

**Report to Hartlepool Schools' Forum 21 September 2021
From Amanda Whitehead (Assistant Director - Education)**

Item 4 : The Horizon School and Alternative Provision 2021/22 Estimated Outturn

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide an update to Forum on the estimated 2021/22 outturn for the Horizon School and Alternative Provision (AP) services.
- 1.2 These budgets sit within the High Needs Block and are included in the projected high needs block outturn presented as a separate item on this agenda.

2. Background

- 2.1 The overall net expenditure for the school in 2020/21 was £584k, an underspend of £90k. As the school is funded from the High Needs Block the underspend was returned to the Block.
- 2.2 The Horizon School set a balanced budget in 2021/22, with the High Needs Block funding a budgeted net cost of £0.680m.
- 2.3 Forum Members will recall that the financial responsibility for AP transferred to the Horizon School Head Teacher during 2020/21. Therefore, management of costs for permanently excluded pupils, whether managed within the Horizon School or within AP is now combined.

3. Horizon School and AP Pupils

- 3.1 The following tables provide an analysis of pupils currently managed within the Horizon School, including Home Hospital.

Horizon School

Key Stage	Year Group	PEX		Dual Registered		Total
		Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	
KS2	Y5					0
	Y6					0
KS3	Y7					0
	Y8		1			1
	Y9	1	2			3
KS4	Y10		6			6
	Y11	1	3		1	4
Total		2	12	0	1	15

- 3.2 Eight of the Horizon School pupils spend at least part of their time in Alternative Provision.

Home Hospital

Key Stage	Year Group	Home Hospital		Outreach		Total
		Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	
KS2	Y5					0
	Y6					0
KS3	Y7					0
	Y8					0
	Y9	1				1
KS4	Y10					0
	Y11	3	1			4
Total		4	1	0	0	5

4. Projected Outturn 2021/22 – Horizon School

- 4.1 Along with other Hartlepool maintained schools, Horizon School has set aside a contingency to fund a potential teacher pay award from September 2021, although the latest information suggests an award will not be in place.
- 4.2 As at the quarter-year point, the Horizon School is projecting an underspend of £0.034m assuming that the teachers pay award contingency is not required.
- 4.3 However, if the teachers pay award contingency is required, the underspend will be reduced to £0.026m.
- 4.4 Costs continue to be challenged and reduced where possible and anticipated income is expected to be £0.022m above budget by the year-end.

5. Projected Outturn 2021/22 – AP

- 5.1 The AP budget funds the cost of school fees at external provision and pupil transport costs.
- 5.2 Seven pupils in AP currently require transport. An estimated spend of £0.016m against the budget of £0.040m is projected.
- 5.3 School fees are expected to cost £0.062m in 2021/22 – this relates to eight pupils.
- 5.4 The cost of school fees can change as outreach places end and new students come in, it can also change due to reintegration or new permanently excluded pupils starting with the Horizon School.
- 5.5 The 2021/22 projected spend for transport and school fees is £0.078m. This compares to an equivalent spend of £0.136m in 2020/21. There is a strong drive to reduce the cost of AP and new panel arrangements are adding challenge to spending decisions.
- 5.6 Where a pupil is permanently excluded, any funding for AWPU and other pupil characteristics is clawed back from the excluding school. For the time a permanently

excluded pupil is managed either in the Horizon School or AP, the clawback income is credited to the AP budget, in line with the Commissioning Agreement. A budget assumption of £0.100m for clawback income is included in the 2021/22 budget. This roughly equates to twelve exclusions in the year.

- 5.7 Clawback of pupil funding for permanently excluded pupils is only possible where the pupil was on a school roll during the latest funding period (i.e. financial year). This is not the position for a significant number of pupils being managed in the Horizon School or AP in 2021/22 to date. Clawback of funding is currently possible for only four pupils. Therefore, clawback income is estimated at £0.027m for the year, against a budget target of £0.100m. In comparison, the clawback income in 2020/21 was £0.058m.
- 5.8 The following table summarises the AP projected outturn for 2021/22 and the anticipated overspend of £0.008m.

	Budget 2021/22 £m	Outturn Projection 2021/22 £m	Projected Variance 2021/22 £m
Transport	0.040	0.016	(0.024)
School Fees	0.103	0.062	(0.041)
Clawback Income	(0.100)	(0.027)	0.073
TOTAL	0.043	0.051	0.008

6. Recommendations

- 6.1 Forum is recommended to note the contents of the report.