



Sefton Schools Forum Report

Date of Meeting:	24 September 2018
Title of Report:	Trade Union Facility Time funding report for Outturn 2017/18; Current Budget 2018/19 and Potential Budget for 2019/20
Presenting Officer:	Kevin McBlain/Mike McSorley
Reason for Submission to Forum:	(1) ITEM FOR APPROVAL (4) ITEM FOR INFORMATION
Executive Summary:	To update members of Schools Forum on the outturn position for Trade Union Facility and Public Duty Time 2017/18 and on the Budgets for 2018/19 and potential Budget for 2019/20 funded from De-delegated DSG funding for Maintained Schools; and contributions from Academy Schools buy-in
Budget/Risk Implications:	None
Recommendations:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following an underspending of Trade Union Facility Time funding in 2017/18, Forum are asked to consider a request by the LA to offer a reduction in the 2019/20 charges per pupil for Trade Union Facility Time in respect of unspent contributions for those Academy Schools who made a contribution (see para 2.7 below); and for the re-use of Maintained Schools unspent funding to be used towards 'Schools in Financial Difficulties' funding in 2018/19, where there are growing budgetary pressures. • Forum is also asked to note the funding of Trade Union Facility Time for 2018/19 and 2019/20 as shown in Appendices 2 and 3 attached.
Appendices (to be attached)	Appendix 1 Outturn 2017/18 for Trade Union Facility Time Appendix 2 Budgeted Funding for Trade Union Facility Time 2018/19 Appendix 3 Indicative Trade Union Facility Time Funding 2019/20
Background Papers (available on request)	None
Report Originator and Contact Details	Name: Kevin McBlain Tele: 0151934 4049 E-mail: kevin.mcblain@sefton.gov.uk

SCHOOLS' FORUM POWERS & RESPONSIBILITIES

- 1 ITEMS FOR APPROVAL (DfE can adjudicate where Forum does not agree LA proposal)
- 2 ITEMS FOR CONSULTATION (Forum provides a view on LA proposal but LA decides)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 3 | ITEMS FOR CONSULTATION (Forum provides a view on LA proposal but DfE decides) |
| 4 | ITEMS FOR INFORMATION (No formal view of the Forum is sought) |

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update members of Forum on the outturn 2017/18; Budget 2018/19; and Indicative budget 2019/20 for Trade Union Facility time, and to ask them to consider a refund of 2017/18 unspent funding to contributing Academy Schools by way of a one-off reduction to their funding rates for the 2019/20 financial year; and to approve the reapportionment of unspent contributions from the Maintained Schools towards supporting the costs of Schools in Financial Difficulties.

2. Funding position at Outturn 2017/18 – Trade Union Facilities Time

- 2.1 During the Financial Year 2017/18, the LA were able to draw on £205k of funding towards Trade Union Facility time and public duties - split: Maintained schools including Special Schools (£179k); and 4 Secondary Academy schools buying into the Facility Time (£26k). Appendix 1 shows a more detailed analysis of funding and costs.
- 2.2 Actual spending totalled just £95k across the Unions in the year, leaving an underspend against the funding of £110k to carry forward into 2018/19.
- 2.3 This underspend was partially due to receiving new contributions from a number of Academy schools in the year, not previously billed; also the fact that one Trade Union representative was never fully funded due to being retired from service; and the fact that there were no claims for expenses related to public duties in the year, for which £9k was allocated.
- 2.4 It is evident, that the charging rates have been a bit higher than actual requirement. It is therefore proposed that a partial refund be given to those Academy Schools contributing towards TU Facilities time pro-rated to their respective contributions and given on the basis of reduced rates per pupil in 2019/20; and that unspent funds from the Maintained Schools be re-used towards Schools facing Financial Difficulties. A calculation is provided below of these actions, if approved by Schools Forum today.
- 2.6 Moving into 2018/19, the funding will be tighter, given that contribution rates have reduced by £2 per pupil for Primary and Secondary and we have less maintained schools to make a contribution, as more schools convert to academies. There is however, still an expected underspending of between £21k and £30k in 2018/19 despite the rate reductions, subject to the cost and level of supply cover required during the year. For example, a supply teacher at Grade U4 is more expensive than one at Grade M5 placing additional cost on the fund. Also, outturn maybe affected by claims made by schools towards cover for attendance at Public Duties for which a budget of £8k is derived. This will be monitored through the year.

2.7 Appendix 3 shows indicative funding requirements for 2019/20 where it is suggested there should be a further reduction to the contributions from Primary; Secondary and Special Schools to avoid unnecessary underspending / contingency. In order to move more towards a break-even position, it is suggested that for 2019/20 the rates reduce further from £3.38 p pupil Primary Schools to £2.88 p pupil; and for Maintained Secondary schools, from £6.17 p pupil to £5.67 in 2019/2020. Per above, subject to Forum agreeing a partial refund of the 2017/18 underspending to those Academy schools who contributed in 2017/18, the rates for these schools would be just £1.15 Per pupil for 2019/20. Special schools would also see a reduction collectively of £6,600 pro-rated against their place numbers.

3. Calculation of the 2017/18 funding underspend across contributors

3.1 On the basis of having unspent funds from 2017/18 brought forward into 2018/19, it is proposed, subject to agreement of Schools Forum, to provide a partial refund to those Academy schools (£14k) who contributed in 2017/18 towards the TU Facility costs. This would be given back pro-rata to their contribution through a reduction to their contribution rates in 2019/20, as a one-off adjustment; and to re-use unspent resources from Maintained schools towards Schools in Financial Difficulties funding (£96k) This calculation of unspent funds is shown below:

<u>Phase</u>	<u>Contribution</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Unspent Funds 2017/18</u>
Primary Maintained	110,472.92	53.83	59,319.62
Secondary Maintained	47,696.46	23.24	25,610.03
<u>Special Maintained:</u>			
Crosby High School	5,840.00	2.84	3,129.63
Rowan Park	5,360.00	2.61	2,876.17
Presfield	3,520.00	1.72	1,895.41
Merefield	3,200.00	1.56	1,719.09
Newfield	3,240.00	1.58	1,741.13
<u>Contributing Academies:</u>			
Litherland High School	5,637.30	2.75	3,030.45
Hillside High School	6,013.12	2.93	3,228.80
Deyes High School	9,485.37	4.62	5,091.15
St Michaels High School	4,771.28	2.32	2,556.59
Totals	205,236.45	100.00	-110,198.07

4.0 Recommendations

- 4.1 Following an underspending of Trade Union Facility Time funding in 2017/18, Forum are asked to consider a request by the LA to offer a reduction in the 2019/20 charges per pupil for Trade Union Facility Time in respect of unspent contributions for those Academy Schools who made a contribution (see paragraph 2.7 above); and for the re-use of Maintained Schools unspent funding to be used towards 'Schools in Financial Difficulties' funding in 2018/19, where there are growing budgetary pressures.
- 4.2 Forum is also asked to note the funding of Trade Union Facility Time for 2018/19 and 2019/20 as shown in Appendices 2 and 3 attached.