

Bristol Schools Forum Supplementary Information



Date: Tuesday, 26 March 2024

Time: 5.00 pm

Venue: Virtual Meeting via Zoom

5. Director of Education & Skills Update

5.25 pm

Reena Bhogal-Welsh to provide a verbal update and presentation.

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Date: Thursday, 18 April 2024





Director's Update Reena Bhogal-Welsh

March 2024

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- Thank you to all leaders who have worked closely with officers regarding the unprecedented times and loss of young people across our City. I would like to acknowledge my gratitude.
 - Acknowledgement of the appointment and start of: Head of Service for Inclusion – Emma Lloyd. Welcome to the team.
 - Thank you to Councillor Asher Craig, this would be Councillor Craig's final Schools Forum, thank you for your support, challenge and significant contribution over a number of years enabling Education and Skills to move in an agile and dynamic way to serve the children, young people and families of Bristol. I am grateful for your leadership and guidance.

- Matters Arising

1. Inclusion Hub query: **Details of when Heads and/or SENCOs were briefed about the introduction of the Inclusion Hub and what opportunities were provided for input into the creation of the project.**

- Discussion regarding Bristol Inclusion and Fair Access panel (BIFAP) and Bristol Inclusion Panel (BIP) have been progressive with leaders across the city.

- There is a BIFAP steering groups to discuss the strategic direction of how leaders can work together

Page 4 The evolution of the alternative learning provision into the Inclusion Hub has been organic to meet the needs in the city and for the Local Authority to reflect a more holistic way of working together with leaders and for the children and young people we serve.

4 - A number of briefings have occurred since May 2023 up to February 2024 internally as well as steering group dates from January 2023 up to and including February 2024.

- Specific feedback has been requested and received through Primary Heads, Bristol Secondary Heads and the Fair Access Panel steering groups. Feedback was received from 14 secondary schools and 23 primary schools.

2. **To provide contact details of the key project leaders, to be provided to Forum in the first instance and then disseminated out to settings & leaders.**

Mark Kennedy and Natasha Spence.

The new head of service: Inclusion – Emma Lloyd: Emma.Lloyd2@bristol.gov.uk

Towards a sustainable and inclusive SEND system in Bristol

Who?

What?

When?

LAs with the highest DSG Deficits are invited to Safety Valve

5-year plan and agreement between the DfE and individual LAs

Participating LAs are expected to quickly reach an in-year balance

LAs with less severe DSG Deficits are invited to Delivering Better Value (DBV)

To hold LAs to account on SEND reforms and becoming financially sustainable

There is a further expectation to eliminate deficits over time

How?

Why?

6-year transformation plan, investment costs and BCC strategy

Unsustainable current funding model – Forecasted £16m in year deficit for 2023/2024

Build on the DSG Deficit Management Plan and DBV Programme

Forecasted cumulative deficit of £56m at the end of 2023/2024

Successful SEND systems require a culture of shared responsibility, accountability, and learning – underpinned by trust. We intend to build a system where good education outcomes and sustainable finances are balanced

- 1. Creating a SEND system where more CYP with SEND can remain in mainstream provision for longer, by providing schools and early years settings with the support to strengthen practice and improve physical spaces**
- 2. Ensuring we have the right mix and level of provision to meet the needs of all children and young people when a specialist place is required**
- 3. Designing efficient and effective systems ensuring CYP with SEND receive timely support, and that schools receive the right level of funding to meet those needs**
- 4. Continuing to build, strengthen, and sustain relationships with key stakeholders engaging them in genuine collaboration and co-design**

We will achieve this for Bristol by focusing on the following four themes, which underpin our programme plan

Sufficiency

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age 8
Ensure we have the right mix and level of provision to meet the needs of all children and young people when a specialist place is required

Demand

Create a system where more CYP with SEND can remain in mainstream provision for longer, where needs can be met by providing schools & early years settings with the support to strengthen practice and improve physical spaces

Efficiency

Design efficient and effective systems ensuring CYP with SEND receive timely support, and that schools receive the right level of funding, at the right time, to meet those needs

Partnerships

Continue to build, strengthen, and sustain relationships with key stakeholders engaging them in genuine collaboration, co-design and coproduction

Scenario shows the cumulative deficit position with the Schools Block Contribution 0.5% to HNB, backlog, inflation, project resource cost of delivery & stretched targets from financial year 2024-25 to 2029-30

Scenario	2022-23 £,000s	2023-24 £,000s	2024-25 £,000s	2025-26 £,000s	2026-27 £,000s	2027-28 £,000s	2028-29 £,000s	2029-30 £,000s
Mitigated Planned DSG position (surplus)/deficit	£39,577	£56,077	£76,179	£96,023	£108,444	£114,213	£111,184	£100,290
Unmitigated Planned DSG position (surplus)/deficit	£39,577	£58,189	£90,505	£133,110	£181,483	£236,554	£296,577	£360,661
Total DSG Grant Allocations <i>(Based on 2024-25 Allocations Published December 2023)</i>		(£452,302)	(£490,014)	(£502,978)	(£516,331)	(£530,000)	(£543,000)	(£560,838)
Unmitigated expenditure forecast		£470,915	£518,211	£537,084	£552,810	£568,539	£584,268	£600,598
Uncontainable Inflation		£0	£3,455	£7,282	£11,245	£15,208	£19,171	£23,926
Project Resource - Cost of Delivery		£0	£663	£1,218	£649	£399	£399	£399
Total Unmitigated Expenditure		£470,915	£522,329	£545,584	£564,704	£585,156	£604,274	£624,923
Unmitigated expenditure forecast		£18,612	£32,315	£42,606	£48,373	£55,071	£60,023	£64,084
to annual Budget approval)		£0	(£1,722)	(£1,773)	(£1,826)	(£1,881)	(£1,938)	£0
Additional Funding for new Maintained Specialist Provision Places		£0	(£933)	(£1,358)	(£1,878)	(£2,225)	(£2,537)	(£2,699)
Total Other Income		£0	(£2,655)	(£3,131)	(£3,704)	(£4,106)	(£4,475)	(£2,699)
Savings forecast		(£2,112)	(£9,491)	(£17,883)	(£28,148)	(£38,540)	(£49,190)	(£60,361)
Stretched Target - Optimistic Scenario		£0	(£69)	(£1,748)	(£4,100)	(£6,656)	(£9,387)	(£11,918)
Total Savings Forecast		(£2,112)	(£9,560)	(£19,631)	(£32,247)	(£45,196)	(£58,577)	(£72,279)
Total Scenario (Annual Deficit) excluding LA Contributions		£16,500	£20,101	£19,844	£12,421	£5,769	(£3,029)	(£10,893)
Additional Council Contributions								
Council General Fund contribution Project Resource - Cost of Delivery		£0	(£663)	(£1,218)	(£649)	(£399)	(£399)	(£399)
Council General Fund contribution		£0	(£3,500)	(£3,500)	(£3,500)	(£3,500)	(£3,500)	(£3,500)
Council General Fund contribution - Reserves		£0	(£7,837)	(£7,282)	(£6,655)	£0	£0	£0
Total Council Contributions		£0	(£12,000)	(£12,000)	(£10,804)	(£3,904)	(£3,904)	(£46,500)
Grand Total Scenario (Annual Deficit)		£16,500	£8,101	£7,844	£1,617	£1,865	(£7,003)	(£15,786)
Cumulative Mitigated Planned DSG position (surplus)/deficit after Council Contribution		£56,077	£64,179	£72,023	£73,640	£75,510	£68,582	£53,790

Break Even Point

Inflation – Significant Cost Pressure

BCC Contributions

DfE Contribution

Financial Sustainability

Themes



Sufficiency



Efficiency



Demand



Partnerships

Workstreams

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New Specialist Provision	INMS Provider Uplifts	Early Intervention & School Improvement	SEND Inclusion Strategy
Capital Investment New Specialist Settings	ALP Commissioning Framework	Targeted Funding & Outreach Implementation	SEND Annual Summit
Expanded Supported Living	Digital SEND Support System	Pathways to Independence	SEND Self-Evaluation Framework (SEF)
Bristol Free School	Statutory Funding Standardisation	Reduce Growth in EOTAS	SEND Governance
Increase use and scope of ALP	Data Dashboard		Communication Strategy
Review of Post-16 Out of Authority	EHCP Process		

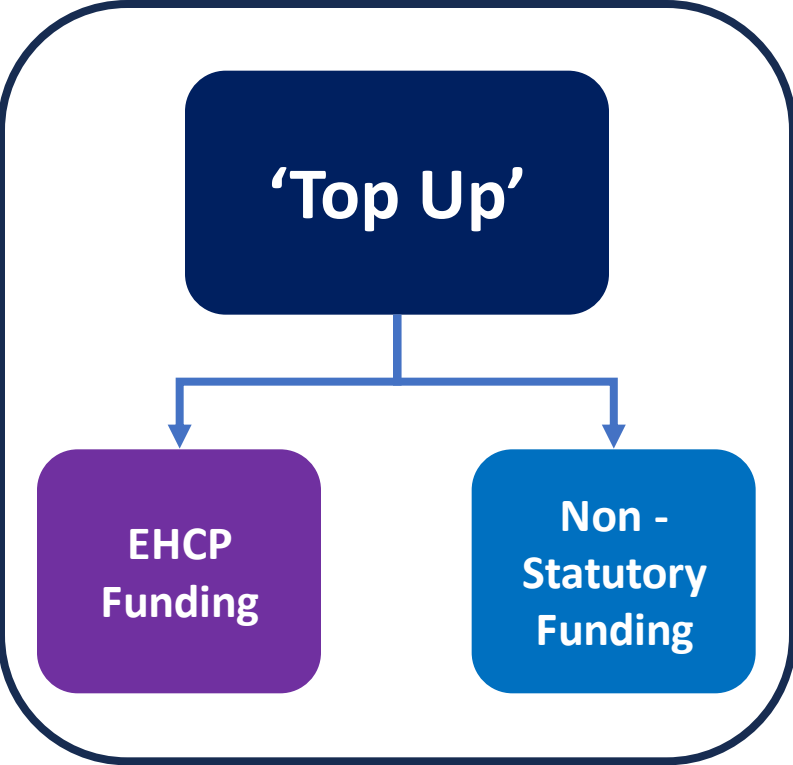
 Enablers
 Mitigations

Current Funding Model

Panel Used to Agree EHCP Funding

Funding Delays

Resource Intensive



£5.5m Allocated in 2023/24

Greatest Demand from Primary Schools

SEMH & SLCN

Was this model delivering value for money?

How could we make it better?

Future Funding Model

1. **Current 'Top-Up' model phased out – Funding at point of EHCP Completion**
2. **February & June Panels Limited to 1 Year Funding – June Panel will be the last 'Top-Up' Panel – single panel**
3. **Current non-statutory funding commitments will continue in line with agreements – up to three years.**
4. **Delivery Partner & Head of Inclusion will Lead on Co-Design of New 'Non-Statutory' Offer**
 - Targeted Funding Model (£1m)
 - Outreach Support (£1m)
5. **Development Period April – July. Scheduled to be operational from September 2024**
6. **Funding and support will be outcome focused & time bound – demonstrate impact and improved outcomes**

