



North Tyneside
Council

Item 8

Briefing Notes

To: Schools Forum

Date: 12 July 2023

Author:

Claire Emmerson

**Purpose of
the Paper:**

Information

✓

Consultation

Decision

✓

Title of Briefing: Falling Rolls and Growth Fund Proposed Allocations

1. Background

1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Schools Forums approval to make allocations of funding to eligible schools for the following:-

- Falling Rolls
- Growth Funding

1.2 The Authority have met with representatives from the Schools Forum finance subgroup. The Subgroup considered the applications for funding on 13 June 2023. Whilst the subgroup has proposed the allocation of funding the final decision rests with Schools Forum.

2. Falling Rolls and Schools in Financial Difficulty 2023/24

2.1 Falling Rolls

Following an initial assessment there were five schools identified as being eligible for falling roll funding with a total value of £0.168m. The details of these schools and the funding identified for each school is included in Table 1. The total falling roll funding available for distribution is £0.300m (£0.050m carried forward and £0.250m in year allocation). As in previous years a proportion of the surplus funding will be transferred back to academies, the current estimate is that this will be around £0.030m. If approved, this will leave a balance of £0.132m of which £0.082m will be transferred to the headroom fund, leaving a closing balance of £0.050m.

2.2 Table 1: Breakdown of Falling Rolls Eligibility

School	Value £m
Monkseaton Middle	0.042
St Joseph's RC Primary	0.037
Battle Hill Primary	0.044
Collingwood Primary	0.032
Forest Hall Primary	0.013
Total	0.168

2.3 Schools in Financial Difficulty (Headroom Funding)

The opening balance for de-delegated funds for Schools in Financial Difficulty (Headroom funding) in 2023/24 was £0.563m. Assuming Schools Forum approve the Falling Rolls applications as mentioned above, £0.082m will be transferred from Falling Rolls to Schools in Financial Difficulty (Headroom), giving a balance of £0.645m. This balance will be available to fund Headroom applications still to be submitted by schools for consideration by Schools Forum Sub-Group.

3. Growth Policy 2023/24

- 3.1 The DfE established a separate fund in the School Block of the DSG for growth in 2019/20. In North Tyneside this fund was not used for growth and was instead added into the remaining balances to be redistributed to all schools. When setting the 2023/24 School Block allocation, Schools Forum agreed to set aside £0.250m of the identified growth funding, with a further £0.145m carried forward from 2022/23. Total Growth Funding available in 2023/24 is therefore £0.395m.
- 3.2 Officers from the Authority have reviewed all schools' projected pupil numbers for Sept 2023 using the latest information available from the Admissions Team. Eight schools, with a total funding of £0.764m were initially identified as being eligible for growth funding. However, the eligibility criteria also specifies that schools must provide evidence that additional costs have been incurred to support structural class changes

in relation to the additional pupils. The initial list of schools and the funding associated with each school was considered by the Schools Forum Finance Subgroup on 13 June 2023.

- 3.3 At the time of writing this report four schools had responded for the call for evidence. From the evidence received three schools are eligible for growth funding and have provided sufficient evidence to the Authority showing structural changes that have had to be made to accommodate the additional children within those schools. Table 2 below shows the details of those schools that are eligible and the total funding for those schools is £0.432m. If all funding is approved the 2023/24 closing balance will be £0.037m deficit which will be carried forward into 2024/25.

3.4 **Table 2: Growth Funding Eligibility 2023/24**

Growth Funding	£m	Eligibility
Backworth Park Primary	0.060	Final year Growing School Criteria
Redesdale Primary	0.032	Confirmed eligibility
Burnside	0.182	Confirmed eligibility
Longbenton	0.158	Confirmed eligibility
Total	0.432	
Total Funding Available	0.395	
Deficit Growth Fund 2024/25	0.037	

- 3.5 The Authority has reviewed the evidence received from Monkseaton High and Norham High School and whilst this did show that additional costs had been incurred there was insufficient evidence to show that the schools have to make structural class changes to accommodate the additional children. The Authority has contacted both schools to understand the overall position and if the eligibility does change then this will be highlighted to Schools Forum at the next meeting in September 2023.
- 3.6 In addition, two schools have yet to provide evidence of eligibility therefore the funding to George Stephenson and North Gosforth has been removed. Details are included in Table 3 below.

3.7 **Table 3 Schools not eligible for Growth Funding 2023/24**

Growth Funding	£m	Eligibility
Monkseaton High	0.112	Not Eligible
Norham High	0.079	Not Eligible
George Stephenson	0.050	Evidence has yet to be received
North Gosforth	0.091	Evidence has yet to be received
Total	0.332	

4. **Recommendations**

4.1 Having read this report and clearly understanding the information provided, Schools Forum is asked to:

1. Consider the funding allocations as set out in this report; and
2. Agree the current position and plans for additional funding sources maintained by Schools Forum.

4.2 Members are reminded of who is eligible to vote and the voting table is noted at Appendix A for Reference.

Appendix A – Voting Table

North Tyneside Schools Forum Member Roles & Voting							<i>last updated September 2019</i>	
de-delegation Primary	de-delegation Secondary	scheme for financing schools	consultation on funding formula	General Duties	Retained Duties	all other matters		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
Voting							<i>Phase</i>	<i>Role</i>
School Members								
x		x	x	x	x	x	First	Head
x		x	x	x	x	x	Primary	Head
	x	x	x	x	x	x	High	Head
	x	x	x	x	x	x	Middle	Head
	x	x	x	x	x	x	Secondary	Head
Other School Members Non Locality Based								
x		x	x	x	x	x	Primary/ First	Governor
	x	x	x	x	x	x	Secondary/Middle	Governor
		x	x	x	x	x	Nursery	Head
		x	x	x	x	x	PRU	Head
		x	x	x	x	x	Special	Head
			x		x	x	Academy	Other
Non Schools Members Non Locality Based								
		x	x			x	16-19 Providers	Other
			x			x	EY PVI	Other
						x	C of E Diocese	Other
						x	RC Diocese	Other
						x	Trades Union	Other