

CABINET
15 OCTOBER 2015**FAIR FUNDING CONSULTATION OUTCOMES FOR 2016-17 –
NATIONAL AND LOCAL CHANGES TO THE FUNDING
ARRANGEMENTS FOR SCHOOLS INCLUDING THE LOCAL
FUNDING FORMULA FOR WORCESTERSHIRE
MAINSTREAM SCHOOLS**

Relevant Cabinet Member
Mr J P Campion

Relevant Officer
Interim Director of Children's Services

Recommendation

- 1. The Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Children and Families recommends that Cabinet:**
 - (a) has regard to the consultation undertaken in September 2015;**
 - (b) notes the consultation feedback in Appendices 2, 3, 4 and 5;**
 - (c) notes the involvement of the Worcestershire Schools Forum (WSF) members and schools during the consultation;**
 - (d) notes the views of the WSF on the local funding formula issues for 2016-17 and other matters which are outlined in Appendix 6;**
 - (e) approves the local funding formula for Worcestershire mainstream schools from April 2016 to apply for 2016-17 and other matters as detailed in paragraphs 42 to 54 having regard to the consultation feedback from schools detailed in Appendix 3, 4 and 5 and views of the WSF in Appendix 6;**
 - (f) authorises the Interim Director of Children's Services to make the relevant arrangements to submit the details of the local funding formula for Worcestershire mainstream schools for 2016-17 to the national executive body, the Education Funding Agency (EFA), by 30 October 2015 as required; and**
 - (g) authorises the Interim Director of Children's Services to make any subsequent submission to the EFA by 21 January 2016 as a consequence of the impact of the October 2015 census and other 2015 data, any other data changes and the final 2016-17 Dedicated School Grant (DSG).**

Background

2. The Council receives funding for schools through the Dedicated School Grant (DSG). This is a ring-fenced grant and has historically been allocated on a standstill 'flat cash' basis in 3 blocks – Schools, High Needs and Early Years.

3. A fixed element of the Schools Block is retained for centrally provided services; however, the majority is delegated to mainstream maintained schools and academies through the local schools funding formula.

4. The Government made significant changes to the funding formula factors for schools from April 2013. The changes have had an impact both for the schools and central Local Authority (LA) services. Cabinet at its meetings on 18 October 2012, 7 November 2013 and 16 October 2014 resolved to introduce new local formulae for mainstream schools for 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 respectively. In 2015-16 the County Council received an increase of 2.1% (£6.2m) in the Schools Block DSG as a share of the additional £390m allocated by the Department for Education (DfE) to the *'least fairly funded local areas'*. The DfE have again stated overall that all their reforms to date will facilitate introduction of a new National Fair Funding Formula (NFFF) but this is not likely to impact until 2017-18 at the earliest.

5. The Council is required to consult the Worcestershire Schools Forum (WSF) on any changes to the Local Schools Fair Funding Formula in order to comply with the national requirements for school and LA funding with the need to inform Governing Bodies of the consultation. However, the County Council has always chosen to expand this requirement to consult with all schools, governing bodies and other interested parties, in order to inform Cabinet's ultimate decision in recognition that changes could potentially impact upon the quality of education provision in schools.

6. The DfE continues to prescribe the level of protection against any loss in funding for schools using the Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) which will remain at -1.5% per pupil for 2016-17. This means that schools will not lose more than 1.5% per pupil of funding from year to year. LAs are also able to set a cap to reduce the budgets of gaining schools to fund the monetary value of the MFG. The application and calculation of both the MFG and capping are statutory and prescribed by the DfE as part of The Schools and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations. Essentially, MFG is protection for schools so that their school budget income from one year to the next does not vary significantly due to formula changes. This will enable schools to plan accordingly in order to sustain plans to improve the quality of provision in their institution. Conversely, the capping is set so that gaining schools do not gain disproportionality to the detriment of all other schools. The MFG does not protect schools from reducing pupil numbers.

7. The constraint on the number of allowable factors will continue to severely impact upon the scope to reflect specific local circumstances in the local schools funding formula. The continued use of nationally prescribed data sets will also continue to impact. These national changes will continue to create budget turbulence for individual schools, phases and districts.

DfE Decisions School Funding 2016-17

8. On 16 July 2015, the DfE published a number of documents under '*School Funding for 2016 to 2017*'. These confirmed their national policy direction for the Schools Block DSG and other funding matters for 2016-17.

9. The overall key issues are detailed in **Appendix 1**. The DfE have confirmed the baselining of the additional £390m from 2015-16 in the Schools Block DSG into 2016-17 to increase the per pupil budgets of the '*least fairly funded local areas*'. The Worcestershire Schools Block Guaranteed Unit of Funding (GUF) has been confirmed in 2016-17 as £4,318.28 (2015-16 was £4,320.84). This GUF will be applied to the actual pupil numbers in October 2015 to provide the final Schools Block DSG for 2016-17.

10. Beyond 2016-17, the DfE contend that the policy changes continue to support their national direction of travel towards a NFFF for LAs and schools. However, its detailed consideration and delivery will be for the Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) cycle the outcomes of which will not be finalised until late November 2015.

11. The current local formula for 2015-16 was approved by Cabinet in October 2014 and is based upon a proportion of the DfE Minimum Funding Levels (MFL) for specific formula factors. These are based on national average values for LAs that use the relevant factors. There are also other factors in the local formula such as Rates, Public Finance Initiative (PFI), Split Site, etc not subject to MFLs.

12. Previous financial analysis for Worcestershire has shown that by using 100% of relevant MFLs, there would not be sufficient funding within the anticipated Schools Block for 2016-17, even with the additional Schools Block DSG. Worcestershire in conjunction with all its key partners, particularly the F40 Group of LAs, continues to lobby central Government for a fairer allocation of the total national allocation of funding.

13. Despite recent announcements of additional funding for low funded authorities, Worcestershire remains a low funded LA. Out of 151 LAs, Worcestershire is still ranked at 123 lowest funded for the Schools Block DSG per pupil amount and at 148 for the Early Years per pupil amount. The principles around school funding and funding available for other providers have to be clear in the context of our low funding.

Worcestershire's continued Low Funding position and Education Provision

14. Promoting improved educational outcomes is a key priority for the Council. In recent years there has been substantial improvement in many educational outcomes, for example GCSE results, which (for the key indicator of 5+ A-C grades) are above both national and statistical neighbour average. The proportion of schools judged by Ofsted to be good or outstanding is currently the highest in the West Midlands.

15. Despite these improvements there remain areas for significant improvement. Key Stage 2 results remain below average compared to national figures and our statistical neighbours, and the attainment gaps between vulnerable groups and their peers is wider than these comparators. The County's educational strategy needs to have a focus on these areas, and also to take into account proposed future changes, for example the categorisation of coasting schools and the raising of the Government's floor standards.

16. Discussions regarding funding allocations to schools and settings need to consider all these factors and the potential impact of funding changes on the quality of educational provision. The relationship is complex. In recent years, for example, some of the largest gaps between vulnerable groups of learners and their peers have been in areas of low deprivation, involving small number of learners. During this time, the performance of many schools has improved, despite reductions already seen in funding.

Consideration of Issues for 2016-17

17. In respect of proposed formula development for 2016-17 there are conflicting considerations between the need for stability given the number and scale of changes since 2012-13 and the desire for a local formula which can appropriately serve all schools in Worcestershire.

18. Stability provides a period of no change for individual schools (apart from the impact of changes in mix and number of pupils per school, other data changes and the continuing impact of the MFG), prior to the introduction of a National Fair Funding Formula (NFFF), whereas further change continues the search for a formula to suit all schools. However, with the limited range of available formula factors and the statutory protection requirements via the MFG and capping regulations, there will never be a position as in 2012-13 where a formula is able to adequately suit all schools in Worcestershire given the varied provision.

19. The issue of 'fairer distribution' is open to interpretation. What may appear fair to one school will not appear fair to others as the type of school and its pupils is extremely varied across Worcestershire. Prior to 2013-14, a local schools formula could suit all schools as specific grant funding from the DfE was able to be targeted and allocated to individual schools for Ministerial priorities such as Specialist Schools and Standards Fund. This funding is now mainstreamed for the benefit of all schools. Local funding distribution is important but the overriding issue is, and continues to be, the low DSG settlement for Worcestershire.

20. The Council has been endeavouring to forward plan for 2016-17 and issued a short questionnaire in the Spring Term 2015 asking for comments on the potential for a period of stability for 2016-17. This was supported by over 88% of respondents, however, it is recognised that responses were only received from 61 schools (25%).

21. The Council hoped to be able to allocate the additional Schools Block DSG of £6.2m funding on a per pupil basis so all schools would have seen a share of the increase. The DfE declined the Council's request to allocate this amount to schools on a per pupil basis outside the funding formula. They also confirmed it had to be included within the funding formula and be subject to the statutory MFG and capping regulations. This meant that not all schools saw an increase but the majority did. Also with data changes between October 2013 and October 2014 together with a revised formula in 2015-16 some schools experienced standstill or reductions in funding.

22. To help mitigate some of the effects, the Council allocated a further £1.8m (approximately £26 per pupil) one-off funding in 2015-16 from central DSG reserves which was excluded from the MFG calculation following approval from the DfE. All schools have seen this one-off increase but were reminded it was only for 2015-16. Each request for this type of exemption requires DfE approval, and this is unlikely to be agreed every year unless it can be demonstrated the savings are not recurrent. The

Council is in the process of requesting a similar approval for 2016/17 as part the identified not recurrent savings. However, if this is not granted, all schools will see this reduction per pupil in 2016-17.

23. The vast majority of schools welcomed and accepted the revised local formula change for 2015-16. However, a quarter of secondary schools requested the Council to review the funding formula again as they felt it did not recognise the challenges in the sector, most of which are outside the control of the Council. These include reductions in post 16 funding, reductions in Education Services Grant, pay inflation and impacts on National Insurance and pensions, flat cash budgets for the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) and other funding changes implemented by the EFA on academy schools.

Feedback from the Education Funding Agency (EFA)

24. In order to support the Council in identifying potential solutions to these issues and as part of the ongoing commitment to review our practice and review potential considerations for 2016-17, the Council had formal discussions with the EFA on the arrangements for formula development in Worcestershire. As well as Council officers this included representation from the Worcestershire Schools Forum (WSF) and secondary Headteachers.

25. In terms of the LA formula development and consultation processes for 2015-16, the EFA reviewed the Council's paperwork and concluded that the Council consultation processes for the local schools formula were thorough and fair and the papers provided a good level of information as required and school engagement was good. They commented that the level of responses at 48% was extremely high in comparison to most LAs, and assessing the individual responses using 1st, 2nd and 3rd preferences linked to size of school by pupil numbers was a good idea and innovative practice. They did recommend that the inclusion of further details to remind schools on the formula used in the two previous years would have been useful to support the decision making process.

26. The EFA also reviewed the local formula since the new national arrangements were introduced and gave a view on each of the 3 previous years formulae.

27. For 2013-14, the move of factors by Worcestershire from their previous formula to the reduced number of factors seemed practical. However the implementation of a tight cap to attempt to mitigate against higher losses by some schools used by Worcestershire was in the view of the EFA against the intention of the new arrangements. Although this gave stability, it resulted in disproportionately high AWPUs which meant Worcestershire was seen as an outlier as a low funded LA.

28. For 2014-15 the change in the regulations to only allow a cap to fund the cash value of the MFG and the change in the Low Prior Attainment (LPA) definitions impacted significantly in Worcestershire. The AWPUs had to reduce and there was significantly increased turbulence. This resulted in disproportionately high LPA factor which meant Worcestershire was again seen as an outlier as a low funded LA.

29. For 2015-16 the formula change resulting in a move towards the national Minimum Funding Levels (MFLs) is in the EFA's view more sensible and there are now no extreme values in Worcestershire's local formula. All factors are within mid ranges and there are no outliers.

30. Overall, the EFA view is that the Council has made changes they needed to make, with the current formula 2015-16 now being more of the norm. Worcestershire's approach for annual formula change is extremely unusual and is a LA outlier in terms of the range and types of changes. The EFA confirmed that most LAs have not changed their local formula annually and have gone for stability with very little change from 2013-14. Keeping to the current formula in Worcestershire for stability is now probably more appropriate at this stage.

Consultation for 2016-17

31. Given all these issues and further discussions at the WSF on 9 September 2014, the WSF recommendation was for stability and no change i.e. to retain the 2015-16 formula parameters for 2016-17.

32. The final allocations for individual schools will be significantly affected by:
- The new DfE data sets and the revised Schools Block DSG allocation based on the October 2015 census and other 2015 data as well as changes from 2014 e.g. rates prior year adjustments, attainment data, etc. This will impact on all schools and the final 2016-17 allocations
 - The requirement for the calculation of the -1.5% per pupil MFG/Capping for the final 2016-17 model having to have as its start point the 2015-16 baseline including the MFG/Capping amount from 2015-16. Also for some academies the EFA will use a different 2015-16 baseline for the calculation of the MFG/Capping. This will impact and cause further turbulence and some schools will experience further reductions
 - The requirement for LAs to include in their formula submission the effect of schools changing their age range from the start of the academic year 2016/17 by using estimated pupil number data
 - The continued restrictions by the DfE for the capping of schools that gain in the formula to the cash requirement of the MFG only.

33. A detailed consultation document was circulated on 11 September 2015 to all maintained schools, academies, other providers, all members of the County Council, staff associations and the Worcestershire Association of Governors which included details of the recommendation to retain the existing formula. Given the tight timescales to report to Cabinet and submit the formula to the DfE by 30 October, consultation responses were requested by 1 October 2015.

34. Summaries of the main issues raised by schools are detailed in **Appendices 3 and 4**. The main concern continues to be the extremely low funding base for Worcestershire.

35. The following table shows the number of formal responses received from the consultation. As expected, the number of responses this year was considerably lower than in previous years as there were no alternative funding models for schools to express a preference for. However, WSF took account of these responses and the views of the schools they represent when making their recommendations to Cabinet.

Type of school	Total Number of Providers (As at 1 September 2015)	Number of Responses	Percentage of Responses %
Maintained First/Primary	153	16	10
Academy Nursery/First/Primary	23	0	0
Maintained Middle	14	6	43
Academy Middle	6	0	0
Maintained Secondary/High	5	3	60
Academy Secondary/High	24	12	50
Free School	1	0	0
Total	226	37	16
Other	N/A	1	N/A

The response rate last year was 48%

36. Consultees were requested to comment on the recommendation to retain the existing formula, and to respond to 5 questions that related to specific issues for consideration relating to 2016-17 and other statutory matters. A summary of these is at **Appendix 2**.

37. The consultation response main issues have been summarised in **Appendices 3 and 4**, with detailed school returns available on request. The key issues and recommendations arising from the consultation are detailed in **Appendix 5**.

Recommendations for the Worcestershire Local Schools Funding Formula for Mainstream Schools for 2016-17 and Other Statutory Matters

38. Having considered the views of Worcestershire Schools Forum (WSF), the outcomes of the consultation received from individual schools and Cabinet's strategic view, the option which is recommended to be approved is to retain the existing formula in 2016-17.

39. It must also be noted that the Schools Block allocation is not the only funding which schools attract. Schools also attract Pupil Premium to raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils and close the gap between them and their peers. Schools attract funding for each child registered as eligible for free school meals at any point in the last 6 years. The 2015-16 rates are £1,320 for primary-aged pupils, £935 for secondary-aged pupils and schools will also receive £1,900 for each looked-after pupil who has been looked after for 1 day or more, or was adopted from care on or after 30 December 2005, or left care under a special guardianship order or a residence order. Worcestershire schools attract c£19m additional funding through this route. This is based on the January 2015 FSM numbers and the March 2014 Looked After Children numbers confirmed by the DfE in July 2015.

40. The overall feedback from the responses in **Appendix 2** on the consultation questions details the following outcomes:

- No support for changing the existing PFI subsidy factor
- Support for revisions to the definition for Notional SEN
- Continuing with the existing arrangements in 2015-16 into 2016-17 as permitted by the DfE for the:
 - delegation and de-delegation of centrally retained DSG services for mainstream maintained schools
 - other centrally retained DSG services for all mainstream maintained schools and academies
- Support for not having a small central Falling Rolls Fund and to withdraw the existing arrangements from 2016/17
- Support for stability in the 2016-17 local schools funding formula on the recommendation for no change in the local schools formula from 2015-16 in 2016-17 – with **Appendix 3** summarising the main issues received from schools.

The Role of the WSF

41. As required, the WSF continues to fulfil its statutory role as the principal consultation forum for matters relating to school funding. There is a statutory requirement to consult the WSF on these funding proposals. The WSF met on 9 September and 6 October 2015 where at the latter meeting the WSF discussed the consultation responses and made its formal recommendations for no change to the local schools formula. Details of these discussions and outcomes at both meetings are attached at **Appendix 6**.

Cabinet's Detailed Approvals

42. Approve for 2016-17 formula stability and no formula change from 2015-16 as supported by the WSF and the consultation responses, with the estimated units of resource detailed below.

43. Approve the following as the factors for inclusion in the local funding formula for 2016-17 for Worcestershire mainstream schools - maintained and academies – to be based upon required DfE data sets from the October 2015 census and other DfE sources, including any in year or prior year changes and the final DSG for 2016-17 when this is confirmed.

44. Approve the model to contain from April 2016, the following formula factors and estimated units of resource using the prescribed DfE data sets from the October 2015 census, other DfE sources including any in year or prior year data changes and estimated data as required for schools changing their age range from September 2016:

AWPU:

Primary £2,839.13; KS3 £3,886.05; KS4 £4,415.31

Deprivation:

Free School Meals (FSM) Annual: Primary £845.66; Secondary £1,008.66;

Income Derivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) all bands 1 to 6:

Primary £200.39, £249.29, £332.70, £404.61, £457.35, £662.53

Secondary £277.09, £363.39, £450.64, £531.18, £588.70, £785.26

Low Cost/High Incidence SEN – Prior attainment:

Primary £641.44 [Combination of Early Years Foundation Stage Profile (EYFSP) New Profile % to be determined; Old Profile 78 Points];

Secondary £901.27 [Not achieving level 4 KS2 English or Maths]

English as an Additional Language (EAL) – maximum of 3 years:

Primary £446.80; Secondary £1,083.44

Lump Sum for Every School:

Primary £111,026.16; Secondary £119,998.61

(Middle Schools an average of these rates)

Sparsity based on a tapered approach:

Primary £42,796.04; Middle £53,352.91; Secondary and All Through £63,909.77

Split Site:

An individual school cash sum allocated via the approved 2015-16 formula with schools having to meet the qualifying criteria

Rates:

Actual Costs individual to each school

Private Funding Initiative (PFI):

Agreed Costs for those schools in the PFI contract

Exceptional Premises Costs:

An individual school cash sum for those qualifying schools as approved by the EFA

Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG):

-1.5% per pupil as prescribed by the EFA.

Capping:

At the relevant % level to scale back gains for some schools to fund the MFG cash requirement only as prescribed by the DfE. This is currently estimated at +1.384% with the scaling factor of 100%. This will change with the impact of the revised data sets and 2016-17 DSG.

45. Approve that the current estimated formula units of resource as detailed above and estimated capping % be adjusted in January 2016, as required, to take account of:

- October 2015 census impact and requirements including use of estimated data for changes in school age ranges if required
- Other DfE prescribed data and changes including those from prior years
- The final Schools Block DSG for 2016-17
- Statutory requirements relating to the MFG and/or the School and Early Years Finance Regulations
- Whether the LA is able to include another £1.8m of DSG reserve in the local funding formula for 2016-17.

46. Approve the continuation in 2016-17 of the existing already approved PFI factor **(as per consultation question 1)**

47. Approve the changes for 2016-17 to the definition for Schools Block Notional SEN as detailed [AWPU 5%, Deprivation FSM 50%, Deprivation IDACI 100%, Low Prior Attainment (LPA) 100% and Lump Sum 10%] **(as per consultation question 2)**

48. Approve the continued initial delegation and transfer of the following centrally retained services for 2016-17 as in 2015-16 **(as per consultation question 3):**

FACTOR	SERVICE
Basic Per Pupil	School Specific Contingencies (not Early Years) Support for Schools in Financial Difficulties 14-16 Practical Learning Options Insurance Staff Costs Supply Cover Licences and Subscriptions
Deprivation	FSM Eligibility
EAL	Support for Minority Ethnic Pupils
Low Cost High Incidence SEN Prior Attainment	Support for Underachieving Groups Behaviour Support Services

49. Approve the decision of the WSF maintained mainstream school members by phase to continue in 2016-17 to the following delegation and de-delegation of the following centrally retained services for maintained mainstream schools only by phase as determined through the WSF (**as per consultation question 3**):

Phase/Service	Primary Delegation	Primary De-delegation
School Specific Contingency (SSC)	No	Yes
Support for Schools in Financial Difficulty	Yes	No
14-16 Practical Learning Options	N/A	N/A
Behaviour Support Services	N/A	N/A
Schools Insurance	Yes	No
Licenses and Subscriptions (DfE Prescribed)	No	Yes
Support for Minority Ethnic Pupils or Underachieving Groups – EMAG	No	Yes
Support for Minority Ethnic Pupils or Underachieving Groups – Travellers Children	No	Yes
Free School Meal Eligibility	No	Yes
Staff Costs Supply Cover – Civic Duties	No	Yes

Staff Costs Supply Cover – Trade Union Duties	No	Yes
Staff Costs Supply Cover – HR Related Duties	No	Yes
Phase/Service	Secondary Delegation	Secondary De-delegation
School Specific Contingency (SSC)	No	Yes
Support for Schools in Financial Difficulty	Yes	No
14-16 Practical Learning Options	Yes	No
Behaviour Support Services	Yes	No
Schools Insurance	Yes	No
Licenses and Subscriptions (DfE Prescribed)	No	Yes
Support for Minority Ethnic Pupils or Underachieving Groups – EMAG	No	Yes
Support for Minority Ethnic Pupils or Underachieving Groups – Travellers Children	No	Yes
Free School Meal Eligibility	No	Yes
Staff Costs Supply Cover – Civic Duties	No	Yes
Staff Costs Supply Cover – Trade Union Duties	No	Yes
Staff Costs Supply Cover – HR Related Duties	No	Yes

50. Approve for those services subject to de-delegation by the formula factors detailed above by reducing the formula amounts in 2016-17 for maintained mainstream schools only on the basis detailed above.

51. Approve the decision of the WSF to the continued central retention in 2016-17 of the centrally retained services as detailed, limited to the 2015-16 budget level or further DfE prescription (indicative budgets are shown) for **(as per consultation question 4)**:

- Funding for significant pre-16 pupil growth to meet basic need and to enable all schools to meet the infant class size requirement i.e. pupil growth fund – £0.5m
- Copyright Licensing Agency (CLA) and Music Publishers Association (MPA) licences – subject to DfE prescription
- Contributions to Combined Services – the Early Intervention Family Support (EIFS) service budget – £1.5m
- Capital Expenditure Funded from Revenue (CERA) – £1.030m
- Termination of Employment/Redundancy Costs – £0.20m
- Co-ordinated admissions scheme – £0.846m
- Servicing of the Schools Forum – £0.055m

- Carbon Reduction Commitment – subject to DfE top slice from DSG.

52. Approve Option 1 in regard to Falling Rolls Fund to FRF to no longer operate a Falling Rolls Fund from 2016-17 (**as per consultation question 5**)

53. The final units of resource and cap for 2016-17 are subject to final confirmation with the EFA and change when the impact of the October 2015 census, other 2015 DfE data and prior year data changes and the final Schools Block DSG for 2016-17 are confirmed.

54. As in previous years the formula model for 2015-16 will **not** include factors for:

- Pupil Mobility – not deemed to be a significant issue
- Looked After Children (LAC) – deemed to be funded via the LAC Pupil Premium
- Post-16 top up – not permitted as not a pre-2013 formula factor
- Higher Teacher Costs – only applies to London fringe LAs.

Supporting Information

- DfE Documents '*School Funding for 2016 to 2017*' – Summary of the Key Issues – **Appendix 1**
- Summary of the Consultation Responses October 2015 – **Appendix 2**
- Summary of the main issues from the Consultation Responses relating to stability for the local schools funding formula 2016-17 October 2015 – **Appendix 3**
- Summary of the main issues from the Consultation Responses on the consultation questions October 2015 – **Appendix 4**
- Outcomes and recommendations from the September 2015 Consultation – **Appendix 5**
- Fair Funding Consultation 2016-17 Worcestershire Schools Forum (WSF) Issues September and October 2015 – **Appendix 6**

Contact Points

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Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Interim Director of Children's Services) the following are the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

Fair Funding Consultation Documents – September 2015

Agenda and background papers for the meetings of the Cabinet held on 18 October 2012, 7 November 2013 and 16 October 2014