

Item 6.2a

Briefing note

To: Schools Forum **Author:** Claire Emmerson

Date: 21 September 2022

Purpose of the Paper:

Information	√
Consultation	
Decision	√

Title of Briefing: Falling Rolls and Growth Fund Proposed Allocations

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 finance subgroup. The subgroup considered the applications for funding during on 19 July 2022. Whilst the subgroup has proposed the allocation of funding the final decision rests with Schools Forum.

Falling Rolls and Schools in Financial Difficulty 2022/23

2.1 Falling Rolls

Following an initial assessment there were four schools identified as being eligible for falling roll funding with a total value of £0.113m. 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 £0.157m of which £0.107m will be transferred to the headroom fund, leaving a closing balance of £0.050m.

Table 1: Breakdown of Falling Rolls Eligibility

School	Value £m
Monkseaton Middle	0.044
St Bernadettes RC Primary	0.025
Star of the Sea RC Primary	0.027
Percy Main Primary	0.017
Total	0.113

2.2 Schools in Financial Difficulty (Headroom Funding)

The opening balance for de-delegated funds for Schools in Financial Difficulty (Headroom funding) in 2022/23 was £0.335m. Assuming Schools Forum approve the Falling Rolls applications as mentioned above, £0.107m will be transferred from Falling Rolls to Schools in Financial Difficulty (Headroom), giving a balance of £0.442m. This balance will be available to fund Headroom applications still to be submitted by schools for consideration by Schools Forum Sub-Group.

Growth Policy 2022/23

- 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 2022/23 School Block allocation, Schools Forum agreed to set aside £0.250m of the identified growth funding, with a further £0.071m carried forward from 2021/22. Total Growth Funding available in 2022/23 is therefore £0.321m.
- 3.2 Officers from the Authority have reviewed all schools' projected pupil numbers for Sept 22 using the latest information available from the Admissions Team, then applied the criteria in the Growth Funding Policy to identify eligible schools. Five schools, with a total funding allocation of £0.311m were eligible and approved by Schools Forum Sub-Group, subject to each school providing a response to our request for evidence. If all funding payments are approved the 2022/23 closing balance will be £0.010m surplus which will be held and carried forward into 2023/24.

Table 2: Growth Funding Eligibility 2022/23

Growth Funding	Value £m	Eligibility
Wellfield	0.057	Subject to response to request for evidence
Norham	0.058	Subject to response to request for evidence
Burnside	0.072	Subject to response to request for evidence
North Gosforth	0.064	Subject to response to request for evidence
Backworth	0.060	Growing School Criteria
Total	0.311	

Recommendations

4.1 Schools Forum is asked to:

- Consider the funding allocations as set out in this report; and
- Provide the necessary approval for the Authority to process the payments to eligible schools.