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**Subject: School Funding Consultation Document**

**Cabinet Member: Cllr Abdul Abdullahi**

**Report Number: 10**

**Item: 5c**

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### **Proposal**

Below is an extract from proposals for the local funding consultation document.

## **4.2 Mainstream Schools – Pupils with EHCPs (Element 2)**

4.2.1 The NFF should enable all mainstream schools to fund from their delegated budget:

- basic per pupil costs of approximately £4,000 per pupil (described as Element 1)
- additional educational needs (AEN) and SEND cost up to £6,000 (described as Element 2) per pupils.

Any costs above £6,000 for pupils with EHCPs are met by the LA from the HNB (described as Element 3). Appendix C: a diagram explaining separation of funding to support a pupil with SEND.

### **4.2.2 Current Arrangements**

In Enfield, the funding arrangements outlined above were not implemented because the Government was still providing annual increases to the DSG and there was sufficient local flexibility to decide the allocation of the DSG to meet local needs. Locally, it was agreed to transfer funding from the Schools Block to the High Needs block to fund additional £6,000 (Element 2) per pupil to schools with above average number of pupils with EHCPs.

The Government then introduced restriction on the use of the DSG, which included restricting movement of funding from the Schools to the High Needs block to 0.5%. For a number of years, funding has been transferred from the Schools Block to the High Needs block to support schools with high number of pupils with EHCPs. The transfer enables schools with above average number of pupils with EHCPs to be supported by providing a contribution towards the £6,000 per pupil (Element 2) for the number of pupils above a calculated average for each school

It was expected that outcomes from the DfE Call for Evidence would be published, and these should address the pressure being faced by schools to support pupils with SEND needs. However, the SEND Green Paper published in March 2022 does not address this pressure. Other information published by the DfE confirms that 0,5% can continue to be transferred to support pupils with SEND in mainstream schools.

### **4.2.3 Proposal**

Following discussion with the Education Resources Group and Schools Forum, it is proposed, for 2023/24, the 0.5% transfer from the Schools to the High Needs continues for 2023/24. The rationale for this suggestion is that as the SEND Green papers evolves into proposed policies, it is unclear whether it will address the current requirement for schools to fund Element 2 (£6,000) from within their delegated budget. By continuing to support the transfer, It will act as evidence of how this element has been and is being managed by schools with a high number of pupils with EHCPs and the need for this element of the funding framework to be reviewed and resolved at a national level.