocesan Representative (1)				
Nicola Dallibar	HT	St Andrews CofE Primary	Sept 2025	Sep 2029

Breakdown of membership type and pupil numbers

Category	No. of reps	No of pupils 2025	No of pupils 2026	Elected by
Maintained School members - 9 (min 50% Headteachers for Maintained)				
Nursery	1	n/a	138	Automatic
Primary	6	15,930	15,809	Primary Forum
Secondary	1	2,655	2,684	HASH
Special	1	474	490	Agreed between the 2 x schools
Academy School members - 15				
Primary	5	10,371	11,831	Formal election process with academy schools
Secondary	8	19,836	19,495	
Special	1	664	753	Formal election process with special academies
Alternative Provision	1	45	76	Automatic
Non-School members - 4				
PVIs	2			Local Authority
14 – 19 Partnership	1			
Diocesan Rep.	1			
Total	28			

1:2500

Schools Block Transfer 2027/28

Schools Forum



15th September 2026

Agenda item 4a

PAPER TYPE

☐ INFORMATION

☒ CONSULTATION

☐ DECISION / VOTE

Meeting date	15.09.2026
Agenda item	4a
Report author	Abi Preston & Luisa Hansen
Appendices	Feedback from previous year's consultation 2025/26

Purpose

Recommendation to Schools Forum

To approve the request to seek views on the proposal to transfer 0.5% from the Schools block to High Needs block

Decision and voting requirements

QUESTION / PROPOSAL	[State the exact question or proposal members are being asked to decide.]
Who may vote?	- Maintained primary & secondary - Academy primary and secondary
Voting method	Show of hands

1. Executive summary

Schools Forum is asked to:

- note the continuing financial pressures within the High Needs Block;
- agree the consultation questions to be issued to maintained schools and academies;
- provide feedback on the proposal before the consultation closes on 29 September 2026
- consider and vote on a 0.5% transfer from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block for 2027/28 in the October Schools Forum meeting.

2. Background and context

The Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) is the principal source of education funding for local authorities and is made up of four blocks: the Schools Block, High Needs Block, Early Years Block and Central School Services Block.

The Schools Block is ringfenced. A local authority may transfer up to 0.5% of its Schools Block allocation to another block with the agreement of Schools Forum. A transfer above 0.5%, or any transfer without Schools Forum agreement, requires approval from the Secretary of State. The proposal in this report is therefore for the maximum transfer that can be agreed locally, subject to the applicable 2027/28 DSG conditions of grant and operational guidance when published.

Hillingdon continues to experience sustained High Needs pressure arising from growth in statutory activity, increasing complexity of need, inflationary placement costs and demand for specialist support. At the same time, the local area is implementing the SEND Reform Plan 2026-2029, which prioritises earlier identification and support, stronger mainstream inclusion, reduced escalation to statutory processes and high-cost provision, and long-term financial sustainability.

The proposed 0.5% transfer is intended to provide a bridge during this reform period by protecting early intervention and inclusion activity that is not fully covered by statutory High Needs duties.

High needs funding: 2025 to 2026 operational guide - GOV.UK states that *'The Schools Forum must be consulted on all transfers between Blocks. The Schools Block is ringfenced which means that this Block must be spent for the purposes specified in the conditions of grant. Local Authorities retain the ability to transfer up to 0.5% of funding out of the Schools Block, with the agreement of the Schools Forum. Formal permission from the Secretary of State (a disapplication of the DSG conditions of grant) will be required for transfers out of the Schools Block above 0.5%, or any amount without Schools Forum approval. This applies to any transfers even if approval has been given in previous years. Local Authorities should consult with local maintained schools and academies. The Schools Forum should take these views into account before making their decision.'*

Current High Needs financial position

The latest available High Needs position, reported at Month 4 of 2026/27, forecast an in-year overspend of £13.4m. This is a £0.9m adverse movement against the £12.5m budgeted position. The increase reported is being driven by continuing demand and cost pressures in High Needs placements which have increased substantially following the announcement of the SEND reforms earlier in 2026.

This follows a substantial reduction in the annual in-year deficit from approximately £25.6m in 2023/24, £16.2m in 2024/25 and £10.2m in 2025/26, to a forecast of around £13.4m at Month 4 in 2026/27. The direction of travel is positive, but the High Needs Block is not yet in balance and remains exposed to demand, placement-cost and reform-transition pressures.

Financial year	Reported in-year HN position	Comment
2023/24	£25.6m deficit	Historic reported position
2024/25	£16.2m deficit	Reduced year on year
2025/26	£10.2m deficit	Reduced year on year

HILLINGDON SCHOOLS FORUM

2026/27	£13.4m forecast	Month 4 forecast; £0.9m adverse movement against £12.5m budgeted position
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The financial improvement reflects stronger governance, commissioning and placement management, increased local inclusion, and reduced reliance on higher-cost independent provision. There has been a reduction in the proportion of EHCPs in independent non-maintained special school (INMSS) placements from 11% in 2023 to 7.2% in 2026. These improvements must be sustained while demand continues to rise.

Rationale for the 0.5% transfer

A 0.5% transfer is proposed for 2027/28. Based on current indicative modelling, this would transfer approximately £1.5m from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block. The final cash value will be confirmed once the 2027/28 Schools Block allocation and Authority Proforma Tool are available.

Following last year's consultation on the Schools Block transfer, schools overwhelmingly supported the idea of a transfer of 0.5%. When requesting 1% transfer for 2026-27, 27% agreed with the request. Out of 31 who answered 'no', 19 stated they would support a request of 0.5% or higher. **Therefore, the Council has listened to this feedback and are requesting 0.5% in line with the feedback.**

This proposal is necessary in response to the significant increase in SEND demand seen this year. Unlike previous years, Hillingdon has experienced substantial growth in EHC needs assessment requests and EHCP volumes with EHCP numbers increasing by 5.7% between January and August 2026. Schools are, therefore, supporting more children with increasingly complex needs, requiring a different approach to ensure support remains sustainable and effective.

The transfer would contribute towards sustaining the following activity:

Early Support Funding - £600k

This year, given the changes in the SEND reforms, the Council are considering a new approach to support early intervention. Previously, ESF was in place to meet the needs of children who have additional needs and where additional intensive support would enable children to close the gap without requiring an EHCP. In 2026/27, this funding was paused due to the lower Schools Block transfer and the position of the High Needs Block. The Council are aware that ESF was having an impact and that many schools were keen to retain this wherever possible. As schools will now be working in clusters to prepare for the SEND reforms and support greater inclusion, the Council are proposing that the funding that would ordinarily be used for ESF is instead delegated to individual clusters to enable them to allocate funding to children in their cluster to have the greatest impact. Historically ESF has been budgeted at approximately £600k. Therefore, this year, if the schools block transfer is agreed, the Council are proposing to delegate £100k per cluster for the year to meet the needs of children earlier and close the gap without delay.

Notional Threshold Funding - £800k

Notional Threshold Funding supports schools financially with disproportionately high levels of pupils with EHCPs. This is to ensure that highly inclusive schools are not financially disadvantaged by supporting a higher number of pupils with EHCPs than the notional budget accounts for. This funding is important to enable schools to continue the high-quality support they provide.

HILLINGDON SCHOOLS FORUM

The proposed Schools Block transfer is almost entirely funding these two key elements, which is funding that goes back to schools. The small remaining amount would be a contribution towards the SEND Advisory Service (SAS) support. SAS is an additional non-statutory service which supports schools across the borough with inclusion and specialist support.

The proposed transfer is a contribution to these costs and will not fully fund them. The costs of providing the non-statutory funding streams along with the non-statutory SAS service totals approximately £2.9m.

Questions for consultation:

1. Do you support the transfer of 0.5% of Schools Block to the High Needs Block which will enable the non-statutory funding to continue? Yes / No
2. If you have answered No, what percentage transfer would you support? _____%
3. If you do not agree with the transfer of funds, do you have any suggestions on how schools will fund the pre-statutory services from the High Needs Block and reduce the deficit, to enable the local area to meet our duties within the allocated budget envelope?

The survey can be accessed here: [Schools Block Transfer & General Education Duties \(Maintained\) Consultation 2027-28](#)

(The survey captures feedback for both the General Education Duties request as well as the Schools Block Transfer. Schools who state they are maintained will have access to part 2 which is the General Education duties feedback. Where schools state they are an academy, the survey will end after Part 1 - the Schools Block transfer feedback.)

3. Proposal or current position

3.1 Implementation and timescales

When	Milestone / action	Lead
September 2026	Paper brought to Forum to agree consultation	Director of Education & SEND/ Head of Finance for Children's Services
September 2026	Survey to go live to school leaders to seek their views	Clerk
October 2026	Forum to vote, using feedback from the consultation, on the decision to transfer 0.5%	Chair
November 2026	Disapplication request to be submitted to the DfE if Schools Forum are not in support of the request. No disapplication request is necessary if Forum vote to approve this.	Finance

4. Financial implications

Funding source	Schools Block to High Needs Block
Value	c. £1.5m

Financial year or academic year period

Financial year

School-level impacts cannot be confirmed until the DfE publishes the 2027/28 allocation and modelling data. The consultation should therefore make clear that the value is indicative and that final school-level effects will be provided when the necessary funding data are available.

5. Impact on children, schools and the system

Area	Expected impact	How it will be monitored
Children and young people	Children with additional needs can benefit from non-statutory funding early on to close the gap without delay	Impact of ESF funding in clusters
Schools and settings	- Schools can benefit from additional funding to creatively find ways to meet needs without the need for a statutory process - Schools with high levels of EHCPs will benefit from additional funding to support them with element 2 funding which would otherwise not be sufficient due to disproportionate numbers of EHCPs	Schools' financial positions and the impact of ESF in clusters
SEND and inclusion	More children can have their needs met earlier, in line with the SEND reforms, without needs escalating and later needing more formal support. Schools can evidence increased impact on learning outcomes as a result.	Outcomes for children with SEND
Families and communities	Families can be assured that children with additional needs can have additional intervention and support informally to close the gap	Feedback

6. Statutory considerations

The High Needs Funding operational guide and the Schools operational guide provide the guidance on schools block transfers. The following links relate to the prior year as the guides are typically updated later in the term for the following year:

- [High Needs Funding: 2026-27 operational guide](#)
- [Schools operational guide: 2026 to 2027](#)

'Local authorities can transfer up to and including 0.5% of the schools block into another block, with schools forum approval. For a transfer exceeding 0.5%, or without schools forum approval, a disapplication request must be submitted to the Secretary of State.'

7. Consultation and engagement

Who	When	Headline feedback	Response
Schools Forum members	15 th September	TBD	TBD
Wider school community & Forum members via survey	15 th September to 29 th September	TBD	TBC

8. Options considered

Option	Benefits	Drawbacks / risks	Assessment
Option 1: 0.5% transfer [Preferred]	This would provide an estimated £1.5m contribution to the High Needs Block while remaining within the level that Schools Forum can approve locally. It supports continuation of early intervention and inclusion activity and Hillingdon's transition to a more preventative and sustainable SEND system.	This would still lead to a lower amount of funding for schools compared with no transfer but this is a balanced approach following previous feedback from schools who stated they would support 0.5% transfer.	PREFERRED
Option 2 - Transfer above 0.5%	This could provide a greater contribution to High Needs block giving the area a better chance to close the gap between funding and demand. Funding would almost entirely be redistributed to schools rather than support the HN block.	This would require a disapplication request to the Secretary of State and would have a larger impact on individual school budgets. This option is not proposed for 2027/28 as the Council are listening to feedback from schools from prior years.	NOT PREFERRED
Do nothing	Schools would see no reduction in funding.	This would remove an estimated £1.5m contribution to High Needs. It would increase the risk that non-statutory early intervention and inclusion support would need to be reduced, redesigned or funded from other sources.	NOT PREFERRED

9. Next steps

- Launch the survey with school leaders
- Survey to run from 21st September to 12pm on 5th October. Only one senior leader to respond to the survey from each school – either the Headteacher or a Governor.
- Feedback will be shared with forum in the October meeting
- Schools Forum members will then vote on the decision in the October meeting

10. Appendices

Ref	Title
Prior year feedback	School Block Transfer Consultation Responses October 2025

General Education Duties De-delegation 2027-28

Schools Forum



September 15th 2026

Agenda item 4b

PAPER TYPE

☐ INFORMATION

☒ CONSULTATION

☐ DECISION / VOTE

Meeting date	15 th September 2026
Agenda item	4b
Report author	Michael Hawkins & Luisa Hansen
Appendices	Appendices 1 & 2

Purpose

Recommendation to Schools Forum

To approve the request to seek views on the proposal to de-delegate funding for the statutory General Education duties from maintained schools block budgets of £12.36 per pupil.

Decision and voting requirements

QUESTION / PROPOSAL	Agree to de-delegation of General Education duties from maintained schools block budgets of £12.36 per pupil to support the statutory duties required.
Who may vote?	Maintained schools only
Voting method	Show of hands

1. Executive summary

Proposal to agree to a de-delegation of General Education duties from maintained schools block budgets of £12.36 per pupil to support the statutory duties required.

The de-delegation of General Education Duties enables the council to fund a range of **statutory** responsibilities on behalf of maintained schools through a small deduction from maintained school budget shares. The proposal for 2027/28 is £12.36 per pupil and will support the delivery of statutory local authority duties for maintained schools that cannot be funded through other Dedicated Schools Grant allocations, including governance, attendance, financial oversight, staffing, compliance, and regulatory functions.

2. Background and context

Local authorities can fund services previously funded from the general funding rate of the Education Services Grant (ESG) from maintained schools budget shares, with the agreement of maintained school members of the Schools Forum. Until 1 April 2017, the Council received an ESG grant to cover the cost of delivering its responsibilities in respect of maintained schools. This had two elements: a retained duties element covering the Council's duties to all schools (which now forms the Central Schools Services Block of the Dedicated Schools Grant) and a general duties rate which related to maintained schools only. The general duties rate ended on 1 April 2017 with a transitional grant being payable to local authorities for 2017/18. This resulted in a reduction in the Council's grant income of c£2M from 2018/19 whilst the duties remain.

The Council proposes to charge the maintained school budget shares £12.36 per pupil to cover the costs of the services listed below, which were previously funded by ESG, totalling £217k. This is a small uplift of 3% to represent increased costs from the previous year.

- Monitoring of National Curriculum assessments (Schedule 2, paragraph 76)
- Expenditure on inspecting attendance registers under the Education (Schedule 2, paragraph 80)
- Appointment of governors and payment of governor expenses (Schedule 2, • paragraph 74)
- Functions under the Equality Act 2010 (Schedule 2, paragraph 72)
- Appointment or dismissal of employee functions (Schedule 2, paragraph 67) and consultation costs relating to staffing (Schedule 2, paragraph 68).
- Monitoring of compliance with requirements in relation to the scheme for financing schools and the provision of community facilities by governing bodies (Schedule 2, paragraph 60)

Last year, benchmarking was undertaken to ensure that the charges to Hillingdon schools are in line with other local authorities. It was found that Hillingdon charges a quarter of the average cost charged by other Local Authorities.

Table 1: Benchmarking per pupil net expenditure

<i>Per pupil expenditure net</i>	Hillingdon	Outer London	England
School improvement 1.6.7	£0	£5	£7
Statutory/ Regulatory duties 1.5.3, 1.6.4	£3	£12	£11

* Per capita figures are derived using the Section 251 Outturn data with pupil numbers and/or population estimates, depending on the sub-category of the planned expenditure being looked at.

Please note, the benchmarking figures are not accurate charges to schools but are calculated against population to benchmark costs per pupil net expenditure, which is why the amount being requested doesn't correlate with this amount. The benchmarking should be used as a comparative tool rather than actual amounts.

Examples of charges in other LAs for General Education Duties for maintained schools:

- Manchester - £17.45 per pupil (24/25)
- BCP - £23.15 per pupil (23/24)
- West Sussex - £27.58 per pupil
- Norfolk - £18 per pupil (23/24)

Please note: no charges are being proposed specifically for school improvement, in line with last year. Other LAs do charge for this function, often in addition to the general education duties.

Free School Meal checking – As part of its ongoing commitment to supporting children and families, Hillingdon Council is now in the second year of its Free School Meals (FSM) auto-enrolment programme. The initiative uses existing Local Authority data to automatically identify and register eligible pupils, ensuring families do not miss out on support.

The programme has become even more important following the Department for Education's (DfE) reforms introduced from September 2026, which created two categories of benefits-based free school meals: Targeted FSM for pupils from households receiving Universal Credit with annual earnings of £7,400 or less, and Expanded FSM for other pupils from households receiving Universal Credit. While Expanded FSM extends free meal entitlement, only pupils eligible for Targeted FSM attract Pupil Premium funding and form part of the Ever 6 FSM cohort.

To deliver the programme, a cross-Council working group was established, bringing together officers from Business Intelligence, Revenues and Benefits, Education, Data Protection, FIS, Public Health, Finance and Admissions. By combining datasets across services, the Council can proactively identify eligible families, maximise FSM uptake, and ensure residents receive the support and funding to which they are entitled.

4198 pupils CYPs have been identified as being eligible for FSM but not recorded on the May census 2026.

Settings	Eligible expanded	Eligible targeted	Pupil Premium	Total Pupil Premium for targeted	Total
Early Years	93	119	£650	£77,350	212
Primary	1526	484	£1550	£750,200	2010
Secondary	1209	203	£1100	£223,300	1412
Post-16	489	75	n/a	n/a	564
Grand Total	3317	881		£1,050,850	4198

Cost per pupil in other LAs:

Newcastle – Primary £2.31, secondary £3.69

Telford & Wrekin - £9 for each eligible child

Norfolk - £4.23 (24/25)

Further analysis was undertaken on individual school budgets which evidences Hillingdon schools have higher per-pupil funding than other areas. For Hillingdon schools, the average per pupil net expenditure is £6,155 compared to national - £5,782

Staffing

Whilst the Education Improvement Service is often predominantly funded from the general education duties/ school improvement de-delegation, only a proportion of the service is funded through these contributions, and the rest is funded by the Council currently. This may be reviewed in future. EIP service costs: The structure for the EIP team totals £766,500 for staffing. This includes Education Improvement advisors and coordinators, governance and safeguarding officers, and the post 16 officer. The contribution of £217k is roughly 28% of the team's costs, with the remaining amount funded from General Fund.

Question for consultation:

1. Do you agree to de-delegate £208k from schools block to fund the statutory general education duties for maintained schools? This equates to roughly £12.36 per pupil.

The survey can be accessed here: [Schools Block Transfer & General Education Duties \(Maintained\) Consultation 2027-28](#)

(The survey captures feedback for both the General Education Duties request as well as the Schools Block Transfer. Schools who state they are maintained will have access to part 2 which is the

General Education duties feedback. Where schools state they are an academy, the survey will end after Part 1 - the Schools Block transfer feedback.)

3. Proposal or current position

3.1 Implementation and timescales

When	Milestone / action	Lead
September 2026	Paper brought to Forum to agree consultation	Michael Hawkins
September 2026	Survey to go live to school leaders to seek their views	Clerk
October 2026	Forum to vote, using feedback from the consultation, on the decision to de-delegate the General Education duties	Chair
November 2026	Disapplication request to be submitted to the DfE if Schools Forum are not in support of the request. No disapplication request is necessary if Forum vote to approve this.	Finance

4. Financial implications

Funding source	Dedicated Schools Grant: Maintained Schools Block
Value	£208k (estimate based on 2026/27 pupil numbers) - 3% uplift from previous financial year
Financial year or academic year period	Financial year

5. Impact on children, schools and the system

Area	Expected impact	How it will be monitored
Children and young people	Positive impact due to delivering statutory support services to support education and education settings	Reviewed termly. Measured by effective delivery of services.
Schools and settings	Minimal financial impact. The support will ensure schools meet their statutory obligations, e.g. Pupil Premium, maximise the additional funding they receive and reduce workload due to enhanced support.	Reviewed termly. Measured by effective delivery of services
SEND and inclusion	As above	Reviewed termly. Measured by effective delivery of services
Families and communities	Enhanced support due to education services working closely with education settings to meet statutory duties.	Reviewed termly. Measured by effective delivery of services

6. Statutory considerations

[Schools operational guide: 2026 to 2027](#)

The statutory considerations and duties are set out in Appendix 2.

7. Consultation and engagement

Who	When	Headline feedback	Response
Maintained School Representatives	September 15th	Approval of de-delegation of funds for statutory education duties	TBC

8. Options considered

Option	Benefits	Drawbacks / risks	Assessment
Option 1: Approval [Preferred]	Effective delivery of statutory services	Small additional cost to maintained schools	PREFERRED
Option 2: No delegation	Maintained schools save a small amount of funding	Risk to effective delivery of statutory services. Schools incur higher costs without the support of education services.	NOT PREFERRED

9. Next steps

- Launch the survey with school leaders
- Survey to run from 21st September to 12pm on 5th October. Only one senior leader to respond to the survey from each school – either the Headteacher or a Governor.
- Feedback will be shared with forum in the October meeting
- Schools Forum members will then vote on the decision in the October meeting

10. Appendices

Ref	Title
Appendix 1	Example modelling based on previous year's census return
Appendix 2	Description of Services for All Schools and for Maintained Schools

Appendix 1: Example modelling based on previous year's census return

NB. values will change but this demonstrates an example of the typical impact on each school.

LAESTAB	School Name	NOR including reception uplift	Education functions for mainstream maintained schools
Total		16,829	208,006.44
3122003	Bourne Primary School	188	2,323.68
3122004	The Breakspear School	630	7,786.80
3122010	Colham Manor Primary School	524	6,476.64
3122012	Coteford Infant School	149	1,841.64
3122016	Deanesfield Primary School	617	7,626.12
3122019	Field End Infant School	207	2,558.52
3122020	Glebe Primary School	581	7,181.16
3122023	Harefield Junior School	211	2,607.96
3122024	Harefield Infant School	121	1,495.56
3122025	Harlyn Primary School	346	4,276.56
3122026	Harmondsworth Primary School	193	2,385.48
3122029	Heathrow Primary School	371	4,585.56
3122032	Lady Bankes Primary School	596	7,366.56
3122036	Minet Junior School	364	4,499.04
3122037	Minet Infant and Nursery School	294	3,633.84
3122038	Newnham Junior School	352	4,350.72
3122039	Newnham Infant and Nursery School	257	3,176.52
3122052	Whitehall Junior School	419	5,178.84
3122054	Whiteheath Junior School	275	3,399.00
3122059	Yeading Junior School	425	5,253.00
3122060	Yeading Infant and Nursery School	335	4,140.60
3122063	Highfield Primary School	236	2,916.96
3122064	Rabbsfarm Primary School	587	7,255.32
3122065	Warrender Primary School	400	4,944.00
3122069	Whitehall Infant School	279	3,448.44
3122074	Whiteheath Infant & Nursery School	197	2,434.92
3122076	Frithwood Primary School	352	4,350.72
3122080	Ruislip Gardens Primary School	255	3,151.80
3122084	Cherry Lane Primary School	503	6,217.08
3123300	Bishop Winnington-Ingram CofE Primary School	202	2,496.72
3123302	Holy Trinity CofE Primary School	180	2,224.80
3123307	Dr Triplett's CofE Primary School	405	5,005.80
3123400	St Swithun Wells Catholic Primary School	202	2,496.72
3123401	Botwell House Catholic Primary School	615	7,601.40
3123403	St Catherine Catholic Primary School	205	2,533.80
3123404	St Mary's Catholic Primary School	211	2,607.96
3123405	Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School	607	7,502.52
3125202	Grange Park School	571	7,057.56
3125204	Hillside Infant School	156	1,928.16
3125205	Hillside Junior School	208	2,570.88
3125208	St Andrew's C of E Primary School	181	2,237.16
3125211	Hayes Park School	598	7,391.28

3125409	Oak Wood School	1,104	13,645.44
3125411	Harlington School	1,120	13,843.20

Appendix 2 - Description of Services for All Schools and for Maintained Schools

Below is a tabularised format of information from the Schools Operational Guide 2025-26 which shows the split of services between the two groups of duties, retained duties for all schools and general duties for maintained schools.

From 2017-18, the general duties rate ended and funding previously allocated through the ESG retained duties rate (£15) was transferred into the schools block. Local authorities are able to fund central services previously funded within the retained duties rate (for all schools), with the agreement of schools forum – this is via the Central Block of DSG.

Local authorities are able to fund services previously funded within the general duties rate (for maintained schools only) from maintained school budgets shares with the agreement of maintained school members of the schools forum.

The split of services between the two groups is shown below. References are to the relevant schedules in the Schools and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2020.

Responsibilities held for all schools	Responsibilities held for maintained schools only
Statutory and regulatory duties	
Director of children's services and personal staff for director (Schedule 2, paragraph 15a) Planning for the education service as a whole (Schedule 2, paragraph 15b) Authorisation and monitoring of expenditure not met from schools' budget shares (Schedule 2, paragraph 15c) Formulation and review of local authority schools funding formula (Schedule 2, paragraph 15d) Internal audit and other tasks related to the local authority's chief finance officer's responsibilities under section 151 of the 'Local Government Act 1972' except duties specifically related to maintained schools (Schedule 2, paragraph 15e) Consultation costs relating to non-staffing issues (Schedule 2, paragraph 19) Plans involving collaboration with other local authority services or public or voluntary bodies (Schedule 2, paragraph 15f) Standing 'Advisory Committees for Religious Education' (sacres) (Schedule 2, paragraph 17) Provision of information to, or, at the request of The Crown other than relating specifically to maintained schools (Schedule 2, paragraph 21) Revenue budget preparation, preparation of information on income and expenditure relating to education, and external audit relating to education (Schedule 2, paragraph 22)	Functions of local authority related to best value and provision of advice to governing bodies in procuring goods and services (Schedule 2, paragraph 58) Authorisation and monitoring of expenditure in respect of schools which do not have delegated budgets, and related financial administration (Schedule 2, paragraph 59) Monitoring of compliance with requirements in relation to the scheme for financing schools and the provision of community facilities by governing bodies (Schedule 2, paragraph 60) Internal audit and other tasks related to the local authority's chief finance officer's responsibilities under section 151 of the 'Local Government Act 1972' for maintained schools (Schedule 2, paragraph 61) Functions under regulations made under section 44 of the 'Education Act 2002' (Consistent Financial Reporting) in so far as the functions related to maintained schools (Schedule 2, paragraph 62) Investigations of employees or potential employees, with or without remuneration to work at or for schools under the direct management of the headteacher or governing body (Schedule 2, paragraph 63) Functions related to local government pensions and administration of teachers' pensions in relation to staff working at maintained schools under the direct management of the headteacher or governing body (Schedule 2, paragraph 64) HR duties, including advice to schools on the management of staff, pay alterations, conditions of service and composition or organisation of staff (Schedule 2, paragraph 65) Determination of conditions of service for non-teaching staff (Schedule 2, paragraph 66) Appointment or dismissal of employee functions (Schedule 2, paragraph 67) Consultation costs relating to staffing (Schedule 2, paragraph 68) Compliance with duties under the 'Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974' (Schedule 2, paragraph 69) Provision of information to, or, at the request of The Crown relating to maintained schools (Schedule 2, paragraph 70) School companies (Schedule 2, paragraph 71) Functions under the 'Equality Act 2010' (Schedule 2, paragraph 72) Establish and maintaining computer systems, including data storage (Schedule 2, paragraph 73) Appointment of governors and payment of governor expenses (Schedule 2, paragraph 74) Budgeting and accounting functions relating to maintained schools (Schedule 2, paragraph 75)

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	Retrospective membership of pension schemes where it would not be appropriate to expect a school to meet the cost (Schedule 2, paragraph 77)
Education Welfare	
Functions in relation to school attendance (Schedule 2, paragraph 16) Responsibilities regarding restrictions on the employment of children (Schedule 2, paragraph 18) Functions in relation to the exclusion of pupils from schools, excluding any provision of education to excluded pupils (Schedule 2, paragraph 20)	Inspection of attendance registers (Schedule 2, paragraph 80)
Asset Management	
Management of the local authority's capital programme including preparation and review of an asset management plan, and negotiation and management of private finance transactions (Schedule 2, paragraph 14a) Landlord responsibilities, including those in relation to land leased to academies for schools (Schedule 2, paragraph 14b)	General landlord duties for all maintained schools (Schedule 2, paragraphs 78a & b (section 542(2)) 'Education Act 1996'; 'School Premises (England) Regulations 2012') to ensure that school buildings have: - appropriate facilities for pupils and staff (including medical and accommodation) - the ability to sustain appropriate loads - reasonable weather resistance - safe escape routes - appropriate acoustic levels - lighting, heating and ventilation which meets the required standards - adequate water supplies and drainage - playing fields of the appropriate standards General health and safety duty as an employer for employees and others who may be affected (Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974) Management of the risk from asbestos in community school buildings 'Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012'
Central Support Services	

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No functions	Clothing grants (Schedule 2, paragraph 54) Provision of tuition in music, or on other music-related activities (Schedule 2, paragraph 55) Visual, creative, and performing arts other than music (Schedule 2, paragraph 56) Outdoor education centres (but not centres mainly for the provision of organised games, swimming, or athletics) (Schedule 2, paragraph 57) Services set out above will also include administrative costs and overheads relating to these services (regulation 1(4)) for: • expenditure related to functions imposed by or under chapter 4 of part 2 of the 'School Standards and Framework Act 1998' (financing of maintained schools), the administration of grants to the local authority (including preparation of applications) and, where it is the local authority's duty to do so, ensuring payments are made in respect of taxation, national insurance, and superannuation contributions • expenditure on recruitment, training, continuing professional development, performance management and personnel management of staff who are funded by expenditure not met from schools' budget shares and who are paid for services • expenditure in relation to the investigation and resolution of complaints • expenditure on legal services
Premature Retirement and Redundancy	
No functions	Dismissal or premature retirement when costs cannot be charged to maintained schools (Schedule 2, paragraph 79)
Monitoring National Curriculum Assessments	
No functions	Monitoring of national curriculum assessments (Schedule 2, paragraph 76)
School Improvement	
No functions	Expenditure related to core school improvement activities of local authorities with respect to maintained schools (Schedule 2, 54)
Other Ongoing Duties	
Licences negotiated centrally by the Secretary of State for all publicly funded schools (Schedule 2, paragraph 8); this does not require schools forum approval Operation of the system of admissions and appeals (Schedule 2, paragraph 9) Fees or expenses payable in connection with the attendance of non-SEN pupils at schools not maintained by any local authority (Schedule 2, paragraph 10) Remission of boarding fees at maintained schools and academies (Schedule 2, paragraph 11) Servicing of schools forums (Schedule 2, paragraph 12)	No Functions

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Back-pay for equal pay claims (Schedule 2, paragraph 13) Writing to parents of year 9 pupils about schools with an atypical age of admission, such as university technical colleges (UTCs) and studio schools, within a reasonable travelling distance (Schedule 2, paragraph 23)	
Historic Commitments	
Capital expenditure funded from revenue (Schedule 2, paragraph 1) Prudential borrowing costs (Schedule 2, paragraph 2(a)) Termination of employment costs (Schedule 2, paragraph 2(b)) Contribution to combined budgets (Schedule 2, paragraph 2(c)) SEN transport costs (Schedule 2, paragraph 2(d))	