

## Cabinet

**Thursday, 8 December 2022, 10.00 am, County Hall**

### Membership

#### Councillors:

Cllr Simon Geraghty (Chairman), Cllr Marc Bayliss, Cllr Adrian Hardman, Cllr Marcus Hart (Vice Chairman), Cllr Adam Kent, Cllr Karen May, Cllr Richard Morris, Cllr Tracey Onslow, Cllr Andy Roberts and Cllr Mike Rouse

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All the above reports and supporting information can be accessed via the Council's website [here](#)

Date of Issue: Tuesday, 29 November 2022

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# Project Screening

## Impact Assessment Id: #430

### 1. Your Details

**Name of person completing screening assessment**

Emily Barker

**Job Title**

Head of Planning and Transport Planning

**Directorate**

Economy & Infrastructure

**Service Area**

Major Projects & Waste

**Email Address**

EBarker@worcestershire.gov.uk

**Connection to project (e.g. project manager)**

Lead

### 2. Project Summary

For the purposes of the impact assessment screening, we will refer to the activity or area being assessed as a project.

**Project Name**

A38 BREP

**Name of Project Sponsor**

Rachel Hill

**Name of Project Manager**

Oliver Newcombe

**Name of Project Lead**

Emily Barker

**Project Reference (if known)****Please give a brief description of the project**

Enhancement of the A38 in Bromsgrove to support economic and housing growth, provide additional active travel and public transport facilities, address congestion at key junctions and stabilise journey time. This JIA is of the Cabinet Paper to approve the submission of the Full Business Case, a further JIA will required for the delivery of the schemes.

### 3. Data Protection

**We need to establish if the proposal involves processing personal data. Personal data is information that relates to an identified or identifiable individual.**

**Name of Information Asset Owner**

**Rachel Hill**

Senior officer responsible for the project's information assets

**Does the project, any project work stream or project outcome involve any personal data? Some examples of personal data are given below.** **No**

**Appearance:**

photograph, physical description

**Basic Identifiers:**

name, date of birth, age, biometric data, ethnic origin, gender, genetic data, race, sex

**Contact Details:**

address, email address, home phone number, mobile phone number, postcode

**ID Number:**

National Insurance Number, driving licence number, NHS number, online identifier, other general identifier

**Employment:**

work related training/awards

**Financial:**

income/financial/tax situation

**Lifestyle:**

health or social care, living habits, marital status, philosophical beliefs, political opinions, religion, sex life, trade union membership

**Technology:**

login/username, device MAC address (wireless network interface), device IMEI number, IP Address, location data (travel/GDPS/GSM data), website cookies

**As you answered 'No', please explain your reasoning below:**

JIA supporting for the Cabinet paper supporting submission of the full business case. No personal data is included in the cabinet paper or the business case.

## 4. Equality

**We need to determine whether the project could affect residents and/or Council staff because they share any of the Protected Characteristics defined in the Equality Act 2010 namely Age, Disability, Gender Reassignment, Marriage/Civil Partnership, Pregnancy, Race, Religion/Belief, Sex and Sexual Orientation.**

**Does the project relate to an area where data/research indicates that inequalities are already known to exist? No**

**Could this project have any effect on, service delivery or usage, other aspects of daily life or community participation levels for people because they belong to any of the groups below?**

**Age No**

e.g. a person belonging to a particular age group (for example 18 – 30-year olds).

**Disability No**

e.g. A person has a disability if she or he has a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on that person's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.

**Gender Re-Assignment No**

e.g. The process of transitioning from one gender to another.

**Marriage/Civil Partnership Status No**

e.g. Marriage is a union between a man and a woman or between a same-sex couple. Same-sex couples can also have their relationships legally recognised as 'civil partnerships'. Civil partners must not be treated less favourably than married couples (except where permitted by the Equality Act).

**Pregnancy/Maternity No**

e.g. Pregnancy is the condition of being pregnant or expecting a baby. Maternity refers to the period after the birth and is linked to maternity leave in the employment context. In the non-work context, protection against maternity discrimination is for 26 weeks after giving birth, and this includes treating a woman unfavourably because she is breastfeeding.

**Race No**

e.g. Refers to the protected characteristic of race. It refers to a group of people defined by their race, colour, and nationality (including citizenship) ethnic or national origins.

**Religion or Belief No**

e.g. Religion refers to any religion, including a lack of religion. Belief refers to any religious or philosophical belief and includes a lack of belief. Generally, a belief should affect your life choices or the way you live for it to be included in the definition.

**Sex No**

**Sexual Orientation No**

e.g. Whether a person's sexual attraction is towards their own sex, the opposite sex or to both sexes.

**Health Inequalities No**

e.g. Any preventable, unfair & unjust differences in health status between groups, populations or individuals that arise from the unequal distribution of social, environmental & economic conditions within societies.

**As you answered 'No' to all the questions, please explain your reasoning below:**

JIA supporting for the Cabinet paper supporting submission of the full business case. No equality issues arise from the cabinet report or the business case.

## 5. Public Health

We also want to understand if the project will have any impacts on public health.

The social, economic, cultural and physical environment in which people live their lives has a significant effect on their health and wellbeing. Although genetics and personal behaviour play a strong part in determining an individual's health, good health starts where we live, where we work and learn, and where we play.

Improving public health requires taking a broader view of the conditions that create health and wellbeing, from how we plan and develop our urban spaces and places, to the opportunities for employment, recreation, and social connection available to all who live in them.

Health inequalities are the preventable, unfair and unjust differences in health status between groups, populations or individuals that arise from the unequal distribution of social, environmental and economic conditions within societies, which determine the risk of people getting ill, their ability to prevent sickness, or opportunities to take action and access treatment when ill health occurs.

### Could the project have an impact on any of the following factors?

#### **Social and Economic No**

e.g. culture, social support (neighbourliness, social networks/isolation), spiritual participation, employment opportunities.

#### **Physical Health No**

e.g. physical activity is expected to increase, influenza vaccination uptake increase

#### **Mental Health & Wellbeing No**

e.g. benefits to children's mental health, benefits to adult carer wellbeing.

#### **Access to Services No**

e.g. access to (location/disabled access/costs) and quality of primary/community/secondary health care, child care, social services, housing/leisure/social security services; public transport, policing, other health relevant public services, non-statutory agencies and services.

#### **As you answered 'No' to all the questions, please explain your reasoning below:**

JIA supporting for the Cabinet paper supporting submission of the full business case. No health issues arise from the cabinet report or the business case.

## 5. Environmental Sustainability

We want to understand if the project activity and project outcomes will have an impact on environmental sustainability. Please be mindful that the Council has committed to reduce its emissions to net-zero by 2050 and most projects are likely to have an impact on this target. This should be a key consideration in your project delivery and should be reviewed when completing these screening documents.

### Could this project have an impact on the categories listed below?

**Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions (including CO2) No**

e.g. increased GHG emissions as a result of project implementation, which may also be linked with efficient use of resources in WCC buildings; transport; emissions from waste; and procurement.

**Efficient Use of Resources No**

e.g. consumption of energy resources, water, electricity, gas and heating fuels.

**Transport No**

e.g. number of people travelling, alternative transport modes.

**Waste No**

e.g. increase in waste generated or an increase in waste recycling.

**Wildlife and Biodiversity No**

e.g. impacts on the natural environment or enhancements to the natural environment.

N.B. This refers to any direct or indirect modifications to landholdings, including but not limited to removal of vegetation, alteration or demolition of buildings or modification of watercourses or lighting (not limited to just green space/trees).

**Pollution to Land or Water No**

e.g. risk of pollution to the local environment.

**Pollution to Air No**

e.g. risk of pollution to air, activity which may adversely affect air quality or increase emissions to air

**Resilience to climate change No**

e.g. risks of extreme weather and climate impacts on the project.

**Historic Environment No**

e.g. impacts on Historic Environment or enhancements of the Historic Environment.

**Procurement No**

e.g. could procurement associated with the project result in an increase of natural resources (such as long-distance shipping of goods); could use be made of local resources or work forces to support delivery of the project.

**As you answered 'No' to all the questions, please explain your reasoning below:**

JIA supporting for the Cabinet paper supporting submission of the full business case. No environmental issues arise from the cabinet report or the business case.

## 7. Results of Screening

<b>Data Protection</b>	Does not need a full impact assessment
<b>Equality and Public Health</b>	Does not need a full impact assessment
<b>Environmental Sustainability</b>	Does not need a full impact assessment

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### DfE CONFIRMED FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS FOR 2023-24 – SUMMARY OF ISSUES

#### 1. DfE CONSULTATION 7<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2022

#### IMPLEMENTING THE DIRECT NATIONAL FUNDING FORMULA – SUMMARY

##### **Consultation closed 9<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

The Department for Education have published this consultation on the implementation of the National Funding Formula (NFF) following the consultation over the summer of 2021 entitled “Fair school funding for all: completing our reforms to the NFF”, which focused on the principles of moving to a direct formula.

A direct NFF will mean that the Department determines funding allocations for individual schools, without substantial local adjustment. The DfE, in the Schools White Paper, have also expressed their aim that that by 2030, all children will benefit from being taught in a family of schools, with their school in a strong multi academy trust or with plans to join or form one. Currently multi-academy trusts’ individual academies can be funded on a different basis if they are spread over more than one local authority area. The direct NFF will ensure that all academies, and all schools, are funded on a consistent basis, wherever they are in the country.

This change requires legislative changes and is included within the schools Bill, presented to Parliament this May. This consultation tackles the interaction between the NFF and SEN/AP provision, the issue of rapidly rising/falling rolls, the Minimum Funding Guarantee and the Funding Cycle. The consultation does not include a definitive final “end date” at which the direct NFF will be implemented. The DfE will be guided by the impact of the initial transition towards the direct NFF, before deciding on the further pace of change. However, they expect to have moved to the direct NFF within the next five years – that is, by the **2027-28 funding year**.

##### **Funding Cycle**

The DfE want to support schools’ budget planning, by giving them early indication of future funding levels. This section of the consultation asks questions on the proposed high-level timeline for the annual funding cycle under the direct NFF. Under the current arrangements, DfE typically publish NFF factor values and any structural changes to the NFF for the subsequent year’s NFF, in July. LAs then prepare their local formulae during the autumn, with final allocations confirmed – at the latest – by the end of February for maintained schools and end of March for academies. Under a direct NFF, LAs will no longer prepare local funding formulae, but DfE propose to keep other features of the cycle unchanged.

## 2. PROVISIONAL DSG ALLOCATIONS 2023-24

2.1 **Table 1** confirms the DSG Current 2022-23 compared to the DSG Provisional Allocations for 2023-24 for 3 of the DSG Blocks – Schools, Central School Services and High Needs. This is the **gross** DSG prior to academy and high needs places recoupment.

**Table 1:**  
**DSG Current 2022-23 compared to the DSG Provisional Allocation 2023-24**

<b>Detail</b>	<b>DSG Current 2022-23 March 2022 £'m</b>	<b>DSG Initial 2023-24 September 2022 £'m</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>SCHOOLS BLOCK</b>			
Schools	381.380	380.128	A.
Pupil Growth Fund (PGF)	1.976	TBC	B.
<b>TOTAL SCHOOLS BLOCK</b>	<b>383.256</b>	<b>400.515</b>	
<b>CENTRALLY SERVICES SCHOOLS BLOCK (CSSB)</b>			
Central School Services	2.556	2.700	C.
Historic Commitments	0.768	0.614	D.
<b>TOTAL CSSB</b>	<b>3.325</b>	<b>3.319</b>	
<b>HIGH NEEDS (HN) BLOCK</b>			
Formulaic	78.205	82.535	E.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>78.205</b>	<b>74.746</b>	
<b>TOTAL DSG SCHOOLS AND HIGH NEEDS</b>	<b>464.886</b>	<b>486.364</b>	
Schools Block Guaranteed Units of Funding £			
Primary (PUF)	£4,534.65	£4,751.58	F.
Secondary (SUF)	£5,803.59	£6,107.94	F.

### Notes on 2022-23 Provisional Allocations

A. This reflects the share of the NFF Year 6 on the parameters set out by the DfE (see below).

B. The PGF for 2023-24, to support basic need revenue costs, has yet to be confirmed as it requires the final October 2021 pupil census data.

C. Central School Services £2.7m for ongoing functions for Co-ordinated Admissions, Servicing of the Schools Forum, Retained Duties Former ESG and National Licenses and Subscriptions.

D. Ongoing Historic Commitments £0.614m for Early Intervention Family Support Service (EIFS). The DfE have started to unwind this funding for all LAs and have reduced all LAs allocations by a further 20% in 2023-24.

E. Reflects the share of the additional funding for High Needs.

F. The new Primary and Secondary Units of Resource (PUF) and (SUF) reflecting the DfE NFF Year 6. These will be applied to the October 2022 pupil census to calculate the Schools Block DSG for 2022-23, to be notified as part of the School Funding Settlement 2023-24 later in December 2022.

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**FAIR FUNDING CONSULTATION OUTCOMES 2022-23**  
**WORCESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS FORUM (WSF) ISSUES, DECISIONS AND**  
**RECOMMENDATIONS ON 30 JUNE 2022 AND 23 NOVEMBER 2022**

As the statutory consultation body for schools funding issues and local schools' formula development, the Worcestershire Schools Forum (WSF) met to receive and discuss the national Fair Funding Policy Direction and Local Issues as follows: -

- On 30 June 2022 for the overall outcomes of the Department for Education (DfE) policy direction for the National Funding Formula (NFF) and for consideration of potential local issues for 2023-24.
- On 23 November 2022 for the outcomes of the local policy direction and required decisions for Schools Block DSG transfer, de-delegated and centrally retained services for 2023-24.

The main areas discussed are detailed in the following sections.

**ISSUES CONSIDERED AT THE WORCESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS FORUM ON 23 NOVEMBER 2022**

The WSF considered and debated the Government's school funding and NFF policy announcements and draft communication to schools.

The WSF endorsed and approved: -

- The continuation of the existing local policy arrangements for 2022-23 into 2023-24 for the Local Schools Funding Formula (LSFF) to be based upon the DfE NFF parameters as far as is practicable and affordable.
- No transfer of Schools Block DSG into the High Needs Block DSG to support cost pressures.
- The continuation of the current arrangements for 2022-23 into 2023-24 for de-delegation for maintained mainstream schools and centrally retained services for all schools.

In doing this the WSF noted with LSFF the need for stability so supported the continuation of a LSFF based upon the NFF parameters Year 6 and that school budget allocations will differ between 2022-23 and 2023-24 due to: -

- The MFG and capping calculation for 2023-24 having to be based upon the revised NFF parameters.
- Data not yet available from the October 2022 and other 2022 DfE data sets, including prior years, which must be used for the 2023-24 allocations.
- The final Schools Block Dedicated Schools Grant quantum for 2023-24, which will not be notified by the DfE until late December 2022.
- The need to continue to incorporate the mandatory DfE sector Minimum Funding Levels (MFLs) in the LSFF.

## **1. Local Schools Funding Formula (LSFF)**

The WSF further considered the issues for the LSFF for 2023-24 to continue to be based as far as is practicable and affordable on the DfE NFF Year 6 parameters.

The WSF noted: -

- The proposal by the DfE for mandatory Minimum Funding Levels (MFLs) in LAs LSFF.
- Despite the LSFF being based upon the DfE NFF there is still not enough resource in the school funding system to support significant demands and cost pressures.

The WSF further noted no contra indications had been received from schools and concluded overall that this gave credence to continuing with the DfEs NFF based model in 2023-24 for the LSFF.

The WSF **resolved to endorse** this approach for the LSFF in 2023-24 and for it to continue as far as is affordable and practicable to using the DfE Year 6 NFF parameters using the DfE required data sets and formula factors as detailed in paragraph 34 of this report, noting the potential impact of this on individual school allocations discussed at its previous meetings.

In doing this the WSF **noted** the requirements of the NFF as the LSFF in 2023-24 as far as affordable and practicable including the effect of: -

- The actual schools block DSG allocated.
- The mandatory sector Minimum Funding Levels (MFLs) per pupil.
- The Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) of between +0.0% and +0.5% per pupil in each year.
- The potential need for a relevant cap per pupil yet to be determined for affordability purposes.

The WSF **further noted** the estimated LSFF NFF units of resource and these may need to be reviewed together with the need for a capping % yet to be determined in January 2023, as required, to take account of: -

- October 2022 census data impact and requirements including use of estimated data for changes in school age ranges if required.
- Other DfE prescribed 2022 data changes including those from prior years.
- The final Schools Block Dedicated Schools Grant for 2023-24.
- Statutory requirements relating to the Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG)/Capping and the School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations.
- Pupil Mobility now part of the NFF from 2023-24.

As in previous years the WSF noted the LSFF model for 2023-24 will **not** include factors for:

- Looked After Children (LAC) – not part of the NFF and previous funded reflected in the previous increase in the separate LAC Pupil Premium Grant.
- Higher Teacher Costs – only applies to London fringe Local Authorities.

## **2. Potential to Transfer Schools Block Funding to Support High Needs Budget Pressures**

The WSF considered its statutory responsibility in making a decision on the proposed transfer.

In line with the Schools Forum (England) Regulations 2012, the Worcestershire Schools Forum **resolved NOT to approve** any transfer of funding in 2023-24 from the Schools Block to support High Needs budget pressures.

## **3. Delegation and De-delegation of Centrally Retained Dedicated Schools Grant Services for Maintained Schools**

The WSF considered its statutory responsibilities in making decisions on the delegation or de-delegation of services for maintained schools only currently centrally retained in the Dedicated Schools Grant.

In line with the Schools Forum (England) Regulations 2012, the WSF maintained school members by phase considered these areas. By phase these WSF members **resolved to approve** to either delegate or de-delegate these areas in 2023-24 as detailed in this report in paragraphs 37 to 39 together with the method of delegation or de-delegation proposed.

## **4. Centrally Retained Dedicated Schools Grant Services**

The WSF also considered its statutory responsibilities in making decisions on other centrally retained services for all schools retained in the Dedicated Schools Grant.

In line with the Schools Forum (England) Regulations 2012, the WSF **resolved to approve** the continued central retention in 2023-24 of the centrally retained services as detailed either limited to the 2017-18 budget level or as prescribed by the DfE (indicative budgets are shown either limited to previous year levels or **estimated** funding subject to final clarification and change) as detailed in this report paragraph 40 for: -

- Copyright Licensing Agency (CLA) and Music Publishers Association (MPA) licences (subject to DfE prescription) – £0.44m **estimated**.
- Contributions to Combined Services – the Early Intervention Family Support (EIFS) service budget – £0.614m **actual** (reflecting the 2022-23 amount being reduced by a further 20% because of the DfE reduction to all LAs Central Services Schools Block DSG).
- Co-ordinated admissions scheme – £0.60m **estimated**.
- Servicing of the Schools Forum – £0.06m **estimated**.
- Services previously funded by the retained rate of the Education Services Grant – £1.26m **estimated**.

## **5. Overall**

In terms of all their deliberations and decisions above, the WSF **resolved** that these be communicated to the Worcestershire County Council Cabinet as required.

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