

Item 08 Appendix A

**Consultation Response Form** 

Consultation closing date: 30 April 2014 Your comments must reach us by that date

# Fairer schools funding in 2015-16

If you would prefer to respond online to this consultation please use the following link: <u>https://www.education.gov.uk/consultations</u>

Information provided in response to this consultation, including personal information, may be subject to publication or disclosure in accordance with the access to information regimes, primarily the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Data Protection Act 1998.

If you want all, or any part, of your response to be treated as confidential, please explain why you consider it to be confidential.

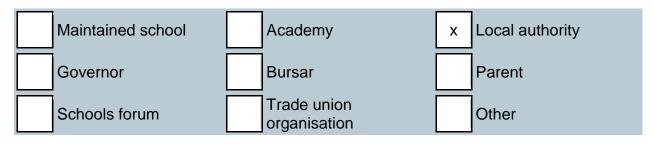
If a request for disclosure of the information you have provided is received, your explanation about why you consider it to be confidential will be taken into account, but no assurance can be given that confidentiality can be maintained. An automatic confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system will not, of itself, be regarded as binding on the Department.

The Department will process your personal data (name and address and any other identifying material) in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998, and in the majority of circumstances, this will mean that your personal data will not be disclosed to third parties.

Please tick if you want us to keep your response confidential.	
Reason for confidentiality:	

Name: Sara Haslam Please tick if you are responding on behalf of your organisation. Name of Organisation (if applicable): Warwickshire County Council Address: Shire Hall Warwick CV34 4RL If your enquiry is related to the DfE e-consultation website or the consultation process in general, you can contact the Ministerial and Public Communications Division by e-mail: <u>consultation.unit@education.gsi.gov.uk</u> or by telephone: 0370 000 2288 or via the Department's <u>'Contact Us'</u> page.

Please mark the box that best describes you as a respondent.



Please Specify:		

# 1 Do you agree that the existing distribution of schools funding is unfair?

x Yes	No	Not Sure
DSG at a national level. Whil between spending (at a scho variation between funding lev	long been campaigning for a r st we acknowledge that there ol and Local Authority level) w rels is not supported by evider oss schools and Local Authorit	needs to be some variation re would argue that the nce of a need to spend to

2 Do you agree with our proposed choice of characteristics to which to attach minimum funding levels?

x Yes	No	Not Sure
Comments:		
Yes. It is recognised that e characteristics and so are		are indicative of key pupil basis of funding allocations.

Given our proposal to set minimum funding levels such that we can afford to fund all local authorities at those levels or above in 2015-16, do you agree with the proposed values of the minimum funding levels?

### 3 a) Age Weighted Pupil Unit

x Yes	No	Not Sure
3 b) Deprivation		
x Yes	No	Not Sure
3 c) Looked-after children		

x Yes	No	Not Sure
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## 3 d) English as an additional language



## 3 e) Low prior attainment

x Yes	No	Not Sure
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#### 3 f) Lump sum

x Yes	No	Not Sure
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## 3 g) Sparsity

X Yes	No	Not Sure
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#### Comments:

Whilst the rates and headings differ from those currently used in Warwickshire, the impact of this proposed allocation is that deprivation and prior attainment are relatively similar but that the increase in funding is in the basic entitlement element which is a position that we would favour.

4 Do you agree that labour market cost differences should be taken into account as we allocate the £350m?

x Agree	Disagree	Not sure
Comments: Where unit values are appli		5
in all schools. However, the methodology	included in the documer	sts which form the majority spend nt is based on the regional teaching rstand the impact of actual staffing
<b>o o</b> ,	vert to academy status a	nd no longer operate within the

5 Do you agree this should be calculated using the hybrid approach we have set out?

x	Agree		Disagree	Not sure
Com	ments:			
relev	<b>.</b>	sts inc	ost information available curred in schools, it seem	•
		-		

6 If you do not agree that we should use a hybrid approach, what would you prefer we used?

Use teacher pay	Use a general labour	Use an alternative
bands only	market measure only	method

Comments:			

#### **Sparsity Review**

7 We introduced a sparsity factor for the first time in 2015-16. How helpful has this factor been in ensuring that sufficient funding is targeted at small schools serving sparsely populated areas?

Useful	x Not useful	Not sure
Comments: Using a blanket sparsity calc authority may have preferred combining the infant and jun In the light of an anticipated flexibility, it was assumed that met the local priorities of the	d to look at options for alte ior schools to be primary s national fair funding formu at the latter would be used	rnative provision (such as schools) is not useful

8 Do you think it would be useful to revise the criteria for the sparsity factor to take into account the average number of pupils in each year group, rather than the number of pupils in the school? If so, how?

Useful	x Not useful	Not sure
Comments:		
		set of schools that meet certain size and s of pupils used is irrelevant

9 Are there any other changes you would like to suggest to improve the operation of this factor, and why?

Comments:

Thank you for taking the time to let us have your views. We do not intend to acknowledge individual responses unless you place an 'X' in the box below.

Please acknowledge this reply.	
E-mail address for acknowledgement: sarahaslam@warwickshire.gov.uk	

Here at the Department for Education we carry out our research on many different topics and consultations. As your views are valuable to us, please confirm below if you would be willing to be contacted again from time to time either for research or to send through consultation documents?



All DfE public consultations are required to meet the Cabinet Office <u>Principles on</u> <u>Consultation</u>.

The key Consultation Principles are:

- departments will follow a range of timescales rather than defaulting to a 12-week period, particularly where extensive engagement has occurred before
- departments will need to give more thought to how they engage with and use real discussion with affected parties and experts as well as the expertise of civil service learning to make well informed decisions
- departments should explain what responses they have received and how these have been used in formulating policy
- consultation should be 'digital by default', but other forms should be used where these are needed to reach the groups affected by a policy
- the principles of the Compact between government and the voluntary and community sector will continue to be respected.

If you have any comments on how DfE consultations are conducted, please contact Aileen Shaw, DfE Consultation Coordinator, tel: 0370 000 2288 / email: <u>aileen.shaw@education.gsi.gov.uk</u>

# Thank you for taking time to respond to this consultation.

Completed responses should be sent to the address shown below by 30 April 2014

Ministerial and Public Communication Division, Level 2, Department for Education, Mowden Hall, Staindrop Road, DARLINGTON DL3 9BG

Send by e-mail to: <u>SchoolFunding.CONSULTATION@education.gsi.gov.uk</u>