

Paper for meeting of Surrey Schools Forum 8 October 2024

The LA's annual consultation with schools on funding arrangements for the following year closed on 1 October and the results have been shared with Forum members. This paper summarises the questions to be discussed, whether each is for decision or recommendation by the Forum, and any voting restrictions imposed by legislation. The questions are set out below as in the consultation paper, with LA recommendations added.

LA recommendations are in line with the majority response with the exception of the transfer to high needs block (Proposal C1) and one de-delegation request.

5/26, in order to support the continued implementation of the safety valve agreement which secures additional funding towards the historic high needs deficit? (Note: as the proposed transfer exceeds 0.5% of school budget, the decision is for the Secretary of State, but the Secretary of State will expect to be advised of the views of Schools Forum).

For additional background please refer to presentation at July meeting.

LA recommendation: support

Do you support additional funding from the high needs block to assist schools

Do you support the introduction of falling rolls funding for primary schools facing a short term fall in pupil numbers, where the vacancies are expected to be required due to pupil growth in the area within the next three years

LA recommendation: support

Do you support the proposed 5% threshold for funding vacancies and the proposed basis of calculation of funding for individual schools?

LA recommendation: support

Do you agree that the LA should aim to contain the cost of falling rolls allocation within the estimated DFE allocation?

LA recommendation: support

Do you have any other comments/concerns about the proposals for falling rolls funding? No Forum action required.