



North Tyneside Council

Briefing note

To: Schools Forum **Author:** Elaine Appleby , ENGIE
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Title of Briefing: Legislative Update - National Funding Formula Stage 2

Purpose:

1. To advise Schools Forum of the Stage 2 National Funding Formula and High Needs Funding Reform consultation documents released by the Department of Education
2. To seek views from the Schools Forum as to whether a Forum response is to be made and, if so, how it wishes to proceed

1. Stage 2 Schools and High Needs consultation

In the Autumn Statement, on 25 November 2015, the Chancellor announced the intention to consult on a national funding formula for schools and high needs arrangements. On 7 March 2016 the Department for Education (DfE) released the consultation documents and supporting information. The deadline for stage 1 consultation was 17 April 2016. Both the LA and Schools Forum submitted a response to the consultation.

On 14 December 2016 the DfE released phase 2 of the national funding formula (NFF) which also included a summary of the feedback from phase 1 earlier in the year. The consultation sets out the detailed proposals for factor weightings and includes illustrative data to show the impact of the proposals for each school and the local authority.

This topic will be brought to a future Headteachers briefing, but in summary it appears that the authority overall will see a small increase in funding. However a number of transitional arrangements are proposed. Notwithstanding this there appears to be a proposed funding shift between phases. The different balance in the factor weightings in the NFF, compared to our local formula, will generally see additional funding for primary schools and a reduction for secondaries, although schools will need to review their own position.

The deadline for submissions to Stage 2 consultation is 22 March 2017.

For ease of reference, these documents can be found at:

Consultation on National Funding Formula:

<https://consult.education.gov.uk/funding-policy-unit/schools-national-funding-formula2/>

Consultation on High Needs:

<https://consult.education.gov.uk/funding-policy-unit/high-needs-funding-reform-2/>

2. Recommendations

Schools Forum discuss whether it is desirable to submit a response from the North Tyneside Schools Forum. If it is decided to make a submission, it is recommended that consideration is given to convening a smaller sub-group of Forum. Officers from the Local Authority and ENGIE can assist in this process if required.