

Report to Hartlepool Schools' Forum 8th December 2017
From Mark Patton (Assistant Director – Education)

Item 4: SEND Banding Ranges – funding allocations 2018/19

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to obtain a final recommendation from Forum on the proposed funding allocations to the SEND bandings from 1 April 2018 for the financial year 2018/19.

2. Background

- 2.1 The proposed funding allocations were presented in a Schools Forum report on 27 September 2017. For convenience, they are reproduced below:

Range	Range funding in different types of provision (£)			
	Early Years	Mainstream	ARPs	Special
1	-	-	-	-
2	-	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	-
4i	1,800	3,000	-	-
4ii	2,400	4,000	4,000	-
5i	3,600	6,000	6,000	5,000
5ii	*	*	10,000	10,000
6i	*	*	*	14,000
6ii	*	*	*	19,000

- **Ranges 1-3** represents learners supported within a mainstream setting. Schools have an element of **notional SEN funding** in their base budgets to meet the needs of these pupils. Mainstream schools are expected to spend up to £6k per pupil of this **notional SEN funding** in supporting the needs of these pupils.
- **Ranges 4i and 4ii** represent learners who are usually in mainstream settings and need a degree of additional support, formally known as IPS.
- **Ranges 4ii to 5i** describe learners with more complex needs by degree. These pupils are usually in ARPs.
- **Ranges 5i to 6ii** describe learners with more complex and profound needs. These pupils are usually in specialist schools.

* It will be usual that children with needs within 5ii, 6i and 6ii ranges will be met within an additionally resourced provision or special school however there will be occasions when these needs can be met within mainstream settings. In these cases the funding will be allocated based on individual needs.

- 2.2 The proposed funding ranges above were part of a wider range of measures brought forward to address the projected overspend in Hartlepool's High Needs Block (HNB), and this report should be seen in that wider context.
- 2.3 Forum considered the proposed banding descriptors and associated funding allocations (above) at a meeting on 27 September 2017. Forum **agreed** in principle the descriptors (text), pending further revisions arising from consultation meetings arranged with the SEN team during November and December 2017.
- 2.4 On 27 September 2017 Forum voted on whether or not to recommend to Children's Services Committee that the funding ranges above be put in place as part of a package of measures to address the ongoing overspend in the HNB. The outcome of the vote at this meeting was:

For 5 (five) Against 7 (seven) Abstentions 5 (five)

However, some members of Forum explained that they were not clear about the decision they were being asked to make, and were not aware that separate decisions on the descriptors and the funding ranges had been requested. Some of these members abstained from the vote on this basis, and requested further time to consult with the represented colleagues on the funding ranges. There was an additional concern that it would be difficult to make a recommendation on the funding ranges whilst the descriptor text was still to be finalised, and was unlikely to be finalised until December.

- 2.5 At the Schools Forum meeting on 14 November 2017 the twin concerns around making a recommendation to Children's Services Committee about the suitability of the funding ranges were echoed.
- 2.6 The final draft document containing these descriptors will be circulated to all headteachers in advance of the final consultation meeting which is scheduled for 7 December 2017. All headteachers will, therefore, have had time to consider the revised, final descriptors alongside the proposed funding ranges above before this Forum meeting.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 Schools Forum is asked to recommend the proposed funding range model above (para 2.1) to Children's Services Committee for implementation from April 2018.

A vote is required and ALL Forum members are eligible to vote.