City of BRADFORD METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Document OY App 1 - INFORMATION & CONSULTATION ON THE FORMULA FUNDING OF HIGH NEEDS PROVISION FOR THE 2023/24 FINANCIAL YEAR

1. Introduction & Summary

1.1 This consultation document is written to set out, and to collect views on, the formula approach that Bradford Council proposes to use to delegate Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) High Needs Block funding to high needs providers, mainstream schools and academies and to other settings in the 2023/24 financial year April 2023 to March 2024. This is known, and referred to, as our 'Place-Plus' system and has two parts: a) core (or place-element) funding and b) top-up (or plus) funding.

1.2 In response to its national Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and Alternative Provision (AP) Review, which was commissioned in September 2019, the Department for Education (DfE) published on 29 March 2022 an initial outcomes and consultation document. This document can be found here. The consultation closed in July. As this Review will be very significant to the future of high needs funding, it is helpful to summarise the main messages from the Review so far. So, focusing on the financial / high needs funding aspects of the Review:

- The Review focuses very strongly on supporting (improving) the inclusion of children and young people with additional needs in mainstream settings, and on universal provision / early intervention to support their needs. The Review aims to reduce the use of / reliance on Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs), as well and on specialist places (when needs can be appropriately met in mainstream). In driving this, and in seeking greater consistency, there will be clearer guidance on what settings must do (what responsibilities they have within universal provision) and when and in what circumstances to use the EHCP and alternative provision routes of support. There will be new national SEND standards, covering early years to post 16, which set out how needs are to be identified and assessed, how agencies work together, what provision is appropriate for different types of needs, the processes for accessing support, standards for co-production and for communication, as well as for transitions. There will also be a new national Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) qualification.

- The Review focuses very strongly on alternative provision (AP). The DfE proposes that all authorities create and distribute an alternative provision specific budget within their High Needs Blocks. This budget would be separated into 3 tiers (mainstream; time limited; transitional), with a focus on universal provision and on early intervention. Authorities will to be required to allocate this alternative provision budget in accordance with a local plan. Alongside this, alternative provision funding will be managed on a multi-year basis, with the link broken between funding and provider numbers on roll (giving potential for multi-year fixed budgets).

- The clear aim of the DfE is that early intervention, supported by the funds allocated within the Schools and Early Years Blocks (mainstream formula funding that is allocated already to schools, academies and to other settings via the National Funding Formula and the Early Years Single Funding Formula), as well as by targeted funds allocated by the High Needs Block, will reduce the need for spending on additional statutory support, and will also help to reduce the escalation of needs to higher levels of spending. This is viewed by the DfE as an important component in managing the financial pressures that are currently felt by local authorities within their High Needs Blocks. To this end, another clear cross-cutting aim of the Review is to reduce the use, as well as the cost, of independent / non-maintained placements, where local more cost efficient specialist places should be available.

- In seeking consistency, and to ensure / improve the appropriateness of funding levels, the Review proposes to introduce a national framework for the banding of SEND top-up funding ('price tariffs'), with this framework matched to levels of need and types of education provision. This potentially moves the high needs funding system towards a national funding formula. This will be a particularly complicated change to achieve, and may have significant implications for all settings in Bradford that access top-up funding. Quite significantly, the Review suggests that non-maintained / independent provisions will be brought into this national system. Also significantly, the DfE wishes to bring early years into national funding frameworks. This may then have implications for the Early Years Block, the Early Years Single Formula Funding and for the Early Years SEND Inclusion Fund.

- The Review proposes significant additional DfE scrutiny and accountability mechanisms – via local funding agreements (linked to a local inclusion plan), new Local SEND Partnerships and via Regions Groups - on the way authorities plan and manage their High Needs Blocks and their SEND support and Alternative Provision, with a clear focus on improving value for money and outcomes for children and young people. There appears to be significantly greater potential for authorities to be directed on (or for the DfE to intervene to control) High Needs Block spending, where approaches are deemed to represent poor value for money and / or are not achieving improved outcomes for children and young people.

- The Review seeks to encourage a greater level of commissioning of provision within regions, rather than by individual authorities, especially for Further Education.

- The Review seeks to improve and to more standardise EHCP assessment processes, with multiple aims, including to improve the speed of assessment.

- The DfE states that the Review recognises that education, health and social care need to work together effectively. New Local SEND Partnerships will be established, which will bring together education, health and social care, alongside a clearer definition of responsibilities and a set of national standards. The DfE also states that analysis will be commissioned, to better understand the support that children and young people with SEND need from the health workforce, so that meeting these needs is a focus in health workforce planning. The Review also states that the DfE will mandate the use of local multi-agency assessment and placement panels.

- The DfE has confirmed that it is looking closely at the 'key levers' of the national Place-Plus funding system. The Review document as published however, has little information, which enables us to judge what changes might be made (and when) or to assess their impact. Further consultation is to come.

    - The DfE confirms that it is looking at the appropriateness of the 'threshold' (element 2) set at a value of £6,000. Any change in this threshold will have implications for the High Needs Block, as well as for the budgets of all settings. We assume that the DfE is also closely reviewing the value of the place-element funding, which is received by specialist settings.

    - The DfE confirms that a standardised calculation of Notional SEND budgets will be implemented, at a point in the future, for mainstream primary and secondary schools and academies. This is an extension of the hard National Funding Formula.

1.3 Further consultation, especially on changes to high needs funding mechanisms, is expected. In terms of timescales for implementation, in its recent messaging, the DfE has stated that the SEND and AP Review represents a longer-term programme of change. The DfE's High Needs Block operational guidance for the 2023/24 financial year has confirmed that the values of place-element funding (£10,000 and £6,000), and the positions of the main 'levers' of the high needs place-plus funding system, remain unchanged. Local authorities continue to hold responsibility for calculating and allocating top-up funding. This means that any changes in High Needs Block formula funding, that may come from the national Review, will now not be implemented before April 2024 at the earliest, and following further consultations to come. The DfE has however, provided some further guidance on Notional SEND budgets for 2023/24, which is picked up within this consultation.

1.4 In introducing our consultation on our proposals for 2023/24 financial year high needs formula funding arrangements, we would like to remind all settings that Bradford Council introduced, at April 2020, a new Banded Model for the allocation of 'top-up' funding for Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs). This model replaced our previous 'Ranges Model' and significantly uplifted the funding allocated for EHCPs across all settings. EHCP top-up funding has been uplifted in each year since, and additionally in 2022/23 to pass through the DfE's Schools Supplementary Grant funding. The Banded Model continues to include protections, which ensure that no EHCP that was in place on 1 April 2020 has reduced in value as a result of funding model change. We also introduced at April 2020 a new Day Rate Model for the funding of alternative provision for pupils permanently excluded. Funding allocated via this Day Rate Model has been uplifted in each year since, and additionally in 2022/23 to pass through the DfE's Schools Supplementary Grant funding.

1.5 It is our intention to continue to use these two now established funding models to allocate top-up funding to settings in Bradford in 2023/24. In quick summary, overall, we propose the following for 2023/24. To:

- Continue to allocate top-up funding using our existing EHCP Banded Model and Day Rate Model, uplifting the values of the top-up funding allocated by these two models. Please see sections 6 and 8.

- Continue the setting-led need factors as are currently applied in 2022/23 in the funding of specialist provisions. Please see section 7.

- Continue to allocate the former Teacher Pay and Pension Grants, separately from top-up funding, using the method and values we used in 2022/23. Please see section 9.

- Amend our definition of Notional SEND budgets for mainstream schools and academies in 2023/24. Please see Section 10.

- Continue for an additional year the amended SEND Funding Floor mechanism that we introduced in 2021/22, in support of Element 2 funding for SEND and EHCPs in mainstream primary and secondary settings. However, we propose to adjust (to increase) the thresholds that are used to calculate this Floor, in seeking to control the cost of this mechanism and to retain the Floor's original purpose, which is to support a minority of schools and academies that have significantly greater numbers of pupils on roll with EHCPs. Please see section 11.

1.6 In presenting the values of uplifts that are proposed in rates of funding, we must add the caveat that these uplifts are still subject to a final affordability check, which will take place following the closure of this consultation and prior to asking the Schools Forum to give its final formal feedback in January 2023. As such, although we set out here the rates of funding we anticipate will be used in 2023/24, subject to the responses to this consultation, settings should still view these rates at this time as indicative and subject to change.

1.7 We would like to remind settings that our high needs formula funding arrangements continue to operate in the context of recent and continuing wider changes in Bradford, including:

- The continued creation of additional specialist places.

- The development and expansion of Local Authority-led resourced provisions in mainstream primary and secondary schools and academies.

- The continued growth in the numbers of pupils with EHCPs (including in mainstream settings).

- The 'restructuring' of our PRUs and other alternative provisions.

- The re-alignment of responsibilities, between the High Needs Block and mainstream schools and academies, for the funding of alternative provision that is commissioned by mainstream schools and academies.

- Other support service delivery changes, including the amalgamation of Bradford's hospital education, Tracks and medical home tuition provisions into a single Local Authority managed service.

1.8 We would like to emphasise that our high needs formula funding arrangements must also now operate in the context of the DfE's SEND and Alternative Provision Review. Although the details of the future changes in funding systems, that are indicated by the Review's publications so far, are still to be known, the Review does strongly indicate an increased focus on early intervention and on mainstream inclusion. As such, we must ensure that our funding systems continue to support further movement in this direction, and schools, academies and other settings must begin to consider the consequences of the Review and begin to plan their provisions and budget accordingly.

1.9 The deadline for responses to this consultation is **Tuesday 29 November 2022**. Please address all questions and responses to Dawn Haigh 01274 433775 dawn.haigh@bradford.gov.uk. A response form is included at Appendix 6. However, this year we have introduced a web-based questionnaire, which we encourage you to use to submit your response. Please access the web-based questionnaire here.

2. Background - High Needs Block and National Funding Formula

2.1 All local authorities are following a direction of travel set by the Department for Education (DfE) towards National Funding Formula (NFF). Significant changes to the way high needs provision is funded were implemented by the DfE in the 2013/14 financial year. These changes, now well established, affected activities funded by the High Needs Block (HNB), which is a specific block of monies within the Dedicated Schools Grant (the DSG) that amounts in 2023/24 to about 17% of the overall DSG resources that will be available to Bradford Council.

2.2 Unlike for mainstream primary and secondary schools and academies, that are funded within the Schools Block of the DSG, the DfE's National Funding Formula reforms have not so far introduced a provider-level national formula for High Needs Block funded settings. Local authorities continue in 2023/24 to have full responsibilities for determining their own High Needs Block formula funding matters. Authorities are required however, to comply with Regulations and with the DSG's Conditions of Grant.

2.3 The high needs funding system supports provision for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), in line with the Children and Families Act 2014. High Needs Block DSG funding is also allocated to support good quality Alternative Provision for pre-16 pupils who cannot receive education in schools. The Children and Families Act 2014 extended the statutory duties local authorities hold relating to SEND across the 0 to 25 age range. Therefore, Bradford Council has a key role in determining the funding that is given to schools, academies and other providers to meet the needs of children and young people with SEND. Schools, academies and other providers also have duties under the Act, in particular a duty to co-operate with their local authorities on arrangements for children and young people with SEND.

2.4 On current estimates, our High Needs Block allocation in 2023/24 is £111.90m, which is £6.71m higher than received in 2022/23, including the DfE's additional Supplementary Grant funding, which is continued. This represents an increase of 6.4% in cash terms and 6.8% in per pupil terms. These increases are lower than received in recent years. For example, our overall cash increase was 10% in 2022/23 and 14% in 2021/22. This lower increase aligns with our assessment of the Autumn 2021 Spending Review, reinforced by the DfE's recent messaging, that the current 3-year national school funding settlement has been weighted towards 2022/23, with reduced increases to be allocated in 2023/24 and in 2024/25. We anticipate that High Needs Block funding nationally may increase between 3% and 5% in 2024/25.

2.5 The annual growth in High Needs Block funding is allocated across four main pressures, a) growth in the cost of provision (as a result of inflation and increases in salaries costs), b) growth in the number of EHCPs and in the needs of pupils with EHCPs reflected in their placement costs, c) continued expansion of high needs specialist places capacity (special school and resourced provision places), and d) expansion of central support SEND services capacity in response to increased demand. How the High Needs Block within the Dedicated Schools Grant will be allocated across these pressures will be further discussed with the Schools Forum in the autumn and early spring terms. However, beginning at the informal briefing meeting of the Schools Forum that was held on 14 September, the Authority has stated to the Forum that we will need to exercise 'restraint' in 2023/24 in how we uplift top-up funding rates (for pressure a) above), because, as result of the limitations of the High Needs Block settlement that we have received in 2023/24, we must prioritise meeting the substantial additional costs that have come from the significant recent growth, and continuing

growth, in the numbers of EHCPs in Bradford and from the essential continued expansion of high needs specialist places capacity.

2.6 Of the £111.90m of High Needs Block funding that we estimate we will receive in 2023/24, 93% of this is estimated to be delegated or devolved to support the following:

- Children and young people with Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) educated in mainstream schools and academies.
- Maintained Special Schools and Special School Academies.
- Enhanced Specialist Provisions (resourced provisions) attached to maintained nursery schools.
- School-led resourced provisions within mainstream primary and secondary schools and academies.
- Local Authority-led resourced provisions within mainstream primary and secondary schools and academies.
- Young people aged 16 to 25 in Further Education Colleges, Sixth Form Colleges and placed with independent or other specialist learning providers.
- Pupil Referral Units (PRUs) and Alternative Provision Academies.
- Children and young people placed in independent provisions and in non-maintained special schools.

2.7 High Needs Block funding is allocated in Bradford also to support Local Authority centrally managed services relating to SEND and to Alternative Provision, as permitted by the Finance Regulations. This includes SEND teaching support services, that are accessed by schools, academies and other settings, and tuition for children and young people that are unable to attend school for medical reasons. Local authorities are permitted to separately fund additional outreach and support services that may be managed centrally or may be devolved to providers under service level agreements.

3. Continuation in 2023/24 of the Existing DfE-Led National High Needs Funding System

3.1 The existing national high needs funding system remains in place and unchanged in 2023/24. Regarding the most prominent elements of this system:

- Place-element funding for specialist provisions (special schools, special school academies, PRUs and alternative provision academies) continues to be set at £10,000.
- Element 2 funding (including the value of place-element funding for places in resourced provisions that are occupied in the October 2022 Census) continues to be set at £6,000.
- Mainstream primary and secondary schools and academies continue to have responsibility for meeting from their delegated budgets the first £6,000 of the cost the additional needs of high needs children.
- Independent and non-maintained special schools continue to remain outside the national Place-Plus system.
- The DfE has confirmed that local authorities continue to be required to allocate the former Teacher Pay and Pensions Grant monies to specialist settings in 2023/24, separately from place-element and top-up funding. Our proposed approach is discussed further in section 9.

4. Place-Element (or Core) Funding

4.1 The national high needs funding approach in 2023/24 continues to be based on the financial definition of a 'High Needs' child or young person being one whose education, incorporating all additional support, costs

more than £10,000 per annum. This threshold lays the foundation of the current national 'Place Plus' framework and is the basis of the definition of the financial responsibility that schools, academies and other settings have for meeting the needs of children and young people from their already delegated formula funding-based budgets.

4.2 High needs funding has two parts a) core (or place-element) funding and b) top-up (or plus) funding. The grid at Appendix 1 sets out in summary how this system operates, and how these two parts work together, for each main type of provider.

4.3 Core (or place-element) funding for Bradford's stand-alone maintained special schools and special school academies, and for PRUs and Alternative Provision (AP) academies, is set at the national annual value of £10,000 for all pre-16 aged placements. The value for post-16 placements in special schools and special school academies is slightly enhanced by the higher value of Element 1 funding in the post-16 national funding formula. Place-element funding is allocated on the agreed number of places commissioned both by Bradford Council and by other local authorities. A Bradford-located institution is allocated place-element funding by Bradford Council for its total number of high needs places, irrespective of where the pupil resides. This place-element funding is allocated to support the institution's core costs (Element 1) and also to contribute to the additional costs associated with meeting the additional needs of the child or young person (Element 2). However, it is not 'pupil specific'. Place-element funding is set before the start of the financial year and isn't withdrawn if an individual place is not occupied. It is up to the institution to decide how best to apportion their total allocated place-element funding across the actual number of places commissioned by the Local Authority. Additional place-element funding, where an institution's number on roll exceeds the number of places during the year, is allocated by Bradford Council. An end of year reconciliation is actioned however, where any additional place-element funding allocated to an institution will be removed if the institution has been allocated too much additional place-element funding when its actual annual composite occupancy is calculated based on the recorded occupancy each month.

4.4 Place-element funding for Bradford's School-led resourced provisions, Early Years Enhanced Provisions (EYESPs), and for post-16 placements in Further Education Colleges, operates on the basis set out in paragraph 4.3, but is set at the national annual value of £6,000. The value is not £10,000 because these institutions, unlike special schools and PRUs, already receive formula funding, which allocates the first part of place-element funding (known as Element 1). To explain then, how place-element funding is split into 2 parts in the national system:

- Element 1: a basic £4,000 for children and young people aged pre-16, which is the notionally defined value of funding that all pupils attract and which has already been allocated to cover an institution's core costs, either by the Local Authority's pre-16 funding formula or by the Authority's Early Years Single Funding Formula (EYSFF). These formula allocations are derived from either the annual October Census (pre-16 formula) or from 3 termly censuses (EYSFF). For post-16 students, this Element 1 is derived from the national post-16 funding formula and typically is more than £4,000 (notionally defined at £5,600 for the 2022/23 academic year). Element 1 across the post-16 sector is funded with a year's lag in pupil numbers. The total allocation of Element 1 for the 2023/24 academic year will be based on the number of students recruited in 2022/23.

- Element 2: a further £6,000 for additional needs, which is not already allocated:

    1. Within the formula funding received by Bradford's mainstream schools and academies that have School-led resourced provisions where the Local Authority commissions high needs places.

    2. Within the formula funding received by Bradford's maintained nursery schools that have resourced provisions where the Local Authority commissions high needs places. £6,000 is the value for 1 FTE place. Therefore, a 15-hour place = 0.6 FTE (£3,600) and a 30-hour place = 1.2 FTE (£7,200).

    3. Within the formula funding received by Bradford's Further Education Colleges where the Local Authority commissions high needs places post-16.

4.5 The national funding system includes an additional complexity in the calculation of place-element funding for School-led resourced provisions in mainstream primary and secondary schools and academies. As explained above, the value of a place is set at £6,000, where that place was occupied at the time the October

Census in the previous year was taken. Where a place is not occupied at this census however, local authorities are required to fund this place at £10,000 in the following year. This is because the school or academy will not receive Element 1 funding specifically for this place in the following financial year via its normal delegated formula funding. Following a similar principle, for maintained nursery schools, an adjustment is made to the funding allocated via the EYSFF to add Element 1 funding for the resourced places that are not occupied in the 3 termly censuses.

4.6 Place-element funding for Bradford's Local Authority-led resourced provisions operates on the same basic principles as for School-led provisions, but with a couple of technical differences relating to the fact that the Local Authority retains Element 2 funding, whereas, for School-led provisions, Element 2 funding is retained by the school or academy. These technical differences are highlighted in Appendix 1.

4.7 The physical payment by Bradford Council of place-element funding, where this is delegated and where it is the Council's responsibility to pay it (rather than the Education Skills and Funding Agency's responsibility), takes place on a monthly basis and is combined with the monthly payment of top-up funding, which is described further in sections 6, 7 and 8. Bradford Council publishes monthly funding and payment statements for settings to access on Bradford Schools Online. For some institutions, such as for academies and for Further Education Colleges, place-element funding is not directly paid by Bradford Council. Instead, the Education Skills and Funding Agency (ESFA) deducts place-element funding from the Council's Dedicated Schools Grant to pay this across to these settings directly.

4.8 Apart from resourced provisions established by the Local Authority, mainstream primary and secondary schools and academies do not receive additional place-element funding for children and young people on roll that have Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs). The national high needs funding system works on the basis that mainstream primary and secondary schools and academies have sufficient funding already within their delegated formula funding allocations to enable them to meet the additional costs of the SEND needs of their pupils, up to the threshold of £6,000. Local authorities are required to define for each primary and secondary school and academy the value of their formula funding that is 'notionally' allocated for SEND, which is to be used to meet the first £6,000 of needs of pupils with EHCPs, as well as the needs of pupils without EHCPs. The value of each maintained school's notional SEND budget is set out in the annual S251 budget statements that are published by Bradford Council. A separate statement, showing the notional SEND allocations for all maintained primary and secondary schools, as well as for all academies, is published annually on Bradford Schools Online. Please see Appendix 3 for more technical information regarding our current 2022/23 definition of notional SEND. Further discussion on notional SEND for 2023/24 is presented in section 10.

4.9 In 2021/22, we amended our separate additional 'SEND Funding Floor' mechanism, which applies to mainstream primary and secondary schools and academies, initially for year in trial pending review. We continued this new Floor mechanism in 2022/23. How the Floor has operated in 2022/23 is explained in more detail in Appendix 3. The SEND Funding Floor is re-calculated on a monthly basis for changes in the numbers of Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) on roll. The SEND Funding Floor is currently aimed at ensuring that no mainstream primary or secondary school or academy will have to manage, from their own mainstream delegated formula funding, an above phase-average cost pressure in respect of their commitment to meet the cost of Element 2 £6,000 for their EHCPs. As well as supporting provision for pupils with EHCPs, a purpose of the Floor is to help protect the funding used by schools and academies to support their wider Additional Educational Needs, SEND and Alternative Provision activities. Further discussion on SEND Floor for 2023/24 is presented in section 11.

4.10 For providers delivering the entitlements to early education to 2, 3 and 4 year olds (maintained nursery schools, nursery classes in primary schools and academies, and Private, Voluntary and Independent providers), Bradford Council allocates Element 1 funding using our Early Years Single Funding Formula (EYSFF), which is funded by our Early Years Block within the Dedicated Schools Grant. Element 2 however, is not allocated within the EYSFF. As a consequence, all early years children that have EHCPs, that are not placed in the EYESPs within maintained nursery schools, are allocated Element 2 funding in addition to the top-up funding provided by the EHCP Banded Model. Bradford Council also has in place an Early Years SEND Inclusion Fund (EYIF), funded by the Early Years Block, which enables Element 2 funding to be allocated to support children in early years settings who have low level emerging SEND and who do not have EHCPs. In addition to EYIF, all early years providers of the 3 and 4 year old entitlement are entitled to receive a one off payment for children eligible for the Disability Access Fund (DAF). Further details on the SEND

Inclusion Fund (EYIF) and on the Disability Access Fund (DAF) can be found in our Early Years Technical Statement here.

4.11 Place-element funding for education in hospital provision, nationally, has still to be brought into the Place-Plus methodology. Currently, local authorities are required to maintain prior-year place funding values. Bradford's hospital provisions closed as separate PRUs on 31 August 2019 and Tracks closed as a separate entity on 31 August 2020. Provision is continuing as a single Local-Authority service. Funding of this centrally managed service now operates outside the Place-Plus mechanism, working within the discrete allocation provided by the DfE within our High Needs Block.

4.12 The funding of independent schools has not yet been brought into the national Place-Plus funding system. The basis of funding of placements in these settings therefore, is not 'formularised'. Placement costs will be influenced by a number of factors, including the needs of the child and the availability of places.

5. Commissioned High Needs Places in Bradford-located Settings

5.1 It is helpful to provide sight of the number of high needs places that are currently being commissioned in specialist settings by Bradford Council and that are planned to be commissioned in 2023/24. It is also helpful to show the distribution of these places across different types of settings. A draft schedule of places is presented in Appendix 4.

5.2 Whilst understanding that places commissioning work is still taking place, and that the numbers presented in Appendix 4 for 2023/24 are subject to change, the draft place numbers currently do include / take account of:

- The continuation and full year impact of places that have been recently created and that are planned to be created during 2023/24, including where new places are not set assigned to individual settings.
- Additional adjustments to individual settings for changes in places capacity that are already confirmed.
- The numbers of post-16 places brought forward from the 2022/23 academic year that will be the starting point for commissioning from the Further Education Colleges for the 2023/24 academic year. The 2023/24 numbers are currently still being discussed and finalised with the Colleges themselves.
- The consolidation and expansion of provision for pupils permanently excluded in alternative provisions.
- The amalgamation of the hospital education and Tracks services within a single Local-Authority managed service, meaning that the places presented in Appendix 4 are now 'notional'.

6. Top-Up Funding for EHCPs 2023/24: Pupil-Led Need

6.1 Top-up funding (also known as Element 3 or 'Plus' funding) is the funding required by an institution, over and above place-element funding, to enable a child or young person with high needs to participate in education and learning. Top-up funding is expected to reflect the cost of additional support an institution incurs related to the individual needs of the child or young person. In this document this is called 'Pupil-Led Need' and this is discussed further in this section. Top-up funding can also reflect costs (and differences in costs) related to the setting that the child or young person is placed at. In this document this is called 'Setting-Led Need' and this is discussed further in section 7. How top-up funding is allocated to PRUs and to Alternative Provision Academies, for provision for pupils permanently excluded rather than specifically for children and young people with EHCPs, is discussed in section 8.

6.2 Across all local authorities, most children and young people receiving high needs top-up funding will have an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP), resulting from the statutory assessment process. Local authorities do have the flexibility to allocate high needs funding outside the statutory assessment process for children and young people up to the age of 19. An example of this might be where a local authority provides funding from their High Needs Block to support schools, or clusters of schools, to commission alternative provision for pupils that remain on the schools' rolls. With Bradford's Schools Forum, Bradford Council has previously agreed for the High Needs Block in Bradford to 'step back' from supporting the cost of placements

for children and young people that are placed by schools (rather than by the Local Authority) in alternative provisions. In these instances, the schools commissioning the alternative provision places (including through the Behaviour Attendance Collaborative in the secondary phase) are expected to meet the placement costs fully using their delegated formula funding allocations. This position is retained for the 2023/24 financial year. How this position may develop for future years, as a result of the changes to the approach to alternative provision funding that are proposed in the DfE's national SEND and AP Review, will be considered more closely as further details are published.

6.3 Top-up funding for children and young people with EHCPs is paid by the placing local authority. Bradford Council is responsible for paying the top-up for children and young people with EHCPs that are resident in Bradford and that we place either in Bradford-located settings or elsewhere. Institutions in Bradford should recover directly the top-up funding for their pupils with EHCPs that are placed with them by other local authorities.

6.4 As stated in section 1, we introduced at April 2020 a new Banded Model for the allocation of our top-up funding for EHCPs. This model replaced our previous 'Ranges Model' and significantly uplifted the funding of EHCPs across all settings. The Model continues to include protections, which have ensured (and which will continue to ensure) that no EHCP in place on 1 April 2020 will reduce in value as a result of this funding model change.

6.5 We do not propose to make any technical changes to our EHCP Banded Model for the 2023/24 financial year. We propose simply to continue to allocate top-up funding using this existing EHCP Banded Model, uplifting the values that this model allocates. How the Banded Model works, how it is applied currently, and how it is proposed to work and be applied in 2023/24, are set out in more detailed in Appendix 2.

6.6 The total value of top-up funding owed to an institution by Bradford Council, calculated using the EHCP Banded Model, will continue in 2023/24 to be calculated and paid as now, on a monthly basis. The calculation will be based on the institution's occupancy recorded on the 10th day of each month. Where a child or young person is admitted after the 10th, top-up funding begins from the next month. In addition:

- Retrospective adjustments will be made in the subsequent month's calculations for any inaccuracies in the data for a single month, or where the position has been estimated due to the most up to date data not being available (for example, at September, picking up all changes for the new academic year). How the Local Authority publishes EHCP information and then manages data checking, queries and inaccuracies that might be identified is explained here.

- Funding for August will repeat the position recorded for July, except for Further Education placements, where August's funding is based on the new academic year's position.

- A ready reckoner will continue to be available, which will help settings predict the impact on top-up funding of movements in pupil numbers / bands on a monthly basis.

- Bradford Council will also continue to publish on Bradford Schools Online monthly funding and payment statements for providers to access. These statements are published here.

6.7 The process for placing children and young people with EHCPs into the Banded Model will continue to be led by Bradford Council via the established SEND Panel and using the application and assessment processes this Panel manages. Appeals (or disputes) will be managed by the Panel through its resolution procedure. Information, guidance and documentation on EHCP Panel processes and on SEND assessment is available on Bradford Schools Online here.

6.8 The table below shows the actual top-up rates that were funded in 2019/20 (under our previous Ranges Model), in 2020/21 (in the first year of our new Banded Model), in 2021/22, and that are funded now in the current 2022/23 financial year. The table also then shows, in the right-hand column, the rates that are proposed for 2023/24, subject to warning that is given in paragraph 1.6 about final affordability check. These rates would be used from 1 April 2023, subject to the outcomes of this consultation and this final affordability check.

	£ Top-up Value 2019/20	£ Top-up Value 2020/21	£ Top-up Value 2021/22	£ Top-up Value 2022/23	**£ Top-up Value 2023/24**
Band 3L	£952	£1,670	£1,900	£2,236	**£2,318**
Band 3M	£3,000	£3,347	£3,626	£4,036	**£4,136**
Band 3H	£4,597	£4,974	£5,302	£5,783	**£5,900**
Band 4L	£7,160	£7,747	£8,435	£9,218	**£9,411**
Band 4M	£10,440	£11,296	£12,235	£13,270	**£13,524**
Band 4H	£13,910	£15,051	£16,148	£17,377	**£17,678**
Protected 7	£22,857	£24,732	£26,534	£28,553	**£29,048**

6.9 The table below shows the % uplifts in values between 2020/21 and 2023/24 and, in the right-hand column, the cash uplifts between 2023/24 and 2022/23, as proposed.

	% Increase Top-up 2020/21 vs. 2019/20	% Increase Top-up 2021/22 vs. 2020/21	% Increase Top-up 2022/23 vs. 2021/22	**% Increase Top-up 2023/24 vs. 2022/23**	**£ Increase Top-up 2023/24 vs. 2022/23**
Band 3L	+ 75.4%	+ 13.8%	+ 17.7%	**+ 3.7%**	**+ £82**
Band 3M	+ 11.6%	+ 8.4%	+ 11.3%	**+ 2.5%**	**+ £100**
Band 3H	+ 8.2%	+ 6.6%	+ 9.1%	**+ 2.0%**	**+ £118**
Band 4L	+ 8.2%	+ 8.9%	+ 9.3%	**+ 2.1%**	**+ £192**
Band 4M	+ 8.2%	+ 8.3%	+ 8.5%	**+ 1.9%**	**+ £254**
Band 4H	+ 8.2%	+ 7.3%	+ 7.6%	**+ 1.7%**	**+ £301**
Protected 7	+ 8.2%	+ 7.3%	+ 7.6%	**+ 1.7%**	**+ £495**

6.10 The table below shows the proposed % uplifts in 2023/24 values on 2022/23 values when Element 2 (£6,000) and Element 1 (£10,000) are included.

	(1) % Increase in Top-up Only	**(2) % Increase in Top-up plus £6,000**	**(3) % Increase in Top-up plus £10,000**
Band 3L	+ 3.7%	**+ 1.0%**	*+ 0.7%*
Band 3M	+ 2.5%	**+ 1.0%**	*+ 0.7%*
Band 3H	+ 2.0%	**+ 1.0%**	*+ 0.7%*
Band 4L	+ 2.1%	**+ 1.3%**	**+ 1.0%**
Band 4M	+ 1.9%	**+ 1.3%**	**+ 1.1%**
Band 4H	+ 1.7%	**+ 1.3%**	**+ 1.1%**
Protected 7	+ 1.7%	**+ 1.4%**	**+ 1.3%**

6.11 To explain what these tables present:

- The total value of funding that is allocated to support an individual EHCP is derived by adding Element 2 (at a fixed value of £6,000 per 1 FTE pupil) to the value of the top-up that is allocated through the Banded Model.

- The total value of support for each of the three steps in Band 3 (Band 3L, 3M and 3H), when Element 2 £6,000 is added to the top-up value, is proposed to be uplifted by 1.0%. This 1.0% uplift is demonstrated in column (2) in the table in paragraph 6.10.

- The total value of support for the three steps in Band 4 (Band 4L, 4M and 4H), when Element 2 £6,000 is added to the top-up value, is proposed to be uplifted between 1.3% (Band 4L) and 1.4% (Band 4H). These uplifts are demonstrated in column (2) in the table in paragraph 6.10. The uplift of Band 4 values is guided by two additional considerations:

  Firstly, the desire to follow as closely as possible the existing ratio between the top-up value allocated by Band 3H versus the value allocated by Band 4L, so that the transition between Band 3 and Band 4, as currently applied following the guiding calculations that our model was originally established on, is retained.

Secondly, that it is important to set the uplifts to Band 4 top-up values with reference to the full £10,000 place-element value, not just to the Element 2 £6,000 value. This is so that we consider the total funding available per occupied place in specialist settings. The vast majority of children and young people with EHCPs assessed at Band 4 are placed in special schools, in special school academies and in resourced provisions. These settings receive £10,000 per occupied place. We propose to uplift the top-up value at the bottom of Band 4, at Band 4L, so that, when this top-up is added to the £10,000 place-element figure, the total value of funding allocated per occupied place increases by 1.0% on 2022/23. This ensures that the total value of funding that is allocated per occupied place at Band 4L increases in line with the 1.0% of the Band 3 Model. The 1.0% uplift per occupied place at Band 4L is demonstrated in column (3) in the table in paragraph 6.10. The calculations within the model, that form the basis of the Band 4 values, then adjust from the Band 4L reference point to provide slightly higher increases at Band 4M and Band 4H.

- Although the values of uplifts proposed for 2023/24 are different from those that were applied for 2022/23, we have approach the process of uplifting these values in the same way. One of the key features of this approach is adjusting for the lack of movement in the value of Element 2, which remains at £6,000, and the value of the place-element for specialist settings, which remains at £10,000. As a consequence of this lack of movement, the values of the top-ups allocated through the Banded Model must increase by greater percentages in order to achieve the total overall increases in available funding that we propose.

  This is the reason why the % increases in top-up, as shown in the table in paragraph 6.10 column (1), are higher. This is also a primary reason why the % increases in top-up in the different steps in the model are not the same; the Element 2 value of £6,000 as a proportion of the total cost of provision decreases as the steps get higher. Therefore, the extent to which the top-up has to compensate for Element 2 not increasing in value also decreases as the steps get higher. Recognising this feature, it would not be appropriate for us simply to provide a blanket % increase in top-up funding across all steps. Column (2) in the table in paragraph 6.10 gives the true real position of the increase in total funding available at each step – Element 2 plus top-up - to support the cost of EHCP provision. Column (3) shows the true real position of the increase in total funding per occupied place in specialist settings.

- The Banded Model retains a transitional 'Protected 7' step, which will continue to fund EHCPs that were graded at Range 7 under the old model in place on 1 April 2020. We have guaranteed that the value of Protected 7 will be uplifted each year by the same % that is applied to Band 4H. The tables above evidence this.

6.12 As we stated in section 2, the annual growth in High Needs Block funding that the Authority has received from the DfE in 2023/24 is reduced on recent years - an estimated increase of £6.71m, which is an increase of 6.4% in cash terms. Our current 2023/24 modelling indicates quite clearly that our growth in high needs spending in 2023/24 will substantially exceed our growth in funding. Therefore, within our 2023/24 budget, we must prioritise meeting the substantial additional costs that have come from the recent growth, and continuing growth, in the numbers of EHCPs in Bradford and from the essential continued expansion of high needs specialist places capacity. As a consequence, we need to exercise 'restraint' in how we uplift top-up funding rates, and a proposed 1% increase in 2023/24 is reflective of this. We wish to emphasise, as shown in the table in paragraph 6.9, that top-up funding rates have been substantially increased by Bradford Council since April 2020. We would ask that settings view the 1% increase in this wider context. 1% is on par with the maximum increase in early years entitlement funding rates that we anticipate we will be able to afford as a result of the DfE's Early Years Block settlement in 2023/24. 1% is also higher than the 0.5% increases in the Minimum Levels of Funding (MFLs) and the Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) that the DfE is providing within the Schools Block (mainstream primary and secondary school and academy) National Funding Formula.

6.13 The Finance Regulations provide for a specific Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) for special schools and special school academies, which is normally invoked when an authority substantially amends its approach to top-up funding, to the extent that this would reduce the budget of (or reduce any increase that would have otherwise been allocated to) a special school or to a special school academy. The DfE in 2023/24 however, has amended the MFG mechanism to ensure that local authorities have passed through to special schools a minimum proportion of the additional High Needs Block funding that authorities have received, especially in 2022/23 (via additional supplementary grant funding). The 2023/24 Regulations require an MFG of positive 3.0%, when 2023/24 funding is compared with that received in 2021/22. This MFG means that funding per place for each special school and special school academy in 2023/24, incorporating both place-element and top-up funding (but excluding the separate former Teacher Pay and Pensions Grant funding),

must be at least 3.0% higher than received in 2021/22, when calculating funding in both years on a 'like for like' basis (same place numbers, same school circumstances and same top-up determinations). We uplifted special school funding (Band 4 top-up funding plus the £10,000 place-element) by a minimum 4.25% per place in 2022/23, and we propose to increase the funding of all EHCP bands further in 2023/24 by a minimum 1%, without amending how our Banded Model works. As a result, we will quite clearly exceed the requirements of the 3.0% MFG.

6.14 We have explained in this section how we propose to approach uplifting the EHCP Banded Model in 2023/24. More details of the Model itself are presented in Appendix 2. As final point, our approach to uplifting values in 2023/24 does not intrinsically adjust the quantity of support that is funded by each step. We have deliberately not sought to alter this, as we wish the Model to continue to work alongside our published SEND provision matrices and SEND Panel guidance. The Banded Model itself essentially simply provides a 'toolbox' for the SEND Panel to use to find the best funding fit for meeting the needs of children and young people with EHCPs. We will keep this Model under review and we may look to adjust the provision mapping assumptions on which it is based. The DfE's national SEND Review may also (is very likely to) have implications for the workings of our Banded Model at a point in the future - the DfE has stated within its SEND Review documentation, in order to improvement consistency, that work will be done to develop a national banding framework for defining top-up funding. The timescales for this however, are currently unclear.

Question 1 – Do you agree with the approach that is proposed for uplifting the values of the EHCP Banded Model in 2023/24? If not, please can you explain why not.

Question 2 – Do you have any comments (including technical comments) on the EHCP Banded Model you would like the Authority to consider for 2023/24?

7. Top-Up Funding for EHCPs 2023/24: Setting-Led Need in Specialist Settings

7.1 Top-up funding can be allocated also to reflect costs (and differences in costs) related to the specialist setting that a high needs child or young person with an EHCP is placed at. In this document this is called 'Setting-Led Need'.

7.2 Place-element funding is expected to meet a specialist setting's basic core costs. However, our current high needs funding model for specialist settings recognises that there are certain differences in a setting's cost base that are influenced by the features of the setting. Two simple examples are that the setting is small, and requires additional funding to meet core costs of a fixed nature, and that the setting operates across a split-site and therefore, has certain duplicated and additional costs.

7.3 Appendix 3 sets out in more technical detail the setting-led need factors that are included within Bradford Council's proposed funding approach for 2023/24, and how and where they are applied.

7.4 These factors, in summary, are:

- Maintained special schools and special school academies: split sites; post-16 Element 1 enhancement; new services delegation; small setting protection; 3% cash budget protection.

- School-Led Resourced Provisions attached to mainstream primary and secondary schools and academies: small setting protection; 3% cash budget protection.

- Early Years Enhanced Specialist Provisions attached to maintained nursery schools: small setting protection.

7.5 For 2023/24, we do not propose to make changes to these factors, with the exception of a change to the value of the Post-16 Element 1 Enhancement factor for special schools and special school academies. As the notional Element 1 value in the national Post-16 funding formula has increased from £5,200 to £5,600 for the 2022/23 academic year, we propose to adjust the value of the Enhancement factor from £1,200 to £1,600. All other setting-led need factors are proposed to be calculated in 2023/24 using the same formulae and same factor values as used in 2022/23. Please note that we are not proposing to uplift the values of these factors in 2023/24.

7.6 Setting-Led Need top-up is calculated and re-calculated alongside Pupil-Led Need top-up on a monthly basis following the same timetable set out in paragraph 6.6.

Question 3 – Do you agree with the approach to setting-led need factors in 2023/24 that is proposed? If not, please can you explain why not.

Question 4 – Do you have any comments (including technical comments) on the setting-led need factors you would like the Authority to consider for 2023/24?

8. PRUs and Alternative Provision Academies 2023/24 – Day Rate Top-up Funding Model

8.1 This section sets out the proposed approach to the continuation of the Authority's calculation of top-up funding to support the cost of provision for pupils permanently excluded and placed by the Authority in Park Aspire and in Bradford Alternative Provision Academy Central (BAPA). The methodology and principles set out here also extend to the Authority's funding of top-up for pupils permanently excluded that may be placed in other provisions, where such extension is appropriate.

8.2 Park Aspire and BAPA both receive place-element funding from the High Needs Block, at £10,000 a place, as explained in section 4. These settings then also then receive top-up funding from the Authority for places that are occupied, following the placement of pupils permanently excluded. We introduced at April 2020 a Day Rate Model for the calculation of this top-up. A formulaic basis, such as this, follows the DfE's current expectation that, as top-up funding for alternative provision institutions is not usually related to an assessment of SEND, a standard predictable top-up rate can be set, which reflects the overall budget needed by the institution. This budget should be built up with the understanding that a level of capacity is needed to be retained during the year, recognising that numbers on roll in PRUs and in alternative provision academies can fluctuate.

8.3 Using our Day Rate Model, top-up funding is allocated on an agreed £value per day, multiplied by the number of days of provision expected to be delivered weekly / monthly / termly / annually. The total number of annual days is 195. The value of the day rate adjusts according to the PRU's / AP academy's overall occupancy to ensure that a minimum level of funding is allocated to enable the PRU / AP academy to meet fixed costs (largely related to the setting) and to retain sufficient staffing capacity for the Authority to use. The model is informed by annual review, which includes checking actual against expected occupancy. In situations where there are significant differences in occupancy, which are more permanent, the number of places to be commissioned by the Authority will be reviewed for the following year.

8.4 We propose to uplift the value of the day rate in 2023/24 in line with the uplifts that are proposed to the Band 4 values allocated by the EHCP Banded Model. The day rate in 2022/23 was £77.78. We propose to uplift this, subject to the warnings given in paragraph 1.6, to £79.13. This is the 2022/23 rate plus 1.73%, which uses the mean average Band 4 increase proposed for the EHCP Banded Model of 1.87%, but reduced to recognise that the small setting protection factor within the calculation is not uplifted. The calculation of the day rate is set out further in the table below. Together with the fixed £10,000 per place, a 1.73% increase in the day rate results in an overall 1.04% increase in funding per pupil for each occupied place (the total annual per pupil funding in 2023/24 will be £10,000 + (195 days x £79.13) = £25,430 compared with £10,000 + (195 days x £77.78) = £25,168 in 2022/23).

8.5 The £79.13 is made up of the following factors and values. These factors are the same as used in 2022/23. All factors but the small setting protection have been uplifted by 1.87%. The small setting protection factor is retained at the 2022/23 value, as is the case for all other parts of high needs formula funding that include a small setting protection factor, because this factor protects place-element funding and place-element funding is not uplifted in value in 2023/24.

Factor	**£Day Rate Value**
Main pupil-need led provision	£66.04
Small Setting Protection	£5.55
Business Rates	£1.98
New Services Delegation	£2.41
Pupil Mobility	£3.16
Total	**£79.13**

8.6 The equivalent annual per pupil value, based on 195 days, is as follows:

Factor	£Day Rate Value
Main pupil-need led provision *	£12,876
Small Setting Protection	£1,082
Business Rates	£387
New Services Delegation	£470
Pupil Mobility	£615
Total	**£15,430**

* this element is the equivalent of the top-up funding allocated to EHCPs through the Banded Model. This value sits between bands 4L and 4M.

8.7 We propose to continue to apply the Day Rate Model, as we applied it in 2022/23, with the calculation of a minimum top-up funding value based on each setting's agreed commissioned places number. In this way, the funding model continues to support both Park Aspire and BAPA to retain their unique capacities to deliver the number of places the Authority plans to commission.

- Where Park Aspire and BAPA are close to full occupancy throughout the year, they will be funded at £79.13 per day per pupil / £15,430 per year per pupil.

- The basic day rate value of £79.13 will be adjusted however, where necessary should occupancy fluctuate, to ensure a minimum level of funding to enable capacity retention, meaning that Park Aspire and BAPA will not receive an annual cash total value of top-up funding lower than:

    - (£1,082 + £387 + £470 + £615) x no. of places (for setting-based costs), plus

    - 88% of £12,876 x no. of places (for main pupil-led need provision)

8.8 We will continue the following two technical features, which relate to the application 'in year' of the Day Rate Model in 2023/24:

- We will continue to use the 10th of the month census to count (and re-count) occupancy, which is the process followed for the re-calculation of Banded Model funding for EHCPs. We will continue to re-calculate the funding of Park Aspire and BAPA on a monthly basis as now, taking the 10th of the month census as the actual occupancy for that month. We will keep this approach under review for future years. The DfE has signalled, in the national SEND and Alternative Provision Review, that there will be a move towards 'fixed' budgets for PRUs and alternative provision academies, where funding allocations will not be affected by 'in year' occupancy. Whilst we await further details, and the timing of any directed changes, we propose to continue our current arrangements. We would emphasise that we already employ a factor, as explained above, which does guarantee settings a minimum level of top-up funding, based on the number of commissioned places, without reference to actual occupancy during the year.

- We will continue to calculate and profile top-up funding across 12 months. In previous consultations, we have indicated that we could be more specific about the number of days delivered and funded each month, taking account of the profile of holidays. We indicated that this would be a more significant matter to consider if the numbers on roll in the PRU / AP academy are significantly different at different times of the year. Again, in the context of the national SEND and Alternative Provision review, it does not make sense for us now pursue review work, which would take our approach to funding further away from the 'fixed' budget approach that the DfE has proposed for the future.

Question 5 – Do you agree with the Day Rate mechanism that the Authority proposes to use to fund the PRU and Alternative Provision Academy in 2023/24? If not, please can you explain why not.

Question 6 – Do you have any comments (including technical comments) on the proposed Day-Rate mechanism you would like the Authority to consider for 2023/24?

9. Continued Replication of the Former Teacher Pay and Teacher Pensions Grants 2023/24

9.1 We have been required to add into our formula funding arrangements for specialist settings the allocation of the former Teacher Pay Grant (TPG) and the Teacher Pension Grant (TPECG). This change was required at April 2021, in response to these grants, allocated in respect of special schools, special school academies, PRUs, alternative provision academies and mainstream primary and secondary pre-16 provisions, being transferred into the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG).

9.2 We allocated these former TPG and TPECG monies in 2022/23, separately from both place-element and top-up funding, as follows:

- To maintained special schools and special school academies, Park Aspire and BAPA: a minimum fixed value of £733 per place, with place numbers fixed at the original agreed commissioned number for the 2022/23 financial year. These commissioned numbers included the planned expansion of provisions. Where a setting, prior April 2021, received an amount per place that was higher than the minimum value, and where their amount per place, uplifted by 5% in 2021/22 and by 5.8% in 2022/23, was still higher than the minimum £733 for 2022/23, the setting has been allocated their uplifted pre-April 2021 amount per place. This 'protection' was applied to 4 of 10 settings. Payment has been split so that 5/12ths of the annual value was paid in a lump sum in April 2022 and 7/12ths was paid in a lump sum in September 2022.

- To school-led resourced provisions and Early Years Enhanced Specialist Provisions: based on place numbers fixed at the original agreed commissioned number for the 2022/23 financial year, a fixed value of £733 per place, where a place was not occupied in the October 2021 Census, and either a value of £548 (primary) or £460 (secondary) where a place was occupied in the October 2021 Census. The values of £548 (primary) and £460 (secondary) were derived from the differences between the £733 and the value of TPG and TPECG monies that been transferred to be allocated already through the mainstream primary and secondary funding formula. All places in the EYESPs were recorded as unoccupied for the purposes of this calculation. Commissioned places numbers for all resourced provisions included planned expansion during 2022/23. Payment has been split so that 5/12ths of the annual value was paid in a lump sum in April 2022 and 7/12ths was paid in a lump sum in September 2022.

9.3 We propose to continue to allocate these former grant monies in 2023/24 following the same approach as we used in 2022/23, and using the same values, as follows:

- Funding will be calculated and fixed on the original agreed commissioned places number for each setting for the 2023/24 financial year, with these numbers incorporating the planned expansion of provisions. This funding will not be adjusted for over or under occupancy during the year.

- The basic rate of funding per place for 2023/24 is proposed to be retained at £733.

- The protection of pre-April 2021 per place funding values for individual special schools, special school academies and PRUs / Alternative Provision academies, will continue to be applied, as this was in 2022/23. We expect this to continue for 4 out of 10 settings, where these settings will be allocated the greater of £733 or their 2022/23 protected per place value.

- School–led resourced provisions will continue to be allocated a fixed value of £733 per place, where a place was not occupied in the October 2022 Census, and either a value of £548 (primary) or £460 (secondary) where a place was occupied in the October 2022 Census.

- All places in the EYESPs will continue to be recorded as unoccupied for the purposes of the resourced provision calculation.

- Payment will be split so that 5/12ths of the annual value will paid in a lump sum in April 2023 and 7/12ths will be paid in a lump sum in September 2023.

Question 7 – Do you agree with the methodology that the Authority proposes to use to allocate the Teacher Pay Grant and Teacher Pensions Grant in 2023/24? If not, please can you explain why not.

10. Notional SEND Budget Definition for Mainstream Primary & Secondary 2023/24

10.1 We propose to amend in 2023/24 our definition of Notional SEND budgets within mainstream primary and secondary school and academy formula funding allocations.

10.2 Local authorities are required to define for each primary and secondary school and academy the value of its mainstream formula funding that is 'notionally' allocated for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) - for meeting the first £6,000 of the cost of the additional needs both of pupils with EHCPs and also of pupils without EHCPs. This not additional funding, but a definition of how much funding, that is already allocated, is available to support SEND. How Bradford currently (in 2022/23) defines notional SEND (the %s of funding within each formula factor that make up this budget) is shown in the table below. We have also explained our current Notional SEND budget approach in Appendix 3. The Section 251 Budget Statements for maintained schools, and the General Annual Grant (GAG) Statements for academies, show the calculation of Notional SEND budgets for individual schools / academies. We also publish on Bradford Schools Online, annually in February, the calculation of Notional SEND budgets for all primary and secondary schools and academies in Bradford for the following financial year.

10.3 Our current definition has built up over time, but, in particular, is based on how we began to delegate EHCP (then known as SEND Statements) funding to schools around 15 years or so ago, before the advent of the current national place-plus high needs funding methodology and the £6,000 element 2. We have identified that we should look again at our definition, but, as we've explained in consultations in recent years, we have not progressed a local review because we expected that the DfE's national SEND Review, as well as the movement to the hard National Funding Formula for primary and secondary schools and academies, would determine how Notional SEND would work in the very near future. The DfE did also previously suggest that the concept of a Notional SEND budget could be replaced with something else.

10.4 The DfE however, has now confirmed that Notional SEND budgets will continue to be defined going forward and that, at the point the hard National Funding Formula is introduced for mainstream primary and secondary school and academy formula funding (by 2027/28 at the latest), there will be a national consistent definition.

10.5 Highlighting that there is currently quite a bit of difference in how local authorities define Notional SEND budgets for schools and academies in their areas, and seeking to encourage movement towards greater consistency prior to the establishment of the hard National Funding Formula, the DfE has recently published new operational guidance for local authorities. Whilst this guidance does not prescribe how authorities should now define Notional SEND, it does strongly encourage all local authorities to review their approaches, and sets out broad expectations.

10.6 We have reviewed our approach, especially by comparing our definition to national, regional and other useful averages (including similar High Needs Block funded authorities and Metropolitan District Authorities). Our rationale for approaching our review this way is that, as was the case with the initial construction of the National Funding Formula (NFF) within the Schools Block, and as is now behind the DfE's methodology for the review of this NFF, we anticipate that a national consistent definition of Notional SEND will be strongly informed by averages (by the common national picture). Where we are different, we wish to begin to make changes, to bring our approach closer in line with averages, incrementally, rather than having a significant single change at the point the 'hard' NFF is finally established. It may also be the case that the DfE does further prescribe approaches for Notional SEND prior to 2027/28, and we wish to be well placed to absorb this.

10.7 In our review, we have not intrinsically set out with the aim of significantly altering the values of Notional SEND budgets that are retained by schools and academies, either overall or by the majority of individual settings. By this, we mean that, if we compare what Notional SEND budgets would be in 2023/24 using our current approach, against a new approach, there aren't significant differences overall or within the majority of schools / academies (when we look at Notional SEND as a % of funding or on a per pupil basis). One of the changes that we propose however, does specifically increase the Notional SEND budgets for schools and academies that receive funding via the Minimum Levels of Funding (MFLs) factor. However, we feel that there is a clear rationale for this, which is explained below.

10.8 Irrespective of whether we use the existing or the new method, the overall total value of Notional SEND budgets is expected to increase in 2023/24, due to pupil numbers and other changes (including the merger of

the Schools Supplementary Grant into primary and secondary core formula funding), as well as due to the 2023/24 funding settlement. Individual schools and academies however, will see differences (both up and down) due to pupil numbers and pupil circumstances changes (differences between the October 2022 and the October 2021 Censuses), again, irrespective of whether we use the current or the new method.

10.9 Following our review, we propose to make two changes to our definition of Notional SEND budgets in 2023/24. Firstly, we propose to bring our definition of Notional SEND more in line with national averages, by adjusting the percentages of the different factors that make up the Notional SEND budget, as follows:

Current

Formula Factor	% Primary	% Secondary
Prior Low Attainment Factor	100%	100%
Free School Meals Factor	23.1%	10.2%
Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) Factor	22.4%	19.2%
Base £APP funding (AWPU)	7.5%	6.3%

Adjusted to

Formula Factor	% Primary	% Secondary
Prior Low Attainment Factor	100%	100%
Free School Meals Factor	25.0%	25.0%
Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) Factor	25.0%	25.0%
Base £APP funding (AWPU)	6.5%	4.0%

10.10 Secondly, we propose to bring into the definition of Notional SEND a proportion of the additional funding that schools and academies receive via the Minimum Levels of per Pupil Funding (MFL) factor. We propose, for both primary and secondary phases, to bring 48% of MFL funding into the Notional SEND Budget. The rationale for this is to improve the fairness and equity of our definition. A principal reason why per pupil funding levels vary between schools / academies is differences in the levels of additional needs of pupils, as measured by Free School Meals, IDACI, Low Prior Attainment etc. The MFL factor brings the per pupil funding for all schools and academies up to a defined minimum. It is the case that two primary schools, for example, could receive £4,405 per pupil in 2023/24, one receiving this via the 'normal' funding formula and one receiving this because the MFL has kicked in to provide the minimum of £4,405. Using our current definition, the school that receives £4,405 via the normal formula has an appropriate proportion of its additional needs funding included within its Notional SEND budget. However, because we don't currently bring in the MFL factor, the school that receives a top up to the £4,405 does not. On this basis, we take the view that the inclusion of the MFL factor within our Notional SEND budget definition will improve the fairness and equity of this definition. We have calculated 48% taking an aggregate of the %s that are used across the other factors.

10.11 Illustrative modelling, showing the impact of these 2 changes on the Notional SEND budgets of individual schools and academies, is presented at Appendix 5. We must stress that this modelling is illustrative. It is calculated on the same basis as the main Appendix 1a and 1b formula funding modelling, which is attached to our Schools Block primary and secondary mainstream formula funding consultation. Appendix 5 does not show what confirmed final 2023/24 Notional SEND budgets will be. In particular, these final budgets, which will be published in February 2023, will be influenced by the changes in data that are recorded in schools and academies within the October 2022 Census. We would also like to highlight, for the MFL schools and academies, that the increases in their Notional SEND budgets, as a result of the inclusion of the MFL factor, is offset by the other proposed changes in the definition, including the reduction in the % taken from Base £APP (AWPU) funding.

10.12 We will continue to annually review our Notional SEND definition in the lead up to the hard National Funding Formula, including in response to any further prescription from the DfE, and may consult on further incremental changes.

10.13 Please note that we intend to continue to add to Notional SEND budgets 6.0% of a mainstream school's or academy's allocation from the Early Years Single Funding Formula, for mainstream primary schools and academies that have early years entitlement provision.

10.14 Finally, we wish to highlight that our separate consultation on Schools Block formula funding also discusses this change in Notional SEND budget definition in 2023/24. What is said in the two consultation documents is the same. All primary and a secondary schools and academies are strongly encouraged to access this consultation.

Question 8 - Do you agree with the proposal to adjust our definition of Notional SEND within mainstream primary and secondary formula funding? If not, please explain the reasons why not.

11. The SEND Funding Floor Mechanism for Mainstream Primary & Secondary in 2023/24

11.1 Our SEND Funding Floor is an additional targeted SEND funding mechanism. How this mechanism works currently is explained in Appendix 3.

11.2 When we initially introduced our current Floor, at April 2021, we stated that this was for a year in trial, pending further review. When we decided to continue this Floor in 2022/23, unchanged, we again stated that the Floor's use in 2023/24 would be subject to further review.

11.3 Our EHCP Banded Model (and the national high needs funding system) works on the basis that mainstream primary and secondary schools and academies are required to contribute £6,000 (Element 2), from their already delegated formula funding derived budgets, to the cost of support for pupils with EHCPs on their rolls. Mainstream schools and academies must also use these delegated budgets to support the wider SEND and alternative provision needs of all their pupils on roll. Targeted SEND funding mechanism are intended / permitted to be used where a school's or an academy's level of SEND is 'disproportionate' (compared with other schools and academies) and their already delegated formula funding is evidenced to be insufficient to meet their additional costs. The DfE's current guidance states that, "Local authorities should have a formula or other method, based on their experience of distributing additional funding to their maintained schools and academies...In all cases, the distribution methodology should be simple and transparent, and devised so that additional funds are targeted only to a minority of schools which have particular challenges because of their disproportionate number of pupils with SEND or high needs, or their characteristics."

11.4 In our consultation documents, that have been published in the last 2 years, we have discussed the increased financial pressure on mainstream school and academy delegated budgets, as the numbers of pupils in Bradford with SEND (and EHCPs) that are educated in mainstream settings continues to grow. We have also discussed additional targeted funding mechanisms to support this pressure, in the context the DfE's national SEND Review, which we anticipate will further prescribe how such mechanisms operate in the future. As stated in section 1, the DfE's national Review focuses very strongly on supporting the inclusion of children and young people with additional needs in mainstream settings, and on universal provision / early intervention to support their needs. The Review aims to reduce the use of / reliance on Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs), as well and on specialist places (when needs can be appropriately met in mainstream). In driving this, and in seeking greater consistency, there will be clearer guidance on what settings must do (what responsibilities they have within universal provision) and when and in what circumstances to use the EHCP and alternative provision routes of support.

11.5 In the context of the national SEND Review, there are two issues / matters to consider with our current SEND Funding Floor, when reviewing our arrangements for 2023/24.

- Firstly, the scope of our SEND Funding Floor is 'more generous' than the DfE's guidance (*"devised so that additional funds are targeted only to a minority of schools which have particular challenges")*. Only 31 (out of 152) local authorities declared within their Authority Pro-forma Tool (APT) returns to the Education and Skills Funding Agency (EFSA) that they operate any form of additional targeted SEND funding mechanism in the 2022/23 financial year. In 2020/21 (prior to the implementation of our current Floor), we allocated £0.481m in additional targeted SEND support funds, to 23% of schools / academies. In 2021/22 (in the first year of our current mechanism), we allocated £1.645m to 57% of schools / academies. At July 2022, the annual equivalent cost of our SEND Funding Floor in 2022/23 so far is £2.276m, to 53% of schools / academies. As these percentages indicate, our Floor currently allocates additional funding to more than "a minority of schools with particular challenges". These figures also highlight the significant growth in Floor spending over the last 2 financial years. We expect spending in 2022/23 to increase further in the second half of this financial year. This is one of the significant aspects of our Floor that we

need to review for 2023/24, in the context of the affordability of our High Needs Block spending priorities. Our modelling clearly indicates that we cannot afford to continue year-on-year to meet the cost of an expanding Floor mechanism, that allocates funding wider than to a minority of schools with particular challenges, at the same time as meeting the cost of the growth in EHCPs and the development of new specialist places.

- Secondly, our SEND Funding Floor calculates additional funding with reference to the number of EHCPs a school / academy has on roll. Whilst this is valid, in the longer term, as the outcomes of the SEND Review are implemented (with a movement away from a reliance on EHCPs), using a school's / academy's number of EHCPs to allocate additional targeted SEND funding will need review. It can also be argued that some 'perverse incentive' (and some movement in the opposite direction to reducing reliance on EHCPs) is present, where we use the number of EHCPs to assess the need for additional Floor Funding. However, whilst we do wish to look at this more closely, we do not propose to amend the basis for the calculation of our SEND Funding Floor in 2023/24 being the number of EHCPs on roll.

11.6 We do propose to continue to use our existing SEND Funding Floor mechanism in 2023/24, as described in Appendix 3, for a further year pending further review, but with one technical amendment. This change is aimed at incrementally controlling growth in cost and seeks to keep the scope of the mechanism as originally intended (including trying not to move further away from the DfE's guidance of funding "a minority of schools with particular challenges"). So:

- We propose to increase the phase averages that are used in the calculation of 'part B' (the trigger points at which additional Floor funding is allocated). Rather than using the phase average rounded + 1%, we propose to use the phase average rounded + 3%. All other technical aspects of the Floor will continue unchanged.

- This change has the effect of reducing the number of schools / academies that are supported, and the total value of this support, when 2023/24 is compared with 2022/23 on a like-for-like basis. In reality, the actual position in 2023/24 will be complicated, including because formula funding allocations are increasing in 2023/24 and because the numbers of EHCPs at individual schools and academies will change. Both these factors will affect the final phase average %s that are used. These %s will be confirmed in February 2023. Both these factors will also affect the actual Floor allocations that are received by individual primary and secondary schools and academies in 2023/24.

- On current modelling, the support funding allocated in 2023/24 via the Floor, calculated on the same number of EHCPs (as at July 2022), would be equivalent to the funding that was allocated in the 2021/22 financial year, at c. £1.62m, across 47% of schools / academies. We expect however, that the total value of funding allocated by the Floor will be greater than this in 2023/24, as the number of EHCPs in mainstream schools and academies continues to increase. The level of funding that the Floor will allocate therefore, will continue to be substantially higher than was allocated prior to the amendment of our Floor at April 2021. It will still represent a substantial SEND funding support mechanism for the mainstream sector.

- In proposing to amend out SEND Floor in this way, we also think that it is important to highlight that, with the substantial growth in the number of pupils with EHCPs in mainstream settings, more high needs funding is already being allocated (and will continue to be allocated) to the mainstream sector in support of high needs pupils, in the form of top-up funding.

11.7 Finally, we would like to emphasise that:

- The 2 elements of the 'part B' in the calculation (as explained in Appendix 3) will be updated for 2023/24 formula funding allocations and also for updated median phase spending averages. These will both be confirmed and fixed in February 2023.

- We will continue to protect the previous SEND Funding Floor allocations (allocations that were received in 2020/21) for the specific identified and named small primary schools and academies, as we have done for the current 2022/23 financial year.

- The SEND Funding Floor will continue not to apply to early years providers. This is because Element 2 funding is allocated in addition to top-up funding for children with EHCPs in early years settings. There is therefore, no additional pressure placed on early years providers in respect specifically of having to fund £6,000 to contribute to the cost of an EHCP.

- The SEND Floor also will continue not apply to post-16 EHCPs (and Further Education high needs provision). This is because Element 2 funding is already allocated on an agreed lagged basis.

- Further review, incorporating the implications of the DfE's national Review, will determine the position of the SEND Funding Floor after 2023/24. We are only proposing at this stage to extend our existing arrangement for a further financial year.

Question 9 – Do you agree with the continuation of our SEND Funding Floor mechanism in 2023/24, as proposed? If not, please can you explain why not.

Question 10 – Do you have any comments (including technical comments) on the SEND Funding Floor mechanism you would like the Authority to consider?

Question 11 - Are there any changes that you would wish to see made to the funding models in 2023/24 that have not been proposed? Please give details.

Question 12 – Do you have any other comments on the funding model or the proposals that you have not recorded elsewhere?

12. Consultation Responses

12.1 If you wish to discuss these proposals in more detail, or have any questions for clarification, before you submit a response, please contact Dawn Haigh using the contact details shown in section 1.

12.2 A response form is included at Appendix 6. However, this year we have introduced a web-based questionnaire, which we encourage you to use to submit your response. Please access the web-based questionnaire here.

12.3 Please ensure that your response is submitted (either using the Appendix 6 form or by using the web-based questionnaire) by the deadline of **Tuesday 29 November 2022.** Any responses received after this date may not be included in the analysis that will presented to the Schools Forum.

13. Next Steps

13.1 Following consideration of the responses to this consultation, and of the final formal view of the Schools Forum, our high needs funding approach will be agreed by Council in February 2023.

13.2 It is anticipated that the Schools Forum will give the Authority its final formal view on 2023/24 arrangements on Wednesday 11 January 2023.

13.3 Discussions on the Dedicated Schools Grant funding position, high needs funding matters for 2023/24, and the development and sufficiency of specialist places, will continue with the Schools Forum between now and January 2023. You are recommended to keep in touch with these discussions by visiting the Schools Forum webpage on the Council's Minutes site here.

14. Equalities Impact Assessment

13.1 The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) of the Equality Act 2010 requires the Local Authority to give due regard to achieving the following objectives in exercising its functions:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010.

- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

13.2 We assess that our high needs funding proposals for 2023/24 will have a positive impact on equalities. We have considered the impact on persons who share any of the protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation. We have focused on the protected characteristics for which the potential impact is largest, and which are most closely tied to the formula funding proposals we put forward.

13.3 The arrangements that the Local Authority proposes in this consultation for the 2023/24 financial year retain a significant amount of continuity on current practice, Dedicated Schools Grant High Needs Block distribution and formula funding policy and methodology. As such, our equalities impact assessment of our guiding High Needs Block formula funding policy for 2023/24 is neutral (representing no change on current positive practice).

13.4 The Authority proposes the continued application of the EHCP Banded Model, which was first introduced at April 2020. The impact of this model, on the funding of schools, academies and on other providers for all children and young people with EHCPs, is assessed to continue to be entirely positive. The Banded Model, as explained in Appendix 2, continues to improve the way schools and providers in Bradford are funded for children and young people with SEND with EHCPs. Although it cannot be evidenced at this stage that our change in funding model at April 2020 has directly advanced equality of opportunity for children and young people that share a protected characteristic, it is expected that this model will support this.

13.5 The Authority proposes to further uplift in 2023/24 the values of top-up funding allocated by the EHCP Banded Model and by the Day Rate Model, as set out in section 6. This means that the funding of all high needs children and young people, who are supported by these models, will increase on current values. A minimum 1% increase in all top-up funding rates (when place-element / Element 2 funding is included) is higher than the floor increase of 0.5% that the DfE has funded for mainstream schools and academies through the Schools Block settlement. Under our proposals, the funding received by special schools and special school academies will exceed (by 2.25%) the requirements of the DfE's 3% Minimum Funding Guarantee. The proposed uplifts in 2023/24 should be viewed in the context of the very significant increases that have been applied to these models in 2020/21, 2021/22 and in 2022/23. The uplifts should also be viewed in the context of the Authority's prioritisation of the £6.71m increase in High Needs Block funding in 2023/24, towards the further expansion of specialist places capacity (securing appropriate provision for high needs pupils) and of meeting the cost of the growth in the numbers of children and young people in Bradford with EHCPs via the allocation of additional top-up funding.

13.6 The Authority proposes to continue, unchanged, the additional setting-led needs factors for specialist settings and the additional separate former Teacher Pay and Pensions Grant funding. This represents no change on current positive practice.

13.7 We assess that incrementally amending our definition of Notional SEND budgets within mainstream primary and secondary formula funding allocations (section 10), as encouraged by the DfE and to bring us more in line with the common national picture in the lead up to the hard National Funding Formula, continues to support schools and academies to make effective provision for pupils with additional educational needs and with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. The inclusion of funding allocated by the Minimum Level of Per Pupil Funding (MFL) factor will improve the fairness and equity of our definition and will help support schools and academies that receive the MFL to use the totality of their delegated funding in support of SEND. It is important to stress that an adjustment of the Notional SEND definition does not materially change the value of formula funding that an individual school or academy receives.

13.8 Whilst we are proposing an amendment to the 'part B' calculation, to increase the thresholds, as set out in section 11, the Authority proposes to continue the amended SEND Funding Floor mechanism. The level of funding that the Floor will allocate in 2023/24, will continue to be substantially higher than was allocated prior to the amendment of our Floor at April 2021. It will still represent a substantial SEND funding support mechanism for the mainstream sector. As well as continuing to support provision for pupils with EHCPs, this approach will continue to protect the funding used by mainstream schools and academies to support their wider Additional Educational Needs (AEN), SEND and Alternative Provision (AP) activities. The Floor

financially supports mainstream schools and academies that have higher proportions of pupils with EHCPs, in support of inclusion, combining also to support schools and academies that may have lower levels of AEN formula funding and that may be smaller in size. It supports schools and academies that may have some turbulence in formula funding as a result of in year pupil numbers changes. The impact of the Floor is assessed to continue to be positive. With the substantial growth in the number of pupils with EHCPs in mainstream settings, in addition to the Floor, more high needs funding is already being allocated (and will continue to be allocated) to the mainstream sector in support of high needs pupils, in the form of additional top-up funding.

15. Appendices

Appendix 1 Summary of the Place-Plus system and how this works for different providers
Appendix 2 Banded Model for Pupil-Led Need Top-up Funding
Appendix 3 Technical Annex 2022/23 Approach (including Setting-Led Need factors)
Appendix 4 Draft Planned Commissioned Places 2023/24 (Bradford-located settings)
Appendix 5 Notional SEND Modelling (presented in a separate file)
Appendix 6 Consultation Responses Form.

Appendix 1 – High level Summary of Place-Plus and how this works for different providers in Bradford

Type of Provision	Pre-16 Place (Core) Funding	Pre-16 Top-Up Funding (Pupil-Led Need)	Post-16 Place Funding	Post-16 Top-Up Funding (Pupil-Led Need)	Setting-Led Need Factors	Additional Support Measures
Mainstream primary & secondary (maintained schools, academies and free schools)	Element 1 is included within the per-pupil funding allocated through the local school funding formula (NFF-based). Element 2 - the first £6,000 of additional support cost – is also already delegated with the school's formula funding allocation. Notional SEND defines the value of funding already allocated (see section 10).	Agreed per-pupil top-up paid by the commissioning local authority. Allocated in 'real time' during the year. Changes for starters and leavers. Uses the Banded Model (see appendix 2). The top-up funding is allocated to and retained by the school.	Element 1 (based on the 16-19 national funding formula) plus Element 2 (£6,000) based on the number of places to be commissioned.	Agreed per-pupil top-up paid by the commissioning local authority. Allocated in 'real time' during the year. Changes for starters and leavers. Uses the Banded Model (see appendix 2). The top-up funding is allocated to and retained by the school.	None.	SEND Funding Floor supports Element 2 cost in pre-16 provisions (see section 11).
Mainstream early years (nursery schools, classes and PVI providers)	Element 1 is included within the per-pupil funding allocated through the local EYSFF. Early Years SEND Inclusion Grant allocates Element 2 (£6,000) for eligible low level emerging	Agreed per-pupil top-up paid by the commissioning local authority. Allocated in 'real time' during the year. Changes for starters and leavers.	n/a	n/a	None.	Early Years SEND Inclusion Grant (EYIF). DAF Grant.

	SEND (non-EHCP) as agreed by Panel. Element 2 is allocated to early years EHCPs in addition to top-up.	Uses the Banded Model (see appendix 2). The top-up funding is allocated to and retained by the school or provider.				
School-led Resourced Provisions (mainstream primary & secondary)	Elements 1 & 2 are allocated through a combination of per-pupil funding allocated through the local school's funding formula plus £6,000 per place for places occupied by pupils on roll in October in the previous year and £10,000 per place for the remainder of places agreed to be commissioned. Additional place-funding is allocated in real time where occupancy is exceeded, with an end of year reconciliation to ensure no overall overpayment of additional place-led funding for the actual total composite occupancy across	Agreed per-pupil top-up paid by the commissioning local authority. Allocated in 'real time' during the year. Changes for starters and leavers. Uses the Banded Model (see appendix 2). The top-up funding is allocated to and retained by the school.	Element 1 (based on the 16-19 national funding formula) plus Element 2 (£6,000) based on the number of places to be commissioned. Both Elements 1 and 2 are retained by the school.	Agreed per-pupil top-up paid by the commissioning local authority. Allocated in 'real time' during the year. Changes for starters and leavers. Uses the Banded Model (see appendix 2). The top-up funding is allocated to and retained by the school.	Small Setting Protection. 3% Cash Budget Protection. See appendix 3.	Former Teacher Pay and Teacher Pensions Grants

	the year. Both Elements 1 and 2 are retained by the school. Element 1 is set at a minimum of £4,000 per agreed place.					
Local Authority-led Sensory Need Resourced Provisions (mainstream primary & secondary). .	Elements 1 & 2 are allocated through a combination of per-pupil funding allocated through the local school's funding formula plus £6,000 per place for those occupied by pupils on roll in October in the previous year and £10,000 per place for the remainder of places agreed to be commissioned. The host school retains Element 1, set at a minimum of £4,000 per agreed place. Element 2 funding is retained by Bradford Council. This currently requires host schools to repay Element 2 back to the Council.	Agreed per-pupil top-up paid by the commissioning local authority. Allocated in 'real time' during the year. Changes for starters and leavers. Uses the Banded Model (see appendix 2). The top-up funding is retained by Bradford Council.	Element 1 (based on the 16-19 national funding formula) plus Element 2 (£6,000) based on the number of places to be commissioned. The host school retains Element 1. Element 2 funding is retained by Bradford Council. This currently requires host schools to repay Element 2 back to the Council.	Agreed per-pupil top-up paid by the commissioning local authority. Allocated in 'real time' during the year. Changes for starters and leavers. Uses the Banded Model (see appendix 2). The top-up funding is retained by Bradford Council.	Small Setting Protection. New Services Delegation. See appendix 3.	Former Teacher Pay and Teacher Pensions Grants

	Additional place-funding is allocated in real time where occupancy is exceeded, with an end of year reconciliation to ensure no overall overpayment of additional place-led funding for the actual total composite occupancy across the year.					
Local Authority-led Resourced Provisions SEMH (mainstream primary & secondary).	Element 1 is allocated through a combination of per-pupil funding allocated through the local school's funding formula plus £4,000 (or the higher MFL value) for places to agreed to be commissioned but not occupied by pupils on roll in October in the previous year. The host school retains Element 1, set at a minimum of £4,000 (or the higher MFL value) per agreed place. Element 2 funding is	Agreed per-pupil top-up paid by the commissioning local authority. Allocated in 'real time' during the year. Changes for starters and leavers. Uses the Banded Model (see appendix 2). The top-up funding is retained by Bradford Council.	Element 1 (based on the 16-19 national funding formula) plus Element 2 (£6,000) based on the number of places to be commissioned. The host school retains Element 1. Element 2 funding is retained by Bradford Council.	Agreed per-pupil top-up paid by the commissioning local authority. Allocated in 'real time' during the year. Changes for starters and leavers. Uses the Banded Model (see appendix 2). The top-up funding is retained by Bradford Council.	Small Setting Protection. New Services Delegation. See appendix 3.	Former Teacher Pay and Teacher Pensions Grants

	calculated at £6,000 per commissioned place and is retained by Bradford Council.					
Early Years Enhanced Specialist Provisions (maintained nursery schools)	Elements 1 & 2 are allocated through a combination of per-pupil funding allocated through the local EYSFF plus £6,000 per FTE commissioned place. Both Elements 1 and 2 are retained by the school. Additional Element 1 funding is paid using EYSFF rates for any FTE places not occupied in the EYSFF termly censuses. Additional place-funding is allocated in real time where occupancy is exceeded, with an end of year reconciliation to ensure no overall overpayment of additional place-led funding for the actual total composite	Agreed per-pupil top-up paid by the commissioning local authority. Allocated in 'real time' during the year. Changes for starters and leavers. Uses the Banded Model (see appendix 2). All EYESP places funded at a minimum Band 4L (assessment places). The top-up funding is allocated to and retained by the school.	n/a	n/a	Small Setting Protection. See appendix 3.	Former Teacher Pay and Teacher Pensions Grants

	occupancy across the year.					
Maintained Special Schools & Special School Academies	Elements 1 and 2 are combined in a fixed £10,000 per place, based on an agreed number of places to be commissioned. Additional place-funding is allocated in real time where occupancy is exceeded, with an end of year reconciliation to ensure no overall overpayment of additional place-led funding for the actual total composite occupancy across the year. Retained by the school.	Agreed per-pupil top-up paid by the commissioning local authority. Allocated in 'real time' during the year. Changes for starters and leavers. Uses the Banded Model (see appendix 2). The top-up funding is allocated to and retained by the school.	£10,000 per place based on an agreed number of places. Additional place-funding is allocated in real time where occupancy is exceeded, with an end of year reconciliation to ensure no overall overpayment of additional place-led funding for actual total composite occupancy across the year. Retained by the school.	Uses the Banded Model (see appendix 2).	Split Sites. Post 16 Element 1 enhancement. New Services Delegation. Small Setting Protection. 3% Cash Budget Protection. See appendix 3.	Former Teacher Pay and Teacher Pensions Grants
PRUs & AP Academies (funding provision for pupils permanently excluded).	Elements 1 and 2 are combined in a fixed £10,000 per place, based on an agreed number of places to be commissioned. Retained by the PRU / AP Academy. Additional place-	Agreed per-pupil top-up paid by the commissioning local authority. Allocated in 'real time' during the year. Changes for starters and leavers. Uses the Day Rate Model (see section 8)	n/a	n/a	No specific additional factors – setting-led need costs are to be covered within the calculation of the Day Rate.	Former Teacher Pay and Teacher Pensions Grants

	funding is allocated in real time where occupancy is exceeded, with an end of year reconciliation to ensure no overall overpayment of additional place-led funding for the actual total composite occupancy across the year.	The top-up funding is allocated to and retained by the PRU / AP Academy.				
Hospital Education, Tracks and Medical Home Tuition.	The funding of the centrally managed services operates outside the Place-Plus mechanism, working within the discrete allocation provided for this service within our HNB. This will be subject to annual review to incorporate any changes in the DfE's funding methodology and requirements.	n/a	n/a	n/a	None.	Former Teacher Pay and Teacher Pensions Grants
Further Education Institutions, special institutions and ILPs (post 16)	n/a	n/a	Element 1 (based on the 16-19 national funding formula) plus Element 2 (£6,000) based on the number of places to be funded.	Agreed per-pupil top-up paid by the commissioning local authority. Allocated in 'real time' during the year. Changes for	None.	None.

			Additional place-funding (element 2 only) can be allocated in year where occupancy exceeds agreed places, with an end of year reconciliation to ensure no overall overpayment. Both Elements 1 and 2 are retained by the institution.	starters and leavers. Uses the Banded Model (see appendix 2). Typically, values are funded at 60% for most placements (adjusted for the additional 40 hours). Higher cost placements (low incidence high need) are typically funded on an actual cost basis.		
Independent Schools	The place funding system doesn't operate in independent schools.	Agreed per-pupil top-up paid by the commissioning local authority.	The place funding system doesn't operate in independent schools.	Agreed per-pupil top-up paid by the commissioning local authority.	None.	Former Teacher Pensions Grant (for EHCPs)

Appendix 2

The EHCP Banded Model for Funding Pupil-Led Need Top-up 2023/24

Introduction

1.1 Top-up funding (also known as Element 3 or 'Plus' funding) is the funding required by an institution, over and above place funding, to enable a child or young person with high needs to participate in education and learning. Top-up funding is expected to reflect the cost of additional support an institution incurs related to the individual needs of the child or young person.

1.2 As with many authorities, Bradford allocates top-up funding using a band model. This model is used to assign Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) into bands of need for funding purposes. Each band has an applicable level of funding and every EHCP assigned to a band is allocated a set value of funding.

1.3 At April 2020, for the 2020/21 financial year, we introduced a new Banded Model. This model replaced our previous 'Ranges Model' and quite significantly uplifted the funding of EHCPs in all settings. This model includes protections, which have ensured, and will continue to ensure, that no EHCP in place on 1 April 2020 reduces in value as a result of funding model change. We substantially uplifted the values allocated by the Banded Model in 2021/22, and again in 2022/23, as set out in our consultation published this time last year.

1.4 A band system is more responsive to the needs of an individual child or young person than a blanket lump sum style approach but is not quite as sensitive as an approach where the cost of the needs of a child or young person is calculated on an exact basis. Blanket, band, and individually-costed systems all have pros and cons. The main positive features of band models, and of our Banded Model, are that these help promote consistency and transparency, reduce complication, support the quick assessment and release of funds, whilst also enabling the SEND Panel to find a 'close fit' for funding the needs of an individual child or young person with an EHCP.

1.5 In continuing to use our Banded Model in 2023/24, the Council's intention is still to retain a uniform framework for calculating top-up funding for EHCPs. The Council's expectation continues to be that this framework will enable a close fit to be found for the funding of the vast majority of EHCPs and will ensure consistency of approach in the funding of high needs across mainstream and specialist settings both pre and post 16. It is accepted that there will be a small number of children or young people that will sit outside this banded framework, most of whom will be placed in specialist independent provisions.

1.6 We are not proposing technical changes to our Banded Model in 2023/24. We do propose however, to uplift the rates of top-up funding that this model allocates. Please see section 6 for explanation of the uplifted values that are proposed. Below is a summary of how the Banded Model operates.

The Banded Model 2023/24

2.1 The Banded Model uses at its base the Bradford Matrix of Need, which outlines waves of intervention:

- Band 1 (Quality First Teaching)
- Band 2 (SEND Support)
- Band 3 (EHCP) – typically mainstream - this is the band at which Element 3 EHCP funding begins
- Band 4 (EHCP Plus) – typically specialist provision

This Matrix identifies the responsibilities of schools and providers in their use of already delegated funds in meeting the cost of support up to Band 3. It then identifies the point at which top-up funding will begin in our model, which is EHCP Band 3.

2.2 The Banded Model has 6 bands and 6 funding steps, with values for 1 April 2023 proposed as set out in the table below. This table shows the proposed value of top-up by band and the value of Element 2

contributions, which schools and providers will add to the top-up from their budgets to produce the total value of funding available for supporting the costs of an EHCP.

In all steps within the model the school / provider, with the exception of EHCPs for 2, 3 and 4 year olds (in pre-reception) in mainstream not specialist provision, is expected to contribute Element 2 funding, currently at a value of £6,000 per 1 FTE, to the cost of the additional needs set out in the EHCP. For EHCPs for 2, 3 and 4 year olds (in pre-reception) in mainstream not specialist provision, that are only funded through the Early Years Single Funding Formula (EYSFF), because the EYSFF does not allocate Element 2 funding, Element 2 is allocated on an FTE basis in addition to the top-up value for these EHCPs until these children enter reception year. This addition does not apply to early years children that are placed in special schools or in resourced provisions as these provisions are funded on a place-led basis, which includes Element 2.

	Proposed Indicative Top-up Value at April 2023	**Element 2 Value FTE the school / provider adds**	**Total Value of Funding to support the EHCP**
Band 3 Low (3L)	**£2,318**	£6,000	**£8,318**
Band 3 Medium (3M)	**£4,136**	£6,000	**£10,136**
Band 3 High (3H)	**£5,900**	£6,000	**£11,900**
Band 4 Low (4L)	**£9,411**	£6,000	**£15,411**
Band 4 Medium (4M)	**£13,524**	£6,000	**£19,524**
Band 4 High (4H)	**£17,678**	£6,000	**£23,678**
Protected 7	**£29,048**	£6,000	**£35,048**

The model is calculated on a provision-mapping approach. The additional educational needs of a child with an EHCP typically will be met through additional adult contact time. Typically, this will be delivered in a combination of individual time and time in smaller groups. The overall volume of time will increase as needs increase and the proportion of this time that is delivered on a more bespoke basis will also increase as needs increase. The values of the bands have been built up on assumptions about the proportion of additional support given to an EHCP, with this support split between bespoke time and time in smaller groups. This is a model for the SEND Panel to use to determine the volume and type of support required to then closely meet the needs of an individual EHCP.

2.3 Band 3 (EHCP) typically will support the cost of EHCPs placed in mainstream provisions. Band 4 (EHCP plus) typically will support the cost of EHCPs placed in specialist provisions. However, this is not an absolute position and the SEND Panel will use the model flexibly to closely meet need.

The Band 3 values are calculated on assumptions on additional 'support assistant' time (where bespoke means 1:1 and group time is in groups of 1:3). The cost per hour assumption within the indicative 2023/24 financial year model, on a term time only basis and incorporating assumptions about on-costs, is £16.95. This represents a 1.00% increase on the £16.78 that was used in the 2022/23 model.

The Band 4 values are calculated on assumptions on both support assistant time (where bespoke means 1:1 and group time is in groups of 1:2) and teacher time in group sizes of 1:12, 1:8 and 1:6. The cost per hour assumption for support assistant time within the indicative 2023/24 financial year model is £16.95 as in Band 3. The indicative cost per hour assumption for teacher time in the model is £49.42. This represents a 1.8% increase on the £48.56 that was used in the 2022/23 model.

2.4 Each EHCP will be funded at the band value that provides the closest fit for meeting the cost of the needs of the child or young person. In the model, the closest fit may also be found by combining ('stacking') more than one band value. The facility to combine values means that the SEND Panel can use the model in a flexible way to find a very close fit for the funding especially of children and young people with significant secondary needs as well as those that require additional functional support both within and outside of the standard taught school day where this is not already funded within a single band value.

2.5 It is helpful to continue to highlight the main differences between our current Banded Model and our previous Ranges Model that was used up to 31 March 2020:

- The Banded Model does not have a 7th step (the equivalent of the previous Range 7). It is expected that stacking will deliver a level of support higher than the single band 4H, where this is necessary. Specific transition arrangements are in place for Range 7 EHCPs that existed at 1 April 2020.

- The Panel can 'stack' values (meaning an EHCP can be allocated more than one value) in order to find a close fit.

- The Banded Model does not use primary need as a marker for the placement of an EHCP into a band. Placement is based on assessed level of need.

- Whereas the previous Ranges Model defined need in terms of 1:1 hours of support, the Banded Model uses a provision mapping approach and a combination of bespoke time and time in smaller groups.

- The values allocated by the Banded Model are significantly increased on those allocated by the Ranges Model. These increases are the result of two main adjustments between 2020 and 2023; a) refreshing the assumptions about the salaries of support assistants and teachers; b) allowing the top-up model to compensate for the fixed £6,000 Element 2. Please see section 6 for explanation of this.

- The Banded Model works alongside a clarified / amended approach to the sharing of the cost of specialist equipment.

2.6 To highlight how the Banded Model continues to be the same or similar to the previous Ranges Model:

- Decisions on the application of the Banded Model – which of the 6 bands an EHCP is placed in and whether an EHCP is given more than one band value - continue to be taken by Bradford Council's SEND Panel with reference to the evidence submitted through the EHCP assessment process. Appeals and disputes also continue to be resolved through the Panel process.

- In all steps within the model, the school / provider, with the exception of EHCPs for 2, 3 and 4 years olds (pre-reception) in mainstream not specialist provision, is expected to contribute Element 2 funding currently at a value of £6,000 to the cost of additional needs.

- The bottom 'threshold' for the 1st step of Band 3 (3 Low) is the same as the Ranges Model. The Banded Model itself has not changed the threshold at which EHCP funding can initiate nor has it changed the points of access to an EHCP. It simply has changed the options that are available to the SEND Panel to use to ensure that an EHCP is appropriately and accurately funded.

- For the top-up funding of post 16 high needs students with EHCPs in the Further Education sector, it has been agreed previously with the relevant providers that, as, on average, colleges deliver around 60% of the hours delivered by schools, colleges are funded for the vast majority of students at 60% of the Banded Model value for the primary need of the student. The exceptions are students with the primary need of sensory impairment (Hearing / Visual), where funding continues to be allocated on an actual cost basis. Due to the specific support needs of these students in Further Education, and the diverse nature of

their curriculum choices, it is not possible to formularise this funding element. This approach is continued in the application Banded Model in 2023/24, adjusted for funding, as appropriate, for the delivery of the additional 40 post-16 study hours, which is part of the 2022/23 post-16 financial settlement and part of the Government's COVID-19 pandemic support response.

- The 'technical framework' is the same for the operation of the Banded Model during the year e.g. the monthly re-calculation of EHCP funding from the census of EHCPs on roll on 10th of each month.

- An assessment place (which was Range 4D) has become Band 4L. This funds EHCPs placed in specialist provisions until a final determination of band from the Panel is received. Funding is changed at this point if this is different from 4L. Band 4L also continues to be used to more permanently fund placements in the Early Years ESPs that are attached to maintained nursery schools.

A reminder of the transition from the previous Ranges Model

3.1 It is helpful to remind providers of how we moved from the Ranges Model to the now established Banded Model and what protections continue to be in place. All EHCPs in place at 1 April 2020 were automatically transferred on to the new Banded Model system at 1 April 2020 as follows:

Range		Band
Range 4A	became	Band 3L
Range 4B	became	Band 3M
Range 4C	became	Band 3H
Range 4D	became	Band 4L
Range 5	became	Band 4M
Range 6	became	Band 4H
Range 7	became	Protected 7

3.2 Most existing EHCPs on an on-going basis will remain within the band they were transferred to. The SEND Panel will continue to review, through the annual review process, individual EHCPs where the banding may be disputed, where there are obvious existing inaccuracies or where the needs of the child or young person have changed.

3.3 The Banded Model operates under the guarantee that, for EHCPs in place at 1 April 2020, the EHCP will not ever drop to a lower valued band unless the SEND Panel agrees that the needs of the child or young person are reduced when compared against the needs presented to the Panel in the original EHCP determination. This guarantee remains until the pupil reaches the end of year 11. This guarantee does not extend to assessment places that were funded at 1 April 2020 (as these pupils did not yet have EHCPs).

3.4 The Banded Model retains a transitional 'Protected 7' band, which will continue to fund EHCPs that we graded at Range 7 under the old model. These Range 7 pupils will stay funded by the Protected 7 band unless an annual review gives them a higher level of funding using the new model (via stacking), when the pupil would be transferred onto the new model at this point, or where the pupil's needs are agreed to have reduced when compared against the needs presented to the Panel in the original EHCP Range 7 determination. This guarantee remains in place until the pupil reaches the end of year 11. The value of Protected 7 will be uplifted each year by the same % that is applied to Band 4H.

Appendix 3 – Technical Annex 2022/23 Approach

This appendix contains more technical detail on the definitions and calculations of factors that are contained within Bradford Council's CURRENT 2022/23 financial year EHCP high needs funding model.

Notional SEND Budgets (Mainstream Schools Block Primary & Secondary)

Local authorities are required to define for each primary and secondary school and academy the value of mainstream formula funding that is 'notionally' allocated for SEND (for meeting the first £6,000 of needs both for pupils with EHCPs and the needs of pupils without EHCPs). How Bradford currently defines notional SEND in the 2022/23 financial year (the %s of funding in each formula factor that make up this budget) is shown in the table below.

Formula Factor	% Primary	% Secondary
Prior Low Attainment	100%	100%
Free School Meals Factor	23.1%	10.2%
IDACI Factor	22.4%	19.2%
Base £APP	7.5%	6.3%

In addition, 6.0% of a mainstream school's or academy's allocation from the Early Years Single Funding Formula, for mainstream primary schools and academies that have early years entitlement provision, is also defined to be available for supporting SEND in early years.

Following the introduction of the Minimum Level of Per Pupil Funding Factor (MFLs) in the primary and secondary funding formula, some mainstream schools and academies now receive what can be determined to be Additional Educational Needs (AEN) pupil-led funding through the MFLs, rather than through the AEN formula factors, which are used to define published notional SEND budgets. For point of clarity therefore, although the Authority has not yet brought MFL funding into the definition of notional SEND, the Authority will consider MFL allocations within discussions that may be had with individual schools and academies about available delegated SEND monies.

Please see section 10, where the Authority proposes to amend the definition of notional SEND budgets for 2023/24.

SEND Funding Floor (Mainstream Primary & Secondary)

Please see section 11 for further discussion on the position of this factor for 2023/24. How the Floor works currently in 2022/23 is described below.

The SEND Funding Floor is aimed at ensuring that no mainstream primary or secondary school or academy will have to manage from their own mainstream delegated formula funding an above phase-average cost pressure in respect of their commitment to meet the cost of Element 2 £6,000 for their EHCPs. As well as supporting provision for pupils with EHCPs, this approach helps to protect the funding used by schools and academies to support their wider Additional Educational Needs, SEND and Alternative Provision activities. It directly financially supports schools and academies that have higher proportions of pupils with EHCPs, in support of inclusion, combining also to support schools and academies that may have lower levels of maintained Additional Education Needs formula funding (because they have e.g. lower levels of deprivation) but higher numbers of EHCPs and also that may be smaller in size. It supports schools and academies that may have some turbulence in formula funding as a result of in year pupil numbers changes.

The formula for 2022/23 is as follows:

The SEND Funding Floor is re-calculated on a monthly basis for changes in the numbers of Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) on roll.

Where A is greater than B a school / academy receives a top-up for the difference between A and B.

A = is the Full Time Equivalent (FTE) number of EHCPs in a school / academy (mainstream provision, excluding early years and post 16 students) multiplied by £6,000 (Element 2).

B = is the % of a school's Additional Educational Needs delegated formula funding that is required to be put to the Element 2 £6,000 cost of a school's EHCPs, before the SEND Funding Floor will provide additional financial support. There are 2 parts to the calculation, the % and what is meant by Additional Educational Needs delegated formula funding. Both these are fixed for the 2022/23 financial year, as follows

- The % is the phase median average % of Additional Educational Needs formula funding that schools / academies contribute to Element 2 £6,000 costs in respect of their EHCPs. The phase average is rounded plus 1%. Separate percentages are used for primary and for secondary phases. For 2022/23, these averages are set at 11% for the primary phase and 10% for the secondary phase.

- Additional Educational Needs delegated formula funding is calculated by taking the following funding factors within the delegated formula funding allocations received by mainstream schools / academies. For maintained schools, this is within their Section 251 Budget Statement funding. For academies, this is within their General Annual Grant (GAG) funding:

  100% of the English as an Additional Language factor
  100% of the Free School Meals factors
  100% of the Prior Attainment factor
  100% of the Minimum Funding Level factor
  100% of the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) factor
  80% of Minimum Funding Guarantee factor

Setting-Led Needs Factors – Maintained Special Schools & Special School Academies

- New Services Delegation – an additional amount per pupil to reflect that stand alone special schools and special school academies cannot access de-delegated and centrally managed services without charge – set at a flat £449.88 per pupil in 2022/23. So a setting with 100 pupils receives 100 x £449.88 = £44,988 funding.

- Small Setting Protection – an additional sum, for stand-alone settings with fewer than 75 places, to ensure a minimum level of funding for fixed costs. The formula is:

  A (75 x £10,000 x 20%)
  B (setting's place funding x 20%)
  = top-up to the value of A where B is less than A

  As all special schools and special school academies are now larger than 75, this is not a factor that is currently employed.

- Split Sites – an additional sum for special schools and special school academies that operate across split / satellite sites. The full year value of this lump sum is £226,740 in 2022/23.

- Post-16 Places – an additional sum per Post-16 place, to allocate an additional £1,200 per place. This ensures that special schools with post-16 places receive the nationally set DfE value of element 1 for post-16 pupils, which is £5,200 for the 2021/22 academic year. This has increased to £5,600 for the 2022/23 academic year. We propose to uplift this sum to £1,600 in our 2023/24 financial year formula.

- 3% Cash Budget Protection – an additional total cash budget safety net protection, which ensures that at no point during 2022/23 will the total 'Place Plus' calculated budget for an individual special school be more than 3% lower than the 2021/22 total level of funding. As most special schools are / have been increasing places, together with the uplifted Banded Model funding rates, this is not a factor that was needed in 2022/23, but will remain in place to ensure a safety net (in 2023/24, in places to protect the difference between 2023/24 and 2022/23 financial year allocations).

Setting-Led Needs Factors – School-Led Resourced Provisions Mainstream Primary & Secondary Schools and Academies

- Small Setting Protection – an additional sum for provisions with fewer than 24 FTE places, to ensure a minimum level of funding for fixed costs. The formula is:

  A (24 FTE x £10,000 x 20%)
  B (setting's place funding (where each place is worth £10,000) x 20%)
  = top-up to the value of A where B is less than A

- 3% Cash Budget Protection – as special schools above.

Setting-Led Needs Factors – Local Authority-Led Resourced Provisions Mainstream Primary & Secondary Schools and Academies (both Sensory and SEMH)

Please note that the Local Authority retains this top-up funding.

- Small Setting Protection – an additional sum for provisions with fewer than 24 FTE places, to ensure a minimum level of funding for fixed costs. The formula is:

  A (24 FTE x £10,000 x 20%)
  B (setting's place funding (where each place is worth £10,000) x 20%)
  = top-up to the value of A where B is less than A

- New Services Delegation – as special schools above. This is allocated because the Authority's centrally managed services do not access services and funds that are otherwise funded for school-led resourced provisions through de-delegation within the Schools Block.

Setting-Led Needs Factors – Early Years Enhanced Specialist Provisions

- Small Setting Protection – as School-Led Resourced Provisions above.

Appendix 4 - 2023/24 Draft Commissioned Places

Setting	Type (AP or SEND)	22/23 Initial Planned Budget AY Places (FTE)	23/24 FY Apr-Aug Current Planned Places (FTE)	23/24 AY Current Planned Places (FTE)
Bradford Alternative Provision Academy	AP	65.0	65.0	65.0
Park Aspire	AP	90.0	90.0	90.0
Other Alternative Provision	AP	10.0	10.0	10.0
Centrally Managed EinH, Tracks and Medical Home Tuition Service "notional" places	AP	49.0	49.0	49.0
Early Years Resourced Provision - Abbey Green Nursery School	SEND	6.0	6.0	6.0
Early Years Resourced Provision - Canterbury Nursery School and Children's Centre	SEND	16.8	16.8	16.8
Early Years Resourced Provision - Hirst Wood Nursery School	SEND	0.0	6.0	6.0
Early Years Resourced Provision - Midland Road Nursery School	SEND	6.0	6.0	6.0
Early Years Resourced Provision - St Edmund's Nursery School and Children's Centre	SEND	19.8	19.8	19.8
Early Years Resourced Provision - Strong Close Nursery School	SEND	18.0	18.0	18.0
Early Years Resourced Provision - Balance of places (flex inc. for 30 hours provision)	SEND	11.4	5.4	5.4
Resourced Provision LA Led - Girlington Primary School	SEND	20.0	20.0	20.0
Resourced Provision LA Led - Swain House Primary School	SEND	20.0	20.0	20.0
Resourced Provision LA Led - Grove House Primary School	SEND	12.0	12.0	12.0
Resourced Provision LA Led – Hanson School	SEND	48.0	48.0	48.0
Special – Beechcliffe School	SEND	248.0	248.0	248.0
Special – Chellow Heights School	SEND	250.8	250.8	250.8
Special – Co-op Academy Delius	SEND	171.0	171.0	171.0
Special – Beckfoot Hazelbeck Academy	SEND	144.0	144.0	144.0
Special – High Park School	SEND	130.0	130.0	130.0
Special – Beckfoot Phoenix Primary Special School	SEND	102.0	102.0	102.0
Special – Co-op Academy Southfield	SEND	360.0	360.0	360.0
Special – Oastler School	SEND	134.0	134.0	134.0
Resourced Provision School Led – Carrwood Primary School	SEND	12.0	12.0	12.0
Resourced Provision School Led – Denholme Primary School	SEND	8.0	8.0	8.0
Resourced Provision School Led – Green Lane Primary School	SEND	24.0	24.0	24.0
Resourced Provision School Led – High Crags Primary Academy	SEND	6.0	6.0	6.0
Resourced Provision School Led – Crossflatts Primary School	SEND	16.0	16.0	16.0
Resourced Provision School Led – Beckfoot Academy	SEND	6.0	6.0	6.0
Resourced Provision School Led – Oasis Academy (Lister Park)	SEND	16.0	16.0	16.0
Resourced Provision School Led – Co-op Academy Grange	SEND	24.0	24.0	24.0
Resourced Provision School Led – Parkside School	SEND	14.0	14.0	14.0
Resourced Provision School Led – The Holy Family Catholic School	SEND	20.0	20.0	20.0
Resourced Provision School Led – Beckfoot Thornton Academy	SEND	16.0	16.0	16.0
Resourced Provision School Led – Titus Salt School	SEND	30.0	30.0	30.0
Resourced Provision School Led – Bradford Academy	SEND	27.0	27.0	27.0
Resourced Provision School Led – Bradford Forster Academy	SEND	10.0	10.0	10.0
Resourced Provision School Led – Haworth Primary Academy	SEND	12.0	12.0	12.0
Resourced Provision School Led - Crossley Hall Primary School	SEND	24.0	24.0	24.0
Resourced Provision School Led - Long Lee Primary School	SEND	16.0	16.0	16.0
Resourced Provision School Led - Worth Valley Primary Academy	SEND	8.0	8.0	8.0
Resourced Provision School Led - Parkwood Primary Academy	SEND	12.0	12.0	12.0
Resourced Provision School Led - Cottingley Village Primary School	SEND	16.0	16.0	16.0
Resourced Provision School Led - Horton Park Primary Academy	SEND	12.0	12.0	12.0
Resourced Provision School Led - Ilkley Grammar School	SEND	20.0	20.0	24.0
Resourced Provision School Led - Holybrook Primary School	SEND	16.0	16.0	16.0
Resourced Provisions LA Led - Primary Phase	SEND	86.0	104.0	104.0
Resourced Provisions LA Led - Secondary Phase	SEND	50.0	68.0	68.0
Further Education - Bradford College (Subject to Further Review)	SEND	220.0	220.0	220.0
Further Education - Shipley College (Subject to Further Review)	SEND	148.0	148.0	148.0
Further Education - Aspire I (Subject to Further Review)	SEND	36.0	36.0	36.0
SEND - Additional Places Under Development (still to go through Statutory Process)	SEND	120.0	80.0	164.0
Grand Totals		**2,956.8**	**2,952.8**	**3,040.8**
Sub Totals SEND		***2,742.8***	***2,738.8***	***2,826.8***
Early Years Resourced Provision		*78.0*	*78.0*	*78.0*
Local Authority Led Resourced Provisions - Sensory		*100.0*	*100.0*	*100.0*
Maintained Special Schools and Special Academies		*1,539.8*	*1,539.8*	*1,539.8*
School Led Resourced Provisions		*365.0*	*365.0*	*369.0*
Local Authority Led Resourced Provisions		*136.0*	*172.0*	*172.0*
Further Education (Post 16)		*404.0*	*404.0*	*404.0*
Additional SEND Places not yet allocated		*120.0*	*80.0*	*164.0*
Sub Totals Alternative Provision		***214.0***	***214.0***	***214.0***
PRUs & Alternative Providers		*165.0*	*165.0*	*165.0*
Education in Hospital, Tracks (notional places)		*49.0*	*49.0*	*49.0*

Appendix 6 - RESPONSES FORM

Consultation on Funding High Needs Provision 2023/24

This form can be used to submit your response. However, this year we have introduced a web-based questionnaire, which we encourage you to use to submit your response, instead of using this paper form. Please access the web-based questionnaire here.

Name _____ Setting Name _____

THE DEADLINE FOR RESPONSES TO THIS CONSULTATION IS TUESDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2022

Please send completed questionnaire responses to:

School Funding Team
City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council
1st Floor, Britannia House,
Hall Ings
Bradford
BD1 1HX

Tel: 01274 433775
Email: dawn.haigh@bradford.gov.uk

Please complete the questionnaire by marking the appropriate boxes. There is a space below each question for you to record comments.

Question 1 – Do you agree with the approach that is proposed for uplifting the values of the EHCP Banded Model in 2023/24? If not, please can you explain why not.

Strongly Agree ☐ **On Balance Agree (some reservations)** ☐ **Strongly Disagree** ☐

If not, please provide further explanation here:

Question 2 – Do you have any comments (including technical comments) on the EHCP Banded Model you would like the Authority to consider for 2023/24?

Question 3 – Do you agree with the approach to setting-led need factors in 2023/24 that is proposed? If not, please can you explain why not.

Strongly Agree ☐ **On Balance Agree (some reservations)** ☐ **Strongly Disagree** ☐

If not, please provide further explanation here:

Question 4 – Do you have any comments (including technical comments) on the setting-led need factors you would like the Authority to consider for 2023/24?

Question 5 – Do you agree with the Day Rate mechanism that the Authority proposes to use to fund the PRU / Alternative Provision Academy in 2023/24? If not, please can you explain why not.

Strongly Agree ☐ **On Balance Agree (some reservations)** ☐ **Strongly Disagree** ☐

If not, please provide further explanation here:

Question 6 – Do you have any comments (including technical comments) on the proposed Day-Rate mechanism you would like the Authority to consider for 2023/24?

Question 7 – Do you agree with the methodology that the Authority proposes to use to allocate the Teacher Pay Grant and Teacher Pensions Grant in 2023/24? If not, please can you explain why not.

Strongly Agree ☐ **On Balance Agree (some reservations)** ☐ **Strongly Disagree** ☐

If not, please provide further explanation here:

Question 8 – Do you agree with proposal to adjust our definition of Notional SEND within mainstream primary and secondary formula funding? If not, please can you explain why not.

Strongly Agree ☐ **On Balance Agree (some reservations)** ☐ **Strongly Disagree** ☐

If not, please provide further explanation here:

Question 9 – Do you agree with the continuation of our SEND Funding Floor mechanism in 2023/24, as proposed? If not, please can you explain why not.

Strongly Agree ☐ **On Balance Agree (some reservations)** ☐ **Strongly Disagree** ☐

If not, please provide further explanation here:

Question 10 – Do you have any comments (including technical comments) on the SEND Funding Floor mechanism you would like the Authority to consider?

Question 11: Are there any changes that you would wish to see made to the funding models in 2023/24 that have not been proposed? Please give details.

Question 12 – Do you have any other comments on the funding models or on the proposals that you have not recorded elsewhere?