

APPENDIX 2 - BRIEFING NOTE ON FINAL WELSH LOCAL GOVERNMENT SETTLEMENT 2017/18

Background

The Final Settlement was received on 21st December 2016.

Headlines

Standard Spending Assessment (SSA)

The final SSA for 2017/18 is £257.526m (£256.492m at Provisional stage) which is an increase of 1.5% on the SSA for 2016/17 (£253.738m)

Aggregate External Finance (RSG & NDR)

The final AEF for 2017/18 is £185.033m (£184.989m at Provisional stage) which when compared to the adjusted 2016/17 AEF figure of £184.722m represents an increase of 0.2% (All Wales 0.2%).

Transfers into Settlement

The following transfers into the settlement were confirmed on the same basis identified at the provisional stage:

- Delivering Transformation (£0.123m)
- Deprivation of Liberty Standards (£0.009m)
- Food Hygiene Rating (£0.002m)

Transfers out of Settlement

The following transfers out of the settlement was confirmed on the same basis identified at the provisional stage:

- Education Workforce Council Teachers Registration Fees (£0.050m)

New Responsibilities

The following new responsibilities were confirmed on the same basis identified at the provisional stage:

- Increasing capital limits for Residential Care (£0.195m)
- War disablement pension disregard (£0.013m)

The final settlement identified one additional new responsibility:

- Homelessness Prevention (FCC £0.201m All Wales £6m)

Additional Funding (Floor)

- £1.6m included to ensure that no authority sees a reduction of greater than 0.5% compared to its 2016/17 allocation and top-up funding.

Specific Grants

Only very limited information at an All Wales level has been received at the present time.

General Capital Funding

Flintshire's General Capital Funding has now been consolidated into a single funding stream and reduced from a 2016/17 total of £6.728m to £6.634m, which is a net decrease of £0.094m (same as at provisional stage).

Funding Impact of the Settlement

There is an increase in AEF in cash terms of £0.044m when compared with the Provisional Settlement stage.

However, there is an additional new responsibility of £0.201m identified in the final settlement in relation to Homelessness Prevention which will need to be assessed in detail with regards to funding requirements for Flintshire. Taking this adjustment into account the settlement effectively shows a net reduction in funding of £0.157m

Other Headline Figures Identified outside of the AEF (All Wales)

- £10m available to local authorities for domiciliary care purposes
- £10m to provide non-domestic rates relief for businesses on high street