

## Appendix 1

# **Consultation on the proposed de-delegation of school's budget shares to cover the removal of the Local Authority School Improvement, Monitoring and Brokering grant**

31<sup>st</sup> October 2022

## 1 Summary

- 1.1. The council is seeking to consult with LA maintained schools on a proposed de-delegation from schools' budget shares in order to cover the removal of the Local Authority School Improvement Monitoring and Brokering Grant as from April 2023. This paper sets out the background to the proposal and how schools can respond to the consultation.

## 2 Background

- 2.1. Since 2017, the Local Authority School Improvement Monitoring and Brokering grant has been allocated to local authorities to support them in fulfilling their statutory school improvement functions under Part 4 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 and their additional school improvement expectations as set out in the Schools Causing Concern Guidance (collectively referred to as core school improvement services). In summary these activities require councils to monitor the performance of maintained schools, broker school improvement support and intervene as appropriate. Details of the support and services provided are set out in [Appendix 1](#).
- 2.2. In Portsmouth the School Improvement Monitoring and Brokering grant in 2020/21 was £80,000. This helped cover a proportion of the costs relating to the School Improvement Team which consists of two posts: the Head of School Improvement & Early Years; and the School Improvement Adviser. The two posts provide school improvement support which is targeted according to need. The grant also supported the costs associated with the monitoring, moderation and assessment for primary schools (Key Stage 1 and 2 including Year 1 phonics screening) for which there is currently no charge for LA maintained schools. A traded service exists for academies. The extent and range of activities included in this work which is provided for LA maintained schools at no cost are outlined in [Appendix 2](#).
- 2.3. In October 2021, the DfE launched a consultation seeking views on the government's intention to remove the School Improvement Monitoring and Brokering grant, currently allocated to local authorities to support school improvement activities and make provisions within the School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations for the financial year (FY) 2022-23 to allow local authorities to fund their school improvement activities via de-delegation from schools' budget shares.
- 2.4. The consultation took place from 29th October 2021 to 26th November 2021. The Government's response to the consultation was published on 18th January 2022. To provide parity to maintained schools and academy schools, the government stated that it would:
- 2.5. Make the final grant payment in the FY 2022-23; and include provision in Part 7 of Schedule 2 of the School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations for the FY 2022-23 which would allow councils to de-delegate

from maintained schools for all improvement expenditure, including all core improvement activities.

- 2.6. The final value per pupil will be based on the October 2022 census on roll released in December 2022 as part of the DSG 2023-24 allocations, but the indicative amount at this time is £10.50 per pupil. This would be taken to the January 2023 Schools Forum in order to confirm the actual amount per pupil.
- 2.7. De-delegation will allow the school improvement services that support maintained schools to continue at the existing levels, whilst being in line with the government's guidance to achieve parity of funding with academy schools.
- 2.8. In addition to ongoing and bespoke school improvement activities such as providing regular updates, attending meetings with school leaders, writing model policies, delivering training and advising governors, proportional support and challenge is specifically delivered to LA Maintained schools through a range of quality assurance activities (as outlined in Appendix1).
- 2.9. The decision to de-delegate funding from maintained schools' budgets sits with the primary and secondary maintained school members of Schools Forum, and a further provision in the regulations to request Secretary of State approval if agreement is not reached. Whilst there is no requirement to consult schools on the proposed de-delegation, the council seeks the views of schools to support and inform the decision-making process.

### **3 Responding to the consultation**






- 3.1. A consultation response is attached at Appendix 3 for schools to complete. The consultation will close at midday on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022.
- 3.2. The consultation will also be discussed at the next LA Briefing for Headteachers of LA Maintained Schools on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2022. The discussion will also be taken into account as part of the consultation.
- 3.3. Please send your completed response forms to:  
[eandsc@portsmouthcc.gov.uk](mailto:eandsc@portsmouthcc.gov.uk)
- 3.4. The responses to this consultation will be reported to both the Cabinet Member for Children, Families & Education and Schools Forum meetings in December 2022.






## APPENDIX 1

### LA Maintained Schools

#### School improvement quality assurance processes

- Regular visits, meetings, and discussions between school leaders and the Head of School Improvement and Early Years
- Annual visit from a commissioned school improvement partner funded through the local authority
- Review of school documentation e.g. Self Evaluation Form (SEF), school improvement plan, curriculum design and planning, target-setting and benchmarking information
- Consideration of school standards, provision, and progress which includes a focus on children with SEND and vulnerable groups, target-setting
- Undertaking joint activities with school improvement partner, consultant or LA officer e.g. monitoring the quality of education, work scrutiny and moderation, curriculum planning, pupil/parent/staff discussions
- Ofsted preparation, support during and after inspection, including training
- Participation in the LA peer review process 'Reflective Improvement'
- Optional additional work e.g. safeguarding sampling visit, training and development, governor support

For all LA Maintained schools	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Head of School Improvement and Early Years e.g.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Support to draft/sharing of school improvement plan and SEF with feedback as necessary</li> <li>○ Scrutiny of significant areas identified at end of key stage/statutory assessment outcomes, such as progress of vulnerable groups: disadvantaged pupils; SEND pupils; and White British/EAL pupil groups</li> <li>○ Sharing and agreeing targets, benchmarking</li> <li>○ School review activities (subject-based, preparation and readiness for the next Ofsted inspection, post-Ofsted action planning, quality assurance of the SEF)</li> <li>○ Discussion and support with any issues facing the school e.g. absence, exclusions, staffing, recruitment and retention, governance, behaviour, inclusion, personal development, policy and practice, safeguarding, statutory compliance</li> <li>○ Commission of professional coaching sessions to reflect on leadership practice and development</li> <li>○ Joint visits with external partners</li> <li>○ LA and Portsmouth Education Partnership (PEP) peer reviews</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Date: At least annually </p> <p>Time: min 1 hour, max 1 day </p> <p>Audience: Headteachers </p> <p>Delivered: PCC </p> <p>Commissioned: LA Maintained </p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ CPD and training events</li> <li>● Annual school improvement visit (external school improvement partner (SIP)) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Visit record reported to PCC Head of School Improvement &amp; Early Years</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Education Senior Leadership Team (SLT) termly visit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Opportunity to raise school improvement issues</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
For all LA Maintained schools prioritised / causing concern / vulnerable	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Additional commissioned visits (external SIP) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Building on annual visit, part of a continuous process and ongoing relationship</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Specific areas of work <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ English, Maths or curriculum subject development (use of Teaching School Hubs, Research School, subject networks, experienced practitioners)</li> <li>○ Invite or direct to Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) programmes through the Research School</li> <li>○ Additional support with experience and accuracy of assessment and moderation (LA Moderation Manager)</li> <li>○ Support for leadership development (senior, middle, refer for National Professional Qualifications (NPQs), shadowing, visits to other schools, subject network attendance, PEP boards and groups)</li> <li>○ Forensic analysis of data and performance information with support from the Education Information Service</li> <li>○ Further training bespoke as required</li> <li>○ Additional preparation for Ofsted inspection</li> <li>○ Facilitate support and links to other PCC services e.g. EMAS, Early Years, School Attendance Team, Admissions, Portsmouth Music Service/Hub, Inclusion, SEN team, Inclusion Outreach Service, Pupil Place Planning</li> <li>○ Website compliance prioritised</li> <li>○ Safeguarding sampling visit prioritised</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Date: at least termly </p> <p>Time: ½ or 1 day per visit </p> <p>Audience: school to negotiate </p> <p>Delivered: external SIP and LA </p> <p>Commissioned: through the LA </p>

## **APPENDIX 2**

### **Excerpt from the Job Profile for the LA School Improvement Adviser**

- Act as the Moderation Manager who provides the strategic lead for the local authority in respect of statutory duties for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 moderation and assessment including:
  - Submit the annual moderation plan for external moderation of KS1 reading, writing and mathematics and KS2 writing
  - Review the moderation appeals procedure
  - Provide consistent and proactive communications to schools regarding the moderation arrangements
  - Plan and facilitate training for Year 2 and Year 6 teachers during the second half of the Autumn term annually
  - Hold a briefing for headteachers ahead of moderation
  - Recruit moderators for KS1 and KS2, provide an effective training programme and ensure that quality assurance processes are in place and that any new moderators have access to a mentor/shadow
  - Co-ordinate the programme of moderation for KS1 and KS2, ensuring that the minimum of 25% of schools for both KS1 and KS2 are moderated according to the cycle that has been agreed for Portsmouth (with additional schools where advised by the Standards and Testing Agency (STA) or where the LA has a relevant concern), that there are no conflicts of interest and notifying schools to be moderated at the appropriate time
  - Maintain accurate records of all moderation visits, ensuring all visit records are signed by the relevant headteacher (or delegate) and lead moderator for the visit
  - Ensure that schools are notified of the chosen pupils in moderation samples either on the day of the visit, or the day before
  - Implement and adhere to the requirements as set out in the latest guidance from the STA for primary moderation and unannounced monitoring visits (Year 1 Phonics Screening Check and Key Stage 2 SATs)
  - Working with the council's Information Services Team, oversee the submission of data and the data validation process

## APPENDIX 3

### Questions:

1	Do you agree with the proposal to de-delegate funding from school's budget shares in order to cover the removal of the Local Authority School Improvement, Monitoring and Brokering grant?	Yes	NO
Please add any further comments			
2	Do you have any other comments?	Yes	No
Please add any further comments			

Please note the consultation will close at midday on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

Please send your completed response forms to:  
[eandsc@portsmouthcc.gov.uk](mailto:eandsc@portsmouthcc.gov.uk)