

Agenda Item 5 – Capital Funding Allocations/ 2015-16 Schools Capital Works Programme

1. Introduction

On 9 February 2015, the Department for Education (DfE) announced capital funding allocations, these being, School Condition Allocations (formerly known as Capital Maintenance) and Devolved Formula Capital (DFC) for the school estate in Hartlepool both for the Local Authority (LA) and the Voluntary Aided sector (VA).

2. Background

The 2015/16 School Condition Allocations (SCA) are indicative of the funding that responsible bodies will receive in 2016-17 and 2017-18. However, SCA will be revised annually to reflect schools moving responsible body, opening or closing. For example, should a school convert to Academy status. The total new funding available for 2015/16 is identified in Table 1 below, with the 2014/15 figures included for comparison.

3. Funding - 2014/15 and 2015/16 Capital Allocations

Table 1 - Capital Funding	2014/15 £	2015/16 £	Increase / (Reduction) £
Universal Free School Meals Capital	159,939	0	(-159,939)
School Condition Allocation (SCA)	878,528	705,409	(-173,119)
Total Local Authority (LA)	1,038,467	705,409	(-333,058)
Devolved Formula Capital (DFC)	178,449	147,682	(-30,767)
Total LA - Schools	178,449	147,682	(-30,767)
DSG Revenue Contribution to Capital Outlay (RCCO)	628,000	628,000	-
Total Funding under LA Control	1,844,916	1,481,091	(-363,825)
Locally Controlled Voluntary Aided Programme (LCVAP)	541,046	432,837	(-108,209)
Voluntary Aided DFC	124,284	89,100	(-35,184)
Universal Free School Meals Capital	82,427	0	(-82,427)
Total Voluntary Aided	747,757	521,937	(-225,820)
HARTLEPOOL LA & VA TOTAL	2,592,673	2,003,028	(-589,645)

School Condition Allocation/Devolved Formula Capital

School Condition Allocation is a grant to the LA for all maintained community schools and is aimed at addressing condition needs in existing school premises, but does not include Academies who receive funding from a Condition Improvement Fund, direct from the Education Funding Agency.

Devolved Formula Capital (DFC) is a relatively limited capital allocation made directly to schools via the LA to support small scale projects and ICT development. Schools often use this allocation to fund their 10% contributions to larger capital schemes.

Forum will note that the School Condition Allocation and Devolved Formula Capital for the LA are showing reductions of £173,119 (19.7%) and £30,767 (17%) respectively. These reductions can be explained by the increase in schools converting to Academy status and funds being retained within a central Academies Condition Improvement Fund (CIF) and DFC being directly allocated.

2015/16 Schools Capital Works Programme

A schedule of capital works attached at **Appendix 1** was submitted to the 17 March 2015 Children's Services Committee for final approval. These schemes will be funded from the 2015/16 Schools Capital Allocation, unallocated funding plus the remaining contingency. Schools will also be expected to contribute 10% towards the schemes. The total amount slightly exceeds the available funding, however officers are confident that the programme is affordable as it is expected some of the remaining 2014/15 schemes are expected to be completed slightly under budget, offsetting this shortfall.

Diocese Collaboration

Liaison with representatives from the Roman Catholic Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle and the Church of England Diocese of Durham & Newcastle has taken place and a consistent approach to the development of capital schemes has been agreed. A Locally Controlled Voluntary Aided Programme (LCVAP) is in the process of being finalised.

Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG)

In previous years, capital maintenance funding has been supplemented by departmental revenue funding from the DSG. Funding of £628,000 has been secured for 2015/16 and Schools Forum have decided that this funding should be treated separately to the Capital Maintenance grant funding, as all schools (including Voluntary Aided and Academies) are eligible to access it. Details of which schools should benefit from this funding will be brought to a future Schools Forum.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Schools Forum is recommended to:

- Note the schedule of 2015/16 Schools Capital works as summarised in **Appendix 1**