

**Report to Hartlepool Schools' Forum 15 February 2023**  
**From Danielle Swainston (Assistant Director – Joint Commissioning)**

**Item 4: SEMH School Funding**

**1. Introduction**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to request the use of the SEMH schools funding to be allocated to support the High Needs Block review.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 Prior to the introduction of the four DSG blocks, funding was allocated to the Local Authority via the Schools Budget. Schools Forum could approve the funding of Centrally Retained Services which if approved this funding was 'top-sliced' from the Schools Budget.
- 2.2 There were historically eight categories of Centrally Retained Services. One category was named 'Capital Expenditure funded from Revenue'. This funding once approved by Schools Forum was added to the Capital Programme of school capital works, which was annually approved by Capital Sub Group and subsequently Children Services Committee.
- 2.3 When the four blocks were introduced, a Central Services School Block was created. The option to approve 'Capital Expenditure funded from Revenue' was removed as a category for Centrally Retained Services. Schools Forum agreed that any money not committed to a capital project from previous years approvals be earmarked for SEMH projects.
- 2.4 Apart from funding/contributing towards a few SEMH capital projects the funding remaining is £0.743m.
- 2.5 Discussions have taken place within the High Needs Block review meetings about how to support our approach with additional funding. There was a request from the HNB group for the local authority to submit proposals to Schools Forum for the use of the SEMH funding to support the HNB review.

**3. Proposals**

- 3.1 Support the devolving of IPS funding to clusters:
- Fund capacity in the clusters to develop the processes and in the longer term manage the process – moderation/ panel approach/ approval for funding. It will need to be decided how many days are needed to support this approach. The average cost of SENDCOs across the system is £72k which is £378.95 per day. As an example two days per week per cluster equates to £28,800. A total for all clusters would be per annum £115,200. (please note: cluster pupil numbers are different so would need to understand what additional capacity was needed for each cluster. The costs are for the total and work would need to be undertaken about each cluster requirement)

It is expected that it would need two years to establish this and understand if it works. Therefore total cost would be £230,000.

- Fund 0.5 Educational Psychologist to support the implementation of processes/moderation/ clusters working together = £37,477.
- Pump prime the cluster working with additional funding towards early support for children with additional needs. Allocate £200k across the clusters (allocate based on pupil numbers) for one year. Also an option to extend this pump prime to the second year – either £200k or a reduction for Year 2 to £100k

### 3.2 Total costs would include:

SENDCO time = £230,000

Additional EP capacity to support cluster working = £37,477

Pump prime cluster working in relation to SEND children = £200k or £300k or £400k

## 4. Recommendations

- 4.1 To allocate **£230,000** of the SEMH schools funding to support implementation of devolving funding to clusters.
- 4.2 To allocate **£37,477** of the SEMH schools funding to support implementation of cluster working.
- 4.3 To allocate funding to pump prime cluster working (choose one of the following options)
  - a) **£200k** for one year;
  - b) £200k for two years = **£400k**; or
  - c) £200k for one year and £100k for second year = **£300k**.

**A vote is required and All Schools' Forum members are eligible to vote.**

## Appendix A

### Clusters for IPS devolved funding

		Numbers on roll (Oct census)	IPS funding for whole cluster
South	Fens	395 (59N)	
	Golden Flatts	97 (10N)	
	Grange	322 (63N)	
	Greatham	90 (13N)	
	Kingsley	421 (56N)	
	Rossmere	344 (72N)	
	St Teresa's	283 (32N)	
	Manor	1029	
	English Martyrs	1331	
Central 2	Eskdale	186 (27N)	
	Brougham	268 (44N)	
	Holy Trinity	210 (18N)	
	Jesmond Gardens	305 (63N)	
	St Aidan's	279 (54N)	
	St Cuthbert's	222 (16N)	
	St Joseph's	103 (11N)	
	Stranton	276 (51N)	
	Ward Jackson	86 (12N)	
Dyke House	1242		
Central	Eldon Grove	446 (51N)	
	Hart	98 (10N)	
	Lynnfield	220 (57N)	
	Rift House	210 (48N)	
	Sacred Heart	371 (34N)	
	St Peter's	89 (8N)	
	Throston	389 (51N)	
	West Park	305 (33N)	
	High Tunstall	1348	
North	Barnard Grove	299 (26 N)	
	Clavering	334 (28N)	
	St Bega's	141 (21N)	
	St Helen's	217 (42N)	
	St John Vianney	198 (39N)	
	West View	378 (72N)	
	St Hild's	685	