

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

EDUCATION COMMITTEE -8 JUNE 2000

ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL RESOURCES FOR SCHOOLS

Report by the Director of Education

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To seek approval from Members for the distribution of additional financial resources to schools.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 In his announcement for the budget of 2000 the Chancellor of the Exchequer stated that he would be distributing financial resources to schools. News of this additional money has been awaited by Education Authorities and educational establishments alike.
- 2.2 Following discussions at national level involving the Scottish Executive Education Department (SEED) and COSLA a mechanism has been agreed for the distribution of funds to schools under this budget arrangement. It has been decided that the mechanism will be covered by Grants for Improvements in School Education (Scotland) Regulations 1998 is appropriate. The use of these regulations overcomes some of the possible administrative problems that might otherwise ensue.
- 2.3 A letter was issued by the Scottish Executive Education Department on 17 May 2000 as Circular No 112000. This explained the detail of what is being proposed. A payment will be made to Authorities in one lump sum for onward transmission to schools as soon as possible after receipt. It is a condition of the payment of this grant that the resources involved will be distributed to schools. All of the schools in the Authority must benefit from the additional resources. The resources are to be additional to existing or planned school budgets for the financial year 2000-2001. There is however some scope to allow Authorities to tailor make the allocation of resources to schools to reflect local priorities.

3. THE PROPOSALS

- 3.1 The amounts of money allocated by the Scottish Executive Education Department has been calculate in terms of school size.

Allocation of Money

Prima Schools with 100 pupils or less	£3,000
Prima Schools with over 100 but less than 201 pupils	£6,000
Prima Schools with 201 pupils or more	£9,000
Secondary Schools with 600 pupils or less	£30,000
Secondary Schools with more than 600 but less than 1201 pupils	£40,000
Secondary Schools with 1201 pupils or more	£50,000
Special Schools	£15,000

3.2 It is intended to distribute money directly to schools through delegated budgets based on the above formula. Attached to the allocation of funds will be a recommendation that head teachers should give consideration to using this additional money for expenditure in the following areas:

- .The priorities identified in school development plans.
- .Purchase of additional resources, particularly those in relation to facilitating access for children with special needs.
- .Minor adaptations issues.
- .Additional staffing such as behaviour support. .Support to the Youth Support Strategy.

3.3 It is also envisaged that the Director of Education will consult head teachers on other aspects of the distribution of funds and the particular priorities for expenditure.

4. POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Nil

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Funds will be received centrally by the Authority and delegated directly through the DMR system. In practice this represents an addition to school budgets of approximately £755,000 or more.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 It is recommended that Members:

- (i) agree that the additional money arising from this scheme be delegated directly to schools;
- (ii) agree that the money should be spent on the priorities outlined in this paper;
- (iii) agree that the Director of Education consult with head teachers over any refinements to the basic scheme as outlined in this paper; and
- (iv) otherwise note the contents of this report.

John Mulgrew
Director of Education

GS/DL
24 May 2000

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Nil

Members wishing further information should contact Graham Short, Depute Director of Education, Tel: (01563) 576089.

Implementation Officer: Graham Short

AGENDA