**A4**

**CITY OF WESTMINSTER**

**SCHOOLS’ FORUM 1ST JUNE 2020**

**REPORT BY LEAD STRATEGIC FINANCE MANAGER - CHILDREN’S SERVICES**

**DSG RESERVE ALLOCATIONS**

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| **Purpose of the report**This report provides Schools’ Forum with an update on the DSG £80,000 reserve allocation methodologies proposed for approval by the Forum. **FOR DECISION** |

1. **INTRODUCTION**
	1. The Schools’ Forum, at the 13th January 2020 meeting, agreed that £80,000 be allocated to the primary and secondary sectors from DSG reserves.
	2. It was also agreed that the allocation methodology for the £80,000 primary funding would be decided (subject to ratification by the Schools’ Forum) via the primary heads executive and primary heads partnership. The allocation methodology for the £80,000 secondary funding would be decided by Westminster Secondary Schools Improvement Collaborative (WSSIC) (subject to ratification by the Schools’ Forum).
2. **Primary Allocation Methodology**
	1. Two options were presented to the primary heads executive (28th January 2020) and primary heads partnership (7th February 2020). The options presented are as shown below with the detail in Appendix A.

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| **Option** | **Allocation Basis** |
| 1 | Allocated on the same basis as 2018/19 so that schools receiving less than £5,000 average per pupil funding received an allocation |
| 2 | Allocated on the basis of pupil numbers so that all primary schools received a share of the allocation |

* 1. After considering the options the primary schools voted and a majority selected the methodology allocating funds to those schools receiving less than an average of £5,000 per pupil (option 1) and therefore this was recommended to the Schools’ Forum for ratification.

**3 Secondary Allocation Methodology**

3.1 Two options were presented to Westminster Secondary Schools Improvement Collaborative (WSSIC) (17th January 2020). The options presented are as shown below with the detail in Appendix A.

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| **Option** | **Allocation Basis** |
| 1 | Allocated on the same basis as 2018/19 so that schools receiving less than £6,549 average per pupil funding received an allocation |
| 2 | Allocated on the basis of pupil numbers so that all secondary schools received a share of the allocation |

3.2 After considering the options the secondary schools asked for an additional two options and a further option was later added to those being considered, these are shown below with the detail in Appendix A.

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| **Option** | **Allocation Basis** |
| 3 | Half Way between Option 1 and 2 (£40k to Grey Coat + £40k share on the basis of secondary pupil numbers |
| 4 | Allocated via the WCC formula. Allocate pro-rata to total AWPU for each secondary school except those that were on MFG |
| 5 | Pro-rata to Pupil Premium Grant allocations |

3.3 Although WSSIC was cancelled the headteachers voted electronically and the option chosen was to allocate the £80,000 on the basis of the Pupil Premium Grant allocations (Option 5) and therefore this was recommended to the Schools’ Forum for ratification.

**4. CONCLUSION**

* 1. Schools’ Forum are asked to:

4.1.1 agree the primary school recommended methodology for allocating £80,000 to those schools receiving less than an average of £5,000 per primary pupil (option 1)

4.1.2 agree the secondary school recommended methodology for allocating £80,000 on the basis of the Pupil Premium Grant allocations (Option 5).

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**Background Papers:**

None