



## Sheffield Schools Forum 27 June 2023 Executive Summary of Decisions

### Learn Sheffield Funding

- Further to the February Schools Forum discussion, a report was presented to the Council's Education, Children and Families Policy Committee on 21 June and approved.
- The proposal was that Sheffield City Council (SCC) would continue to meet the statutory school improvement responsibilities, and where there is no existing capacity within SCC, outsource four key areas to Learn Sheffield.
- The Forum agreed:
  - That SCC should continue to directly deliver some statutory school improvement services according to established practices and processes.
  - That whilst the current contract for school improvement activities through Learn Sheffield will expire on 31st August 2023, officers will look to move forward a proposal for a new contract for limited school improvement activities from 1 September 2023 for two years at a value of £97k.

### Pupil Referral (PRU) Commissioning Arrangements

- The PRU currently receives funding for 250 places and the pandemic led to a down-turn in need for these places. However, there has since been an increase in exclusions and the maximum number has now been reached.
- The PRU management cannot increase capacity without receiving funding for additional places - they need to be able to resource staffing in advance and therefore require certainty in their funding.
- The Forum was asked to approve an increase in pupil numbers to 300 places.
- The Council's intention is to recommission the prevention offer – the alternative provision hubs and outreach with the continued allocation of funding, and we are reviewing provision across the city and increasing SEND sufficiency focussing on long-term sustainable solutions.
- The Forum agreed to the proposal of a provision of £594k (from the High Needs Block) to enable growth of the PRU from 250 to 300 places between September until the end of the financial year initially. This will increase the PRU's budget to £4.4m.
- The PRU will be able to draw down the funding based on the actual spending up to a maximum of £594k.

### Growth Policy/Falling Rolls

#### Growth Policy:

- The growth funding to Sheffield has increased to £2.9m in 2023/24 and relates to planned and ad-hoc funding for mainstream only.
- The rates of funding received per pupil is detailed in section 1.2 of the paper.

- The Forum noted that minor amendments have been made to the Growth Policy for 2023/24 and agreed the planned growth funding payments of £2.04m to be paid to Sheffield schools.

Falling Rolls Policy:

- The December Schools Forum agreed the Falling Rolls Policy funding for 2023/24 as being £250k.
- No eligible applications were received in 2022/23 and none to date have been received in 2023/24.
- The Forum noted the minor changes to, and approved, the Falling Rolls Policy for 2023/24.

*Forum papers are available to download via [Sheffield Schools Forum](https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/home/schools-childcare/sheffield-schools-forum)  
(<https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/home/schools-childcare/sheffield-schools-forum>)*

*You can also download a list of Forum members on this page should you wish to raise an issue/ask a question*

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