

## **CUMBERLAND COUNCIL SCHOOLS FORUM**

**Report Title:** Provisional Cumbria De-delegated Contingency Budget Outturn 2022-23

**Meeting date:** 13 June 2023

**Report of:** Dan Barton, Assistant Director, SEND, Education & Inclusion

### **1.0 Executive Summary**

- 1.1 This report presents the provisional outturn position on the Cumbria de-delegated contingency budget for the 2022/23 financial year as at 31 March 2023. The budget underspent by £0.262m.
- 1.2 In accordance with the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) conditions, the underspend will be carried forward into the Central DSG earmarked reserve which will be disaggregated between Cumberland and Westmorland & Furness Councils.

### **2.0 Link to Council Plan Priorities**

- 2.1 Ensuring that schools are funded appropriately is supportive of the Council Plan “to improve the health and wellbeing of its residents” and the priority to “address inequalities and enable its residents to access opportunities that will empower them to achieve their goals.”

### **3.0 Recommendation**

- 3.1 The maintained schools’ Schools Forum representatives members are asked to note the provisional 2022/23 outturn position for the contingency budget.

### **4.0 Rationale & Evidence for the Recommendation**

- 4.1 The de-delegated contingency budget for Cumbria in 2022/23 was £0.666m. The Department for Education (DfE) guidance states that the contingency budget can be used for three purposes:
- Circumstances which were unforeseen when the school’s budget share was initially determined;
  - Schools in financial difficulty;

- Additional costs relating to new, reorganised or closing schools.

4.2 In line with the School and Early years Finance Regulations 2023 de-delegation only applies to maintained schools and not academies.

Provisional Outturn

4.3 The below table shows the provision outturn for 2022/23:

|   | <b>Provisional Outturn<br/>2022/23</b> |
|---|--|
|   | <b>£</b>                               |
| <b>Budget 2022/23</b>   | <b>665,527</b>                         |
| <b>Net Expenditure 2022/23:</b>   |  |
| Ill health retirements  | 16,914                                 |
| Settlement Agreements and Staff Termination costs                               | -                                      |
| St Bridget's Parton temporary site costs  | 301,829                                |
| Temporary accommodation Gillford Centre   | 17,025                                 |
| Administration costs Teachers Annual Pension Return                             | 23,932                                 |
| Other miscellaneous costs   | 66,481                                 |
| <b>Total - Unforeseen Circumstances</b>   | <b>426,181</b>                         |
|   | -                                      |
| <b>Total - Schools in Financial Difficulty</b>                                  | <b>-</b>                               |
| Closed Schools  | (22,975)                               |
| <b>Total - Additional Costs relating to New, Closing or Amalgamated Schools</b> | <b>(22,975)</b>                        |
|   |  |
| <b>Total Net Expenditure 2022/23</b>  | <b>403,206</b>                         |
| <b>Underspend 2022/23</b>   | <b>(262,321)</b>                       |

The expenditure against unforeseen circumstances mainly comprises of St Bridget's Parton temporary site costs due to landslip investigations of £0.302m.

4.4 The balance of (£0.023m) against New, Closing or Amalgamated Schools mainly relates to the surplus balance on closure of St Joseph's Catholic Primary School of (£0.034m) offset by costs relating to maintained schools on conversion to academy status.

4.5 The figures are provisional as the Cumbria County Council accounts for 2022/23 have not yet been finalised.

## 5.0 Options

5.1 There are no options, the maintained schools' Schools Forum representative members are asked to note the provisional outturn on the contingencies budget for 2022/23.

## 6.0 Financial & Other Relevant Implications

- 6.1 Financial implications are considered throughout this report. The underspend against the budget has been transferred to the Central DSG reserve which will be disaggregated between Westmorland & Furness and Cumberland authorities using the percentage splits for each authority based on the formula allocations for each of the Early Years and Central Schools Services Blocks.

7 June 2023

---

### REPORT AUTHOR

Contact:

Name Amanda Chew

Post title Service Accountant

Email: [amanda.chew@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk](mailto:amanda.chew@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk)



Westmorland  
& Furness  
Council

Working for **Cumberland Council** and  
**Westmorland & Furness Council**