



MONMOUTHSHIRE LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY
CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE DIRECTORATE
CONSULTATION DOCUMENT – CHANGES TO THE FUNDING
FORMULA FOR SCHOOLS

- This document forms part of the consultation process on the proposed changes to the funding formula, which delegates funding to schools within Monmouthshire.
- The relevant Welsh Government legislation that Monmouthshire Local Education Authority is bound by is:

The Schools Budget Share (Wales) Regulations 2010.

CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE FORMULA FOR DELGATING FUNDING FOR PUPILS WITH ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS TO MONMOUTHSHIRE SCHOOLS.

Date of Issue: **10th January 2022**

Action Required: **Consultation closes noon on the 11th February 2022.**

Title of Document: The Review of Funding for Schools in Monmouthshire Consultation Document.

Audience: All Head teachers at Monmouthshire Schools, Chairs of Governing Bodies of Monmouthshire Schools, The Schools Budget Forum, the Senior Leadership Team, the Departmental Management Team of the Children and Young People Directorate, Children and Young People Select Committee, Diocesan Directors of Education and All Elected Members.

Overview: This document details the reasons for the review of the current consultation on School's funding and outlines the new proposals for the distribution of this funding.

Action Required: A proforma is enclosed for your response. The completed form should be sent to the address below by the consultation closing date of **noon on the 11th February 2022**

Responses to: Nikki Wellington

Finance Manager
Children and Young People Directorate
Monmouthshire County Council
County Hall
The Rhadyr
Usk
Monmouthshire
NP15 1GA
e-mail: nicolawellington@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Further Information: Enquiries about this consultation document should be directed to **Nikki Wellington**

Nikki Wellington
Tel: 01633 644549 / 07766 504389
e-mail: nicolawellington@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Additional Copies: These can be obtained from Nikki Wellington (telephone number and e-mail address above)

Related Documents: The Schools Budget Shares (Wales) Regulations 2010

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Appendix 1 – Proposed funding model affect on schools.

Appendix 2 – Proposed transition funding for schools

Appendix 3 – Integrated Impact Assessment Document.

1. Background

- 1.1 The school budget forum regularly reviews the funding formula for schools to ensure that the funding is distributed to schools in the fairest way.
- 1.2 Following a meeting of the School Budget Funding Forum on the 16th December 2021, members agreed to consult on the basis for delegating funding to Monmouthshire schools for pupils with additional learning needs (ALN).
- 1.3 This consultation only covers funding for pupils with ALN who attend a mainstream Monmouthshire school, this does not include the funding delegated to the Special Needs Resource Bases, small class provision at King Henry VIII School or placements in Out of County / Independent Schools.

2. Issues with current arrangements

- 2.1 The funding for pupils with ALN was last reviewed in 2009 and the current funding model was agreed and put in place. Under the current funding model funding is delegated as a lump sum to all schools using an indicator of FSM with additional funding delegated for individual pupils via a panel who look at their needs and agree a funding level.
- 2.2 To access funding pupils are assessed and provided with either a statement of educational needs or a school action plus resourced agreement, (SAPRA) both may attract a level of funding depending on the needs of the pupil, but a statement of educational needs is a statutory document with the SAPRA being a document internal to Monmouthshire.
- 2.3 Typically the funding provided will be Band D funding (£9,730) or Band E funding (£14,595). These values have not been increased for several years and all schools are required to use some of their school budget to meet need. It is a requirement that a minimum of 5% of the school budget is used to support pupils with additional learning needs.
- 2.4 This process is very bureaucratic requiring many forms and assessments to be completed and it is often criticised by Headteachers for being very time consuming and rigid. The funding follows the pupil and if the pupil leaves the funding will be removed which could result in a member of staff who is supporting that pupil being put at risk of losing their job.

3. Process.

3.1 It was agreed at the School Budget Finance Forum in the summer term that a working group would look at all the proposals and decide on a model to be consulted on. The working group members were primary and secondary school Headteacher, School Business Managers, Additional Learning Needs Co-Ordinator's and officers from the Local Authority covering Finance and Additional Learning Needs.

3.2 The working group considered several options these included:

- To leave funding as is and not make any changes – this was rejected by the working group for the reasons stated above.
- Delegate funding on pupil numbers – it was agreed that this should be part of the formula, but funding should not be delegated purely on pupil numbers.
- Delegate funding on FSM – it was agreed that this was not a measure of ALN.
- Total funding delegated on existing statement – it was agreed that this would not look at the future needs of pupils and schools who has been proactive in applying for statements would be favoured.
- Delegate to a cluster of schools – this was not accepted by all schools, but it was agreed that if schools wish they once the funding has been delegated, they can pool the funding for the cluster to allocate.

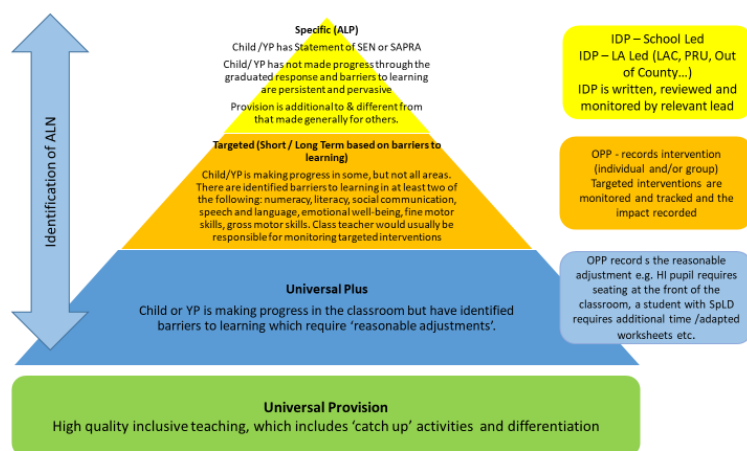
3.3 The working group agreed the following principles in deciding a proposal:

- The funding should follow the pupil
- The funding should allow for current and future needs
- The formula should create sustainability in funding so schools can plan
- The funding should be able to be used flexible to meet needs
- There should be a contingency which will have strict criteria to support learners that move into Monmouthshire and are not previously known about
- No school will be identified as it is the principles that are to be agreed and not the effect on the individual school.

3.4 Under the new Additional Learning Needs (ALN) and Educational Tribunal Act, schools will have increased responsibility to identify and meet the needs of learners who have ALN. The ALN Code states that 'Maintained schools have a key role to play in identifying ALN and in delivering Additional Learning Provision (ALP) to support learners with ALN. They are directly responsible for identifying and meeting the needs of the majority of their pupils who have ALN' (1.83).

In Monmouthshire and across the region, schools have been recommended to adopt a graduated response to meeting the needs of learners with ALN and to identify and secure provision/interventions to meet the continuum of need. The diagram below illustrates this model. To fulfil their statutory duties under

the new Code, schools will benefit from the flexibility and autonomy that delegated funding will provide, which will allow them to develop appropriate provision to ensure the needs of learners with ALN are fully met.



4. Proposal.

4.1 The working group and the School Budget Finance Forum have agreed to consult on two proposals, both will delegate funding based on a combination of pupil numbers and ALN (band funding).

4.2 Proposal 1

70% of the funding distributed on pupil numbers and 30% on current funding for band D & E within the school. For the purposes of this consultation the pupil numbers are taken as the September 2020 count which is in line with the existing formula and the band funding is from the October 2021 forecasting model.

4.3 The effect on each school is shown page 9 – Model 1.

4.4 Under this proposal 18 schools will see a reduction in funding and 16 schools will see an increase in funding.

4.5 Proposal 2

80% of the funding distributed on pupil numbers and 20% on current funding for band D & E within the school. For the purposes of this consultation the pupil numbers are taken as the September 2020 count which is in line with the existing formula and the band funding is from the October 2021 forecasting model.

4.6 The effect on each school is shown on page 9 – Model 2.

- 4.7 Under this proposal 16 schools will see a reduction in funding and 18 schools will see an increase in funding.
- 4.8 If approved the funding will commence for the start of the next financial year and the pupil numbers will be updated to reflect the January 2022 count. The band funding will reflect the January 2022 forecasting model.
- 4.9 Under both proposals there will be a need for transition funding to reduce the effects for those schools that see large increases and large losses. This will be over a 3 year period by capping the gains and losses and this is reflected on page 10.
- 4.10 The proposal will be reviewed after a year to ensure that the delegation is fair and operating as intended. Schools will be able to use this funding flexible to support all learner with ALN. There will be a requirement in a small number of cases that a pupil will require one to one support due to their needs.
- 4.11 After the review it is intended to roll the funding out over a 3 year period to give schools the flexibility to put in place long term plans to support pupils with ALN.

Please use the proforma below to respond to the consultation, all responses should be sent to:

nicolawellington@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Any further information regarding this consultation can also sent to the email address above or please call 07766 504389.

All responses should be returned by noon 11th February 2022.

RESPONSE PROFORMA

Please indicate who you are responding on behalf of:

| ALN Funding Formula | I agree | I disagree |
|---|---------|------------|
| <p>Proposal 1</p> <p>70% of the funding distributed on pupil numbers and 30% on current funding for band D & E within the school. For the purposes of this consultation the pupil numbers are taken as the September 2020 count which is in line with the existing formula and the band funding is from the October 2021 forecasting model. (paragraph 4.2)</p> | | |
| <p>Proposal 2</p> <p>80% of the funding distributed on pupil numbers and 20% on current funding for band D & E within the school. For the purposes of this consultation the pupil numbers are taken as the September 2020 count which is in line with the existing formula and the band funding is from the October 2021 forecasting model. (paragraph 4.5)</p> | | |

Please state below the reasons for your response, please also include any other funding models for the working group to consider should you disagree with the proposals above.

| School | 70% Pupil Numbers | | | | 80% Pupil Numbers | | | |
|--------|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|---------|-----------------------------------|---------|-----------|---------|
| | ALN - 30% | Total | Variance | | ALN - 20% | Total | Variance | |
| 1 | 211,999 | 52,911 | 264,911 | 75,854 | 242,285 | 35,274 | 277,559 | 88,502 |
| 2 | 53,780 | 17,637 | 71,417 | 10,693 | 61,463 | 11,758 | 73,221 | 12,497 |
| 3 | 71,067 | 48,502 | 119,569 | -34,896 | 81,219 | 32,335 | 113,554 | -40,911 |
| 4 | 51,619 | 22,046 | 73,666 | -6,275 | 58,994 | 14,698 | 73,691 | -6,250 |
| 5 | 40,815 | 30,865 | 71,680 | -35,993 | 46,646 | 20,577 | 67,223 | -40,450 |
| 6 | 49,459 | 26,456 | 75,914 | -18,887 | 56,524 | 17,637 | 74,161 | -20,640 |
| 7 | 43,936 | 13,228 | 57,164 | 6,462 | 50,213 | 8,819 | 59,032 | 8,330 |
| 8 | 16,326 | 4,409 | 20,735 | 8,985 | 18,658 | 2,940 | 21,598 | 9,848 |
| 9 | 44,657 | 13,228 | 57,885 | 11,432 | 51,036 | 8,819 | 59,855 | 13,402 |
| 10 | 61,223 | 8,819 | 70,041 | 32,638 | 69,969 | 5,879 | 75,848 | 38,445 |
| 11 | 281,865 | 119,050 | 400,916 | 27,609 | 322,132 | 79,367 | 401,499 | 28,192 |
| 12 | 54,020 | 39,683 | 93,704 | -30,346 | 61,737 | 26,456 | 88,193 | -35,857 |
| 13 | 45,377 | 35,274 | 80,651 | -29,169 | 51,859 | 23,516 | 75,376 | -34,444 |
| 14 | 55,701 | 61,730 | 117,431 | -82,700 | 63,658 | 41,153 | 104,811 | -95,320 |
| 15 | 53,540 | 22,046 | 75,586 | -1,394 | 61,189 | 14,698 | 75,886 | -1,094 |
| 16 | 67,225 | 39,683 | 106,909 | -18,793 | 76,829 | 26,456 | 103,284 | -22,418 |
| 17 | 45,857 | 35,274 | 81,131 | -27,738 | 52,408 | 23,516 | 75,924 | -32,945 |
| 18 | 80,430 | 44,093 | 124,523 | -21,513 | 91,920 | 29,395 | 121,315 | -24,721 |
| 19 | 21,608 | 8,819 | 30,427 | 3,031 | 24,695 | 5,879 | 30,574 | 3,178 |
| 20 | 146,455 | 30,865 | 177,320 | 71,557 | 167,377 | 20,577 | 187,954 | 82,191 |
| 21 | 51,619 | 22,046 | 73,666 | -7,976 | 58,994 | 14,698 | 73,691 | -7,951 |
| 22 | 48,498 | 13,228 | 61,726 | 21,126 | 55,426 | 8,819 | 64,245 | 23,645 |
| 23 | 36,013 | 13,228 | 49,241 | 5,461 | 41,158 | 8,819 | 49,977 | 6,197 |
| 24 | 92,915 | 8,819 | 101,733 | 60,004 | 106,188 | 5,879 | 112,067 | 70,338 |
| 25 | 66,025 | 30,865 | 96,890 | -8,007 | 75,457 | 20,577 | 96,033 | -8,864 |
| 26 | 321,240 | 136,687 | 457,928 | -2,561 | 367,132 | 91,125 | 458,257 | -2,232 |
| 27 | 40,575 | 13,228 | 53,803 | 4,999 | 46,372 | 8,819 | 55,190 | 6,386 |
| 28 | 41,536 | 17,637 | 59,173 | 3,739 | 47,469 | 11,758 | 59,227 | 3,793 |
| 29 | 19,687 | 4,409 | 24,097 | 6,181 | 22,500 | 2,940 | 25,439 | 7,523 |
| 30 | 49,699 | 13,228 | 62,926 | 17,858 | 56,798 | 8,819 | 65,617 | 20,549 |
| 31 | 81,150 | 57,320 | 138,471 | -55,984 | 92,743 | 38,214 | 130,957 | -63,498 |
| 32 | 46,337 | 17,637 | 63,974 | 9,071 | 52,957 | 11,758 | 64,715 | 9,812 |
| 33 | 40,815 | 22,046 | 62,862 | -5,891 | 46,646 | 14,698 | 61,344 | -7,409 |
| 34 | 66,985 | 26,456 | 93,441 | 11,426 | 76,554 | 17,637 | 94,191 | 12,176 |
| | 2,500,056 | 1,071,452 | 3,571,508 | | 2,857,206 | 714,302 | 3,571,508 | |
| | 16 Schools have reduced funding | | | | 16 Schools have reduced funding | | | |
| | 18 Schools have increased funding | | | | 18 Schools have increased funding | | | |

| School | As is model 2022-23 Band D's & E's and lump sum | Transition Funding | Var |
|--------|---|--|---------|
| | | No school will gain more than 12% or lose more than 8% | |
| 1 | 189,057 | 211,744 | 22,687 |
| 2 | 60,724 | 68,011 | 7,287 |
| 3 | 154,465 | 142,108 | -12,357 |
| 4 | 79,941 | 73,666 | -6,275 |
| 5 | 107,673 | 99,059 | -8,614 |
| 6 | 94,801 | 87,217 | -7,584 |
| 7 | 50,702 | 56,786 | 6,084 |
| 8 | 11,750 | 13,160 | 1,410 |
| 9 | 46,453 | 52,027 | 5,574 |
| 10 | 37,403 | 41,891 | 4,488 |
| 11 | 373,307 | 400,916 | 27,609 |
| 12 | 124,050 | 114,126 | -9,924 |
| 13 | 109,820 | 101,034 | -8,786 |
| 14 | 200,131 | 184,121 | -16,010 |
| 15 | 76,980 | 75,586 | -1,394 |
| 16 | 125,702 | 115,646 | -10,056 |
| 17 | 108,869 | 100,159 | -8,710 |
| 18 | 146,036 | 134,353 | -11,683 |
| 19 | 27,396 | 30,427 | 3,031 |
| 20 | 105,763 | 118,455 | 12,692 |
| 21 | 81,642 | 75,111 | -6,531 |
| 22 | 40,600 | 45,472 | 4,872 |
| 23 | 43,780 | 49,034 | 5,254 |
| 24 | 41,729 | 46,736 | 5,007 |
| 25 | 104,897 | 96,890 | -8,007 |
| 26 | 460,489 | 457,928 | -2,561 |
| 27 | 48,804 | 53,803 | 4,999 |
| 28 | 55,434 | 59,173 | 3,739 |
| 29 | 17,916 | 20,066 | 2,150 |
| 30 | 45,068 | 50,476 | 5,408 |
| 31 | 194,455 | 178,899 | -15,556 |
| 32 | 54,903 | 61,491 | 6,588 |
| 33 | 68,753 | 63,253 | -5,500 |
| 34 | 82,015 | 91,857 | 9,842 |
| | 3,571,508 | 3,570,681 | -827 |