

Leicester
City Council

**WARDS AFFECTED:
ALL WARDS**

**FORWARD TIMETABLE OF
CONSULTATION AND MEETINGS:
Cabinet
Council**

**28 January 2002
31 January 2002**

EDUCATION BUDGET STRATEGY 2002/2003

Report of the Director of Education

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 This report seeks approval for the Education Budget for 2002/03, for the proposed additional delegation for 2002/03, and for the revision of the LMS formula following consultation with schools and the Education and Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Committee.

2. Summary

- 2.1 The Department has prepared the base budget for 2002/03 and has consulted with schools on the proposals for growth, for updating the formula and for further delegation. The appendices to the Supporting Information set out the relevant details.
- 2.2 The budget has been prepared within the policy guidelines approved by the Council.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 The Cabinet is recommended to submit the following to the Council for approval:
- i) the base budget as set out in Appendix A;
 - ii) growth and reduction proposals set out in Appendix B and detailed in Appendix C;
 - iii) the additional growth pressures to be funded from additional funds (£1,640,000) as set out in Appendix D;
 - iv) the balance of funds to enable the full take up of the government's Standards Fund to be funded from an NRF bid;
 - v) note the profile for achieving the Leicester Pledge target of 4% as set out in Appendix E;
 - vi) approve the proposals for additional delegation as set out in Appendix F;

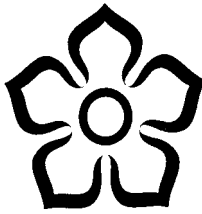
- vii) note the government's proposals for a revised system for delegating resources to schools as set out in Appendix F;
- viii) the revision to the LMS Formula as set out in Appendix G;
- ix) the proposal to introduce the Formula revisions over a two year transitional period as set out in Appendix G; and
- x) note the feedback received on the consultation as set out in Appendix H.

4. Financial and Legal Implications

- 4.1 Financial implications are the subject of the report, and there are no specific legal implications.

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EDUCATION BUDGET 2002/03

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SUPPORTING INFORMATION

2. Report

2.1 The Education Department has prepared the base budget for which approval is sought - Appendix A.

2.2 The components of the Education Budget Strategy for 2002/03 are as follows:

- Growth and reduction proposals – see Appendix B, C and D
- Updating of the LMS formula – Appendix G
- Delegation proposals – Appendix F
- Addressing the Leicester Pledge – Appendix E.

2.3 The Department has consulted schools and the Education and Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Committee on this budget strategy. The key issues raised in the consultation are considered and responded to in Appendix H.

2.4 The response to the consultation was largely positive, albeit a low response.

2.5 In terms of the LMS Formula proposals specifically:

- Headteachers have requested a simplification of the LMS Formula and this is now required by DfES
- They are supported by the Fair Funding Group (made up of Headteachers and Union representatives) having been subject to discussion over an extended period
- Officers attended meetings of the City Primary Headteachers Executive, and the Leicester Secondary Headteachers, and a seminar for Primary Headteachers

- No major objections have been made to the fundamental principles for a revised formula in any of the above situations
- Many of the concerns raised have been about:
 - Items that were not included in the review e.g. deprivation, turbulence
 - A misunderstanding of the changes proposed e.g. split site has not been taken out
 - Issues that will be addressed outside the formula e.g. targeting of funding to phase, etc.

2.6 A response to the key issues arising from the consultation is in Appendix H.

2.7 It is proposed to respond to the request for a two year transition period as requested by a number of schools and this is explained in Appendix G.

3. Research

2.1 This was contained within the Budget Strategy previously submitted to Cabinet and to the Scrutiny Committee.

4. Consultation

3.1 The budget has been subject to consultation with schools.

5. Financial and Legal Implications

5.1 See covering report.

6. Recommendations

5.1 See covering report.

6. Background papers – Local Government Act 1972

6.1 None.

