

# REPORT

WARRINGTON  
Borough Council



<b>Report to:</b>	Schools Forum	<b>Item:</b>	N/A
<b>Date:</b>	N/A	<b>For:</b>	Information
<b>Title:</b>	2019/20 DSG & Education Services Outturn Positions		
<b>Author:</b>	Garry Bradbury	<b>Queries to:</b>	Gbradbury@warrington.gov.uk

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The purpose of this paper is to notify Schools Forum of the confirmed outturn position for the central Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) activities for 2019/20. This includes whole-school activities and central education functions, but excludes individual school balances, which are reported on separately. It also briefs on the wider closing position for Education and SEND
- 1.2 The accounts for financial year 2019/20 were closed in during April, but have not yet been officially ratified by the LA's external auditors (a traditionally-lengthy process, this will be severely impacted by the Coronavirus situation). Families & Wellbeing Directorate has reported an overspend on DSG of £718,754. This represents, in percentage terms, a deficit balance of 0.70%, after accounting for Academy recoupment. However, because Schools Block DSG is 100% committed, with the surpluses and deficits being retained by the schools, the reported overspend is, in practical terms, generated against the other three blocks (Early Years, High Needs and Central Services, totalling £33.011m), where it represents an overspend of 2.18%.
- 1.3 This final overspend is much reduced from the predicted closing position at the start of the financial year (£1.16m in deficit), and as periodically updated at previous Schools Forum meetings. The three major reasons for this were a contribution of £100,000 from Early Help division, an agreement from Virtual School to fund £230,000 for agency medical tuition fees, and an underspend on the Early Years Block largely compensating for further overspends on SEND in independent and post-16 settings.
- 1.4 A deficit position means that there is no funding to be recirculated generally to schools. The deficit is 'first call' as a spending pressure for 2020/21, to add to the budgeted starting deficit of £85,888 (presented in the paper for Item 7 *DSG Budgets 2020/21* distributed ahead of the cancelled 24<sup>th</sup> March session of Schools Forum). Clearly we are presently deep into a period of uncertainty regarding future funding, exacerbated by the speculative impact of the coronavirus lockdown. Elimination of this cumulative deficit will be no easy task, likely taking

a longer period than previously estimated. The Department for Education has previously briefed that it expected the additional funding injected into High Needs allocations to be partially used to eliminate aggregated overspends over time; it is likely there will now be additional debate over acceptable timeframes for this.

## 2 DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT BALANCES

2.1 DSG is reporting a net overspend of £0.719 m in 2019/20. This overall position is an aggregate of a number of individual variances. The table below shows those individual balances with appropriate observations:

	Budget	Outturn	Variance	
School Budgets	£78,801,483	£78,801,484	-£1	
Licences	£100,000	£98,818	£1,182	
Staffing	£5,000	£36,094	-£31,094	Maternity, offset by LTS underspend & Academy union contributions
Early Years	£13,633,629	£12,787,642	£845,987	FEYE activity reductions
High Needs	£10,260,850	£10,881,857	-£621,007	Post-16 SEN, Independent Schools, Recoupment, offset by V/School contribution
Free Meals	£50,000	£50,000	£0	
Repairs & Maintenance	£80,000	£80,000	£0	
Contingency	-£159,738	£792,395	-£952,133	Original deficit budget, reduced by Early Help contribution, SLA savings.
DSG Received	-£102,771,224	-£102,809,536	£38,312	Timings of recoupment
	<b>£0</b>	<b>£718,754</b>	<b>-£718,754</b>	

2.2 DSG is also reported across activity headings with the Families and Wellbeing directorate. The final 2019/20 position for DSG is shown overleaf:

	Budget	Outturn	Variance	
4_1_1 Retained School Budgets	-£10,390,850	-£10,293,103	-£97,747	Original deficit, offset by FEYE underspend
4_1_3 Achievement & Inclusive Education (11-19)	£588,350	£375,928	£212,422	Medical tuition contribution from Virtual School
4_1_7 Admissions & School Organisation	£80,000	£80,000	£0	
4_1_9 DSG Free Meals	£50,000	£50,000	£0	
4_1_10 Commissioned SEN support	£9,301,000	£10,155,506	-£854,506	Post-16 SEN, Independent Schools, Recoupment
4_1_11 Support teams	£371,500	£350,423	£21,077	Sensory Team, Speech Therapy
4_2_7 Early Years Quality & SEND	£0	£0	£0	
	<b>£0</b>	<b>£718,754</b>	<b>-£718,754</b>	

2.3 Primary representatives on Schools Forum have already agreed that the underspends on dedelegated contingencies (£139,181 pupil number growth, £89,207 additional classes) should be rolled into 2020/21, in lieu of a further dedelegation in this financial year. Also, agreement was reached with all members that a surplus of £39K on the union facilities agreement should be carried forward. The DSG deficit accounts for these. The overall balance on other dedelegated services - licences, maternity - was a net overspend of £95,484, so there is no unused balance to return to schools. Details below:

	<i>Dedelegation*</i>	<i>B/fwd</i>	<i>Spend</i>	<i>Carry-forward agreed SF</i>	<i>Balance Remaining</i>
Miscellaneous Licences	£36,467.65		£19,780.70		<b>£16,686.95</b>
CLEAPSS	£5,828.25		£4,517.33		<b>£1,310.92</b>
Teachers Panel	£107,744.86	£8,499.64	£75,219.00	£39,000.00	<b>£2,025.50</b>
Maternity	£390,490.20		£502,516.01		<b>-£112,025.81</b>
FMS	£88,184.80		£91,666.18		<b>-£3,481.38</b>
Primary NOR Contingency		£222,573.12	£83,392.44	£139,180.68	<b>£0.00</b>
Primary Class Size Contingency		£122,436.63	£33,229.40	£89,207.23	<b>£0.00</b>
	<b>£628,715.76</b>	<b>£353,509.39</b>	<b>£810,321.06</b>	<b>£267,387.91</b>	<b>-£95,483.82</b>

\*Original dedelegation adjusted for Academy conversions

### 3 EDUCATION BUDGETS 2019/20

3.1 Although DSG is a significant part of non-school education funding, it does not underpin the entirety of the sector. Other grant funding and core Local Authority budgets are also employed. In 2019/20, a further overspend of £127,067 was reported, with additional significant pressures experienced in the School Meals service and the Home to School transport operation. Overspending in the latter has been an issue closely allied to the growth in numbers of children with SEND placed outwith the locality, an acknowledged driver of the DSG overspending. The overall 2019/20 position is illustrated below, showing how the DSG overspend fits into the fuller picture for Education & SEND.

	Budget	Outturn	DSG variance	Base variance	
FWB4_1_1 Retained School Budgets	-£10,390,850	-£10,293,103	-£97,747	£0	
FWB4_1_2 Music	-£2,761	-£2,760	£0	-£1	
FWB4_1_3 Achievement & Inclusive Education (11-19)	£744,869	£482,446	£212,422	£50,001	Staff savings (advisory)
FWB4_1_4 Planning & Participation (11-19)	£979,781	£926,957	£0	£52,824	Staff savings (leadership)
FWB4_1_5 Central Schools	-£893,904	-£1,031,417	£0	£137,513	Legal Contingency, Pensions
FWB4_1_6 School Meals	-£101,020	£164,142	£0	-£265,162	Rising costs
FWB4_1_7 Admissions & School Organisation	£54,941	£35,862	£0	£19,079	Rents & charges
FWB4_1_8 Transport	£2,175,665	£2,401,003	£0	-£225,338	Home to School SEND
FWB4_1_9 DSG Free Meals	£50,000	£50,000	£0	£0	
FWB4_1_10 Commissioned SEN support	£10,122,254	£10,959,013	-£854,506	£17,747	Staff savings (Inclusion)
FWB4_1_11 Support teams	£371,500	£350,423	£21,077	£0	
FWB4_1_12 CWD Services	£875,085	£788,815	£0	£86,270	E/Help contribs, Equipment
<b>FWB4_1 Head of Education Services &amp; SEND</b>	<b>£3,985,560</b>	<b>£4,831,381</b>	<b>-£718,754</b>	<b>-£127,067</b>	

### 4 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 Schools Forum is asked to note the 2019/20 outturn position for DSG, and that this overspend will be aggregated with the 2020/21 projected deficit of £85,888.
- 4.2 Maintained school representatives are asked to note that no additional balances are due to be returned in respect of dedelegated services.

# REPORT

WARRINGTON  
Borough Council



**Report to:** Schools Forum

**Item:** N/A

**Date:** N/A

**For:** Information

**Title:** 2019/20 School Balances

**Author:** Garry Bradbury

**Queries to:** [Gbradbury@warrington.gov.uk](mailto:Gbradbury@warrington.gov.uk)

## 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The purpose of this paper is to notify Schools Forum members of the final individual balances for Warrington maintained schools as at end 2019/20, and compare the overall picture with the corresponding situation in the previous year.
- 1.2 At a meeting in June 2018, Schools Forum resolved to set aside its formal balance challenge, in doing so removing the potentiality for any of the calculated 'excess' balance to be clawed back. Nevertheless, the triggers in Warrington's challenge process derived from the recommended Audit Commission balance maxima, so posted balances in excess of these will be highlighted separately in section 2.4. The schools affected may still wish, independently, to investigate the circumstances surrounding the accumulation of a hitherto challengeable surplus – and WAPH and WASCL may indeed consider adopting this self-assessment as an exemplar of good practice.

## 2 SCHOOL BALANCES

- 2.1 The aggregate of school balances for Warrington maintained schools at the end of the previous financial year was £5,657,365 (an average retention level of 6.8%). This compares to the corresponding aggregate balance reported at the end of 2018/19 of £5,590,680/6% (an increase of £66,504). However, this reported figure included the balances of 6 Local Authority primary schools which converted to Academy status during the last financial year. Therefore, for a more accurate comparison, their balances should be removed from the 2018/19 figure, meaning that the in-year variance is an increase of £446,271 – an increase of around 8.6% overall.

The overall movements per sector are highlighted below:

<b>Sector</b>	<b>2018/19 (adj) £m</b>	<b>2019/20 £m</b>	<b>Movement</b>
Primary/Nursery	£3.784m	£3.909m	+£0.125m
Secondary	£0.574m	£0.784m	+£0.210m
Special & AP	£0.854m	£0.965m	+£0.111m
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£5.211m</b>	<b>£5.657m</b>	<b>+£0.446m</b>

- 2.2 As can be seen, balances in all sectors have increased, but proportionately, the greatest change is in the (admittedly small) maintained secondary sector (an in-year increase of 37%, attributable almost entirely to the position recorded at St Gregory’s High School). In the (much larger) primary phase, the sector aggregate is up by just 3%.
- 2.3 Individual school balances are detailed in **Appendix 1**.
- 2.4 In terms of discretionary enquiry, 18 primary schools, 1 secondary, and 2 special schools recorded balances in excess of the Audit Commission recommendation. These are highlighted overleaf for information.

The amounts considered “excessive” by the Audit Commission criteria represent 22% of primary balances, 32% of secondary balances and 35% of special school balances. The previous WBC “automatic clawback” would have recirculated £169,463 amongst schools – this would be 3% of overall balances.

		"Excess" Balance per Audit Commission	Equivalent clawback
<b>PRIMARY SCHOOLS</b>			
35002	Dallam	£56,610	£7,076.25
35006	St Elphin's	£100,582	£12,572.75
35007	St Andrew's	£91,190	£11,398.75
35008	St Ann's	£7,197	£899.63
35010	St Margaret's	£120,691	£15,086.38
35012	Sacred Heart	£46,949	£5,868.63
35015	St Benedict's	£35,883	£4,485.38
35020	St Monica's	£33,095	£4,136.88
35023	St Thomas'	£1,201	£150.13
35026	Thelwall Junior	£3,400	£425.00
35027	Thelwall Infant	£6,485	£810.63
35028	Statham	£23,587	£2,948.38
35033	Culcheth	£59,305	£7,413.13
35045	Locking Stumps	£19,531	£2,441.38
35057	Sankey Valley St James'	£4,037	£504.63
35060	Birchwood	£27,841	£3,480.13
35065	St Phillip's	£99,516	£12,439.50
35405	Sandy Lane Nursery & Forest	£136,553	£17,069.13
<b>Total Primary</b>		<b>£873,653</b>	<b>£109,206.63</b>
<b>SECONDARY SCHOOLS</b>			
35107	St Gregory's	£249,993	£31,249.13
<b>Total Secondary</b>		<b>£249,993</b>	<b>£31,249.13</b>
<b>SPECIAL SCHOOLS</b>			
35200	Green Lane	£204,115	£25,514.38
35201	Fox Wood	£27,944	£3,493.00
<b>Total Special Schools</b>		<b>£232,059</b>	<b>£29,007.38</b>
		<b>£1,355,705</b>	<b>£169,463.13</b>

### 3 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Schools Forum members are asked to note the level of maintained school balances recorded at the end of 2019/20.
- 3.2 Schools Forum members representing WAPH and WASCL are asked to consider whether to recommend that schools evaluate internally their closing 2019/20 balances.

## Appendix 1: 2019/2020 Maintained School Balances

Cost Centre	School	2019/2020 Balance @ 31.03.20	2019/2020 Budget Share	2019/2020 Balance as % of Budget Share	2018/2019 Balance @ 31.03.19	Year on Year change	
<b>PRIMARY SCHOOLS</b>							
35001	Bewsey Lodge	£28,027	£2,143,861	1%	£81,300	-£53,273	-66%
35002	Dallam	£197,972	£1,767,035	11%	£215,585	-£17,613	-8%
35006	St Elphin's	£253,909	£1,916,586	13%	£214,795	£39,114	18%
35007	St Andrew's	£184,375	£1,164,819	16%	£135,622	£48,753	36%
35008	St Ann's	£105,282	£1,226,066	9%	£84,764	£20,518	24%
35009	St Barnabas'	£8,735	£1,187,185	1%	£13,859	-£5,124	-37%
35010	St Margaret's	£294,981	£2,178,632	14%	£248,220	£46,761	19%
35011	Our Lady's	£72,170	£944,198	8%	£77,380	-£5,211	-7%
35012	Sacred Heart	£123,760	£960,136	13%	£74,747	£49,012	66%
35013	St Alban's	£17,017	£1,016,904	2%	£36,759	-£19,742	-54%
35014	St Augustine's	£39,565	£886,938	4%	£62,533	-£22,968	-37%
35015	St Benedict's	£119,197	£1,041,416	11%	£80,227	£38,969	49%
35016	St Stephen's	£36,105	£1,030,601	4%	£48,352	-£12,247	-25%
35017	Appleton Thorn	£21,477	£833,179	3%	£1,607	£19,870	1237%
35018	The Cobbs	£28,880	£1,353,964	2%	£79,964	-£51,083	-64%
35020	St Monica's	£99,392	£828,711	12%	£109,889	-£10,497	-10%
35021	Grappenhall St Wilfrid's	£47,777	£1,563,816	3%	£48,099	-£322	-1%
35022	Bradshaw	£50,472	£868,886	6%	£54,916	-£4,444	-8%
35023	St Thomas'	£80,518	£991,454	8%	£23,403	£57,115	244%
35024	Stockton Heath	£110,199	£1,588,387	7%	£96,144	£14,056	15%
35025	Stretton St Matthew's	£833	£843,460	0%	£30,535	-£29,702	-97%
35026	Thelwall Junior	£62,324	£736,556	8%	£71,819	-£9,495	-13%
35027	Thelwall Infant	£55,876	£617,394	9%	£55,227	£649	1%
35028	Statham	£96,027	£905,500	11%	£72,687	£23,340	32%
35029	Cherry Tree	-£18,673	£923,162	-2%	£1,894	-£20,567	-1086%
35030	Ravenbank	£46,644	£1,603,494	3%	£45,058	£1,586	4%
35031	Oughtrington	£70,621	£1,567,781	5%	£36,957	£33,664	91%
35033	Culcheth	£137,897	£982,400	14%	£103,143	£34,754	34%
35034	Newchurch	£52,783	£820,781	6%	£85,497	-£32,714	-38%
35035	Twiss Green	-£5,387	£834,998	-1%	£20,837	-£26,223	-126%
35036	St Paul of the Cross	£18,850	£753,161	3%	£50,853	-£32,002	-63%
35038	Christ Church	£68,061	£1,430,652	5%	£76,770	-£8,709	-11%
35039	St Oswald's	-£12,774	£847,378	-2%	£11,459	-£24,233	-211%
35040	Brook Acre	£85,198	£1,470,740	6%	£119,742	-£34,543	-29%
35042	St Bridget's	-£10,900	£1,108,708	-1%	£24,603	-£35,503	-144%
35043	St Lewis'	£61,327	£805,581	8%	£74,349	-£13,022	-18%
35045	Locking Stumps	£153,862	£1,679,132	9%	£166,421	-£12,559	-8%
35047	St Joseph's	£68,395	£1,077,551	6%	£44,468	£23,927	54%
35048	St Vincent's	-£50,550	£735,303	-7%	£22,380	-£72,930	-326%
35050	Woolston St Peter's	£60,045	£864,174	7%	£51,864	£8,182	16%
35052	Woolston	£5,083	£872,761	1%	£27,497	-£22,414	-82%
35056	Barrow Hall Lane	£177,225	£2,221,231	8%	£88,971	£88,254	99%
35057	Sankey Valley St James'	£97,489	£1,168,153	8%	£129,589	-£32,100	-25%
35059	Winwick	£48,372	£817,941	6%	£2,229	£46,143	2070%
35060	Birchwood	£121,714	£1,173,406	10%	£64,236	£57,478	89%
35062	Cinnamon Brow	£32,976	£1,655,719	2%	£88,593	-£55,618	-63%
35064	Callands	£8,120	£1,492,883	1%	-£26,189	£34,308	-131%
35065	St Phillip's	£256,551	£1,962,932	13%	£155,995	£100,556	64%
35066	Grappenhall Heys	£44,690	£936,989	5%	£40,612	£4,077	10%
35067	Latchford St James'	£53,666	£962,523	6%	£77,461	-£23,795	-31%
35405	Sandy Lane Nursery & Forest	£202,740	£827,339	25%	£180,167	£22,574	13%
<b>Total Primary</b>		<b>£3,908,897</b>	<b>£60,192,557</b>	<b>6.5%</b>	<b>£3,783,889</b>	<b>£125,008</b>	<b>3%</b>



Cost Centre	School	2019/2020 Balance @ 31.03.20	2019/2020 Budget Share	2019/2020 Balance as % of Budget Share	2018/2019 Balance @ 31.03.19	Year on Year change	
<b>SECONDARY SCHOOLS</b>							
35103	Culcheth	£272,870	£5,884,467	5%	£262,946	£9,924	4%
35107	St Gregory's	£509,733	£5,194,809	10%	£282,440	£227,293	80%
35121	Cardinal Newman	£1,029	£4,282,604	0%	£28,314	£27,285	-96%
<b>Total Secondary</b>		<b>£783,633</b>	<b>£15,361,881</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>£573,701</b>	<b>£209,932</b>	<b>37%</b>
<b>SPECIAL SCHOOLS</b>							
35200	Green Lane	£415,316	£2,640,021	16%	£386,419	£28,898	7%
35205	Green Lane 6th Form	£161,510	£566,388	29%	£145,109	£16,401	11%
35201	Fox Wood	£175,799	£1,848,180	10%	£144,661	£31,137	22%
35206	Fox Wood 6th Form	£142,343	£536,698	27%	£162,986	£20,643	-13%
35202	Woolston Brook	£69,867	£1,685,152	4%	£14,330	£55,537	388%
<b>Total Special Schools</b>		<b>£964,835</b>	<b>£7,276,439</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>£853,504</b>	<b>£111,331</b>	<b>13%</b>
<b>LIKE-FOR-LIKE CHANGE</b>		<b>£5,657,365</b>	<b>£82,830,876</b>	<b>6.8%</b>	<b>£5,211,094</b>	<b>£446,271</b>	<b>8.6%</b>
<b>ACADEMY CONVERSIONS IN-YEAR</b>							
35004	Meadowside				£42,353	-£42,353	
35005	Oakwood Avenue				£143,244	-£143,244	
35019	Broomfields Junior				£45,361	-£45,361	
35044	Croft				£1,495	-£1,495	
35051	Woolston				£56,833	-£56,833	
35061	Gorse Covert				£90,481	-£90,481	
<b>Total Academy conversions</b>					<b>£379,767</b>	<b>-£379,767</b>	
<b>OVERALL CHANGE</b>		<b>£5,657,365</b>	<b>£82,830,876</b>	<b>6.8%</b>	<b>£5,590,860</b>	<b>£66,504</b>	<b>1.2%</b>



<b>Briefing note</b>	
<b>Date:</b>	15th May 2020
<b>To:</b>	Schools Forum
<b>From:</b>	James Campbell – Finance Manager
<b>Title:</b>	Council financial provisional outturn – 2019/20

1. The purpose of this briefing paper is to update Schools Forum members on the Local Authority (LA) financial outturn in 2019/20. These management accounts are provisional as they will be subject to scrutiny and ratification by the LA's external auditors, The provisional financial outturn for the Council is a reported £258K overspend, split by Directorate as follows:

Directorate	Budget 2019-20 £000's	Outturn 2019-20 £000's	Variance 2019-20 £000's
Families and Wellbeing Directorate	97,643	103,373	<b>-5,730</b>
Environment and Transport Directorate	19,922	19,174	748
Growth Directorate	7,419	7,202	217
Corporate Services Directorate	5,474	5,965	<b>-491</b>
Corporate Finance	-14,864	-19,862	4,998
	<b>115,594</b>	<b>115,852</b>	<b>-258</b>

2. The Families and Wellbeing Directorate financial outturn for 2019/20 is **(£5.730m - Overspend)**. This Directorate includes Adult's Social Care, Children's social care, Education, early help and SEN, Public health, housing and communities.
3. The Environment and Transport Directorate financial outturn for 2019/20 is **(£0.748m – Underspend)**. This Directorate includes Transport for Warrington, infrastructure and highways, Environment services, Bereavement services, Waste and recycling services and Building control services.
4. The Growth Directorate financial outturn for 2019/20 is **(£0.217m – Underspend)**. This Directorate includes Policy planning, Property and estates management, development control, Livewire and Culture trusts.

5. The Corporate Services Directorate financial outturn for 2019/20 is **(£0.491m – Overspend)**. This Directorate includes the Accountancy service, Internal Audit service, Procurement, Legal, HR, ICT, Business Intelligence and Communications.
6. The Corporate finance outturn for 2019/20 is **(£4.998m – Underspend)**. This Directorate includes Corporate and Investment properties, Capital financing treasury management activities.
7. Schools Forum is asked to note the information in the briefing paper, as no actions or decisions are necessary.

James Campbell  
Finance Manager  
Corporate Services  
Accountancy