

## **DARLINGTON SCHOOLS FORUM**

12<sup>th</sup> March 2019

**ITEM NO 2b**

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### **MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES 15<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2019**

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#### **5. School Funding Formula 2019/20 and Growth Fund**

Following Forums agreement, to retain their previous decision to transfer 0.6% (£400,000) of the Schools Block to the High Needs block, this agreement was communicated to the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) on 15<sup>th</sup> January in line with the ESFA deadline.

ESFA confirmed on 21<sup>st</sup> February that this disapplication request had been approved and hence the transfer of £400,000 is agreed. As the funding formula was calculated based on the assumption this request would be approved, there were no required changes to the formula needed from that circulated at the January meeting.

Following Forums decision to use option 2 as the funding formula for 2019/20, this option was submitted to ESFA on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2019. At the time of writing ESFA have not confirmed compliance of Darlington's formula for 2019/20.

#### **7. Budget Setting 2019/20**

Forum have previously being briefed on the consultation by ESFA regarding how local authorities deal with budget pressures of over 1% of the DSG. As Darlington have pressures in excess of the limit in high needs budget, it is expected that a plan will need to be submitted to ESFA concerning a recovery plan. At the time of writing no response has been received from ESFA regarding the requirements for deficit reporting and hence no further information is available regarding the timings or detail of these requirements.

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