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**Meeting:** Schools Forum  
**Date:** 20 June 2011  
**Subject:** Schools Specific Contingency Budget  
**Report of:** Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Children's Services  
**Summary:** To provide an update on the Schools Specific Contingency Budget for 2011/12.

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Contact Officer: Dawn Hill, Technology House, Bedford

Public/Exempt: Public

Wards Affected: All

Function of: Council

Reason for urgency  
(if appropriate)

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 1. To note the School Specific Contingency position statement as at 27<sup>th</sup> May 2011.**

#### **Background**

1. The Schools Specific Contingency Budget falls under Schedule 2 of The School Finance Regulations 2008. 'Classes or descriptions of planned expenditure prescribed for the purposes of the Schools budget of a Local Authority which may be deducted from it to determine the Individual Schools Budget' (top slice Direct Schools Grant – DSG).
2. At the Central Bedfordshire School Forum on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2011, the following budgets were agreed:
  - £500,000 General Contingency plus a further £1,000,000 in anticipation of the cost of redundancies in schools during 2011/12.
  - £275,670 SEN Contingency.

Total Budget agreed for 2011/12 is £1,775,670.

3. The School Contingency carry forward from 2010/11, as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011 is £1,061,547 which is split into General (£845,708) and SEN Contingency (£215,839).
4. The General Contingency budget can be utilised to fund the following:
  - Rent and Joint Use equalisation charges;
  - Rates adjustments that have arisen from re-valuations or an adjustment to original formula;

- Lease/planning permission associated with curriculum classes;
- Adjustment to Formula i.e. floor area, teacher threshold, NQT, additional pupil numbers;
- DSG shortfall;
- Closing Schools;
- Redundancy costs where applicable
- Funding of exceptional circumstances, the Director of Children's Services can authorise sums up to £10,000 in respect of any one school in a financial year.

### General Contingency Expenditure to Date

5. The following table sets out the expenditure to date against the General contingency.

	<b>BUDGET £</b>	<b>SPEND £</b>	<b>BALANCE £</b>
Carry Forward from 2010/11	845,708		
Budget Allocation 2011/12	1,500,000		
Floor Area Adjustments		(10,092)	
Rates Adjustments		(68,704)	
Lump Sum		(7,915)	
ISB Adjustments		26,822	
Admissions		(665)	
<b>Total General Contingency</b>	<b>2,345,708</b>	<b>(60,554)</b>	<b>2,285,154</b>

6. The detail on the spend is as follows -

- Floor Area adjustments to the initial allocation of SBS.
- Rates adjustments that have arisen from revaluations/ rates relief.
- Lump sum adjustment as agreed by School Forum for St Vincent School
- Adjustment to allocation of Early Years Funding
- Admissions responsibilities

### SEN Contingency Expenditure to Date

7. The SEN Contingency has been agreed to fund :

- A growth in Behavioural Emotional and Social Difficulties (BESD) provision
- Revised formula for Special Schools
- Additional and alternative models of specialist provision within mainstream schools
- Additional support to mainstream schools:-
  - i. Specialist support services and BESD services
  - ii. Special Schools Outreach
  - iii. Commissioned support

8. There has been no spend to date from SEN Contingency.

### Appendices:

None