

SUBJECT: LEADERSHIP FUNDING REVIEW
MEETING: CABINET.
DATE TO BE CONSIDERED: 5TH MARCH 2025.
WARDS AFFECTED: All

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To seek cabinet approval to amend the funding formula for delegating funds to Monmouth Comprehensive, Caldicot School, Chepstow School and King Henry VIII 3 - 19 for leadership.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That cabinet approves an amendment to the funding formula for delegating funds to Monmouth Comprehensive, Caldicot School, Chepstow School and King Henry VIII 3 - 19 for leadership.

3. KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 The leadership funding for the four schools has not been reviewed in decades. With the introduction of the new funding formula for King Henry VIII 3 -19 which was agreed in 2024, it became apparent that there was a need to review the funding for leadership to ensure that the distribution is fair.
- 3.2 Currently all the all four school have the same funding distribution for leadership, King Henry VIII 3 – 19 School receives additional funding for the lower school which is the same as a group 2 primary school.
- 3.3 The number of pupils in each school are:
- Monmouth 1376
 - Caldicot 1145
 - Chepstow 665
 - KHS VIII 3 – 19 1209

This is compulsory age pupil and includes the primary phase at KHS VIII 3 – 19 School.

- 3.4 A governing body raised concerns that the funding should be in some way based on the size of the school and requested the School Budget Forum to review the formula.

- 3.5 The working group for the review included Headteachers for both primary and secondary schools, governors, school business manager and advisors from the Local Authority. They considered several proposals over both primary and secondary schools, however in agreement with the primary headteachers it was agreed that the funding would only be reviewed for the secondary schools and King Henry VIII 3 – 19 school.
- 3.6 The working group were keen recognise the different phases in all the schools, it should be noted that post 16 was not considered as this is funded directly by Welsh Government via a grant.
- 3.7 The proposal is to move from the same lump sum funding for each school to a funding model that provides a lump sum funding for the Headteacher, including a lower phase leader for King Henry VIII 3 – 19 school and the remaining funding is based on a per pupil allocation, the same amount per pupil which recognises the differences in size of school.
- 3.8 The detailed consultation paper is in appendix A. With the financial summary in Appendix B. The responses to the consultation paper are in appendix C.
- 3.9 It is recognised that Chepstow school has the lowest number of pupils and therefore will see a reduction in funding, however there will be a transition period over 2 years to ensure a smooth transition.
- 3.10 There is no impact on the wider formula funding, primary schools will be unaffected and there is no increase or decrease in the total schools funding due to this.
- 3.11 The school budget forum reviewed the responses in their January meeting and agreed to ask cabinet to approve the changes.

4.0 OPTIONS APPRAISAL

The options are to:

1. Remain the same with no changes, this was rejected. The current funding formula the majority of the distribution streams are based on pupil numbers, this recognises the size of the school.
2. Include primary schools in the review, this was rejected as the primary headteachers are content with the current funding formula.
3. Move to a formula that reflects both the size of the school and the number of phases in each school, this was agreed and is therefore the preferred option.

5. EVALUATION CRITERIA

Please see evaluation criteria set out in **Appendix D**.

6. REASONS

- 6.1 To move to a fairer funding model to which recognises the differences in the number of pupils and the number of phases in each school.

7. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no resource implications, the quantum of funding will remain the same for school, primary schools will be unaffected. It is only the four schools that will see a redistribution of their funding.

8. WELL BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS IMPLICATIONS (INCORPORATING EQUALITIES, SUSTAINABILITY, SAFEGUARDING & CORPORATE PARENTING)

See attached at **Appendix D**.

9. CONSULTEES

Headteachers
Governing Bodies
School Budget Forum
Section 151 Officer
DMT for LSE
Performance and Overview Scrutiny Committee
Cabinet Members for Resources and Education
Diocesan Directors.

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Fair Funding Regulation 2018.

School Finance Regulations 2010.

11. AUTHOR

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