



Leicester
City Council

WARDS AFFECTED
All

Schools Forum

School Funding De-delegation Arrangements 2020-21 Consultation Analysis

Report of the Head of Finance, Education & Children's Service

1. Summary of the Report

- 1.1 This report analyses the responses to the consultation exercise carried out by Leicester City Council on the de-delegated aspect of School Funding Arrangements 2020/21. The consultation ran from Monday 4th November until Friday 15th November.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. That Schools Forum determines the de-delegated items for 2020/21.

3. Report

Summary

- 3.1. The overall response rate to the consultation was 50%, with a 57% response rate from maintained primary schools (28 out of 49 schools) and 11% from maintained secondary schools (1 out of 9 schools).
- 3.2. The results of the de-delegation consultation can be seen in the data below.

Table 1a: Primary Summary – De-delegation continuation responses

	Yes Continue	No	Total
Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH Team) for Leicester City Primary Schools	26*	2	28
Staff Costs for TU facility time	21	7	28
Closing the Gap	25	3	28
Whatever It Takes	24	4	28
Academic Coaching	0	28	28
Primary School Improvement	26	2	28
Assessment and Moderation	26	2	28

*For the yes responses the following table shows at what level the respondents selected this to be at:

Table 1b: Primary Summary – SEMH continuation level

Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Total
0	26	0	26

Table 2: Primary Summary – Object to service converting to a traded offer?

	Yes	No	Total
Free School Meal Eligibility	0	28	28
Licences and Subscriptions	0	28	28

Table 3: Secondary Summary – De-delegation continuation response(s)

	Yes Continue	No	Total
Staff Costs for TU facility time	1	0	1

Table 4: Secondary Summary – Object to service converting to a traded offer?

	Yes	No	Total
Free School Meal Eligibility	0	1	1
Licences and Subscriptions	0	1	1

3.3. Specific comments relating to the responses can be seen listed in Appendix 1.

3.4. As a reminder, the table services listed below were the de-delegated service options in the consultation for 2020/21. The figures shown are based on the 2019/20 pupil numbers. The final total de-delegated sums will change according to the October 2019 pupil census which will be used for the 2020/21 budgets.

Table 5: 2020/21 De-delegated Service options

De-Delegation Service	Primary 2020/21		Secondary 2020/21		Total 2020/21
	Amount £000	Per Pupil £	Amount £000	Per Pupil £	Amount £000
SEMH service <i>2019/20 Rate</i> Proposed rates:		<i>30.46</i>			
Option 1	748	36.55			748
Option 2	655	31.98			655
Option 3	624	30.46			624
Support for underperforming ethnic minority groups & bilingual learners ⁱ	351	17.19			351
Additional School Improvement ⁱⁱ	286	14.00			286
Free School Meal Eligibility	Both services to convert to a traded offer				
Licences/subscriptions					
<i>2019/20 Rate</i> Staff costs for TU facility time	85	<i>3.96</i> 4.16	41	<i>6.00</i> 6.30	121

i. Breakdown of Support for underperforming ethnic minority groups & bilingual learners funds

Description	Primary 2020/21		<i>2019/20 Rates</i>
	Amount £000	Per Pupil £	<i>Per Pupil £</i>
Closing the Gap projects	184	9.00	<i>12.38</i>
Whatever it Takes	143	7.00	<i>7.00</i>
Academic Coaching	24	1.19	<i>1.19</i>
	351	17.19	<i>20.57</i>

ii. Breakdown of Additional School Improvement

Primary School Improvement	184	9.00	
Assessment and Moderation	102	5.00	<i>16.33</i>
	286	14.00	<i>16.33</i>

4. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

4.1. Financial Implications

Specific implications will vary according to decisions made on this report.

5. **Report Author**

5.1. Simon Walton, Accountant, Education & Children's Services

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List of response comments to the de-delegation consultation

Primary responses	Secondary responses
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- **Social, Emotional and Mental Health Team (SEMH Team) for Leicester City Primary Schools**

Our response uses the middle ground. We would expect to see the SEMH team in a state ready to trade by April 2021 or before. We give our Schools Forum representatives permission to reduce the amount de-delegated if it prompts an earlier start to trading.
(Response x23)

All schools, maintained or academy, should be treated on a consistent basis through a traded offer.

This is an excellent service and the school benefits from the expertise and support of the specialists. Working effectively in partnership with this team has ensured that fixed and permanent exclusions have been avoided. I grant the Schools Forum representatives permission to reduce the amount de-delegated if it prompts an early start to trading. This is a service which we will continue to use pre and post trading.

- **Free School Meal Eligibility**

No objections **(Response x24)**

I am more than happy to see this service becoming a traded offer.

No objections but I need more information as to whether this is something we can do in house on the DFE portal ourselves.

How much is the costing per child? If traded

LA RESPONSE – the traded cost will be the same as the current 2019/20 de-delegated rate per pupil

None, as it recognises academisation. Unless this is a statutory part of LA functioning, in which case I would have an objection.

LA RESPONSE – no this is not a statutory function of the LA as clearly it would not then be a traded item

- **Licences and Subscriptions**

No objections (Response x24)
I am more than happy to see this service becoming a traded offer.
Does evolve come as part of health and safety now? If not will this change the amount we pay for health and safety? LA RESPONSE – yes the cost will be included in the H&S traded offer if selected. CLEAPSS – is this something that we use as an infant school use? LA RESPONSE – yes this is used by infant schools
None, as it recognises academisation. Unless this is a statutory part of LA functioning, in which case I would have an objection. <i>LA RESPONSE – no this is not a statutory responsibility of the LA as clearly it would not then be a traded item.</i>

- **Staff Costs for TU Facility Time**

We believe that these costs are rising against national benchmarks, particularly in view of that the fact that no maternity or jury costs are included from 2020. We would not be willing to delegate at the same rate in 2021-2022 without evidence to the contrary and give permission for Schools Forum reps to vote for a smaller delegation for 2020-2021 if necessary. (Response x19) <i>LA RESPONSE - the increase relates to unavoidable pay cost increases, however the facility time and value for money will be reviewed in 2020 with a view to revising the charge rates from April 2021.</i>
All schools, maintained or academy, should be treated on a consistent basis through a traded offer.
We believe that these costs are rising against national benchmarks, particularly in view of that the fact that no maternity or jury costs are included from 2020. We would not be willing to delegate at the same rate in 2021-2022. Furthermore, we would like clarity of what services are covered by staff subscription fees and what services are covered by funds that historically are de-delegated.
I give permission for Schools Forum reps to vote for a smaller delegation for 2020 – 2021 if necessary.
Providing no academies get to avoid paying this, as stated in the De delegation consultation document.

Support for underperforming ethnic minority groups and bilingual learners

- **Closing the Gap**

We agree only on the understanding that the full de-delegated amount is passed to SDSA in order to commission LPP to run this programme. We now believe this line would sit better under Additional School Improvement. **(Response x23)**

All schools, maintained or academy, should be treated on a consistent basis through a traded offer.

- **Whatever It Takes**

We agree only on the understanding that the full de-delegated amount is passed to SDSA in order to commission LPP to run this programme. We now believe this line would sit better under Additional School Improvement. **(Response x22)**

All schools, maintained or academy, should be treated on a consistent basis through a traded offer.

- **Academic Coaching**

Not enough schools are taking advantage of this programme for it to be a “common-good project”. **(Response x22)**

All schools, maintained or academy, should be treated on a consistent basis through a traded offer.

We have never been able to make use of this initiative as an infant school

The school has not participated in this programme for many years and we do not intend to. I have been informed that not enough schools are participating in the programme for it to be deemed a “common good project.”

Additional School Improvement

- **Primary School Improvement**

We agree on the understanding that the full de-delegated amount is transferred to SDSA in order to continue to commission the School Improvement Leicester programme.
(Response x24)

All schools, maintained or academy, should be treated on a consistent basis through a traded offer.

- **Assessment and Moderation**

All schools, maintained or academy, should be treated on a consistent basis through a traded offer.

Continue with service we get

Every effort needs to be made to ensure the continued support and employment of the existing competent assessment and moderation team.

This is a vitally important service and the guidance provided is valuable. The training is excellent, current and the moderation is part of the school's on-going process of self-evaluation. It is an excellent source of high quality CPD.

Thoughts on whether all of the de-delegated services being converted to a traded arrangement from 2020/21:

We would welcome moving towards fully traded arrangements but not all by April 2020. We believe some services appear to be more fully prepared to do so by 2021-2022.

We believe there is scope to work towards this, in partnership with the LA in transferring arrangements during 2020-2021. **(Response x21)**

LA RESPONSE – This question should have said 2021/22, as per the opening narrative of the consultation document. The intention, as the narrative stated, was to obtain an early view from consultees about the appetite for converting de-delegated services to a fully traded arrangement.

I would be happy to see the vast majority of the de-delegated services converted to a traded arrangement from 2020-21. I am surprised that it has taken so long for this to be considered as a way forward for the future.

We believe there is scope to work towards this, in partnership with the LA in transferring arrangements during 2020-2021.

We would welcome moving towards fully traded arrangements but not all by April 2020.

We believe there is scope to work towards this, in partnership with the LA in transferring arrangements during 2020-2021.

I would welcome moving towards fully traded arrangements but not all by April 2020. I have been informed that some services appear to be more fully prepared to do so by 2021 – 2022. I support the Schools Forum reps in their plan to work towards this, in partnership with the LA in transferring arrangements during 2020 – 2021.

I would also like to note that staff who are employed in the service areas need job security.