

## High Needs Block Consultation 2018/19 - Summary

The Authority proposes to make only targeted adjustments to Bradford's Place-Plus system for the 2018/19 financial year, with the purposes of:

- **Complying with the directed change from the DfE for the transfer of the funding of element 1 (the first £4,000 of the place-element) to the Schools Block formula for resourced provisions**, meaning that places occupied when the October 2017 census is taken will be funded in 2018/19 at £6,000. Places not occupied in the October 2017 census will continue to be funded at £10,000 as now.
- **Responding to the implications of the primary & secondary National Funding Formula (NFF) on the calculation of the 'notional SEN', and the knock on impact to the SEN Funding Floor**, where we choose to implement NFF at April 2018. As the value of funding allocated via the SEN low prior attainment factor under the NFF is significantly increased, the values of notional SEN in schools are also significantly increased and the eligibility for the SEN Funding Floor is significantly decreased. We do not propose to adjust our notional SEN calculation to compensate for this; schools will see their notional SEN allocations increase where we implement NFF in 2018/19. However, we do propose that we protect the values of SEN Floor allocations for individual schools in 2018/19 so that schools receive at least the values they have received in 2017/18 under this factor. This is important in particular for the primary sector. Please also be aware that the Schools Forum is currently considering whether further support for SEND can be provided for primary schools and academies through the Floor mechanism in 2018/19 by using primary phase headroom within the Schools Block. This would require the transfer of headroom from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block. The continuation of our SEN Floor approach will be reviewed for 2019/20.
- **Implementing the changes that have been set out and considered by the Schools Forum and other working groups already.** These are:
  - **The cessation of the High Needs Block's funding of Top Up (the Plus element) for the placement of pupils in alternative provision settings without EHCPs that remain on the roll of mainstream schools.** This especially affects the HNB direct funding positions of Bradford Central PRU and the Primary Behaviour Centres. It is proposed that the Top Up funding from the HNB will cease at 1 September 2018 with the expectation that these settings will develop direct financial relationships with the schools (or BACs) that commission places. Please note that the HNB will continue to fund the place-element at £10,000 in 2018/19. This proposal seeks purely to correct the current 'double funding' of these placements (the HNB pays Top Up as well as the commissioning schools retaining in full its AWPU funding). **Please also note that the position of the HNB's funding of non-EHCP placements specifically in District PRU is subject to the outcomes of the Authority's wider alternative provision review.**
  - **The full establishment of Bradford's Place-Plus model for the funding of the newly developed early years DSP provision**, replacing previous temporary methodologies that have been in place for the funding of Children's Centre Plus provisions.
- **The Authority proposes that the specific resources for inclusion in Early Years settings, which are required to be established by the DfE following its national early years funding reform, will be fully funded from the Early Years Block from April 2018.** Therefore, the allocation of Early Years Inclusion monies is a matter picked up by the separate Early Years Block consultation rather than here.
- Please note that the values of formula factors quoted in the consultation document e.g. the values of **'Plus' funding by Range**, are indicative only for 2018/19. In particular, these values **will be subject to the School Forum's management of spending pressures within the High Needs Block.**