

## **2022-23 High Needs Block**

To: Peterborough Schools' Forum

Date: 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2022

From: Jonathan Lewis – Director of Education

### **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 This paper provides Schools Forum with a summary of the high needs block budgets for 2022-23. The high needs budget is set and overseen by the Local Authority although the vast proportion of the funding goes directly into education provision. This is across early years, schools, FE colleges and independent schools. The budget is set by the Local Authority and this paper is intended to share with schools the proposal for all the allocation of the budget for 22/23.
- 1.2 The funding for high needs increased by 8.9% for 2022/23 to £41.86m (around £3.4m). The national floor for increases was set at 8% and this reflects national pressures on high needs funding. Peterborough's allocation is higher due to the reflect of deprivation in the national position along with an increase in pupil numbers. These pressures on growing complexity of need has had to be met in setting the high needs budget. As in previous years, the funding includes the teacher pay and pension grant for staff funded from the high needs block (including special schools).
- 1.3 Following the autumn spending review the Government announced extra funding for high needs and have allocated Peterborough a further £1.49m. This extra funding recognises the additional costs that local authorities and schools will face in the coming year, which were not foreseen when the original high needs block allocations were calculated. The additional funding takes into account the increased national insurance contributions from employers and funding for extra hours to support students with high needs with their studies. This additional funding is reflected in this report.
- 1.4 Nationally the majority of Local Authorities are reporting a deficit on their high needs block. It is expected we will have a significant overspend on our budget this year although, it is likely the overall DSG will remain in surplus at the end of this financial year. The LA has not made a request to transfer funding from the school block to the high needs block.

### **2.0 2022-23 High Needs Block Expenditure**

This section of the report provides further detail on the planned expenditure within the high needs block.

#### **2.1 Mainstream Schools Top-up Funding**

Element 3 top-up funding is allocated to each mainstream academy and maintained school with children on roll with an EHCP. The funding is allocated using three bandings. As the profile of need in Peterborough special schools has shifted to more complex and severe needs, the profile in mainstream schools has also shifted to encompass a wider range of need. To support schools with these higher needs and continue to be inclusive, it is

proposed to reflect this with an uplift to all banding levels at an additional cost of £493k with the greatest impact at Band B

| <b>Banding</b> | <b>21-22 rate</b> | <b>22-23 rate</b> | <b>% increase</b> |
|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| B              | £2,672            | £3,200            | 16.5%             |
| C              | £6,532            | £7,200            | 9.3%              |
| D              | £9,562            | £10,500           | 8.9%              |

In addition to element 3 top-up funding a new factor was introduced in 2017/18 to provide additional support where the schools contribution for the 1st £6k of additional need, for pupil with EHCP, exceeds 25% of the schools notional SEN funding. The funding will be allocated on a termly basis. The table below shows how the funding will be calculated:

| <b>Term</b> | <b>Calculations</b>  |
|-------------|--|
| Summer 2022 | ((No of children with an EHCP on May 22 census (less hub places) x £6,000) – (Notional SEN funding x 25%)) x 13/38 |
| Autumn 22   | ((No of children with an EHCP on Oct 22 census (less hub places) x £6,000) – (Notional SEN funding x 25%)) x 14/38 |
| Spring 22   | ((No of children with an EHCP on Jan 23 census (less hub places) x £6,000) – (Notional SEN funding x 25%)) x 11/38 |

To support the increasing need, a further £93k has been added to create a total budget of £266k.

## **2.2 HUBs and Centres of Expertise**

To keep improving the expertise available to our children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) in all education settings in the Peterborough area, we have established a growing network of specialist HUBs.

The premise of the HUB approach is that some operate exclusively as Centres of Expertise whilst others also offer an agreed number of specialist places. Where specialist places exist children and young people (CYP) must have access to classes in the main part of the school with the aim of, where possible, supporting CYP back into mainstream school. All HUBS are subject to Service Level Agreements (SLAs) which include a requirement to agree annual outcomes with the LA.

Peterborough's area of pressure in terms of HUB placements, continues to be ASD. Therefore, 2 new HUBs in this area are proposed – one secondary and one primary. The new HUBS will provide additional capacity in terms of placements but will also enable further work in partnership with our specialist services to increase understanding and knowledge of autism and provide direct support to settings where CYP are experiencing challenging periods of anxiety.

The table below details the proposed hub allocations in Nursery, Primary and Secondary schools for 2022-23.

|                                |                     | 22-23 FY Budget |                     |                      |                       |                     |                      |                |               |                |                     |               |          |               |  |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|---------------------|---------------|----------|---------------|--|
|                                |                     | As per SLA      |                     |                      | As per HNPCN Nov 2021 |                     |                      |                |               |                |                     |               |          |               |  |
|                                |                     | Sep 21 Places   | Sep 21 Empty Places | Sep 21 Filled Places | Sep 22 Places         | Sep 22 Empty Places | Sep 22 Filled Places | Average top-up | Place Funding | Top-up Funding | Centre of Expertise | Total Funding | Start up | Total Funding |  |
| Budget HUB                     | Sector              |                 |                     |                      |                       |                     |                      |                |               |                |                     |               |          |               |  |
| AMVC (VI)                      | Secondary Academy   | 0               | 0                   | 0                    | 0                     | 0                   | 0                    | 12,000         | -             | -              | 45,000              | 45,000        |          | 45,000        |  |
| Caverstede                     | Nursery Maintaine   | 0               | 0                   | 0                    | 0                     | 0                   | 0                    | -              | -             | -              | 70,000              | 70,000        |          | 70,000        |  |
| Jack Hunt (PD)                 | Secondary Academy   | 6               | 2                   | 4                    | 6                     | 2                   | 4                    | 12,000         | 44,000        | 72,000         | 45,000              | 161,000       |          | 161,000       |  |
| Middleton (HI)                 | Primary Academy     | 4               | 0                   | 4                    | 4                     | 0                   | 4                    | 11,000         | 24,000        | 44,000         | 60,000              | 128,000       |          | 128,000       |  |
| Nene Park Academy (Autism)     | Secondary Academy   | 8               | 0                   | 8                    | 8                     | 0                   | 8                    | 9,000          | 48,000        | 72,000         | 45,000              | 165,000       |          | 165,000       |  |
| Ormiston Meadows (PD)          | Primary Academy     | 6               | 4                   | 2                    | 6                     | 4                   | 2                    | 12,000         | 52,000        | 72,000         | 60,000              | 184,000       |          | 184,000       |  |
| Southfields Primary (SLCN)     | Primary Maintaine   | 6               | 5                   | 1                    | 6                     | 0                   | 6                    | 4,000          | 44,333        | 24,000         | 60,000              | 128,333       |          | 128,333       |  |
| St John Fisher (sensory needs) | Secondary Maintaine | 4               | 4                   | 0                    | 6                     | 6                   | 0                    | 11,000         | 51,667        | 56,833         | 60,000              | 168,500       |          | 168,500       |  |
| TDA (SpLD)                     | Primary Academy     | 2               | 2                   | 0                    | 2                     | 2                   | 0                    | 2,000          | 20,000        | 4,000          | 45,000              | 69,000        |          | 69,000        |  |
| Welbourne Primary              | Primary Academy     | 8               | 0                   | 8                    | 8                     | 0                   | 8                    | 9,000          | 48,000        | 72,000         | 45,000              | 165,000       |          | 165,000       |  |
| Ken Stimpson (Autism)          | Secondary Maintaine | 6               | 6                   | 0                    | 6                     | 6                   | 0                    | 9,000          | 60,000        | 54,000         | 45,000              | 159,000       |          | 159,000       |  |
| St Michael's - SEMH            | Primary Maintaine   | 0               | 0                   | 0                    | 0                     | 0                   | 0                    | -              | -             | -              | 45,000              | 45,000        |          | 45,000        |  |
| Manor Drive ASD hub            | Secondary Academy   |                 |                     |                      | 4                     | 4                   | 0                    |                | 23,333        | -              | 45,000              | 68,333        |          | 68,333        |  |
| New ASD/C hub                  | Secondary Maintaine | 0               | 0                   | 0                    | 0                     | 0                   | 0                    | 9,000          | -             | -              | 45,000              | 45,000        |          | 45,000        |  |
| New ASD/C hub                  | Primary Maintaine   | 0               | 0                   | 0                    | 5                     | 0                   | 5                    | 9,000          | 7,500         | 11,250         | 45,000              | 63,750        |          | 63,750        |  |
|                                |                     | 50              | 23                  | 27                   | 61                    | 24                  | 37                   |                | 422,833       | 482,083        | 760,000             | 1,664,917     | -        | 1,664,917     |  |
| Academy Totals funded from GAG |                     |                 |                     |                      |                       |                     |                      |                | 239,333       |                |                     |               |          |               |  |

A review of the specialist SEN HUB approach was completed in spring 2020. This has now been updated (Appendix 1) to reflect the period between April 2020 and August 2021. COVID has had some inevitable impact on HUB development but it has also enabled settings to work with LA staff to strengthen the quality of virtual training and support which is key to developing SEN knowledge and resilience in Peterborough schools

## 2.3 Special Schools

Special schools and Alternative Provision are funded in two ways:

- place funding of £10k for each commissioned place,
- plus top-up funding for each child taking-up a place.

We continue to use the banding matrix with the agreement and support of special schools. The matrix provides an average top up rate which ensures predictability and stability for both special schools and the LA. The number of commissioned places is reviewed annually with schools. The banding matrix is reviewed every 3-5 years and a review has just been completed. The review exercise involved revisiting the banding descriptors and carrying out a new profiling exercise with schools which was then externally moderated. Appendix 2 outlines the allocations agreed with schools for 2022/23.

The top-up funding is estimated at the beginning of the financial year. The top-up funding is then adjusted on a termly basis for actual numbers on roll (where Peterborough is the home authority). using, information submitted by the establishment, through their termly census return. This may result in some movement in year and at final year end.

As a result of these increases, the budget for special schools has increased by £990k to £14.5m.

## 2.4 Alternative Provision

The allocation for Richard Barnes Academy (RBA) - (£2.9m) includes place funding for 270 until September (with top up at existing rates). We have agreed a reduction in the number on roll to 120, in line with agreed capacity and a review of the service level agreement is currently underway that will secure appropriate top-up rates for RBA and secure appropriate funding for the Inclusion Services to ensure high quality provision is in place. We have also increased the capacity within the Inclusion Services team to support schools with behaviour

support and increase access to support with parent carers and families

## **2.5 Post 16 Top-up FE/Independent**

This is element 3 top-up funding to meet the needs of post 16 pupils with EHCP in Further Education (FE) or independent placements. Element 2 funding is paid to these institutions directly by the EFSA based on a high needs return made by the local authority in November for the following academic year i.e. November-21 for the September-22 cohort. This funding is clawed back from Peterborough's DSG through the recoupment process. Where numbers are under stated the local authority pay additional element 2 funding to these institutions.

The forecast outturn position is based on one terms allocation of the 2021/22 element 3 funding and two terms of the 2022/23 additional element 2 and element 3 funding. This totals £2.3m.

## **2.6 SEN Support Services**

SEN supports services are split into five areas

- **SEN & Inclusion** – this budget covers staff and contracts who deliver direct services to or in support of Peterborough schools. The work of the SENCo network and HUB development is covered from this budget.
- **Autism Advisory and Support Service** – this service works directly with children, young people and settings to support and advise around autism and/or ADHD
- **SEN Early Years Support Service, including Portage** - this service works closely with other SEN support services to support children with SEN in the early years. It includes 'Portage' which is an established model of family, home based support that enables parents/carers of those with the most complex needs to understand and meet their child's needs.
- **SEN Education Provision**- this budget covers additional or alternative provision.
- **Sensory and Physical Impairment Advisory and Support Service**-this service works directly with children and young people who have hearing, visual or physical impairments, including direct teaching as required (e.g. braille). It supports settings to understand and meet the needs of these young people and works with health and social services to ensure early identification and support from the earliest years. The work of the specialist teacher for physical impairments has grown in recent years and includes specialist training for teachers/TAs on 'moving and handling'.

The rising complexity of demand has put pressure upon these services. To provide additional support for children and young people in the City, we have increased the staffing capacity within the Autism Advisory Service and SEN Early Years and Portage Service. We have also created a new 'coordination' post to support the Hub network following staffing changes. We have increased the SEN Education provision to provide specific or additional arrangements to support CYP and/or their placements on a short- term, temporary basis.

## **2.7 Speech & Language Service**

As part of joint commissioning arrangements, funding is provided to our NHS Speech and Language Therapy Service to meet the speech and language needs of CYP in the City. The model of delivery was agreed some years ago following consultation by commissioning with schools and wider stakeholders. The service uses the 'balanced model' of delivery which is

based upon early intervention in partnership with schools/settings that decrease the necessity for higher level and more costly interventions.

## **2.8 Recoupment**

The recoupment budget meets the costs of children who have an EHCP and for whom Peterborough has educational responsibility, but who are being educated in schools outside of the City.

## **2.9 Out of City Placements**

This budget meets the placement costs for pupils who are educated in specialist placements outside of the city. We have increased the budget this year by £1.2m to reflect additional demand, expecting higher costs for placements arising from inflation and pressure on existing special school places in the City. Our commissioning team are responsible for the contracting and review of these placement and have driven savings over many years.

## **2.10 Joint placements**

This budget meets the placement costs for pupils who are educated in specialist placements. Costs of the placement is shared with Children's Social Care services because in addition to having complex educational needs, there are also significant issues at home, which result in the child or young person not being able to remain in the care of their parents

## **2.11 Hospital Provision**

We have increased the budget as we have seen a rise in the number of short term tuition placements required due to medical requirements. We also expect further cases relating to long Covid but we are awaiting DfE guidance on the expectations of how this is supported and by whom.

## **2.12 Teachers Pensions and Pay Grants**

Since 2021-22 the allocations for Teachers Pensions and Pay Grants are including in the Basic Entitlement for Mainstream schools. The allocations for Special Schools and AP Provision are now paid as part of the High Needs Block DSG – at a flat rate of £660.00 per place per year.

Place numbers are adjusted in September in some cases and therefore we will be paying the sums in 2 blocks –

- April – Aug based on Sept 2021 places and
- Sept – Mar based on Sept 2022 places.

The 2 allocations will be :-

- £275 per place Apr – Aug
- £385 per place Sep – Mar

## 2.13 High Needs Block - Summary budgets

The table below includes all planned expenditure within the high needs block.

| Description                             | 2021-22     | 2022-23     |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| Dsg High Needs                          | -37,582,832 | -41,864,001 |
| Recoupment Hnb                          | 8,120,000   | 7,178,000   |
| Mainstream Schools Top-up Funding       | 4,786,867   | 5,296,070   |
| Hubs / Centres of Expertise             | 1,367,417   | 1,425,583   |
| Maintained Special Schools              | 7,453,343   | 9,404,176   |
| Academy Special Schools and PRU         | 4,689,107   | 4,706,234   |
| Post 16 Top-up FE/Independent Providers | 1,824,203   | 2,079,140   |
| SEN Support Services                    | 2,341,106   | 3,253,300   |
| Speech and Language Service             | 250,000     | 250,000     |
| Hospital Provision                      | 50,000      | 100,000     |
| Recoupment                              | 474,107     | 474,107     |
| Out Of City Placements                  | 2,819,324   | 4,008,474   |
| Joint Funded Place                      | 2,748,259   | 3,033,501   |
| Education Safeguarding                  | 59,214      | 82,810      |
| TPG                                     | 599,885     | 572,605     |
|   | 0           | -0          |

## Appendix 2 – Special School Funding

| School             | Places<br>Sep-21 | Places<br>Sep-22 | Pupils<br>from<br>other LAs | 21-22<br>Average<br>Top-up<br>Values | Sept 22-<br>Mar 23<br>average<br>top up<br>values | Apr-Aug<br>average<br>top of<br>value | Apr-Aug<br>22 top up<br>with<br>2.9%<br>uplift | Place<br>Funding | Top-up<br>Funding | Centre<br>of<br>Expertise<br>Funding | Total<br>Funding  |
|--------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|--|------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Lime Academy Orton | 155              | 154              | 10                          | 14,374.67                            | 15,743.54   | 15,062.70                             | 910,038  | 1,544,167        | 2,232,495         | 0                                    | 3,776,662         |
| Medehamstede       | 127              | 115              | 26                          | 11,952.37                            | 12,507.39   | 12,507.25                             | 526,347  | 1,200,000        | 1,175,689         | 0                                    | 2,375,689         |
| Heltwate           | 210              | 210              | 3                           | 7,971.00                             | 9,613.08  | 8,478.35                              | 731,258  | 2,100,000        | 1,892,037         | 0                                    | 3,992,037         |
| Nenegate           | 48               | 48               | 3                           | 12,813.30                            | 13,474.89   | 13,474.89                             | 252,654  | 480,000          | 606,370           | 0                                    | 1,086,370         |
| Nenegate Hub       | 10               | 10               |                             | 12,813.30                            | 13,474.89   | 13,474.89                             | 56,145   | 100,000          | 134,749           | 60,000                               | 294,749           |
| Marshfields        | 175              | 191              | 18                          | 4,246.87                             | 5,917.99  | 4,660.03                              | 304,844  | 1,843,333        | 902,068           | 0                                    | 2,745,401         |
| Marshfields Hub    | 0                | 0                |                             | 4,246.87                             | 5,917.99  | 4,660.03                              | 0  | 0                | 0                 | 60,000                               | 60,000            |
| <b>Total</b>       | <b>725</b>       | <b>728</b>       | <b>60</b>                   |                                      |   |                                       |  | <b>7,267,500</b> | <b>6,943,408</b>  | <b>120,000</b>                       | <b>14,330,908</b> |