

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>PROPOSED CHANGES TO MOUNTON HOUSE SPECIAL SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA.</b>
<b>MEETING:</b>	<b>INDIVIDUAL CABINET MEMBERS DECISION</b>
<b>DATE:</b>	<b>13th MARCH 2019</b>
<b>DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED:</b>	<b>All</b>

**1. PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this report is agree changes to the funding formula for Mounton House Special School.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

To agree to reduce the funding for Mounton House Special School by £275,000 as part of the budget setting for Monmouthshire County Council 2019-20.

**3. KEY ISSUES:**

**Background**

- 3.1 The funding formula for schools is regularly reviewed for schools to ensure that the funds are distributed fairly.
- 3.2 The consultation document attached in appendix 1 identifies the issues with the current formula and the reasons to make the changes.
- 3.3 The formula for Mounton House Special School was last reviewed in 2015, at this stage there were 42 pupils in the school. This included 18 residential places.
- 3.4 At the time of writing the consultation document there were 21 pupils on roll, with one residential pupil. The number of residential pupils has increased to 2.
- 3.5 Of these pupils 5 are from Monmouthshire.
- 3.6 The current funding for the school is £1,559,952 with the latest forecast from the school indicating a surplus of £81,880.
- 3.7 This proposal will reduce the funding to £1,284,952. It will be the governing body to decide how to reduce the costs to balance the budget. While a number of staffing changes have taken place during this year, which will have a favourable impact on the budget there will be a requirement to consider all costs.
- 3.8 The consultation period is for 4 weeks and closed on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2019 (noon).
- 3.9 The Headteacher has met with the CYP finance manager to discuss the proposal and to help identify areas of savings.
- 3.10 There have been 4 responses and these are shown in appendix 5.

#### **4. OPTIONS APPRAISAL**

This option was put forward given the recent reduction in pupil numbers at the school. The alternative would be to reduce funding for all Monmouthshire schools via a formula change, however all other schools are not facing the same reduction in pupil number and therefore this proposal was considered the preferable one.

#### **5. REASONS:**

Due to the reduction in pupil numbers this proposal seeks to reduce the funding for Mounton House Special School in line with this reduction.

#### **6. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

There will be a saving of £275,000 which will not be re distributed to other schools, but will be used as a saving to offset the shortfall in the 2019-20 Monmouthshire County Council Budget.

#### **7. WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS IMPLICATIONS (INCORPORATING EQUALITIES, SUSTAINABILITY, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING):**

This is included in appendix 4.

#### **8. CONSULTEES:**

All Headteachers  
Chairs of Governing Bodies  
Members of the School Budget Forum  
Senior Leadership Team  
Departmental Management Team  
Diocesan Directors  
All Elected Members  
CYP Select Committee.

#### **9. BACKGROUND PAPERS:**

Funding formula – Monmouthshire  
The Schools Budget Share (Wales) Regulations 2010.

#### **10. AUTHOR:**

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#### **11. CONTACT DETAILS:**

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