
NOTICE OF MEETING

CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND EDUCATION

THURSDAY, 11 MARCH 2021 AT 4.00 PM

VIRTUAL REMOTE MEETING

Telephone enquiries to Lisa Gallacher 02392 834056
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CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND EDUCATION

Councillor Suzy Horton (Liberal Democrat)

Group Spokespersons

Councillor Terry Norton, Conservative
Councillor Jeanette Smith, Progressive Portsmouth People Group
Councillor Judith Smyth, Labour

(NB This Agenda should be retained for future reference with the minutes of this meeting.)

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A written deputation stating to which decision agenda item it refers must be received by the officer named at the top of the agenda by 12 noon two working days preceding the meeting. Any written deputation received by email will be sent to the members on the relevant decision making body and be referred to and read out at the meeting within permitted time limits.

AGENDA

- 1 Apologies for absence**
- 2 Declarations of Interests**
- 3 Quarter 3 Children, Families and Education Portfolio Budget monitoring
(Pages 5 - 14)**

Purpose

To inform the Cabinet Member of the projected revenue expenditure within the portfolio cash limit and the capital programme for the current financial year 2020/21. This report sets out the budget position and contributing factors to

the projected spend within the portfolio as at the end of December 2020.

RECOMMENDED that the Cabinet Member:

Notes the Children, Families and Education Portfolio forecast revenue and capital budget positions, as at the end of December 2020, together with the variance and pressure explanations.

4 Dedicated Schools Grant 2020-21 Quarter 3 Budget Monitoring (Pages 15 - 22)

Purpose

To inform the Cabinet Member of the projected revenue expenditure of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) for the current financial year 2020-21 as at the end of December 2020.

RECOMMENDED that Cabinet Member:

Notes the forecast year-end budget position for the Dedicated Schools Grant as at 31 December 2020, together with the associated explanations contained within this report.

5 Schools Capital Programme and School Place Planning update (Pages 23 - 28)

Purpose

(1) To provide an update on the progress of:

- Urgent school condition projects
- School sufficiency schemes aimed at increasing school place capacity within the city.

(2) To seek approval to enter into a statutory process to formally change the age range of Manor Infant School from 4 to 7 years to 2 to 7 years to integrate the current nursery provision fully into the school.

RECOMMENDED

(1) That the Cabinet Member notes the progress on the school modernisation "urgent condition" projects, the secondary school sufficiency projects and the special school sufficiency projects.

(2) That the schemes agreed with the Lead Member since the last report are formally approved.

(3) That a statutory process is commenced on a proposal to change the age range of Manor Infant School from 4 to 7 years to 2 to 7 years.

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Agenda Item 3



Portsmouth
CITY COUNCIL

Title of meeting: Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education

Date of meeting: 11th March 2021

Subject: Children, Families and Education Portfolio Budget Monitoring Report for the Third Quarter 2020/21

Report by: Chris Ward, Director of Finance and Section 151 Officer

Wards affected: All

Key decision: Yes/No

Full Council decision: Yes/No

1 Purpose of report

- 1.1 To inform the Cabinet Member of the projected revenue expenditure within the portfolio cash limit and the capital programme for the current financial year 2020/21. This report sets out the budget position and contributing factors to the projected spend within the portfolio as at the end of December 2020.

2 Summary

- 2.1 The forecast for the total portfolio is £39,246,800, which is £60,200 over the current revenue budget. The Portfolio is projecting a £1.1m pressure due to COVID-19, this is comprised of £1.4m of costs offset by £0.3m of savings. The COVID-19 pressure is offset by underspends, which is largely the result of reduced Home to School Transport costs, an increase in Government funding for the costs of unaccompanied asylum seeking minors and reduced access to provision for children with disabilities during lockdown 1.
- 2.2 The financial impact of the COVID-19 pandemic across the whole of the portfolio is still uncertain. The latest variant and closure of schools to all pupils means that the Home to School Transport projections will need to be revised when the situation become clearer. The service saw a large increase in social care referrals between September and December 2020 and it is likely that there will be an additional surge when the current lockdown ends. The effect on children, their families and their education from the pandemic will become apparent over a longer period of time. The financial impact of this will continue to be reviewed and updated as appropriate.

The council has an overall strategy for dealing with the financial impact arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. This incorporates the net £1.1m pressure set out within this report. Excluding the COVID-19 additional pressure, which is being



accommodated corporately, the Portfolio is currently expected to underspend by £1.0m. The Portfolio continues to successfully implement the agreed financial sustainability strategy described below, designed to reduce the overall cost associated with alternative care for children. While there is inevitably an element of uncertainty in this area the service will continue its endeavours to work strategically to bear down on costs.

- 2.3 Following a realignment of budgets as part of the approval of the 2020-21 Capital Programme in February 2020, and subsequent revisions in December 2020, both the Education and Children and Families capital programmes are currently forecasting a breakeven position for 2020-21.

3 Recommendations

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Cabinet Member:

- 3.1.1 Notes the Children, Families and Education Portfolio forecast revenue and capital budget positions, as at the end of December 2020, together with the variance and pressure explanations.

4 Background

- 4.1 Pressure on the previously separate Children and Families and Education Portfolios along with an agreed Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) resulted in an additional budget allocation (on top of inflation) for 2020/21 of £3m to Children and Families and £0.4m to Education.

- 4.2 The Medium Term Financial Strategy identified the future demand and cost pressures facing the service, along with strategies to improve outcomes and manage within budget.

- 4.3 The strategy to reduce the number of children needing to be looked after is known as the "Stronger Futures" strategy. It is wide ranging and is overseen closely by the Director of Children, Families and Education. The first phase of the strategy, from 2016-2018, saw the establishment of a much stronger, targeted whole family early help service, integrated with a refocused health visiting service. This enabled a better line of sight on need in the city but also a more effective earlier response which is now keeping down the total number of children requiring a statutory children's social care intervention. The second phase of the strategy while maintaining appropriate focus on early intervention has two new strands:

- (i) reshaping statutory work to provide stronger whole family support with new adult service posts co-located with children's social workers (family safeguarding)

- (ii) remodelling our in-house foster care service to strengthen support to carers and provide a more collective approach to meeting children's needs (implementing the Mockingbird Family Model of Care).

4.4 Since the Medium Term Financial Strategy was agreed and the 2020/21 budgets were set, the financial impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has started to be realised.

There has also been an increase in the grant from the Home Office in relation to Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) from the levels that were included in the MTFS.

5 Summary Position against Cash Limited Budget at the end of December 2020

5.1 At the end of the third quarter an overspend of £60,000 is currently forecast for the financial year as shown in the table below.

Service Area	Current Budget	Current Forecast	Total Variation*	COVID-19 Variation Pressures
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Management, Sufficiency and Resources	324	311	-13	0
Inclusion Services	4,876	4,484	-393	-19
School Improvement	367	358	-9	56
Community Learning	0	14	14	0
PCMI	116	116	0	0
Youth & Play Shared Services with the HRA	433	433	0	0
Total Education Services	6,116	5,716	-401	37
Family Safeguarding	6,333	6,243	-90	177
Commissioning & Performance	439	376	-63	0
Looked After Children	22,082	22,833	751	835
Safeguarding & Monitoring	848	927	79	0
Support Activities	3,024	2,996	-28	0
Edge of Care	1,228	1,082	-147	0
Early Help and Prevention	17	-26	-42	57
Troubled Families	-900	-900	0	0
Total Children and Families	33,070	33,531	460	1,069
Total Children, Families and Education Portfolio	39,186	39,247	60	1,106

*Total variation includes variation due to COVID-19 and variation not related to COVID-19
Numbers may not exactly add up due to rounding

The forecast variances to budget are explained further below.

5.2 **Management, Sufficiency and Resources** (£13,000 underspend): Staffing costs are currently anticipated to be slightly below budget provision.

5.3 **Inclusion Services** (£393,000 underspend): Within the Inclusion Service, there are pressures of £312,000 resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, but these have been offset by reductions in Home to School Transport of £329,000 due to the pandemic in the summer term.

Home to School Transport is currently forecasting an underspend of £553,000 (which includes the £329,000 of underspend due to COVID-19). For the period April to July 2020 costs were reduced following the reduction of the services provided. Whilst additional costs have been projected from September to the end of the financial year for social distancing, the forecast also includes additional grant that has been received to help mitigate the additional costs, leaving a pressure of £102,000 relating to COVID-19. The current forecast remains uncertain following the latest lockdown.

Other pressures which relate to COVID-19 are increased costs on short breaks of £79,000 as families need additional support, loss of income of £123,000 as the school absence fine system was suspended and Traded Services income reduced by £8,000 as schools have mainly been purchasing core services.

5.4 **School Improvement** (£9,000 underspend): This includes £56,000 of costs related to COVID-19. A shared funding arrangement with one of our major academy trusts was agreed for supporting remote learning in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic.

There is also a pressure in the Ethnic Minority Achievement Service (EMAS) where traded income is forecast to be £24,000 less than budgeted due to schools reducing their usage of the pay as you use services.

The additional COVID-19 costs mentioned above have been offset by reduced operational costs incurred by the EMAS.

5.5 **Community Learning** (£14,000 overspend): The decline in the number of new apprenticeships across the Council has resulted in less income than was originally anticipated.

5.6 **PCMI - Portsmouth Craft & Manufacturing Industry** (On Budget): The income is expected to cover the costs for this area.

5.7 **Youth & Play Shared Services with the HRA** (On Budget): The income is expected to cover the costs for this area.



Family Safeguarding (£90,000 underspend): The underspend in this area is due to reduced spend on care packages for children with disabilities. The underspend on care packages is partially offset by the requirement for additional staff supporting the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

5.8 **Commissioning & Performance** (£63,000 underspend): this relates to vacant posts within the service.

5.9 **Looked After Children** (£751,000 overspend): The projected overspend on placements is anticipated to be £746,000. This is largely a result of the delay to the achievement of savings due to the impact of COVID-19 on the introduction of Mockingbird and the Family Safeguarding Service (£400,000). There is also an additional £134,000 of costs due to the anticipated impact of the first COVID-19 lockdown.

Projections are based on current placement numbers being maintained until the year end, unless there are identified placement end dates known along with an estimate for additional placements as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic as mentioned above. These costs exclude UASC.

December 2020	Budget			Current Projection			
	Average	Av Unit Cost	Budget	Average Predicted Nos	Av Unit Cost	Estimated Outturn	Budget Pressure
	Nos	£	£	Nos	£	£	£
External Residential (1)	17.58	234,602	4,123,400	23.12	237,770	5,497,251	1,373,851
Semi Independent	6.51	40,918	266,400	8.34	74,934	624,723	358,323
Independent Fostering Agency (IFA) (1)	34.14	49,381	1,685,900	31.97	46,276	1,479,454	-206,446
In-House Foster care	259.58	24,755	6,426,000	236.03	24,480	5,777,971	-648,029
Adoption	54.00	9,009	486,500	54.08	8,797	475,771	-10,729
Residence Orders	19.80	5,071	100,400	10.17	5,629	57,233	-43,167
Special Guardianship	146.01	5,695	831,500	133.67	5,642	754,166	-77,334
2020/21 (December Projection)	537.63	25,892	13,920,100	497.37	29,488	14,666,568	746,468
2019/20 (December Projection)	513.50	22,708	11,660,800	517.23	28,553	14,768,262	3,107,462

External residential placements have long been a key factor in cost variance year on year. High cost placements are reviewed fortnightly by the Director and Deputy Director to ensure that they remain appropriate and that the right plans are in place to move children on to foster care or in some cases the care of their own families where possible. The pandemic has made changes to care arrangements more difficult in some cases but work continues to ensure we do not spend more than is necessary in this area.

The UASC budgets are currently forecasting an underspend of £262,000. The National Transfer Scheme has reduced the number of under 18's from 96 at September 20 to 65 at December 2020. The forecast underspend has reduced as the loss of the grant is greater than the direct cost which would have been incurred, although once they are over 18, the grant reduces and is less than the direct cost incurred.



There are an additional £100,000 of COVID-19 related staffing costs within the Children's residential homes from covering staff absence.

- 5.10 **Safeguarding & Monitoring** (£79,000 overspend): this relates to staffing pressures within the Service Quality Team. There is also an additional £34,000 pressure resulting from the purchase of the 'Mind of My Own' app which helps children and young people express their views and engage.
- 5.11 **Support Activities** (£28,200 underspend): this relates to reduced legal costs from the pause in court hearings. There is likely to be an increased pressure in legal costs in the new financial year as the backlog is cleared.
- 5.12 **Edge of Care** (£147,000 underspend): this relates to staffing vacancies and agency staff spend which is less than budgeted within the Edge of Care and Youth Offending teams, alongside reduced operational costs. In addition there has been lower than anticipated spend on remand costs.
- 5.13 **Early Help and Prevention** (£42,000 underspend): the projection includes £57,000 for additional staff to provide support to help families during the COVID-19 pandemic There have been some vacancy savings which have occurred during the year.
- 5.14 **Troubled Families** (on budget): We are currently forecasting a payment by results target of 80% which if achieved will result in a carry forward of grant of approximately £385,000 into 2021/22 to support next years budget.

6 Capital Programme

- 6.1 Attached at Appendix 1 is the current capital budget monitoring position in respect of all schemes in the capital programme for Education, which was approved by Council 11 February 2020 and subsequently revised in December 2020.
- 6.2 Current spending at £75.5m is some £14.4m below approved funding for the schemes identified, reflecting the longer term nature of capital spending. However, at this stage, a breakeven position is forecast against the total approved funding of £89.9m. Any underspending arising from the Capital Programme which was funded from Corporate Capital Resources will be returned and be allocated through the Budget Process, ensuring that the Council are able to allocate capital funding through a competitive basis to the Council's highest priorities.
- 6.3 It should be noted that Council approved 2 years of funding for condition projects in February 2019, the forecast out turn includes committed projects of £0.931m for 2019-20 and £0.809m for 2020-21.
- 6.4 Comments related to the variations are noted on Appendix 1.



6.5 The table shown below is the current approved capital programme for Children and Families, including payments made to date. Funding for all schemes was approved by Council 11 February 2020 and subsequently revised in December 2020.

Children and Families capital programme 2020-21	Current approved Funding	Actual Expenditure to December 2020	Forecast Spend
Scheme	£	£	£
Adaptations to Foster Carer properties	185,000	108,266	185,000
Children's Case Management software replacement	2,707,000	2,430,088	2,707,000
Tangier Road Children's Home	503,900	503,859	503,900
Beechside Children's Home	50,100	50,123	50,100
Capital Grant - Housing for Looked after child	210,200	210,195	210,200
EC Roberts Centre Refurbishment Loan	250,000	7,200	250,000
Adaptations to Carers Home	400,000	0	400,000
Total	4,306,200	3,309,731	4,306,200

6.6 The Children's Case Management system went live in March 2020 with post implementation work continuing, but the project remains on budget.

6.7 The Tangier Road and Beechside Children's Home works have been completed and the projects closed.

7 Integrated impact assessment

7.1 An integrated impact assessment is not required as the recommendations do not have a positive or negative impact on communities and safety, regeneration and culture, environment and public space or equality and diversity.

8 Legal implications

8.1 There are no legal implications arising directly from the recommendations set out in paragraph 3.1 of this report.

9 Director of Finance's comments

9.1 Financial comments are contained within the body of the report.

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Signed by: Chris Ward

Appendices:

Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location

The recommendation(s) set out above were approved/ approved as amended/ deferred/ rejected by on

.....
Signed by:



Children and Education Capital Budgets

APPENDIX 1

Number	Scheme	Current Approved Budget £	Actual spend to date £	Manager Forecast Spend £	Forecast Variance £	Explanation
1	Primary Capital Programme	15,826,300	15,827,000	15,828,400	2,100	
2	Sufficiency Programme Phase One 2013- 2015	6,289,100	6,289,100	6,289,200	200	
3	Sufficiency Programme Phase Two 2015- 2017	11,089,500	10,920,800	11,085,800	(3,700)	
4	Secondary School Feasibility Study	97,600	97,600	97,600	0	
5	Vanguard Centre	3,325,500	3,308,000	3,327,400	1,900	
6	King Richard School Rebuild 900-1000 places	1,562,300	1,420,200	1,552,100	(10,200)	
7	Portsmouth College Sufficiency Post 16	263,500	263,500	263,600	200	
8	Universal Infant Free School Meal Works	889,300	889,300	889,600	200	
9	Universal Infant Free School Meal Provision	593,600	593,600	593,600	100	
10	Salix	115,500	115,500	115,700	200	
11	Schools Conditions Projects - Modernisation	1,427,500	1,422,600	1,427,500	0	
12	School Condition Projects 2014-2016	2,726,500	2,726,500	2,728,200	1,700	
13	School Conditions Project 2016 - 17	878,000	869,500	878,000	0	
14	Secondary School Places Expansion Phase (1)	1,728,700	1,706,300	1,730,700	2,000	
15	Special Education Needs - Building Alterations	2,841,600	2,583,700	3,213,900	372,300	Additional works at Redwood Park School relating to modular buildings
16	Schools Devolved Formula Capital 2016-17	5,232,400	4,825,000	5,232,400	0	
17	Sufficiency of Secondary School Places	5,517,500	4,593,900	5,254,300	(263,200)	Expected to undertake 4 feasibility projects, 2 completed to date, currently reviewing requirements
18	Future Secondary School Places Feasibility	158,200	60,000	158,200	0	
19	School Condition 2017-18	853,200	714,800	853,200	0	
20	Beacon View - Kitchen Block	41,700	41,700	42,400	700	
21	School Condition 2018-19	1,577,400	1,088,000	1,577,400	0	
22	Sufficiency of School Places 2018-19	11,343,500	9,711,100	11,447,300	103,800	Number of small overspends on four Secondary sufficiency projects
23	Special School Places - Redwood Park	2,805,900	2,497,600	3,053,700	247,800	Increased temporary accommodation costs
24	Special School Places - Willows	520,000	494,000	516,100	(3,900)	Final costs expected to be lower than estimated. Proposal to utilise funding to support childcare facilities at Admiral Lord Nelson project
25	Milton Childcare Sufficiency	69,800	69,800	72,900	3,100	
26	Forest School - Community Accessible Education Centre	30,000	0	30,000	0	
27	30 Hours Delivery Support EY	10,800	10,800	10,900	200	
28	Maintained Schools Urgent Condition Work	1,754,600	413,000	1,754,600	0	Two years of condition funding, £931,000 allocated in 2019-20 and £809,000 held for use in 2020-21
29	Additional School Places - The Lantern	1,134,300	1,120,700	1,140,000	5,700	
30	Additional School Places in Mainstream Schools - Design	250,000	61,600	250,000	0	
31	Additional Secondary Schools Places - St Edmunds Catholic School (GRANT)	650,100	650,100	650,100	0	
32	Additional School Places 2020/2021	3,393,000	45,600	3,438,000	45,000	
33	Additional School Places 2020/2021 Wymering Site	220,000	35,800	175,000	(45,000)	
34	Wimborne Amalgamation	87,000	8,900	87,000	0	
35	School Places SEND Phases 1 & 2	4,591,900	0	4,130,700	(461,200)	Redistribution of funding to support overspend on Redwood Park School projects.
36	Northern Parade Family Hub	25,000	19,200	25,000	0	
TOTALS		89,920,800	75,494,800	89,920,500	0	

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Agenda Item 4



THIS ITEM IS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

(Please note that "Information Only" reports do not require Integrated Impact Assessments, Legal or Finance Comments as no decision is being taken)

1

Title of meeting:	Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education
Subject:	Dedicated Schools Grant 2020-21 Quarter 3 Budget Monitoring
Date of meeting:	11 March 2021
Report by:	Chris Ward, Director of Finance and Section 151 Officer
Wards affected:	All

1. Requested by

Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education.

2. Purpose

2.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Cabinet Member of the projected revenue expenditure of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) for the current financial year 2020-21 as at the end of December 2020.

3. Recommendations

It is recommended that Cabinet Member:

3.1 Notes the forecast year-end budget position for the Dedicated Schools Grant as at 31 December 2020, together with the associated explanations contained within this report.

4. Background

4.1 The DSG is a ring-fenced grant for Education and can only be used for the purposes of the Schools Budget as defined in the School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations.

4.2 The original DSG budget for the financial year 2020-21, was set in February 2020, with subsequent revisions endorsed by Schools Forum and approved by the Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education in September and October 2020. Further decisions regarding an early years grant and the transfer of balances relating to Wimborne Infant and Junior schools to Wimborne Primary were made after the end of the third quarter but have been included in this report for completeness and to

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provide Cabinet Member with the latest forecast estimate of the year-end outturn as at 31 December 2020.

4.3 Table 1 below sets out the forecast year-end financial position of the DSG budget as at 31 December 2020.

Table 1 - Dedicated Schools Grant				
	Original budget 2020-21 £000's	Revised Budget 2020-21 £000's	Projected outturn 2020-21 £000's	Projected over / (under) spend £000's
Income				
DSG Brought forward 2019-20	0	(3,115)	(3,115)	0
DSG and other specific grants	(72,309)	(75,155)	(74,933)	222
Total Income	(72,309)	(78,269)	(78,048)	222
Expenditure				
Primary ISB	28,753	27,302	27,302	0
Secondary ISB	11,680	12,543	12,543	0
Special school place funding	1,578	1,218	1,193	(24)
Inclusion Centre Place funding	302	374	374	0
Alternative provision place funding	1,090	1,090	1,090	0
Total Delegated	43,403	42,526	42,502	(24)
De-delegated and central budgets	1,580	2,401	2,430	29
Early Years	14,138	14,110	13,776	(334)
High Needs	13,189	16,635	14,870	(1,765)
Total Expenditure	72,309	75,673	73,578	(2,095)
Net forecast position	0	(2,597)	(4,470)	(1,873)
DSG Carried forward	0	2,597	4,470	1,873

Academy conversions / school closures

4.4 As at 31 December 2020 there have not been any academy conversions this financial year.

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De-delegated and Central Budgets

- 4.5 As previously reported the forecast position includes Growth Fund allocations that have been issued to all eligible schools and academies meeting the criteria for 2020-21 financial year. This will result in a planned £368,000 underspend compared to budget, which will carry forward to 2021-22 to support on-going payments to schools.
- 4.6 The underspend has been offset by the transfer of the Wimborne Infant and Junior School balances to Wimborne primary as endorsed by Schools Forum and approved by the Cabinet Member in January 2021. Providing a net overspend of £29,000.

Early Years Block

4.7 Table 2 below sets out the forecast position as at the end of December 2020.

Table 2 Early Years Block Forecast two three and four year old place funding			
	Total 2020-21		
	Budget 2020-21	Forecast	Variance (Under)/ Over
	£	£	£
Two year olds	1,681,700	1,798,600	116,900
Two year old contingency growth fund	42,700	0	(42,700)
Three & four year olds universal hrs	7,973,300	8,001,900	28,600
Three and four year olds additional hours	3,284,500	2,569,500	(715,000)
Three & four year old contingency growth fund	177,500	177,500	0
Total	13,159,700	12,547,500	(612,200)

- 4.8 As stated previously the impact of the Coronavirus lockdown on the early year's provision has provided a level of uncertainty for both the local authority and early years settings across the city. In line with government guidance, the authority has paid providers based on the forecast hours at the beginning of the summer term, this was adjusted in July and August for any actual pupils that may have attended over and above the initial forecast hours. For the autumn 2020 term the authority has paid settings the indicative budget based on the actual hours paid in autumn 2019, which was adjusted for any additional hours over and above the indicative budget.
- 4.9 In addition to the actual cost of payments to providers the forecast contains the forecast provision for the spring 2021 term based on the indicative budgets. These figures may change following the receipt on the actual hours delivered by early years settings at the end of the financial year.

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- 4.10 It should be noted that the two year old budget is forecast to overspend and the whole of the contingency has been released to cover the additional costs.
- 4.11 Table 3 sets out the forecast position on the other areas of expenditure relating to the early years block. This shows a small overspend on the Early Years pupil premium for three and four year olds due to increased numbers of eligible pupils. It also includes the additional Covid-19 grant payments made to providers in December 2020/January 2021.
- 4.12 A further report setting out the proposed use of any underspend was taken to the February 2021 Schools Forum and Cabinet Member meetings to pay additional Covid-19 grant funding for the spring 2021 term. As the proposal contains a range of options depending on the final outturn position, the impact of this decision has not been included in the forecast position.

Table 3 Early Years Block Forecast Other Expenditure			
	Total 2020-21		
	Budget 2020-21	Forecast	Variance (Under)/ Over
	£	£	£
Disability Access Fund	65,800	65,800	0
Inclusion Fund (2,3 and 4 year olds)	114,600	114,600	0
Central services	630,000	630,000	0
Three & four year olds Pupil Premium	140,100	143,400	3,300
Early years Covid-19 Support Grant	0	274,900	274,900
Total	950,500	1,228,700	278,200

High Needs Block

- 4.13 The forecast position includes all payments made to the end of October and a forecast for the rest of the year based on autumn term pupil numbers continuing to 31 March 2021 and assumed growth based on 2019-20 activity.
- 4.14 Place funding for Special Schools is showing a small forecast underspend due to the number of locally agreed additional places agreed being lower in the summer term and the first part of the autumn term than budgeted. All other individual school budgets remain on budget following the approval of the revised budget in October 2020.

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4.15 Overall the High Needs Block is forecasting an underspend of £1.789m (including individual school budgets).

4.16 The Table below summarises the forecast outturn position for the remaining elements of the high needs block (excluding individual school budgets).

Table 4 High Needs Budget			
	Total 2020-21		
	2020-21 Revised Budget	Forecast Outturn as at 31-Dec-20	Variance (Under)/Over
	£	£	£
Element 3 Top up	11,656,900	10,346,900	(1,310,000)
Out of City providers	2,976,800	2,617,100	(359,700)
Permanent exclusion recharge	0	(70,400)	(70,400)
EYs Complex Needs Inclusion Fund	200,000	251,000	51,000
SEN support services	877,300	801,300	(76,000)
Medical Education	672,100	672,100	0
Outreach	191,900	191,900	0
Fair Access Protocol	60,000	60,000	0
Total High Needs Block	16,635,000	14,869,900	(1,765,100)

The forecast position reflects a decrease in the number of pupils in receipt of Element 3 Top-up over the course of the summer and the autumn term. It is currently not clear if the forecast underspend is as a result of the national lockdown and a reduction in the numbers of requests for Education Health and Care Plans (EHCP) or an overall reduction in the level of need across the city.

4.17 It is not known if the impact of the March 2020 and the subsequent early 2021 national lockdowns will create an increase in the number of new EHCP requests over the remainder of the financial year. This area will continue to be monitored closely, however if the number of EHCP requests do increase, the timescale for agreeing an EHCP means that it is more likely to impact on the High Needs Block budgets in 2021-22 financial year.

Element 3 Top-up funding

4.18 Table 5 below breaks down the forecast overspend position for the Element 3 Top up funding as at the end of December 2020.

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(Please note that "Information Only" reports do not require Integrated Impact Assessments, Legal or Finance Comments as no decision is being taken)

Table 5 - Element 3 Top-up			
	Total 2020-21		
	2020-21 Revised Budget	Forecast Outturn as at 31-Dec-20	Variance (Under)/ Over
	£	£	£
EHCP Mainstream	2,408,100	2,042,800	(365,300)
Element 3 Top Up Special Schools	7,289,100	6,808,600	(480,500)
Element 3 Top Up - Inclusion Centres	263,100	230,500	(32,600)
Element 3 Top Up - AP	242,300	201,800	(40,500)
Post 16 Special Educational Needs	1,024,400	633,300	(391,100)
Element 3 Top Up - OLA School	429,900	429,900	0
Total Element 3 Top-up	11,656,900	10,346,900	(1,310,000)

- 4.19 The Mainstream EHCP forecast underspend is a combination of a reduction in pupil numbers (45) and average cost per pupil compared to budget.
- 4.20 The Special School underspend (£480,500) is due to 38 pupils placed in Portsmouth Special Schools by other local authorities for which Portsmouth is not responsible for paying the Element 3 Top-up and a lower than budgeted number of pupils placed at The Harbour School for the autumn term.
- 4.21 The Inclusion Centre underspend relates to an overall reduction on the number of pupils on roll at the Inclusion Centres over the summer term. The autumn term class lists showed that the Inclusion Centres were full and the forecast assumes they will remain full for the remainder of the financial year.
- 4.22 The forecast underspend reflects the reduction in the pupil numbers at the Flying Bull Academy and The Harbours School alternative provision settings for both the summer and autumn terms.
- 4.23 The September 2020 in-take of Post 16 pupils has been agreed and finalised with Colleges and the forecast updated in line with the pupil numbers for the 2020-21 academic year providing a £391,000 underspend. The underspend is a combination of lower numbers of pupils in the 2020-21 academic year compared to the budget, a reduction in the average cost per pupil, element 2 refunds relating to the 2018-19 academic year which have been negotiated with the colleges and a number of accounting adjustments relating to the 2019-20 financial year which are no longer required.

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Out of City Providers

4.24 The table below sets out the position regarding the current forecast underspend on the Out of City providers. As at the end of December the number of pupils in both the Independent and Specialist providers and Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) is lower than budgeted. As set out in paragraph 4.17 it is not clear if the reduced numbers are related to the national lockdown and a decrease in the number of pupils that have moved or been placed in specialist settings. This area will continue to be monitored closely.

Table 6 - Out of City Placements						
	Budget		Forecast position		Variance	
	£	Pupils	£	Pupils	£	Pupils
Independent & Specialist providers	2,915,600	50	2,570,700	42	(232,600)	(8)
CAMHS	61,200	11	46,400	7	(14,800)	(4)
Total	2,976,800	61	2,617,100	49	(359,700)	(12)

Permanent Exclusion Recharge

4.25 The credit of £70,400 represents the proportion of permanent exclusion income from schools where pupils have been placed in an alternative provision setting for a period of time before moving to a new mainstream placement. This is an annual contribution to the element 3 top-up costs.

Early Years Complex Needs Inclusion Fund

4.26 The overspend reflects the increase in the number of pupils with complex needs receiving additional support in mainstream early years settings. The forecast overspend has reduced slightly to reflect more accurately the number of pupils expected to be eligible for funding in the spring term 2021.

Grant funding

4.27 The DSG allocation is lower than budgeted as a result of a reduction in grant due to the recoupment of the central licences funding, and the 2019-20 early years adjustment in July 2020. This is partially offset by an increase in funding following a challenge relating to the High Needs Block import/export factor.

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Carry forward balance

4.28 As at the 31 December 2020 the forecast carry forward is £4.5m, a net decrease of £0.1m on Quarter 2.

5. Reasons for recommendations

5.1 It is recommended that The Cabinet Member notes the contents of the report in respect of the financial forecast outturn for 2020-21 as at the end of the third quarter.

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Signed by (Director)

Appendices:

Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

The information upon which this report has been based has been drawn from a variety of sources: however much of the information used is held in budget files prepared by the children and Education Finance Team. Please contact Angela Mann, Finance Manager, if required.

Title of document	Location

Agenda Item 5



Portsmouth
CITY COUNCIL

Title of meeting: Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education
Decision Meeting

Date of meeting: 11 March 2021

Subject: Schools Capital Programme and School Place Planning
Update

Report by: Alison Jeffery, Director of Children, Families and Education

Wards affected: All wards

Key decision: No

Full Council decision: No

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the progress of:
- Urgent school condition projects
 - School sufficiency schemes aimed at increasing school place capacity within the city
- 1.2 To seek approval to enter into a statutory process to formally change the age range of Manor Infant School from 4 to 7 years to 2 to 7 years to integrate the current nursery provision fully into the school.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 **It is recommended that the Cabinet Member notes the progress on the school modernisation "urgent condition" projects, the secondary school sufficiency projects and the special school sufficiency projects.**
- 2.2 **It is recommended that the schemes agreed with the Lead Member since the last report are formally approved.**
- 2.3 **It is recommended that a statutory process is commenced on a proposal to change the age range of Manor Infant School from 4 to 7 years to 2 to 7 years.**

3. Background

School modernisation (urgent condition) projects

- 3.1 The urgent condition projects have been identified through Asset Management Plan meetings, condition surveys and recommendations by Education officers concerning the needs of specific pupils.
- 3.2 Funding for urgent condition projects was approved by the Council at the start of the financial year, plus a contingency allowance for urgent emerging works.
- 3.3 Although some of the more intrusive and disruptive works are normally undertaken during school holiday periods, this year has seen some projects delayed due to the impact of Covid19. These works have been reprogrammed to take place in 2021 whilst assuring school safety and social distancing arrangements are not compromised.
- 3.4 In addition to the projects previously agreed, the following urgent condition schemes have been identified and require Cabinet Member approval:
 - The Harbour Vanguard School - £14,000 security door installation and repairs

School sufficiency schemes

- 3.5 Despite the implications and challenges of Covid 19, all projects that were being undertaken to increase school capacity were completed to the agreed programme, this included works at Trafalgar School, Admiral Lord Nelson School, Charter Academy, The Portsmouth Academy, and St Edmund's School.
- 3.6 In addition to the projects previously agreed, the following projects have been included within the capital programme;
 - Court Lane Infant School - Adaptations to classroom for medical purposes - £15,000
 - Milton Park Primary School - Adaptations as part of the SEND strategy for inclusive provision - £50,000
 - Mayfield School - Furniture and equipment for compatibility with new school provision - £58,000
 - Mayfield School - Land and wayleave provisions - £10,000



- 3.7 Design work is currently underway to provide additional special educational needs places at both the Cliffdale Primary Academy and a pre Wymering provision at The Harbour @ Tipner for September 2021.
- 3.8 Following the full council meeting on 9th February 2021, design work is currently commencing on the projects identified in the table below:

2020 to 2021	2021 to 2022	2022 to 2023
Inclusion Centre on mainstream Primary school site (Penhale Infant School)	Cliffdale Primary Expansion £3.97m Project (Pre start costs 20%) Flying Bull Inclusion Centre expansion Feasibility for expansion of Redwood Park required for September 2024.	Cliffdale Primary Expansion (80% of project cost) The Lantern expansion and initial changes at Redwood Park to accommodate Year 6 pupils.
24 pupil places	18 pupil places	24 pupil places 20 pupil places
£1,157,720	£2,057,406	£4,426,608
Inclusion Grant £100,000	Inclusion Grant £100,000	Inclusion Grant £100,000
£1,257,720	£2,157,406	£4,526,608

Manor Infant School

- 3.9 Manor Infant School currently have a pre-school provision which is run and managed by Governors as a separate provision under the Governing Body's community powers. The Governing Body have approached the Council with a request to formally change to the age range of the school from 4 to 7 years to 2 to 7 years to integrate the current nursery provision fully into the school. This will enable the school to use school systems to better track the progress of pupils throughout their time at the school.
- 3.10 Manor Infant School is a community maintained primary school and a change of age range for a community maintained school is a prescribed alteration governed by The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013.
- 3.11 The Council is required to follow a statutory process to effect this change. The process has 4 stages which are summarised in the table below.



Stage	Description	Timescale	Comments
Stage 1	Publication (statutory proposal / notice)		
Stage 2	Representation (formal consultation)	Must be at least 4 weeks	As prescribed in the 'Prescribed Alteration' regulations.
Stage 3	Decision	LA should decide a proposal within 2 months otherwise it will fall to the Schools Adjudicator.	Any appeal to the adjudicator must be made within 4 weeks of the decision.
Stage 4	Implementation	No prescribed timescale	However it must be as specified in the published statutory notice, subject to any modifications agreed by the decision-maker.

4. Reasons for recommendations

- 4.1 Additional funding implications identified for both urgent priority condition works and sufficiency of school places can be met from within the existing capital programme.
- 4.2 If approved, stage 1 of the statutory process for the age range change at Manor Infant School will commence with the publication of the proposal on 10th May 2021 followed by the four week statutory consultation which would end on 7th June 2021. A report on the outcome of the statutory consultation would then be brought back for a decision by the Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education.

5. Integrated impact assessment

- 5.1 The implementation of the school modernisation programme (urgent condition) and the secondary sufficiency programme (phase 2) will not have



a negative impact on any of the areas of equality and diversity, communities & safety, regeneration & culture, environment and public space.

- 5.2 The programme will improve access to schools for all equality groups, particularly with regard to those pupils who have learning difficulties and / or a disability.
- 5.3 Each individual capital project/scheme includes an equalities impact assessment.

6. Legal implications

- 6.1 The Education Act 1996, Section 14, requires a local authority to secure sufficient primary and secondary schools in their area, sufficient being in relation to number, character and equipment to provide for all pupils the opportunity of appropriate education and requiring the LA to have regard to the need to secure that special educational provision is made for pupils with special educational needs.
- 6.2 Under the Childcare Act 2006, a local authority has a duty to secure sufficient childcare for the needs of working parents/carers in their area.
- 6.3 The Education and Inspections Act 2006, the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013 and the DfE statutory guidance "Making Significant Changes ('Prescribed Alterations') to Maintained Schools - statutory guidance for proposers and decision-makers (October 2018)" set out the procedure for changing the age range of a community maintained school, including the addition of nursery provision. The stages of the statutory process are set out in paragraph 3.11 of this report.
- 6.4 The Local Authority will be the decision-maker of this proposal and it must satisfy itself that before the final decision is made, appropriate consultation has been carried out and that the statutory proposal is published in accordance with the Regulations and statutory guidance.
- 6.5 The recommendations contained in this report and set out in paragraph 2 above are being sought with the intention of furthering the above duties and are in compliance with the legislation and statutory guidance applicable. The recommendations sought are within the Cabinet Member's powers, as set out in Part 2 Section 3 of the Council's constitution.

7. Director of Finance's comments

- 7.1 Financial monitoring of the capital programme is reported within the quarterly budget monitoring report. The quarterly monitoring report is brought to the February meeting.
- 7.2 The additional condition projects and sufficiency projects can be met within the existing budgets for those schemes.
- 7.3 For condition projects, schools will be expected to use their Devolved Formula Capital (DFC) allocations to support these key priorities, in keeping with government expectations of the use of this funding. The expected contributions from schools' will be based on the agreed contribution methodology.
- 7.4 Any on-going revenue implications will be met by individual schools through their individual budgets which are funded from the Dedicated School Grant (DSG).
- 7.5 The change of age range at Manor Infant school will not change the revenue funding received by the school through the individual school budget or via the national funding for eligible two year olds, universal hours for three and four year olds and the additional hours for eligible three and four year olds.

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Signed by:

Appendices:

Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location

The recommendation(s) set out above were approved/ approved as amended/ deferred/ rejected by on

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Signed by: