

Other interesting info regarding our discussions re academisation.

With regard to school funding and the allocation of DSG, there are elements agreed by Schools Forum as “top-slices” from the schools block prior to the allocations to individual schools that affect academies as well as maintained schools.

For 2016/17, decisions were taken by Schools Forum on 19 January, as follows:

De-delegated items are **NOT** taken from Academies although they can they buy them back (and the academies represented at Schools Forum said they did – Gosforth, & Sacred Heart (SH have replaced Excelsior this year)

These are:-

Free School meals eligibility checks (£50,000)

Trade union facility time (£98,076)

You can find out how much this is by looking on your E3 where these are itemised at the bottom -mine is £1,871 this year.

Central Expenditure Budgets – these cover (and are voted on by) **ALL** schools including academies.

The budgets agreed for 2016/17 are shown in the table below (they are not allowed to be higher in cash terms than in 2015/16:-

<b>Service/ Budget</b>	<b>Amount (£)</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Central licences negotiated by DfE	170,248	SF approval not required – nationally allocated charge (up 4% on 2015/16)
Admissions	291,240	Statutory functions
Schools Forum	15,460	Statutory
Data management team	25,000	
Fischer family trust	13,060	Saving of £24k compared to individual schools buying
Supporting schools to succeed	40,000	
CPD	70,000	
Attendance and behaviour	111,000	
Safeguarding partnership	20,000	
Safeguarding support for schools	6,000	To provide link (by employing Ian C for no. of days) between schools and Safeguarding Board
Children missing education	20,000	
School achievement awards	4,000	
Bursary support	70,000	Secondary only support for poor children re travel etc
Security alarm contracts	19,570	
Risk management service	70,240	

Historic retiring allowances	92,430	
ICT broadband connectivity	170,460	

All these things were agreed unanimously by all school reps on Schools forum

The other area that is centrally retained by the LA is the High Needs Block which is under considerable cost pressures and subject to further review.

So in terms of saving money re going with Northern Education what we could save would be the de-delegated items (£1,871 in my case although I'd choose to buy them back)

AND

Any SLAs that we enter into that could be covered by NET. From what I've been able to find out what NET offers for the 4% is: School improvement; Financial management services; Human resources; Estates and premises support and advice; Legal advice.

Exchequer Services / accountancy etc £2,609 for me

Gov services £3,440 for me

HR £1750 for me

SIP – about £2,000 for me

Buildings £1500 for me

And any others that NET offers but we need to know which are **included** in their 4% top slice.

If it included every single SLA I have from waste management to caretaking, cleaning, meals, grounds maintenance , buildings , repairs etc etc that would be a saving of **£32,093** for me

4% of my budget is £41,054 I will need to be absolutely sure of what I am getting for this amount of money at £9,000 more than I'm paying out now. I would also want some knowledge of the quality of these services.

Hilton still buy, cleaning, caretaking, waste, meals and ICT from Newcastle so presumably these are NOT included

Academies will receive **additional** funding of £77 per pupil ESG that maintained schools do not get which covers duties retained by the LA, so this would generate some funding that would offset but not cover charges made by an Academy Trust/chain. However, that does mean that academies might be charged for some LA services that are not charged to maintained schools.

I hope this is helpful in discussions with GBs.

