

MEETING	SCHOOLS BUDGET FORUM
DATE	04 July 2016
TITLE	Schools Final Accounts Financial Year 2015/16
PURPOSE	Presented for your information
RECOMMENDATION	For approval
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1 Final Accounts 2015/16

1.1 Details of schools balances as at 31 March 2016 are appended (**appendix 1**).

1.2 Summary of schools balances at 31/03/2016 -

	percentage	31/03/2015	increase+/ reduction-	31/03/2016	percentage
Primary	7.32%	£2,613,766	-£134,325	£2,479,441	6.91%
Secondary	2.45%	£820,055	-£28,240	£791,815	2.37%
Special	2.80%	£61,760	+£3,554	£65,314	2.74%
Total	4.89%	£3,495,580	-£159,010	£3,336,570	4.66%

1.3 Generally, the total balances of all Gwynedd's schools has reduced by £159,010 during 2015/16 to £3,336,570 which is 4.66% of their total allocation.

1.4 16 schools are in deficit at the end of 2015/16 with a total value of £447,692 in comparison with 15 schools at the end of 2014/15 with a total deficit of £327,873.

- 11 Primary Schools with a total deficit of £96,263 (ranging between £778 a £38,345)
- 4 Secondary Schools with a total deficit of £297,238 (ranging between £37,815 a £118,686)
- 1 Special School with a deficit of £54,191

1.5 Notice a reduction in Primary Schools' balances for the first time since 2010.

2 Use of Balances Guidance Plan

- 2.1 The Education Department has the power to instruct the governing body on how to spend the element of their balances that exceeds the £50,000 threshold for Primary Schools and £100,000 for Secondary and Special Schools.
- 2.2 The implementation procedure remains the same as last year.
- 2.3 Column 'F' in the appendix highlights the sums over and above the thresholds.

3. Conclusion

- 3.1 Gwynedd Primary Schools total and percentage balances remain high and still cause concern.
- 3.2 Another cause for concern is that Gwynedd has any school with a financial deficit, and the increase in the number of schools and the value of the deficit.
- 3.3 In view that schools are required to achieve savings in 2016/17 and 2017/18, a further reduction in schools' balances is anticipated by the end of this financial year.

4. Argymhelliad

- 4.1 **The Education Department and Finance Department should closely collaborate with schools who have a financial deficit to ensure that they clear the deficit as soon as possible.**
- 4.2 **The Education Department and the Finance Unit should continue to monitor schools' budgets.**