

## MAINSTREAM CONSULTATION RESPONSES

### Q2 Clerical Staff Lump Sum

**Consultation Response:** Goetre is a split site made up of three buildings. One clerk is not sufficient to deal with the geography or with the number of pupils in the school.

**LA Response:** Goetre will receive a split site allowances which tries to deal with this query.

### Q3 Caretaker Lump Sum

**Consultation Response:** Some schools, particularly in the secondary sector, require more than 1 FTE caretaker

**LA Response:** An aim of the formula review was to provide each school a minimum to run the site through the lump sums regardless of size or pupil numbers. It was agreed in the working group that all schools would require a caretaker regardless of size. Any requirement for additional caretaker resources would be funded from pupil related funding. It should be noted that at least 70% of funding should be pupil led funding which limits the lump sum allocations.

### Q4 Midday Supervisor

**Consultation Response:** Concern regarding the midday supervision ratio of pupils being 1:50 especially in the Foundation Phase. In the secondary sector the view was expressed that 1:50 1:50 is possibly a little high, maybe 1:100 would be more realistic.

**LA Response:** It was agreed in the working group that 1:50 is an appropriate ratio for the funding and appears in line with what the majority of schools are currently employing. However, it is up to individual schools to determine ratios at the school and more or less than this can be employed according to the needs of the school.

**Consultation Response:** Has any consideration been given for schools hosting an LRB? Often 1 midday supervisor is required for the class due to the specific needs of the children.

**LA Response:** The formula does not provide funding for a supervisor specifically for the LRB class but the pupils in the LRB are included in the funding allocation and counted within the 1:50 ratio.

### Q6 Federated School Allowance (favourable)

**Consultation Response:** Really pleased to have federations included in this proposal. Can you confirm that the payment is allocated per school within the federation?

**LA Response:** It is one allowance that will be split between each federated school and so the total leadership funding is slightly less than for two separate schools which recognises the overall lower cost of leadership.

### Q7-10 Average Teacher Salary Calculation

**Consultation Response:** Hope that there may be a future review of the PTR to recognise the requirement of increased staffing within the primary phase to raising standards in line with the secondary figures and the expectation of delivering Curriculum for Wales.

**LA Response:** The working group considered and agreed the PTR funded within the formula which compare favourably to other LAs PTR funding considered. If needs change over time then this can be reviewed further in line with the available evidence.

### Q11 Pupil Number funding

**Consultation Response:** Difficult to answer as we are unsure of the specifics of this funding. We are unclear of the amount that is calculated per pupil – how does this compare to the current allocation?

**LA Response:** This allocation is for all other aspects of funding with does not have a specific funding stream – such as: telephones, capitation, leasing, IT equipment, refuse collection. The figure provided is effectively a balancing figure of the remaining quantum of funding to be allocated. The proposed allocations for both Primary and Secondary are higher than the allocation per pupil in the current formula funding.

### Q12 Energy

**Consultation Response:** Without supporting information this was difficult to agree on. In principal we agree, however, it is not clear how this will impact on our school specifically.

**LA Response:** The formula changes proposed are required to be agreed in principle rather than with regards to specific impacts on specific schools. The whole review was carried out on this basis rather than the impact on individual schools. There is an historic basis to the energy rate used that was aligned to actual costs in 2010-11 and this has now been amended to benchmarked typical use as advised by the LA Energy Officer and actual Kw/h rates.

### **Q13 Cleaning**

**Consultation Response:** It could be worth considering the direct funding of the cleaning contract for each school, such as with other SLAs

**LA Response:** This is how the new indicator is calculated. An amount per square metre based on the cleaning contract. It is then the decision of the school to buy into the cleaning contract or not.

### **Q14 Split site allowance**

**Consultation Response:** Is there any scope for including elements of the allowance for federations e.g. Other costs inc. car allowances? Wouldn't be a large amount but there is travel and resource costs which are incurred working across sites.

**LA Response:** Agreed after consideration it would be reasonable to include an amount for car allowances to fund the Headteacher moving between sites.

**Consultation Response:** May need to consider additional DRAs as part of formula. We need to employ an additional DRA than the formula would fund due to the numbers on each site.

**LA Response:** DRA allocation is based on the number of pupils in the school so if the school required additional staff then that would be their choice.

**Consultation Response:** It is worth reviewing the definition of a split site, for example we have two buildings joined by a tunnel underneath a road here at Bishop Hedley, with two separate entrances to the school. Yet we have never received a split site allowance.

**LA Response:** The split site allowance is a unique allocation based on individual school circumstances when a school is on more than 1 site or the design of building means additional costs for security reasons. In the majority of cases this is when two previous schools have been amalgamated and are on separate school sites. The allowance is unique to specific schools' requirements.

**Consultation Response:** Ysgol Y Graig is due to receive split site allowance until September 2021. This does not appear in the description; we would want to ensure that this is maintained until we move to the new build.

**LA Response:** An allocation will be given in the formula based on the current formula allocation until the school occupies the new building (currently expected to be September 2021)

### **Q15 Teacher's Workload**

**Consultation Response:** A teacher's PPA time can be the same (i.e. 10% of timetabled lessons) whether they have a class of, say, 20 pupils or 30, particularly in the secondary section.

I think this should be based upon teacher number and not pupil number.

**LA Response:** The working group considered and agreed a change to Teachers Workload allocation from previous 70% lump sum / 30% pupil number to 100% pupil number. There are different models that could be considered but funding 100% on Teachers funded through the formula is directly proportional to funding 100% on pupil numbers and so is a similar indicator. Funding Teachers Workloads based on the number of teachers funded through the formula is also a more direct indicator for workload demands and so is overall a better indicator to use.

### **Q17 HR SLA**

**Consultation Response:** The number of staff members in a school does not necessarily correlate to the frequency of the use of the service by that school. Schools should continue to be funded directly for the service, as they are for the other SLAs, e.g. Payroll, Insurance, Creditors etc

**LA Response:** The school is funded directly for the service, but the allocation is based on staff numbers not pupil numbers as previous

**Consultation Response:** What staff will be used to calculate the amount?

**LA Response:** All staff coded and paid against the school budget will be used to calculate the HR SLA figure.

### **Q19 Repairs & Maintenance**

**Consultation Response:** Doesn't reflect the needs of individual schools at present.

**LA Response:** The current levels of spend across each sector (over three years) have been allocated to schools so that funding reflects current needs. Overall funding for repairs & maintenance has increased per sector compared to current formula. Funding is allocated to individual schools on a per square metre basis as per status quo.

#### **Q20 Mutual Fund Repairs & Maintenance**

**Consultation Response:** Not very clear on how this will actually impact our school in relation to square footage. How does this figure compare to what we pay now?

**LA Response:** The overall funding provided per sector has remained the same and schools are provided with an individual allocation for Mutual Fund based on square meterage as currently. If a school does not buy into the Mutual Fund then they retain their allocation of funding.

#### **QD Transitional Arrangements**

**Consultation Response:** We would be in favour of this in order for schools that are negatively impacted to have time to adjust their budgets – for example they may have already committed to staffing or contracts in the near future that would take time to adjust.

**LA Response:** Agreed. Transitional arrangements have been supported for this reason.

**Consultation Response:** Request that this transition period be looked at over 4 years

**LA Response:** Schools forum has agreed 3 year transitional period and this is consistent with previous transitional periods. This is considered appropriate to allow all schools sufficient time to adjust for the funding implications modelled.

### **SPECIAL SCHOOL CONSULTATION RESPONSES**

#### **Q5 Midday Supervisor**

**Consultation Response:** Not sure of the exact circumstances of the school but a ratio of 1:20 seems quite low for the number of children with complex needs.

**LA Response:** This ratio was agreed as appropriate with Headteacher at Greenfield.

#### **Q9 Cleaning**

**Consultation Response:** It could be worth considering the direct funding of the cleaning contract for each school, such as with other SLA's.

**LA Response:** This is how the new indicator is calculated. An amount per square metre based on the cleaning contract. It is then the decision of the school to buy into the cleaning contract or not.

#### **Q10 Teacher's Workload**

**Consultation Response:** I do think that it should be by number of teachers due to the difference in pupil to teacher ratios in special compared with mainstream schools.

**LA Response:** The working group considered and agreed a change to Teachers Workload allocation from previous 70% lump sum / 30% pupil number to 100% pupil number. There are different models that could be considered however after reviewing the point made it would seem more appropriate to fund this element in the Special School as an amount per teacher funded by the formula. The basis for this relates to the fact that the number of teachers funded is a better indicator than pupil numbers as in Mainstream Schools, but this is even more the case in the Special Sector since the number of teachers funded is determined by both pupil number and complexity.

#### **Q11 HR SLA**

**Consultation Response:** What staff members do you mean by this?

**LA Response:** All staff coded and paid against the school budget will be used to calculate the HR SLA figure.

**Consultation Response:** The number of staff members in a school does not necessarily correlate to the frequency of the use of the service by that school. Schools should continue to be funded directly for the service, as they are for other SLAs, e.g. Payroll, Insurance, Creditors etc

**LA Response:** The school is funded directly for the service, but the allocation is based on staff numbers not pupil numbers as previous

#### **Q13 Repairs & Maintenance**

**Consultation Response:** I think we need to be mindful of the additional pressures faced by a school that is very old and with significant backlog maintenance like Greenfield.

**LA Response:** The current levels of spend across each sector (over three years) have been allocated to schools so that funding reflects current needs. Overall funding for repairs & maintenance has increased per sector compared to current formula. Funding is allocated to individual schools on a per square metre basis as per status quo.