



Schools Forum

Date: Tuesday, 10 February, 2026

Time: 6.30 pm

Venue: Google Teams - Virtual Meeting

[Google Meet joining info](#)

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/egd-nhea-vko>

Or dial: (GB) +44 20 3937 4227 PIN: 510 115 802#

More phone numbers: <https://tel.meet/egd-nhea-vko?pin=5704569090283>

Enquiries: Matthew Stickley
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To all members of the School Forum:-

Member	Role
Academy Representation (A)	
Christian Hicks	Academy Secondary Headteacher
VACANCY	Academy Secondary Headteacher
Nathan Cole	Academy Secondary Headteacher
Ben Cloves	Academy Secondary Headteacher
Peter Naudi	Academy Secondary Headteacher
Phillip Hedger	Academy Primary Headteacher
Sharon Roberts	Academy Primary Headteacher
James Kearns	Academy Special School Headteacher
Aaron Tanner	Academy Primary Governor
Emma Bradshaw	Academy Pupil Referral Unit (shared)



Maintained School Representation (B)	
Jenny Sims	Chair; Maintained Primary School Governor
Robert Claxton	Maintained Primary School Headteacher
Emma Walford	Maintained Nursery School Headteacher
Debbie Gifford	Sutton Tuition and Reintegration Service (shared)

Other Representation (C)	
Vicki Bell	Early Years Provider
Jason Pemberton-Billing	14-19 Provider
Sue Smith	Sutton Teachers Committee
Andrew Theobald	Vice Chair; Archdiocese of Southwark; Maintained Secondary School Governor
VACANCY	Diocese of Southwark

Observers (D)	
Councillor Rob Beck	Vice Chair of the People Committee
Councillor Mike Dwyer	Opposition member of the People Committee



AGENDA

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declarations of interest which are made by members and officers of the Schools Forum which are not interests created by virtue of the role that member/officer holds.

Members

- Peter Naudi – Vice Chair of Limes Governing Body, Chair of Vulnerable Pupils Panel
- Sharon Roberts – Trustee of Cheam Academies Network Trust
- Jenny Sims – Non-Executive Director of Cognus LATC
- Andrew Theobald - Chair of Members of Cirrus Primary Academy Trust

Officers

- Kieran Holliday – Non-Executive Director of Cognus LATC

4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

To agree the minutes of the previous meeting held on 13 January 2026.

5. REVENUE REPORT AND DEDICATED SCHOOLS BUDGET 2026/27

Appendix B is **exempt from publication** and should not be shared

6. EARLY YEARS ENTITLEMENTS FUNDING FORMULA FOR 2026/27

7. CAPITAL REPORT

PRESENT:

1. Jenny Sims (Chair)
2. Andrew Theobald (Vice Chair)
3. Christian Hicks
4. Ben Cloves
5. Peter Naudi
6. James Kearns
7. Emma Bradshaw
8. Robert Claxton
9. Emma Walford
10. Debbie Gifford
11. Vicki Bell
12. Jason Pemberton-Billing
13. Sue Smith

1: Welcome and Introductions

The Chair, Jenny Sims, welcomed those present.

2: Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Nathan Cole, Sharon Roberts, Aaron Tanner, Councillor Mike Dwyer (observer),

Apologies were also received from Philip Hedger with Emma Dallimore attending as a substitute and from Robert Claxton for lateness.

3: Declarations of Interest

The Forum noted the standing declarations as set out on the agenda.

There were no further declarations of interest.

4: Minutes of the previous meeting

The Chair explained that the meeting of 2 December 2025 had been a briefing and that the slides were available on request by members of the Schools Forum.

RESOLVED: The minutes of the previous meeting held on 14 October 2025 as an accurate record be agreed.

5: DRAFT DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT (DSG) BUDGET 2026/27

The Strategic Finance Business Partner, Sutton Council introduced the report.

Officers explained that further detail and clarity about how the High Need Block deficit could be managed and supported would become available following the publication of the Schools White Paper on SEND.

The Forum discussed that a positive outcome from the current SEND Inspection could provide context that the Local Area had an understanding and good management of provision and associated budgets. The Forum noted that the outcome of the Inspection would not influence budget arrangements.

Officers explained that the use of public money in independent schools was monitored and accounted for via the Pupil Premium. Officers further confirmed that when preparing the budget information presented to the meeting, the discussions which took place at the December 2025 meeting of the Forum had been considered.

The Forum expressed thanks to the Strategic Finance Business Partner for the work in preparing the budget information in the agenda papers.

RESOLVED:

Budget and Block Transfer

1. Approve the Draft Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) budget 2026/27 (Appx A).
2. Approve the proposed method of calculation to transfer the previously agreed 0.5% block transfer from Schools Block to High Needs Block.

Central School Services Block (CSSB) - Historic Commitments

3. Approve the contribution to combined budgets Local Safeguarding Children's Partnership (LSCP) - £15k no change from 25/26 (Appx A).
4. Approve the Termination of Employment Costs and Prudential Borrowing Costs (Appx E).

Central School Services Block (CSSB) - Ongoing Functions

5. Approve the proposed funding for the Admissions Service - no change from 25/26 (Appx A).
6. Approve the costs of servicing of Schools Forum - no change from 25/26 (Appx A).
7. Approve funding for places in independent schools for non-SEN pupils - no change from 2025/26 (Appx A).
8. Approve the contribution to responsibilities that local authorities hold for all schools - (Central Provision) (Appx D).
9. Note the National Funding Formula (NFF) Schools Formula Funding Factors 2026/27 (Appx B).
10. Note the De-delegation Table for School Improvement 2026/27 (Appx C).

6: SEND HOURLY RATES

The Director Education, Integrated Support and Safer Communities introduced the report.

The Forum noted the changes to the hourly rates and recognised that their input had been considered by the Local Authority when setting the rates for 2026/27.

RESOLVED:

1. The 2.4% uplift in hourly rates for TAs proposed in the 2026/27 budget be noted.
2. The recommendations of the working group set out in the report and in relation to (i) revisions to the current funding model / banding Models (for further exploration), (ii) Potential changes to SEND processes to improve the current system set out on the report be noted.

7: EXCLUSIONS FUNDING

The Head of Inclusion (Cognus) introduced the report.

The Forum discussed that the use of creative interventions and inclusive options, including within mainstream settings, had led to the reported reduction in exclusions. Attention was drawn to the reduction in unplaced year 11 students. It was suggested that good partnership working between the mainstream, specialist settings and other partner agencies had also supported the reduction in exclusions. Discussion included that pupil needs still existed but these were being managed and supported differently in the Local Area; this resulted in the overall spend being similar to that at the previous level of exclusions. It was acknowledged that the use of interventions other than exclusion supported improved outcomes for students and was positive for their adult life.

RESOLVED:

1. That the exclusions funding pot will have reduced at the end of 25/26 and that the current level of commitment cannot be funded from exclusions funding alone for 2026/27 due to the reduction of exclusions in the local area in recent years be noted.
2. That the Local Authority (LA) intends on funding the inclusion coordinator and IYJS schools team contribution from exclusions funding and the paving the way coordinator role from the High Needs Block in 2026/27 be noted.
3. That although additional income will be forthcoming in 2026/27, that a longer term financial solution will be required to continue to support exclusions prevention work in the local area for the future be noted
4. That the actions outlined above will enable the three services identified above to remain in place for the financial year 2026/27 and for a review to take place to consider how exclusions support in the local area might be put on a more sustainable financial footing moving forward be noted.

8: PAVING THE WAY BEHAVIOUR SPECIALIST FUNDING

The Head of Inclusion (Cognus) introduced the report.

The report was presented for the Forum's information. The Forum noted that the Paving the Way programme aimed to support pupils in the primary years and was a preventive programme.

The Schools Forum noted the report.

9: EARLY YEARS ENTITLEMENTS FUNDING FORMULA FOR 2025/26

The Director Education, Integrated Support and Safer Communities introduced the report.

Forum noted the funding rates allocated to Local Authorities, before any local funding formula is applied and including the 3% that Local Authorities are allowed to retain.

Schools Forum noted the intention by the Local Authority to set the pass through rates to the *current* funding formula as detailed in the report and to consult with the sector on that basis.

Officers agreed to confirm figures in table 3.2 relating to two year olds following the meeting.

RESOLVED: That officers consult on changes to the funding arrangements as set out in table 2 of the report in paragraph 3.2.

10: CAPITAL REPORT

The Director Education, Integrated Support and Safer Communities introduced the report.

Officers explained that the School Organisation Plan Steering Group had been established and was due to meet on 14 January 2026, and the membership of the group was provided to the Forum. It was noted that membership was from across the sector with a geographical spread.

The role of the Local Authority related to falling rolls was discussed, noting that the published admission number (PAN) of some schools had reduced.

The Chair proposed that recommendation 2.2 be amended to read 'to note that the School Organisation Plan Steering Group will report into the Schools Forum to provide recommendations on managing falling rolls within Primary Schools'. This was seconded by the Vice Chair, put to the Forum, and agreed.

RESOLVED:

1. The summary of developments against the primary, secondary and special expansion programmes be noted.
2. To note that the School Organisation Plan Steering Group will report into the Schools Forum to provide recommendations on managing falling rolls within Primary Schools

The meeting ended at 19:43.

Report Title	Revenue Report
Meeting	Schools Forum
Date	10 February 2026
Chair	Jenny Sims
Report Author(s)	Selam Baire, Strategic Finance Business Partner, Sutton Council
Open/Exempt	Open, with the exception of Appendix B, which is exempt by virtue of paragraph 3, Schedule 12A, of the Local Government Act 1972

1 Summary

1.1 This report provides details of the 2025/26 Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Forecast as at Month 10 and the Draft Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) budget 2026/27.

2 Recommendations

2.1 To note the latest 2025/26 Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Forecast as at Month 10 and the Draft Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Budget 2026/27 V2, the Schools Block budget was changed to correct the Secondary Growth Value (£456.5K (V2) vs £322.6K (V1)).

2.2 To note the comparison of School Delegated Budgets 26/27 and 25/26 (Appendix B - Exempt).

3 DSG Budget 2025/26

3.1 Appendix A included the latest 2025/26 DSG forecast as at the end of January (Month 10).

4 DSG Budget 2026/27

4.1 The only change in the 2026/27 DSG budget since it was presented at the Schools Forum on 13th January 2026 is the correction of the Secondary Growth value, to cover the growth element in Appendix F of that meeting.

4.2 The Authority Proforma Tool (APT) Template will be approved by the DfE after we have received ratification at the Strategy and Resources (S&R) Committee on the 16th February 2026, we do not expect any changes to the Schools Block allocations, but will confirm once we receive approval.

4.3 Appendix B (EXEMPT) is a summary of the Individual School Budgets for 2026/27 with a comparison to the 2025/26 allocations.

4.4 Individual Schools Block (ISB) Allocation Statements will be sent to Local Authority Maintained Schools (mainstream) by the deadline of 28th February 2026.

5 Financial Implications

5.1 Since 2018/19 the schools block funding for each local authority has been set by calculating notional allocations for each school according to the National Funding Formula (NFF) and these have then been aggregated and used to calculate a total allocation for each local authority. Actual individual school budgets for 2026/27 will continue to be determined by local formulae in consultation with the Schools Forum. Local formulae can be different from the notional allocations.

6 Influence on the Council's Corporate Core Values and Objectives

6.1 One of the council's core values is partnership working. Setting the budget for the Dedicated Schools Grant, and considering related issues, is an important part of the budget process that fully involves schools as partners and particularly recognises the important role of the Schools Forum.

7 Appendices

Appendix Letter	Appendix Title
A	Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) 2025/26 Forecast as at Month 10 and Draft Budget 2025/26 V2
B	Delegated Schools Funding Comparison 2026/27 vs. 2025/26 (Exempt)

Appendix A - Draft DSG Budget 2026-27 V2

Description	25/26 Latest Budget £	25/26 Forecast £	25/26 Forecast Variance £	26/27 DSG Allocation £	26/27 High Needs Block No Growth Draft Budget Based on 25/26 Forecast Outturn £	26/27 High Needs Block No Growth Variance £	26/27 High Needs Block Growth Draft Budget £	26/27 High Needs Block Growth Variance £	26/27 High Needs Block Adjusted Draft Balanced Budget £	Commentary
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Appendix A - Draft DSG Budget 2026-27 V2

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Schools Block										
Primary Maintained Funding	38,721,324	38,721,324	0		38,266,618		38,266,618		38,266,618	Core funding for maintained primary schools (NFF)
Secondary Maintained Funding	15,392,100	15,392,100	0		16,045,678		16,045,678		16,045,678	Core funding for maintained secondary schools (NFF)
De-delegation	(48,524)	(48,524)	0		(46,607)		(46,607)		(46,607)	Funding for Schools Improvement/Monitoring
Secondary Growth	868,500	476,100	(392,400)		456,514		456,514		456,514	Growth funding relating to secondary schools and unplaced year 11
Total - Schools Block	54,933,400	54,541,000	(392,400)	54,722,203	54,722,203	0	54,722,203	0	54,722,203	DSG Allocation £55.94m less £1.17m to HNB

Central School Services Block										
Historic Commitments										
Contribution to combined budgets	15,000	15,000	0		15,000		15,000		15,000	Funding to social care - LSCP
Early Retirement Costs (pensions)	410,300	497,735	87,435		519,500		519,500		329,349	Costs of school staff that retired early (historical)
Depreciation of non current assets	218,200	218,200	0		218,200		218,200		218,200	Borrowing re: Opportunity Bases in 2012
Ongoing Functions										
Admissions Services	393,800	393,800	0		393,800		393,800		393,800	Costs of the schools admission service (Cognus)
Schools Forum Costs	16,000	16,000	0		16,000		16,000		16,000	Costs of Schools Forum including meetings, staffing support etc...
Independent School Fees (non SEN)	150,000	150,000	0		150,000		150,000		150,000	Contributions to fees for LAC pupils attending independent schools
Copyright Licenses	272,000	272,000	0		272,000		272,000		272,000	Fees set by Copyright Licensing Authority for all schools (paid centrally)
DSG Contribution to LBS Central Provision	619,200	632,100	12,900		619,200		619,200		619,200	Contribution from the DSG to support central provision in the LA
Total - CSSB	2,094,500	2,194,835	100,335	2,013,549	2,203,700	190,151	2,203,700	190,151	2,013,549	Requested reinstatement of 20% deduction to cover historic commitments - if approved, additional £101,800

High Needs										
Early Years - Place	191,000	191,000	0		191,000		191,000	0	191,000	Lump sum paid to Thomas Wall for Dragonflies base
Early Years - Top Up	275,000	250,000	(25,000)		250,000		275,481	25,481	275,481	Top up for individual pupils in EY settings
Portage Service	252,800	257,823	5,023		257,823		265,558	7,735	265,558	Playwise Service (a CIC) who provide portage (home-visiting educational services) for pre-school children with SEND and their families.
Autism Parenting Support Officer	37,500	37,500	0		37,500		37,500	0	37,500	
Primary mainstream	4,211,100	5,006,849	795,749		5,006,849		5,577,600	570,751	4,019,117	Top up for individual pupils (legacy) and additional support contracts

Appendix A - Draft DSG Budget 2026-27 V2

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	25/26 Latest Budget £	25/26 Forecast £	25/26 Forecast Variance £		26/27 High Needs Block No Growth Draft Budget Based on 25/26 Forecast Outturn £	26/27 High Needs Block No Growth Variance £	26/27 High Needs Block Growth Draft Budget £	26/27 High Needs Block Growth Variance £	26/27 High Needs Block Adjusted Draft Balanced Budget £	
Primary Bases Maintained - Place	596,000	596,000	0		596,000		596,000	0	596,000	Place funding for maintained opportunity bases
Primary Base - All Schools	3,351,300	5,330,592	1,979,292		5,330,592		5,780,811	450,219	4,165,547	Additional Place and top up funding for maintained and academy opportunity bases
Primary - OLA	555,400	771,541	216,141		771,541		932,624	161,083	672,032	Top-up funding for Sutton pupils in OLA schools
Secondary Mainstream	1,662,800	2,175,140	512,340		2,175,140		2,567,936	392,796	1,850,408	Top up for individual pupils (legacy) and additional support contracts
Secondary Bases - Place and Top Up	1,179,000	1,106,160	(72,840)		1,106,160		1,269,329	163,169	1,269,329	Additional Place and top up funding for maintained and academy opportunity bases
Secondary - OLA	343,200	353,680	10,480		353,680		474,971	121,291	474,971	Top-up funding for Sutton pupils in OLA schools
Special Schools - Maintained - (Sherwood) Place	2,101,700	2,101,712	12		2,101,712		2,341,712	240,000	2,341,712	Place and pay and pension grant funding
Special Schools - Maintained - (Sherwood) Top Up	5,886,500	6,282,403	395,903		6,282,403		7,463,960	1,181,557	7,463,960	Top up and top up individual funding
Special Schools - Academies - Pension	398,300	398,300	0		398,300		398,300	0	398,300	Pay and pension grant funding
Special Schools - Academies	5,764,100	7,596,707	1,832,607		7,596,707		7,922,975	326,268	5,709,151	Top up, top up individual and place extra funding
Special Schools - OLA	2,551,100	3,359,989	808,889		3,359,989		3,665,623	305,634	2,641,381	Top-up funding for Sutton pupils in OLA schools
Non maintained Independent Provision	8,758,200	13,339,202	4,581,002		13,339,202		14,765,703	1,426,501	10,639,896	Non maintained or independent fees - including specialist and AP provision and tuition
Independent Tutoring Fees	1,714,100	1,525,000	(189,100)		1,525,000		1,485,077	(39,923)	1,485,077	Fees paid for Independent Tutoring Services
Alternative Provision - (Limes) Place	1,898,100	1,898,112	12		1,898,112		2,100,000	201,888	2,100,000	Place, top up, year 11 and pay and pension grant funding
Alternative Provision - (Limes) Individual	854,000	854,000	0		854,000		927,555	73,555	927,555	Top up individual and place extra funding
Alternative Provision - (STARS) Place	1,283,800	1,283,800	0		1,283,800		1,283,800	0	1,283,800	Place, top up and pay and pension grant funding
Alternative Provision - (STARS) Individual	92,600	92,600	0		92,600		126,872	34,272	126,872	Top up individual funding
Hospital Provision - (STARS)	281,500	281,500	0		281,500		281,500	0	281,500	Lump sum paid to STARS for children educated in hospital
Schools Team (TYS)	110,000	110,000	0		110,000		110,000	0	110,000	Contribution to Targeted Youth Services to support preventative work
Mainstream College	1,479,200	1,746,788	267,588		1,746,788		1,727,059	(19,729)	1,244,487	Placement costs related to mainstream college placements for pupils with an EHCP
Specialist College	2,723,000	2,838,947	115,947		2,838,947		3,400,994	562,047	2,450,694	Placement costs related to specialist college placements for pupils with an EHCP
Therapies (Cognus)	4,224,500	4,624,500	400,000		4,624,500		4,763,235	138,735	3,432,300	Therapies provided to individual pupils (mainstream/base/special schools) by Cognus - 3% uplift
Therapies (Non-Cognus)	268,500	287,371	18,871		287,371		301,600	14,229	301,600	Therapies provided to individual pupils (mainstream/base/special schools) by other suppliers
SEN Travel Assistance	640,000	640,000	0		640,000		640,000	0	640,000	Contribution to SEN transport including travel training
Graduated Response Funding (Clusters /SSAP)	429,800	448,300	18,500		448,300		512,710	64,410	512,710	SSAP Funding, SENCO Cluster Lead Salaries, provision of mapping software
Other Expenses	85,000	88,151	3,151		88,151		90,800	2,649	90,800	e.g. costs of equipment, interpreting costs etc...
Cognus Ltd - High Needs Services	2,066,600	2,463,815	397,215		2,463,815		2,230,866	(232,949)	2,230,866	Commissioning Agreement - HN consultancy services
Total - High Needs Block	56,265,700	68,337,482	12,071,782	60,229,603	68,337,482	8,107,879	74,509,151	6,171,669	60,229,603	DSG Allocation £59.1m plus £1.16m from SB

Appendix A - Draft DSG Budget 2026-27 V2

Report Title	Early Years Entitlements Funding Formula for 2026/27
Meeting	Schools Forum
Meeting Date	10 February 2026
Chair	Jenny Sims
Report Author(s)	Laura Devereux, Head of Early Intervention Service
Open/Exempt	Open

1 Summary

- 1.1 This report outlines the findings from the consultation (which was agreed at the previous Schools Forum in January) with providers and sets out the proposed new funding rates for all providers for 26/27.
- 1.2 The consultation showed that 68% of providers agreed with the proposal to not change the local funding formula for 26/27.
- 1.3 The DfE have mandated that Local Authorities must pass through 97% of the funding for all entitlements this year.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 To agree to the funding formula for providers for 26/27.
- 2.2 To agree the budget/spend for the 26/27 centrally retained funding.

3 Background

- 3.1 The Government has announced that a national consultation will take place in the summer term, on this basis, the LA proposed to early years providers to not make any changes to the funding formula in anticipation that national changes may come into force in 2027-28.
- 3.2 Providers were asked if they agreed with the proposal to not change the local funding formula. The consultation was sent to all EY providers. Of the 270 Providers in the Borough 99 (37%) responded to the consultation.

Type of provision	Number of responses
Childminder - Ofsted registered	65
Childminder - Agency registered	3
Pre-school	12
Day Nursery	14
Nursery Class in School	5
Maintained Nursery School	0

3.3 68% of providers were in favour of keeping Sutton's local funding formula the same for 2026-27. The main reason given by the 32% who were not in favour was that the rate of the 3 and 4 year olds funding is lower than their hourly rates that they charge for non-funded children/additional hours. This is noted but the allocation is set by central government and it is not possible to amend this locally.

3.4 Based on the response the Council considers it reasonable to proceed with the funding option as set out below from 26/27:

	26-27 funding rates
Under 2's base rate	£13.19
2 year old base rate	£9.61
3 & 4 base rate	£6.67
Quality Supplement (3&4 only)	£0.27
Deprivation supplement	£0.21
Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP)	£1.15
MNS rate (applied to the first 15 hours)	£6.33

3.5 As part of this the Council will see a decrease in the funding that they retain centrally in 2026/27 due to the 1% increase in the pass through and the 0% increase in the local authority funding rate for under 2's. As such there will be a reduction in the central funding the LA retains for 26-27 of £126,260.43 (10.54%) compared to 25-26.

3.6 The council will absorb this decrease in the central funding because of existing capacity within the budget and do not expect this to impact service delivery although it may restrict any expansion of further support services.

Expenditure	26-27	Difference
LBS Staffing	£239,886	8% decrease
Cognus	£622,714	3% increase
Targeted Funding	£300,000	33% decrease*

* The decrease in Targeted funding will be offset by an increase in the SEND Inclusion Fund Budget which is passed through to providers. This budget has increased due to the expansion of funding for children from 9 months old.

The Council will continue to monitor the uptake of funded places and increase support to the sector to increase funded places, ensuring we can meet the statutory duty to provide adequate numbers of childcare places.

4 Influence on the Council's Corporate Core Values and Objective

- 4.1 One of the core values is partnership working. Setting the budget for the Dedicated Schools Grant, and considering related issues, is an important part of the budget process that fully involves schools as partners and particularly recognises the important role of the Schools' Forum.

Report Title	Capital Report
Meeting	Schools Forum
Meeting Date	10 February 2026
Chair	Jenny Sims
Report Author(s)	Jack Cutler, Head of Pupil Based Commissioning
Open/Exempt	Open

1. Summary

1.1. This report provides an update on capital funding and further information on pupil place planning and any capital implications arising.

2. Recommendations

2.1. To note the summary of developments against the primary, secondary and special expansion programmes.

Maintained school members only to vote:

2.2. To agree the capital maintenance programme for 2026/27 as set out in Appendix A.

3. Background and Key Information

Basic Need Capital

3.1. The overall expansion programme costs (below) have been adjusted to reflect the latest position but remain similar to those last reported to Schools Forum in January.

	Previous estimate (Dec '25) £m	Current estimate (Jan '26) £m
Primary expansions	81.1	81.1
Secondary expansions	100.6	100.8
SEN expansions	25.1	25.5

Capital Maintenance Programme

25/26 programme

3.2. The agreed programme value was £1,010,000. Considering the negative balance brought forwards from 24/25, the contingency for emergency winter works was -£2.8k. The current value of agreed emergency works is £46.4k, resulting in a current carry forward shortfall to the 26/27 programme of £49.2k.

2026/27 programme

3.3. The application process opened 13 October 2025, where LA maintained schools were invited to submit applications for capital investment covering school conditions works. The value of grant funding is estimated at £1.17m, with a current estimated balance of negative £49k (i.e. a shortfall of £49k) brought forward from 25/26, resulting in an available budget of approximately £1.13m. Applications received totalled £1.7m in value and so projects have been prioritised accordingly. Some projects have been allocated match funding only, while others will be reconsidered for the 27/28 or later capital maintenance programmes.

3.4. The Asset Management Plan Steering Group convened on 5 February 2026 and agreed the programme of works, set out in Appendix A.

3.5. The value of the programme of works agreed totals a maximum of £1.14m, which leaves no contingency for emergency winter works (current shortfall of £10k anticipated). Further work is being undertaken with schools that submitted successful projects to value engineer costs, with the intention to release a contingency to fund emergency winter works.

Place Planning - Secondary Programme

3.6. For September 2026 the following additional bulge class places have been agreed:

- Carshalton Boys - 30 places
- Carshalton Girls - 30 places
- Oaks Park High School - 50 places

Total: 160 places

The following remain available if needed:

- Cheam High - 20 places
- Overton Grange - 30 places

3.7. Note, there have been no significant developments to report against the Primary, or SEND place planning programmes since the January Schools Forum update.

4. Implications

- 4.1. The Council's capital budgets have been updated to reflect committed expenditure.

5. Appendices

Appendix Letter	Appendix Title
A	Capital Maintenance programme 2026/27

Appendix A - Capital Maintenance programme 2026/27

		Total BN	£196,986
		Total SCA	£1,144,844
School Name	Project Description	Decision	Grant amount
The Federation of Thomas Nursery and Robin Hood Infant School	Creating a Year-Round Safe and Sustainable Learning Environment for Pupils and Vulnerable Pupils for both schools maximising reach and impact We want to transform an existing outdoor intervention space into a climate-controlled, All year-round learning environment.	Match Funding	£18,250
The Federation of Thomas Wall Nursery and Robin Hood Infant School	The Federation needs professional survey of our federation heating system. We have no plans or drawings of our system and over the years there has been additions that we have no knowledge of. Our current heating infrastructure is ageing and increasingly unreliable, raising concerns about pupil and staff welfare, energy efficiency, and our environmental impact.	Agree	£11,100
The Federation of Thomas Wall Nursery and Robin Hood Infant School	Fire System needs upgrading	Agree	£39,850
The Federation of Thomas Wall Nursery and Robin Hood Infant School	Upgrade Access Control	Agree	£16,650
The Federation of Thomas Wall and Robin Hood Infants	This is an emergency, we are unable to close the gate which is now left open which is causing a huge Health and safety ,security and safeguarding issue	Agree - LA to ask school if costs can be reduced.	£8,515

		Total BN	£196,986
		Total SCA	£1,144,844
School Name	Project Description	Decision	Grant amount
Devonshire Primary School	The schools external lighting is outdated and we can no longer obtain replacement bulbs. Many of the lights no longer work and some are placed in areas where they are difficult to access. This makes access around the school in the darker evenings difficult and reduces the security of the site. We would like to replace the existing lights with LED lights, giving a long term cost saving.	Agree - LA to explore possible sustainable grant funding for this	£6,000
Devonshire Primary School	This project ensures the security of the site.	Agree	£30,000
High View Primary	Recent renovation work on the cabin's toilets revealed that every board around the kitchen is heavily affected by mould, creating an urgent problem that cannot be ignored. The amount of mould poses a health risk.	Agree funding to demolish if needed, no to funding refurbishment .	£10,000
High View Primary School	The increasingly hot summers mean that a number of classrooms become unbearably hot in the summer months and significantly impacts the children's learning and concentration, along with the staff well being.	No to this project, but school to look at other ways of controlling temperature, such as new windows, solar film etc.	£0
High View Primary School	The staff ladies toilets were last refurbished over 15 years ago and are in desperate need of replacement. The floor covering has come away from the walls and peeling off the floor. The room looks very tired and well used.	Agree full funding, subject to condition survey, showing H&S concerns, otherwise if not present, match fund.	£30,000

		Total BN	£196,986
		Total SCA	£1,144,844
School Name	Project Description	Decision	Grant amount
Devonshire Primary School	The toilets are in poor condition and repairs are difficult due to rotting wood and black mould forming in the chipboard which is difficult to remove.	Agree full funding, subject to condition survey, showing H&S concerns, otherwise if not present, match fund.	£70,000
Devonshire Primary School	The cubicles on these toilets are damaged and now difficult to repair. The doors are fitted with plastic hinges which break and are difficult to replace.	Agree full funding, subject to condition survey, showing H&S concerns, otherwise if not present, match fund.	£43,000
Muschamp Primary School	The air intake system for the school kitchen is very old and now not able to do its job effectively. This system should be drawing in fresh air and expelling stale, humid or contaminated air from the same space to ensure proper ventilation. It has been leaking into the school kitchen for the past year and we have had various companies here to fix it who have been unable to.	Agree	£13,000
Muschamp Primary School	We are seeking grant funding to replace aging and inefficient windows in the school sports hall. The existing windows are beyond their service life (over 25 years old) and contribute to excessive heat loss, poor thermal comfort, and increased operational costs. This project will install high-performance, energy-efficient windows.	Agree	£25,000

		Total BN	£196,986
		Total SCA	£1,144,844
School Name	Project Description	Decision	Grant amount
Muschamp Primary School	We propose to remove and replace existing windows in the school dining hall at Muschamp. The goal of this project is to improve thermal performance, hygiene, safety, and comfort in a high-occupancy food-service environment while ensuring compliance with health and safety standards. The existing windows are beyond their service life (over 25 years old).	Agree	£28,500
Muschamp Primary School	We propose to replace existing classroom toilet fixtures at Muschamp in 5 classes that currently serve Nursery, Reception x 2 and Year 1 x 2. This is to improve sanitation, water efficiency, reliability, and student health. The project will modernize aging plumbing fixtures while ensuring compliance with current health, accessibility, and building code requirements.	Agree full funding, subject to condition survey, showing H&S concerns, otherwise if not present, match fund.	£136,450
Beddington Infants School	The delivery of Learning Naturally has been hampered by extreme weather conditions (heavy rainfall, snow and extreme heat). The canopy will alleviate this allowing pupils continued access to outdoor space during the school day.	No to funding. potentially match funding if sufficient funds available, but prioritise to bottom of the programme.	£0
Muschamp Primary School	We would like to remove the canopy that sits outside the Year 5 classrooms, complete the repairs need to the roof (which is inaccessible currently), fit eave trays and then refix the canopy along with new coverings. This has caused damage to three classrooms due to water leaking in and damaging ceilings, walls and floorings.	Agree	£16,185

		Total BN	£196,986
		Total SCA	£1,144,844
School Name	Project Description	Decision	Grant amount
Beddington Infants School	Health & Safety tripping hazard as shown in the attached photos. The main paths into the school from Croydon Road and Bond Gardens has numerous pot holes and are uneven and the surface loosened in many areas. This is used by parents and pupils on a daily basis when they drop and collect their children.	Agree	£20,807
Dorchester Primary School	Without these works being undertaken the building will continue to age prematurely. We have evidence of rust on structural steel beams which are presently just within tolerance, even though they should not be showing signs of any rust at only 14 years old. The sub-floor area will continue to degrade due to water ingress.	Agree - fund from basic need.	£196,986 from Basic Need
Stanley Park Junior School	I can share the condition survey report via email	DFC to fund	£0
Robin Hood Junior	Boiler, heating plumbing, and radiator replacement. Current boilers are over 25 years old – current models are Remhia Gas 210 eco are no longer manufactured. Single pipe system is approx. 40+ years old coupled with old cast radiators in classrooms being in poor condition and some with No TRV Heads.	Agreed - look at phasing possibility of works	£190,000
High View Primary	There is a health and safety issue as there is no hygienic area for preparing food to meet the current EYFS standards. Toilets and changing area is outdated and does not provide sufficient privacy areas for changing children. The school operates extended 30 hours provision and the needs of the children mean that they need more support with nappy etc changing.	Agree full funding, subject to condition survey, showing H&S concerns, otherwise if not present, match fund.	£42,000

		Total BN	£196,986
		Total SCA	£1,144,844
School Name	Project Description	Decision	Grant amount
Beddington Infants School	The fencing at the back of the school are of wooden construction and separate the neighbours gardens from the school playground. The fencing is the school's responsibility. The fencing is deteriorating in some areas and in particular in one of the gardens there is a dangerous dog that is attracted by the children when at play and could break through into the school playground.	Agree	£21,945
Dorchester Primary	All items detailed in the further info section (below) are either critically urgent (to avoid school closure) such as the kitchen freezer repair, or are items that if left will create significant health and safety risk and/or security risk.	Some bits	£6,000
High View Primary	The current fire alarm system is no longer fit for purpose and has a lifetime left of one year	Agree - subject to demonstration of value for money being sought	£49,000
High View Primary	TO redevelop the existing early years outdoor learning area as the current provision is old and not meeting the current requirements of the early years holistic based play curriculum	Explore other ways of funding. Match - funding shade elements.	£20,000
Foresters Primary school	The toilets across the school continually leak and get blocked. This means we have to close them until they are fixed. The toilets are very old and pose a health and safety risk as they are unsanitary. The toilets are original to the school and are very closed off, meaning that it is difficult for staff to monitor and supervise the area. We have a lot of behaviour incidents as a result.	Agree full funding, subject to condition survey, showing H&S concerns, otherwise if not present, match fund.	£193,867

		Total BN	£196,986
		Total SCA	£1,144,844
School Name	Project Description	Decision	Grant amount
Robin Hood Junior School	<p>Benefit of new fencing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced fundamental Safeguarding Obligations as outlined in KCSIE • Effective Lockdown responsibilities • Compliance with Martyn's Law • Peace of mind for parents and staff 	Agree	£45,000
Foresters Primary school	<p>The pedestrian gate is released by office staff but needs to be pushed to open. WE have some parents with disabilities and they cannot enter the school independently. The gate does not always close completely because it does not always return to its closed position without force. We are concerned that this is a significant site security risk.</p> <p>We have had ongoing drainage problems for a number of years and this has resulted in three significant school floods that have meant the school has had to close, and classes have had to be relocated, causing disruption to classes including our base classes where we have children with complex needs. This work would entail digging out the old pipes which are too narrow and collapsed. New pipes would be installed. This would protect the school from future flooding.</p> <p>The school kitchen fridge is broken. We need a new one so that food can be stored correctly and the kitchen can run efficiently in order to provide food for our children.</p>	gate repairs agreed if above de minimis	£4,000

		Total BN	£196,986
		Total SCA	£1,144,844
School Name	Project Description	Decision	Grant amount
Beddington Infants Scjhool	<p>There are 3 sets of toilets (one located within each classroom) in our Reception Block that have deteriorated both in terms of leaking toilets (smells spread into the classrooms), sinks and taps that require constant attention (many beyond repair) and flooring which is lifting (requires replacing) causing health and safety hazards. The toilets open directly into the classroom.</p>	Agree full funding, subject to condition survey, showing H&S concerns, otherwise if not present, match fund.	£32,725
Beddington Infants School	<p>The Hall is a multi function heavily used space within the main school building. It is used for assemblies, PE, Performances, eating during the lunch period, open evenings for parents, breakfast club and after school clubs. The whole space is now in need of total refurbishment (new flooring, ceilings, curtains, repairs and redecoration). The flooring is not non slip and when wet discolours.</p>	Fund H&S works following LBS H&S to visit, other elements match fund.	£15,000
Beddington Infants School	<p>The outdoor wooden shelter provides a covered area for children to use during playtime and lunchtime and provides a quiet area and protection from extreme weather. The wood has become rotten due to exposure to weather and is now life expired and requires replacement. There is a H&S risk to its continued use as can be seen from the pictures.</p>	Fund the demolition, invite school to submit bid for 27/28.	£2,000