

School Funding Consultation 2013/14

DRAFT

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Executive Summary

1. The Department for Education (DfE) is changing the funding arrangements for schools. This document explains the main changes and specific proposals for Central Bedfordshire. We are keen to hear your views before we make our final decision on the funding arrangements. Please read this document and return the consultation response form at the end with your views by 28th September 2012.
2. Below is a summary of the scheme specified by the DfE.
3. From 2013/14 the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) will be split into three notional funding blocks:
 - Schools Block
 - Early Years Block
 - High Needs Block

Authorities are free to move funding between the blocks provided they comply with the requirements of the Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) and central expenditure.

4. The Schools Block includes the delegated budgets of Lower, Middle and Upper Schools. Funding within the Schools Block that is currently retained by the Authority **must** be delegated to schools with the following exceptions:
 - Exception 1 where the Schools' Forum agrees that a service should be provided centrally, such as:
 - Contingencies (including previous amounts for schools in financial difficulties) *
 - Free school meals eligibility
 - Insurance
 - Licences/subscriptions
 - Staff costs – supply cover (Facilities Time for Union Duties)*
 - Support for minority ethnic pupils and underachieving groups
 - Behaviour support services
 - Library and museum services

Only those that are asterisked apply to Central Bedfordshire.

Funds are allocated through a formula. Funds can however be de-delegated for maintained schools if approval is given (approval is required by the relevant phase members of the Schools Forum).

- Exception 2 where the Schools' Forum agrees for historic commitments such as combined services and redundancy costs to continue to be funded; and

- Exception 3 where the Local Authority continues to provide statutory functions such as a co-ordinated admissions schemes.
5. Where funding is retained by the Authority for maintained schools, under exceptions 2 and 3, the Local Authority is not allowed to retain more than the 2012/13 budget.
 6. In addition, funds can be centrally retained before allocating formula, with agreement of School Forum, for funding significant pre-16 pupil growth and expenditure incurred in order to make provision for extra classes (to comply with School Admissions (Infant Class Sizes) Regulations).
 7. The requirement to delegate the Schools Block to schools will remove the need for the Local Authority Central Spend Equivalent Grant (LACSEG) calculation. Maintained schools will be funded in the same way as Academies.
 8. School budgets will be based on October census data rather than January.
 9. The funding for pupils with statements of SEN and enhanced specialist provision in mainstream schools will come from the High Needs Block. Schools will be required to fund the first £6,000 per statement from their notional SEN.
 10. Funding for Early Years provision will be funded through the Early Years Single Funding Formula within the Early Years Block.
 11. To strengthen local decision-making there are proposed changes to the School Forum composition and operation so that their decisions better reflect the views of all providers. The Education Funding Agency (EFA) will play a role in upholding the fairness of local decision-making.
 12. To support these changes and protect schools from significant fluctuations in their budgets the Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) will continue to operate at minus 1.5% per pupil for 2013/14 and 2014/15.
 13. MFG does not apply to:
 - post 16 funding from the Education Funding Agency;
 - allocations from the High Needs Block (including named pupils and special units);
 - the lump sum, adjusting the baseline;
 - rates;
 - early years single funding formula allocations; and
 - services previously centrally funded and being delegated in 13/14
 14. Pupil Premium will remain a separate grant in 2013/14 and 2014/15.

Summary DfE Timetable

April - June	LAs undertake detailed modelling of new formula in conjunction with schools forums
May - September	LAs able to requests exceptional factors and MFG exclusions to EFA
June - October	Consultation with all schools and Academies on new formula
By July	Reconstitution of schools forums where necessary
To September	EFA will confirm baselines with LAs once section 251 statements have been submitted
End of October	LAs submit pro-forma to EFA
December	Census data and school/high needs block confirmed

Introduction - Central Bedfordshire Council and School Forum proposals for the simplification of local arrangements

15. In order to support the movement towards a national funding formula in the next Spending Review, all Local Authorities are required to simplify local arrangements for distributing funding to schools and other providers. The considerable flexibility currently allowed in the distribution of funding locally has resulted in the generation of very complex local formulae, taking account of many different elements, many of which have little or no impact on pupil attainment.

16. The current School Funding Regulations allow Local Authorities to use up to 37 funding factors within their Formulae for Funding Schools (CBC use 27). From 2013/14 the following 12 factors only will be permitted:

- Basic per-pupil (**mandatory factor**)
- Deprivation (**mandatory factor**)
- Looked after Children (optional)
- Low cost, high incidence SEN (optional)
- English as an additional language (optional)
- Lump sum (optional)
- Split sites (optional)
- Rates (optional)
- PFI contracts (optional)
- Pupil Mobility (optional)
- DSG spent on Post 16 pupils (optional) and
- London weighting (Not applicable to CBC)

17. Further information and guidance to assist Local Authorities (LAs) and their Schools Forums in planning the local implementation of the reformed funding system for 2013/14 is available on the DfE website at

[School funding reform and arrangements for 2013-14 - Schools](#)

18. At the meeting of the Schools Forum on 25 June 2012 it was agreed that a Technical Sub Group would be set up to work with the Local Authority on matters arising from the Schools Funding Reforms. The members of the group representing all phases are:

Anne Bell (Nursery and Early Years)
 Sue Howley (Lower Maintained)
 Stephen Tiktin (Lower Maintained)
 David Brandon-Bravo (Middle Maintained)
 John Street (Middle Academy)
 Richard Holland (Upper Academy)
 Shirley Ann Crosbie (Special Maintained)
 Martin Foster (Trade Union)

19. The Council and the School Forum have met three times over July and August and have considered various options within the constraints set by the DfE, and the impact of these on individual schools, pupils and local demographics. Several changes are proposed to the local funding formula on this basis.

20. We would now like to hear your views on these proposals and have set out the timetable for this below:

Consultation Timetable

3 rd September 2012	Schools Forum to consider initial consultation to schools
4 th September 2012	Consultation document and Frequently Asked Questions issued to schools
20 th September 2012	Surgeries for specific school queries (two locations, venues to be advised from 1p.m. – 3p.m. and 4p.m. – 6 p.m.)
28 th September 2012	Consultation deadline – collation and analysis of responses from schools
October 2012	Consideration of responses by LA and School Forum Executive Approval
22 nd October 2012	Schools Forum considers responses from schools Schools Forum approval of new formula
31 st October 2012	2013/14 pro-forma submitted to EFA for approval

Proposed Formula Factors for distributing the Schools Block

Mandatory Factors

Basic per-pupil entitlement (AWPU)

21. All Local Authorities will allocate a basic per-pupil entitlement which is the equivalent of the current age weighted pupil unit (AWPU). For the purpose of this consultation we will refer to this element as the AWPU. There will be a single unit for primary aged pupils as there is little evidence to suggest that the costs between the Primary Key Stages vary.
22. National responses to the DfE consultation were strongly in favour of allowing a separate Key Stage 3 (Year 7 to 9) and Key Stage 4 (Year 10 and 11). Local Authorities will therefore be able to apply different AWPU values for KS3 and KS4.
23. Central Bedfordshire Council and the School Forum believe that applying two levels of basic entitlement to the secondary sector would better reflect the mixed structural provision currently on offer within Central Bedfordshire.

Question 1: Do you agree or disagree that for KS3 and KS4 different unit values better reflect the operation of basic entitlement for Central Bedfordshire Schools?

Deprivation

24. Currently Social Deprivation funding is calculated using ACORN data and targets those pupils in the most disadvantaged categories (band 4 - moderate means and band 5 hard pressed). Only those schools that have 15% or above of their total school population within band 4 and 5 currently receive funding.
25. The new formula as specified by the DfE **must** ensure that deprived pupils attract funding in a more consistent way and in order to do so, Local Authorities **must** base their funding on the following two indicators only:
 - Free School Meals (FSM or Ever6) and/or
 - Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI)

There can be separate unit values for Primary and Secondary. IDACI data may be weighted but FSM data cannot.
26. Both proposals direct funding through a unit rate per deprived pupil and several authorities have already moved to this way of targeting deprivation funding. Central Bedfordshire have continued to use a percentage threshold which we are no longer allowed to do. This has previously advantaged and dis-advantaged some schools due to the application of the threshold.
27. Each deprivation index targets slightly different disadvantaged groups due to the data being drawn from different sources. Moving from one deprivation index to another and to a basis of a unit rate per deprived pupil, will undoubtedly cause changes to funding at school level. It should be noted that a -1.5% Minimum

Funding Guarantee will continue for 2013/14 and 2014/15 minimising the effect of any loss at school level.

28. The technical sub group considered both FSM and IDACI carefully in determining that IDACI targeted deprivation funding more appropriately.
29. It is Central Bedfordshire Council's intention to continue to target those schools with the most disadvantaged pupils, and in order to ensure that the maximum number of eligible pupils are identified, Central Bedfordshire Council and the School Forum propose to use the IDACI indicator weighted by band. Schools will continue to receive pupil premium targeted at free school meal eligibility.

Question 2: Do you agree or disagree with the proposal to use weighted IDACI indicators for calculating and targeting deprivation funding?

Optional factors

30. Any funding used for optional factors that are not currently in use would be deducted from the basic entitlement (AWPU).

Looked after Children (LAC)

31. The current formula does not allocate funding through a Looked after Children (LAC) factor. Currently there are 78 Looked after Children across Central Bedfordshire Schools. The DfE proposals allow funding to be based on where LAC pupils are on October census day. As Looked After Children can move frequently from one school to another, the funding would remain with the school as at census day. Schools with LAC are in receipt of Pupil Premium Grant.
32. Central Bedfordshire Council and the School Forum propose to exclude LAC as a separate funding factor as this cannot be proven to target individual pupils changing schools at any time other than at the beginning of the academic year in time for the October census.

Question 3: Do you agree or disagree with the proposal to exclude LAC as a factor in the funding formula?

High incidence low level needs (HILLN)

33. Currently Central Bedfordshire Council funds schools that have pupils with low cost, high incidence SEN and Personalisation. These factors are based in part on pupil numbers, low prior attainment and the Acorn index of deprivation categories 4 and 5.
34. The new regulations allow continuation of a HILLN factor however; this **must** only be calculated using the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile for primary schools and KS2 results for secondary schools. This is restricted to teacher assessment and test data which do not assess needs.
35. Furthermore the DfE has indicated that they are inclined to set a minimum threshold for allocating funding through the basic entitlement (AWPU).

36. Central Bedfordshire Council and the School Forum propose that those funds previously directed through a HILLN and Personalisation be added to the basic entitlement (AWPU) for all pupils in line with the DfE's agenda allocating as much funding as possible through the basic entitlement so it is clear that the funding follows the pupil.

Question 4: Do you agree or disagree with the proposal to distribute the HILLN funds through the basic per-pupil (AWPU) entitlement?

English as an Additional Language (EAL)

37. The current formula does not allocate funding through English as an Additional Language (EAL) factor. The new arrangements allow a factor for EAL, for a maximum of three years after the pupil enters the statutory age school system. There can be separate unit values for Primary and Secondary.

38. The table below shows the number of pupils where English is an Additional Language and the years the pupil enters the statutory school system.

Number of Years in statutory Education	Lower	Middle	Upper
1st	26	19	10
2nd	124	36	19
3rd	280	47	26

39. Central Bedfordshire Council centrally holds £118,000 of DSG funds to support schools to narrow achievement gaps for Ethnic Minority (EM) or EAL pupils. The funds have been distributed on the number of EM pupils at a school as identified on the school census. Any remaining amount supports a small project to support Traveller pupils.

40. The Council no longer has an EM and Traveller Achievement Service; there is a greater emphasis on schools supporting pupils through their own resources.

41. Central Bedfordshire Council and the School Forum propose not to include a separate funding factor for EAL and that existing centrally held funds should be added to the basic entitlement (AWPU) for all schools.

Question 5: Do you agree or disagree with the proposal to exclude EAL as a factor in the funding formula?

Lump sum

42. The purpose of the lump sum is to provide all mainstream schools (including Academies but not Special Schools), irrespective of size, with a contribution to the basic costs of operating a school.

43. To simplify school funding, Local Authorities will only be able to apply a single lump sum for all primary and secondary schools irrespective of size. This is predominately aimed at supporting small schools but for simplicity all schools would receive the same lump sum.
44. The DfE have set an upper limit on the lump sum at a level no higher than is needed in order to ensure that efficient small schools are able to exist where they are genuinely needed. The DfE have set the upper limit at £200,000.
45. Central Bedfordshire Council and the School Forum believe the fairest option for schools in Central Bedfordshire is a lump sum of either £100,000 or £120,000. Lump sums above £120,000 will adversely affect funding for larger schools and conversely, lump sums below £100,000 adversely impact the budgets of smaller schools.
46. The table below shows the effect on AWPU values for two lump sums (£100,000 and £120,000) and the impact of disallowed factors transferring to the basic entitlement. The 2012/13 unit rate is for comparison and is an average. The figures are illustrative and must not be taken as final allocations.

Lump Sum	Age Weighted Pupil Units (AWPU)		
	Primary	KS3	KS4
2012/13	2645	3,531	4,828
£100,000	2,996	4,070	4,868
£120,000	2,869	4,113	4,813

Question 6: Please indicate which of the two lump sums you think should be used as a contribution to the basic costs of operating a school?

Split sites

47. The current factor for a split site school is based on an historical value that has not been reviewed since the creation of Central Bedfordshire Council in 2009. A split site factor is still permitted in the new arrangements.
48. Where existing factors have been used for some years and the rationale is unclear, these should be reviewed. The allocation must be based on objective criteria, both for the definition of a split site and for how much is allocated.
49. The factor is intended to contribute towards the additional costs incurred by schools that operate across separate sites. Additional costs typically incurred may include the need to duplicate reception, caretaking, teaching and non - teaching staff, and also resources including equipment on more than one site. This may also include significant travel costs of staff and pupils between sites.
50. The proposed definition of a split site is a single school, based on two or more sites that do not share a common boundary, which are a minimum of 1km apart and

where use of a public highway is necessary to travel between each distinct site. Each of the sites must be centres of class teaching and learning.

Note: Federated schools are not eligible for this factor as they remain separate schools receiving individual delegated budgets for each within its federation and therefore each retaining a lump sum.

51. Central Bedfordshire Council and the School Forum propose to allocate an additional lump sum to those schools meeting the definition of split site.

Rates

52. Rates must be based on actual cost. This value will be set at the time the annual school budget share is issued, based on the most recent available information. Values will be updated annually as part of the school budget setting exercise. Adjustments will be made in the following financial year.

Question 7: Do you agree or disagree with the continuation of funding rates on an actual basis?

Private Finance Initiative (PFI) contracts

53. There is not currently a Private Finance Initiative (PFI) factor within the local formula. New arrangements continue to allow payments in relation to PFI, however the factor is designed to deal with additional costs arising for schools as a result of their PFI status. The PFI factor should only cover the net additional costs incurred by the school and should not result in a profit.
54. In many local funding formulas DSG is used to bridge the funding gap which is present in every PFI scheme. The funding gap is the difference between the overall cost of the contract and income to it from the schools and the DfE. The funding gap for Central Bedfordshire's two PFI schools is not met by DSG contributions, as it is in many LAs, but paid from the Council's core funding that it receives through revenue support grant. It is not a requirement to delegate the PFI affordability gap as this can continue to be funded outside of the DSG.
55. Central Bedfordshire Council and the School Forum propose not to introduce a new factor for PFI, however, it is recognised that this may need to be reconsidered in the future should the pupil numbers reduce below that specified in the contractual obligation causing the schools additional costs in accordance with paragraph 53 above.

Question 8: Do you agree or disagree with the proposal to exclude a PFI factor from the funding formula for 2013/14?

Pupil Mobility

56. There is not currently a Pupil Mobility factor within the local formula. The new arrangements allow a factor to be included based on pupils who did not start in August or September (or January for Year 1).
57. The table below shows the number of pupils in Central Bedfordshire Schools that were admitted to schools outside of the timelines specified above. The school level data has been provided by the DfE and is based on the academic year 2011/12.

Lower	Middle	Upper	Total
1,319	503	228	2,050

58. The issue of mobility in Central Bedfordshire has only been raised previously in relation to service children. This particular group of pupils will not be targeted by this new criterion. In addition, service children now receive Pupil Premium Grant.
59. Central Bedfordshire Council and the School Forum propose not to include a new factor for pupil mobility given that it is not targeted at any particular group of pupils where mobility may be an issue.

DSG spent on Post 16 pupils

60. A per pupil factor is allowable which continues funding for post-16 pupils up to the level that the Local Authority provided in 2012/13. Central Bedfordshire Council did not provide DSG for this purpose in 2012/13 and therefore a factor it is not permitted going forward.

Exceptional Items

61. Local Authorities can request the inclusion of additional factors in their formula for exceptional circumstances. The regulations will restrict the additional factors which may be approved to the nature of the school premises giving rise to significant additional costs greater than 1% of the school's total budget, and where such costs affect fewer than 5% of the school in the Local Authority area (including Academies)
62. The only factor meeting this criterion is the joint use provision for sports facilities at one upper school in Central Bedfordshire.
63. Central Bedfordshire Council and the School Forum propose that the exceptional item is requested as approved by the Education Funding Agency.

Capping of Gains

64. The pre-16 Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) will continue to be set at minus 1.5% per pupil in 2013/14 and 2014/15; however the calculation of the MFG will be substantially simplified. This applies to pupils in age ranges 5-16 and therefore

excludes funding for early years children (see Early Years section below) and young people over 16.

65. The only factors which will be automatically excluded from the MFG are:

- post 16 funding from the Education Funding Agency;
- allocations from the High Needs Block (including named pupils and special units);
- the lump sum, adjusting the baseline;
- rates;
- early years single funding formula allocations; and
- services previously centrally funded and being delegated in 2013/14

66. As school budgets will, in future, be based on the October pupil count, the MFG will also need to reflect this date instead of the January count as at present.

67. As there could be significant amounts of protection required in some areas as a result of the formula simplification, the DfE will be allowing overall gains for individual schools to be capped as well as scaled back to make it affordable to run the formula.

68. Central Bedfordshire Council and the Schools Forums have considered the options and propose to cap those schools that gain in order to fund the MFG for those schools that lose.

Question 9: Do you agree or disagree with the proposal to cap those schools that gain in order to fund the MFG for those schools that lose?

Centrally Retained Schools Block

69. The DfE requires that the funding that was centrally retained in 2012/13 that will fall within the Schools Block in 2013/14 should be delegated to all schools with the following exceptions.

- a. Exception 1 – Where maintained schools agree that a service should be provided centrally.

70. These services must be allocated through the local formula in the first instance and de-delegated for maintained schools (subject to approval by the relevant phase members of the Schools Forum having agreement with the Local Authority to administer those services). Those services applicable to Central Bedfordshire are:

- Facilities Time (Union representation at meetings etc)
- Schools Specific Contingency (Closing and re-organising, Schools in financial difficulty etc)

The table below represents the anticipated maintained school contribution should the items above be de-delegated.

	Distributed through formula factor	Total Value	Per-pupil
Facilities Time	Basic entitlement	£55,000	£2.77
School Specific Contingency	Basic entitlement	£100,000	£5.00

Question 10a: Do you agree or disagree with the proposal to de-delegate Facilities Time?

Question 10b: Do you agree or disagree with the proposal to de-delegate School Contingency?

- b. Exception 2 – Historic Commitments – these are not applicable to Central Bedfordshire
- c. Exception 3 – Statutory Functions of the Local Authority applicable to Central Bedfordshire:
 - Co-ordinated admissions scheme;
 - Servicing of the Schools’ Forum;

The funding for the above items cannot be delegated as it relates to the statutory functions of the Local Authority.

71. The Local Authority is permitted to retain centrally before allocating formula to schools funding for significant pre-16 pupil growth and in order to comply with the Schools Admissions (Infant Class Sizes) regulations. The fund must be used on the same basis for the benefit of both maintained schools and Academies. Any fund remaining at the end of the financial year must be added to the following year’s DSG and reallocated to both maintained schools and Academies through the local formula.
72. Central Bedfordshire is an area that will see significant growth in school aged children over the coming years, triggered by the increase in birth rate (which is impacting now and for at least the next five years) and by the rate of local housing development that is forecast over the next 25 years. The Council's School Organisation Plan outlines the pattern of this growth across phases and its New School Places Programme establishes an investment strategy for major projects to ensure that the Council continues to meet its statutory obligations to provide sufficient high quality school places. In addition the Council will continue to utilise its programme of temporary accommodation where appropriate and will work with schools and academies in each of our planning areas to discuss school organisation and admissions issues and agree management options.
73. It is proposed to establish a Growth Fund to provide schools and academies with revenue support for staffing and other core costs where a **significant** increase in capacity and/or Admission Number has been agreed by the Council's School Organisation & Admissions Service as required to manage demographic growth i.e. basic need. The revenue is intended to provide a minimum level of funding

guarantee, for a defined period, while planned new provision is filling to capacity when the basis of funding can revert to the pupil, rather than a place led approach.

74. The School Standards and Framework Act 1998 (Sections 1- 4) states that all schools with infant pupils must organise their Key Stage 1 classes to ensure that they contain no more than 30 pupils for all ordinary teaching sessions taught by a single qualified teacher. The Regulations establish detail on the definition of infant classes and there are a number of exceptions where the limit can be breached.
75. Our current calculation for infant class size funding is based on key stage 1 pupils and is allocated on the basis of 'ghost pupils' applied to the pupil data in respect of four, five and six year olds. This is used as the basis to calculate and compare with the next multiple of 30. The difference between the two becomes the number of 'Ghost Pupils' which the school would be funded at, at an amount per 'Ghost Pupil'.
76. Central Bedfordshire Council and the School Forum propose to retain within the Growth Fund, a factor to assist lower and primary schools, to meet the infant class size regulations, where a breach is unavoidable.
77. The Local Authority is required to produce criteria to the Schools Forum and gain its agreement before growth funding can be allocated. The criteria will set out both the circumstances in which a payment could be made and provide a basis for calculating the sum to be paid.
78. The following centrally held DSG for 2012/13 must be delegated to schools in 2013/14 and cannot be de-delegated. Schools may choose to buy into services where available, the services include:
- DSG held for overheads (Schools Block)
 - 14-19 Practical Learning (Upper Schools only)
 - Raising Attainment
 - AST
 - LACSEG
 - School Journey Log
 - Academies Support
 - Hospital Recoupment (transferred to High Needs Block)
 - Access and Inclusion (transferred to High Needs Block)
 - EY Child Information
79. Central Bedfordshire Council and the School Forum propose to transfer the above centrally held funds to the pupil basic entitlement (AWPU) after allowing growth funding in accordance with paragraph 77 above.

Early Years Block

80. The DfE are not proposing major changes to the main elements of the Early Years Single Funding Formula (EYSFF). Different base rates for different types of

provision are still permitted and factors for quality, flexibility and sufficiency continue. There will continue to be a mandatory deprivation supplement in the EYSFF and flexibility in the indices used.

81. However, in line with the main formula there are constraints on other factors such as those relating to premises. The factors allowed in the main formula are also allowed in the EYSFF. Local Authorities therefore are required to review their EYSFF and remove factors which are no longer permitted.
82. The MFG will apply to the EYSFF for all providers for the first time, but only for the base rates.
83. In line with the above constraints Central Bedfordshire Council and the School Forum propose the following changes:
 - £100k Lump Sum for Nursery
 - Increase PVI rate by 30p to £3.60
 - Apply MFG of minus 1.5% to base rate only for Nursery and PVI

High Needs Block

84. The DfE have set out a new approach to funding provision for pupils and students with high needs. This includes pupils aged up to 19 with high-level SEN; pupils of compulsory school age in alternative provision (AP); and those aged 16-25 with high level learning difficulties or disabilities (LDD).
85. This new approach defines high needs pupils and students as those who require provision costing more than about £10,000 per year in total. This threshold distinguishes between the needs that are expected to be met through mainstream funding and the point at which additional high needs funding is provided.
86. Under the new funding arrangements, mainstream settings will be expected to contribute the first £6,000 of educational support for high needs pupils and students. Schools and Academies will continue to receive a clearly-identified notional SEN budget from which to make this contribution. Top-up funding above this level will be agreed between the commissioner and provider, and paid direct to the provider by the commissioning authority.
87. Specialist SEN and LDD settings will receive a base level funding on the basis of an agreed number of places. The number of places will be set initially on the current number of funded places. Pre 16 will be £10,000 per place. AP settings will receive a base level of funding of £8,000 per place. Top-up funding above this level will be agreed between the commissioner and provider, and paid direct to the provider by the commissioning authority.
88. Special units in mainstream schools will be funded like Special Schools with base funding and top-up funding. A condition of grant will be set in the first year that

provides for; total funding for 2013/14 will be no more than 1.5% below that received in 2012/13.

89. Alternative Provision settings will have delegated budgets from April 2013.

90. Top up funding will be provided on a per pupil or student basis, based on the assessed needs of the pupil or student, and agreed between the commissioner and provider. Top up funding will flow directly between the commissioner and provider and therefore no need for inter-authority recoupment. It will be paid in or close to the real-time movement of the pupil or student. There will be a condition of grant set to ensure that this will happen.

Financial Model

Below is a summary of the proposed changes and the basis of the modelling attached :

- Separate Primary and Key Stage 3 and 4 basic per pupil entitlement (AWPU)
- Deprivation funded using IDACI (weighted)
- Lump sum £120k
- Split Site
- Rates
- Exceptional item (Joint use)

The minimum funding guarantee has been calculated using the DfE's simplified calculation, the only exceptions being the lump sum, sixth form funding, rates, allocations from the High Needs Block, EYSFF and services previously centrally funded being delegated in 2013/14

Winners have been capped to fund the required protection.

Lower Schools' Early Years, SEN and Provisions are as per 2012/13 funding.

Exception 1 – Facilities Time and Contingencies assumed at £155,000

Exception 2 – not applicable to Central Bedfordshire

Exception 3 - Statutory functions; coordinated admissions scheme and servicing of Schools' Forum assumed as at current levels.

Centrally retained funding for pre-16 growth and expenditure incurred in order to make provision for extra classes to comply with School Admissions (Infant Class Sizes) Regulations.

The figures are illustrative and must not be taken as final allocations.

The consultation process

The Council is consulting you to ensure that the final funding scheme considers the views of the local schools.

The consultation will be open between Wednesday 4th September and 28th September 2012. You can respond to the consultation using the attached form, or you can respond through the Council's website www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/consultations.

The feedback from the consultation will be presented to the Council's Executive in October 2012 where a final decision will be made.

Contact us...

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on the web: www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

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