

Delegation**1. Specialist Mainstream Provision Units**

£1,033,000

Background

There are seven specialist mainstream provision units that are not delegated to the schools where they are based, unlike all other specialist units which are part of the school's delegated responsibility. It is proposed that funding for these provisions will be delegated to the specific schools involved, on the same basis as all other units. Staff will be employed and managed by the schools. The schools are: Meopham School, Archbishop's School, TheSt Gregory's Catholic Comprehensive School, Charles Dickens School, Simon Langton Grammar School for Boys, TheDane Court Grammar School and Dartford Grammar School

Original recommendation:	Delegate
Schools view:	Delegate
Forums view:	Delegate
Final recommendation	Delegate

2. Specific costs relating to individual pupils with statements

£862,000

Background

A range of specific costs relating to individual pupils with statements, whose needs could not previously have been met by schools and academies from the resources already delegated to them, are currently allocated in-year to schools on an ad-hoc basis. The new criteria established for headteacher panels to agree Individually Assigned Resources (IAR) funding will result in these funds being included in delegated budgets as part of the IAR allocations.

Original recommendation:	Delegate
Schools view:	Delegate
Forums view:	Delegate
Final recommendation	Delegate

3. Funding to provide support / advice for mainstream placements

£174,000

Background

The proposal is to give the five Special Schools that do not receive Outreach funding an equal share of the funding (£34,800). Funding currently held centrally to provide support/advice for mainstream placements to be delegated to those Special Schools to increase their capacity to provide an outreach service (10 currently have outreach/smile centre funding – this new delegation will lead to all 24 special schools having similar provision)

Original recommendation:	Delegate
Schools view:	Delegate
Forums view:	Delegate
Final recommendation	Delegate (5 EBD schools)

4. Primary and special school Catering

£6,090,000

Background

£3.864k of the £6.090k relates to Free School Meals. Secondary schools and some Primary schools already have this delegated so this is simply moving all schools onto the same basis. There is also £895k which relates to the school lunch grant which does go out to schools and we are simply proposing to delegate it through the formula. There is then a remaining budget of £1.331m for the 317 Primary Schools and 15 Special Schools that do not have delegation of meals. For a number of years primary schools have been able to opt for delegation. For those that have not, a centrally managed external contract has been let and is in force until July 2012. For primary schools currently in the County let contract it is proposed to delegate:-

- The procurement and management of external contracts to provide a school meals service for all pupils entitled to free meals and any pupil who wishes to purchase a meal
- Maintenance of kitchen equipment to a standard adequate for the service.
- Ensuring food safety and hygiene standards are maintained
- Monitoring the meal quality to meet the needs of the pupils and Government standards for nutrition

For day special schools with centrally held catering budgets it is proposed to delegate:

- The management of the day to day running of the catering service
- Carrying out all staffing related tasks including recruitment, CRB, training, allocation of hours and cover for sickness.
- Designing menu's suitable for the needs of the pupils, nutritionally analysed and inline with Government standards
- Ensuring food safety and compliance with KCC food hygiene policy
- Maintenance of kitchen equipment to a standard adequate for the service.

Original recommendation:

Delegate

Schools view:

Delegate

Forums view:

Delegate

Final recommendation

Delegate(through the £ 1.331 m for centrally managed contract cannot be delegated until July 2012 when the current catering contractes expire)

5. Families and Social Care Family Liaison Officers and Parent Support Advisers

£872,000

Background

Families and Social Care Family Liaison Officers and Parent Support Advisers (the majority of these take on Lead professional roles for children who have had a CAF assessment and need a Team around the child/family)

Original recommendation:	Delegate
Schools view:	Delegate
Forums view:	Delegate
Final recommendation	Retain - but review options to move to a District basis.

6. School based family liaison officers

£1,270,000

Background

School based family liaison officers Schools already contribute to the funding of many of these posts, but contributions are inconsistent and not related to level of deprivation, and do not take account of the availability of deprivation funding available already to the school

Original recommendation:	Delegate
Schools view:	Delegate
Forums view:	Delegate
Final recommendation	Retain - but review options to move to a District basis.

7. Management Information data management and statistical services

£221,500

Background

Further information has come to light that this service is in the main internal management and statutory reporting and therefore delegation would not be appropriate. Also we have a data sharing agreement with academies that we need to retain the service provider pupil level data and analysis (FFT, Raise online, Making figure Speak for Themselves) and offering guidance, support and information to help schools manage their data and use school improvement information

Original recommendation:	Delegate
Schools view:	Delegate
Forums view:	Retain
Final recommendation	Retain

8. The Youth Service - Community Youth Tutors

£255,000

Background

Of the £255k budget, £205k is funding part of the Safe Schools contract with Project Salus which is coming to the end of the first year of a three year contract. This was not known at the time the consultation was launched and means delegation can not be done for next year. The other £50k of the budget part funds schools community Youth Tutors. There are 15 Community Youth Tutors in post. The role of Community Youth Tutors is to ensure partnership working between the Youth Service and specific schools around the county. The SLA in operation provides for the Youth Service to pay 60% of the CYT's salary costs and a school contributes 40% towards their costs.

Original recommendation:	Delegate
Schools view:	Delegate
Forums view:	Retain
Final recommendation	Retain - and review current arrangements with a view to moving to a District based model.

9. Skills Force subsidy

£100,000

Background

Skills Force subsidy. Secondary schools already contribute to the costs of this scheme. This sum represents the residual subsidy held centrally.

Original recommendation:	Delegate
Schools view:	Delegate
Forums view:	Delegate
Final recommendation	Retain for 1 year to assess implications of delegation

10. School Library services

£218,000

Background

This contribution from DSG supports services offered to schools, and the summer reading challenge programme. Library work is currently targeted at the 76 reading recovery schools.

Original recommendation:	Delegate
Schools view:	Delegate
Forums view:	Delegate
Final recommendation	Delegate

11. The Specialist Teaching Service (STS)**Training, support, advice, etc.**

£3,563,000

Background

Grouped under these headings are the budgets of a number of teams that support schools, families and pupils in a number of ways. Central retention has been seen as the means of ensuring the continuity of access to specialist staff as the needs of individual schools and pupils change. The risk of delegation is the loss of specialist staff if individual schools do not employ them directly or buy into a KCC provided service. In order to offer schools greater choice partial delegation is suggested, with partial retention to safeguard some elements. Devolution to specialist schools/centres or groups could also be considered.

The Specialist Teaching Service (STS) The following elements of the service could be delegated :

- Training – through bespoke or standard packages on general Special Education Needs (SEN) issues;
- Specialist training for parents, teachers, other school staff and governors-from awareness raising to specialist level on Behavioural, Emotional and Social Difficulty (BESD), Specific learning Difficulties (SpLD), Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASD), Speech, Language, Communication, Needs (SLCN), Downs Syndrome, Dyspraxia, HI, VI, PD;
- Individual and group interventions, assessments and programmes, 1:1 teaching, individual specialist tuition;
- Advice and support on writing and implementing single equality schemes and systems and interventions to support disability duties under the Equality Act;
- Effective preventative provision
- Systemic support to build capacity within the school;
- Consultation and support for SEN issues pre or post OfSTED;
- One off consultancy/whole school training events;
- SEN Coordinator (SENCO) training;
- Teaching Assistant training;
- SEN updates;
- Supporting transition.
- Assessments for exam dispensations
- Assessments and advice for specialist equipment
- Generic paediatric moving and handling training
- Training for positive behaviour management through Team Teach programme
- SEN and disability counselling

Original recommendation:

Delegate

Schools view:

Delegate

Forums view:

Retain or devolve (Schools Funding Forum voted unanimously not to delegate this funding. SFF did not want this service split up and recommended that it should either be retained or devolved as per Special School Proposal).

Final recommendation

Devolve to Special Schools with Smile Centres, subject to work to be done over next 6 weeks to develop proposals further.

12. Minority Communities Achievement Service (MCAS)

£1,983,000

Background

Minority Communities Achievement Service (MCAS) provides

- Specialist support to raise attainment of vulnerable groups through developing school systems and providing appropriate teaching and learning strategies for minority ethnic and EAL learners
- Bespoke professional development for senior leadership including those with designated responsibilities and all other staff groups including, teaching assistants, lunch time supervisors, governors, mentors.
- Strategies for accelerating and tracking learning for New Arrivals/beginners of English
- Assessment strategies to demonstrate progress for new arrivals and advanced EAL learners
- Advice and support on admission and induction procedures for minority ethnic pupils including accurate ethnicity and language data collection impacting on school funding
- A local and national context and specialist knowledge to support the analysis of school data
- Tools and advice to support assessment to distinguish between English as an additional language and special educational needs
- Advice on responding to and preventing racial incidents,
- Enhancing race equality through the curriculum.
- Support with Equality Impact Assessment and the development of Single Equality Schemes
- Home/school liaison to develop engagement with vulnerable groups

A separate budget of £1.250m, formerly a devolved standards fund grant is included in the delegated total

Original recommendation:	Delegate
Schools view:	Delegate
Forums view:	Delegate
Final recommendation	Delegate .

13. Cover for maternity leave

£2,160,000

Background

School staffing costs

The staffing costs relating to providing cover for maternity leave have not previously been delegated because of their highly variable, uncontrollable and usually unpredictable incidence. There is no reason, however, why the financial liability should not fall on schools in the same way as many other variable staffing costs do. These costs in total represent less than half of one percent of school staffing budgets. That said, the incidence in one year on very small schools in particular can be significant.

Original recommendation:	Delegate
Schools view:	Retain centrally
Forums view:	Delegate
Final recommendation	Delegate

14. Cover costs for public duties, including Jury service, and to cover staff suspensions

£150,000

Background

The staffing costs relating to providing cover for public duties have not previously been delegated because of their highly variable, uncontrollable and usually unpredictable incidence. There is no reason, however, why the financial liability should not fall on schools in the same way as many other variable staffing costs do. These costs in total represent a small fraction of less than half of one percent of school staffing budgets. That said, the incidence in one year on very small schools in particular can be significant.

Original recommendation:	Delegate
Schools view:	Retain centrally
Forums view:	Delegate
Final recommendation	Delegate

15. Schools Personnel and Recruitment and retention services

£564,000

Background

Schools personnel and recruitment and retention services

The service provides:-

- Access to kent-teach.com, both to place school adverts and to also to search for applicants (teaching and non-teaching)
- The pool of newly qualified teachers that we attract through marketing at colleges etc
- Access to overseas recruitment eg in Ireland at the moment
- The Wellbeing programme which is currently partially supported by KCC, including the Packtypes school leadership tool
- The exit Interview process and the results of it
- Support and advice on Headteacher/teacher recruitment
- Employee relations support for statutory issues such as child protection cases, and support for intervention in schools
- claims handling for current centrally reimbursed staffing costs

Original recommendation: Delegate

Schools view: Delegate

Forums view: Delegate

Final recommendation Delegate £464k, but retain £100k to support Kent Challenge work in schools.

16. School licences and subscriptions

£955,200

Background

School licences and subscriptions

Licences and subscriptions are only managed centrally because KCC is able to access lower rates than if schools made their own individual arrangements. It is proposed that a buy-back service is offered so schools can still access the lower rates if they wish but have the funding delegated and are able to exercise choice. On all the collective licences which total 364k there is an issue that if all schools do not buy back we will lose from some of the licences the collective discount so overall costs in Kent could increase. On the SIMS licence of £591k there is a national procurement issue which has to be resolved before we can delegate

Original recommendation: Delegate

Schools view: Delegate

Forums view: Delegate

Final recommendation Delegate- with the exception of SIMS Licence (£591k) in total should be retained and the picture reviewed at a later date.

17. Admissions Appeals

£350,000

Background

Three elements:

1. Democratic services arranging appeals panels for all types of schools, estimated 250k
2. Soott Bagshaw providing representative at panel meetings for community and vol controlled schools 100k
3. Statutory obligation for LA to provide Appeal panels and process included in 1. above therefore if schools will not pay then will we still have the responsibility Appeals - While the main admissions process is a statutory KCC responsibility, the subsequent appeals process could be delegated. Schools would be free to make their own arrangements or buy-back a county service. Some aided and foundation schools already do this and recharge KCC their costs.

Original recommendation: Delegate

Schools view: Retain

Forums view: Delegate

Final recommendation Retain

18. Primary and secondary Forums

£20,000

Background

This budget supports the non statutory primary and secondary Forums. The funding could be delegated and individual schools contribute to the continued running of their respective groups. The groups could be run on the basis that schools that did not contribute would not be able to attend, receive feedback nor have their views considered. Funding by direct school contribution could contribute to improved participation

Original recommendation: Delegate

Schools view: Delegate

Forums view: Delegate

Final recommendation Retain and discuss Schools Funding Forum and Kent Association of Headteachers.

Devolved**19. Highly specialised services for pupils not in mainstream**

£4,025,000

Background

A range of highly specialised services for pupils not in mainstream schools could be considered initially for devolution – they are not suited to full delegation by formula – but could be considered for management by groups of schools, districts, or specific specialist centres. These services include individual therapies and equipment and pre-school SEN support. There is also funding for purchasing additional specialist placements at Warm Stone PRU.

Original recommendation:	Devolve
Schools view:	Devolve
Forums view:	Devolve
Final recommendation	Devolve from September 2012

20. Alternative Curriculum and Behaviour PRUs

£12,515,000

Background

Alternative Curriculum and Behaviour PRUs

This service comprises all aspects of alternative provision for pupils who are excluded or at risk of exclusion from mainstream schools, or who are otherwise out of school, for reasons other than illness or elective home education. The service includes current provision of KS2/3/4 Behaviour PRUs, KS4 Alternative Curriculum PRUs, and a small (and decreasing) amount of Individual Tuition. There would be significant inequity issues if this funding were to be delegated to schools due to the highly variable use of the provisions by different schools at different times, and the unpredictable use of the provisions by an individual school year on year. Given the above, a reasonable alternative to full delegation would be a return to a form of devolved funding to mainstream schools, in order to give them the greatest degree of autonomy in devising and implementing an appropriate range of alternative provision. This was successfully implemented to LCSPs from 2008 to 2010. A measurable outcome was a reduction in both permanent and fixed term exclusions across the LA.

Original recommendation:	Devolve
Schools view:	Delegate
Forums view:	Devolve (Disagreed with schools response to delegate-SFF agreed with initial LA recommendation to Devolve- Also needs to be looked at as part of the overall Special School proposal)
Final recommendation	Devolve from September 2012

21. Health Needs Education Service (HNES)

£1,565,000

Background

Health Needs Education Service ((HNES)

It is a statutory duty of KCC to provide continuity of education to minimise the negative impact of serious illness on the life chances of very ill or injured pupils and those with clinically defined mental health illness. It is a requirement that there is written evidence from consultants/paediatricians/psychiatrists that a pupil is too unwell to attend their home school to access this alternative provision. It will therefore be essential for KCC to retain the capacity to monitor provision that is being made for pupils defined above, and to retain the financial capacity to meet the needs of any pupils for whom schools no longer retain final accountability for their outcomes.

This budget is not therefore suitable for delegation. There would be significant inequity issues if it were delegated as the use of the provisions by different schools at different times is highly variable, uncontrollable and unpredictable from year to year.

It is not possible to predict the frequency and location of the incidence of illness even in larger geographical areas; for example there is currently a cluster of childhood cancer cases amongst pupils in East Kent. Given the small numbers of pupils involved from very wide geographical areas, it is not possible to devise an equitable formula either for delegated or devolved funding to mainstream schools.

Original recommendation:	Devolve
Schools view:	Delegate
Forums view:	Devolve
Final recommendation	Devolve

Retained**22. Staffing costs to support Kent County Council's duty to monitor SEN provision, etc.**

£1,056,000

Background

Provision for pupils with SEN and SEN support services

Staffing costs to support KCC's duty to monitor provision, undertake statutory assessments, and represent KCC at tribunals. This cannot be delegated.

Original recommendation: Retain

Schools view: Retain

Forums view: Retain

Final recommendation Retain

23. Fees for independent special schools and recoupment

£9,432,000

Background

Fees for independent special schools and recoupment

A small number of Kent pupils are placed in private or independent specialist schools as their needs cannot be met in Kent. These places are generally very costly and could not be delegated unless every Kent pupil could be assigned to a school for the purposes of financial liability. This is not possible and would be neither workable nor acceptable to schools given the sums involved and highly variable and unpredictable incidence.

Recoupment expenditure – the payment to other local authorities for the costs of Kent pupils in other local authority schools and hospitals - is not feasible for similar reasons. Recoupment income (which is higher than expenditure as Kent is a net importer of pupils) is retained centrally as it contributes to the pool of funding that goes into the Kent formula to pay for the delegated SEN/AEN factors that all schools receive based on their pupil population.

Original recommendation: Retain

Schools view: Retain

Forums view: Retain

Final recommendation Retain

24. Early Years support Services

£5,709,000

Background

Early years support services

This budget supports the monitoring of quality and outcomes service undertaken by the early years and childcare team. Much of this activity is in fulfilment of the Local authority's statutory duty and is unsuitable for delegation to providers. Support for the PVI sector could not be delegated to maintained schools, but could be devolved in part for groups/districts to manage

Original recommendation:	Retain
Schools view:	Retain
Forums view:	Retain
Final recommendation	Retain

25. Integrated Looked After Support Service

£100,000

Background

Integrated Looked After Support Service (LAC):

This funding has most recently been used to provide direct support to children in care to Kent. Should the funding be delegated directly to schools/colleges there are no guarantees that education providers will be able to differentiate between Kent looked after children and those looked after children placed here by other local authorities. This could result in Kent LAC being significantly disadvantaged with regard support funding schemes. The looked after child population is extremely mobile and therefore it would be impossible under delegated funding to adequately target the support where and when it was required.

Original recommendation:	Retain
Schools view:	Retain
Forums view:	Retain
Final recommendation	Retain

26. Support for various SEN projects

£623,000

Background

Support for various SEN projects eg ICAN,RLSB, SIPI, Communication Aids and Assistive Technology and communication therapy

Contribute to joint services with Health; special schools review projects

Original recommendation:	Retain
Schools view:	Retain
Forums view:	Retain
Final recommendation	Retain

27. Families and Social Care Team Support

£1,194,000

Background

Families and Social Care Team Support

Risks to Prevention and Early Intervention Services: Includes a range of roles, budgets and services that are currently vital to the delivery and management of Prevention and Early Intervention in Kent. Most of these deliver services or carry out roles that are more focused on KCC's responsibilities for children rather than services for individual or groups of schools.

The Early Intervention Co-ordinator and administrator posts. These are vital in handling the CAF process, liaising with the duty teams, tracking the progress of TACs, outcomes etc This area of work is growing as CAFs increase in number and as Children in Need cases are reviewed and many passed down to EI Co-ordinators to be managed in Preventative and Early Intervention services).

The central Integrated Processes team (responsible for driving forward and embedding CAF, TAC and Lead professional – work reflected in the current Ofsted Improvement Plan);

A proportion of the staffing funding for Preventative Services Managers (who directly manage the EI Co-ordinators, have overall responsibility for management of Prevention and Early Intervention services and have been tasked with managing down referrals to social care teams, as well as having overall responsibility for the children's centres and the FLOs and PSAs in their respective districts).

Original recommendation:	Retain
Schools view:	Retain
Forums view:	Retain
Final recommendation	Retain -with a view to moving to a more District based model.

28.Specialist Teaching Service - supporting the early years, and highly specialist placements, etc.

£2,128,000

Background

Specialist Teaching Service

A further range of services provided by STS are not considered to be suitable for delegation or devolution. Principally these are supporting the early years, (in addition to the services in item 11 below) as follows:

- Early years inclusion and equalities
- Portage services;
- Specialist teaching for children with HI [especially to support the requirements of the New Born Hearing Screening Programme];
- Specialist teaching and non teaching interventions for children with VI [including the work of the Early Years Visual Impairment Play Specialists who enable parents to support their child to learn without the use of vision];
- The provision of specialist teaching input to multi agency teams for supporting children with complex needs in clinics and as identified through the Early Support Process
- Support for 3 and 4 year olds with SEN

Original recommendation:	Retain
Schools view:	Retain
Forums view:	Retain
Final recommendation	Devolve as part of proposals to move whole service across to Special Schools

**29. Minority Communities Achievement Services -
Services which relate to Children Missing
Education**

Background

Minority Communities Achievement Service

Services which relate to Children Missing Education (CME) including unaccompanied asylum seekers are not suitable for delegation. KCC has a statutory duty to ensure that numbers of Children Missing Education are reduced. There have been disproportionate numbers of minority ethnic children on this register. MCAS actively works to support access to education.

As a retained service vital inter-agency links are made to highlight the needs of minority ethnic families e.g. accommodation, health, social care which impact on education issues such as attendance and therefore attainment. This work contributes to KCC safeguarding agenda.

Original recommendation:	Retain
Schools view:	Retain
Forums view:	Retain
Final recommendation	Retain

**30.Attendance & Behaviour Service District Teams
(Education Welfare) - KCC statutory functions**

£2,405,000

Background

Attendance & Behaviour Service District Teams (Education Welfare)

There are a number of KCC statutory functions which the team delivers. Education Welfare Officers (EWOs) and Children Missing Education Officers (CME), using a range of statutory powers defined in the 1996 Education Act and the 1998 Crime and Disorder Act carry out KCC duties to:-

ensure that parents secure education for children of compulsory schools age; Identify children not receiving a suitable education; Serve school attendance orders; Issue penalty notices; Apply for education supervision orders; Instigate legal proceedings for continued non-compliance; Conduct 'attendance and exclusion sweeps' with the police; Carry out KCC duty to ensure that every school complies with the pupil admission and attendance registration requirements stipulated in the 2006 Education Regulations.

Child Employment and Entertainment Officers (CEEEO) enforce KCC duties concerning; Children at work (1993 Children and Young Persons Act); Children in entertainment (1968 Children [Performance] Regulations).

The issuing of the 'Warrant Card' that empowers an EWO/CEEEO to carry out legal duties on behalf of KCC is a direct function of that person being a KCC officer.

Inclusion/Exclusion Officers ensure, through rigorous external monitoring on behalf of KCC, that schools are in compliance with the statutory guidance when making decisions and administering exclusion proceeding against individual pupils.

Original recommendation:	Retain
Schools view:	Retain
Forums view:	Retain
Final recommendation	Retain

31. Youth Offending Service Education Liaison

£385,000

TeamBackground

Youth Offending Service Education Liaison Team (YOSELT)

To meet the requirements of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, the YOSELT represents Education, Learning and Skills as one of the statutory partners in the multi agency Youth Offending Teams (Kent YOS) established by the Act, by taking collaborative action in accordance with the statutory framework with partners, to prevent and manage offending behaviour by children and young people aged 10-18 years. The role of the Team is to establish and support the education provision for CYP who are within the Youth Justice framework.

Original recommendation:	Retain
Schools view:	Retain
Forums view:	Retain
Final recommendation	Retain

32. Education Assessment Service

£204,100

Background

Education Assessment Service

EAS provides a service to Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) who arrive in Kent and become 'looked after' if they are assessed as being under 18 years old. When they arrive they are not assigned to a school/college immediately but are assessed by EAS to identify their initial educational needs prior to planning and subsequent education placement. This funding could not be viably delegated to schools/colleges because there is no knowing which school/college would be appropriate prior to assessment.

Apart from the Education Assessment Service there is no other service currently equipped to perform the assessment that is required.

Without the EAS, schools/colleges would be asked to accept young people without any prior knowledge of their education or social needs and they would then need to carry out an assessment themselves. If the funding currently available for this central service is delegated to schools/colleges it will become so dissipated as to be inoperable.

The majority of UASC arriving in Kent are aged 16 Plus and so if they arrive after term three, schools are reluctant to offer year 11 places and colleges would not offer further Education places until the following September. Consequently, there would be a significant number of Kent looked after children out of school for indefinite periods of time with KCC being the Corporate Parent and therefore needing to challenge and potentially direct with regard to admissions practice.

Original recommendation:	Retain
Schools view:	Retain
Forums view:	Retain
Final recommendation	Retain

33. Extended learning Team

£178,000

Background

Extended learning Team.

Original recommendation:	Retain
Schools view:	Retain
Forums view:	Retain
Final recommendation	Propose EduKent Service - Delegate money. (£50k to get salesperson - Extended schools facilitation. Sean Carter).

34. Health Needs Education Service (HNES)

£454,000

Background

For two years (2008-10) a partial delegation approach was adopted with schools contributing the AWPU value from their budgets when HNES was accessed. This was seen as overly bureaucratic and unfair and was dropped. On the other hand, requiring a school contribution may be considered a valuable means of suppressing demand and/or securing active school engagement.

It is possible however to consider a devolved funding approach, similar to the PRU and other alternative curriculum arrangements and it is suggested that this be explored for implementation from April, with the exception of the specific provision at Oakland (formerly Gatland house) - £454k.

Original recommendation:	Retain
Schools view:	Delegate
Forums view:	Retain
Final recommendation	Retain

35. Warm Stone

£1,364,000

Background

Warm Stone is a highly specialised provision for pupils with Statements of SEN that have been excluded from special schools. It operates out of bases in Ashford, Maidstone and Canterbury and currently supports 80 pupils. It also offers a virtual learning opportunity via a specialised ICT platform for house-bound pupils.

It provides a county-wide service and it would be difficult to see this being managed via district groups. In the future this provision could be designated as a special school and have a fully delegated budget.

Original recommendation:	Retain
Schools view:	Retain
Forums view:	Retain
Final recommendation	Retain (To become special school)

36. Alternative Provision Monitoring Team

£300,000

Background

Alternative Provision Monitoring Team

The final accountability for provision of suitable education for pupils who cannot receive their education in a mainstream school, for reasons of illness, exclusion or otherwise, remains as a duty of KCC (1996 education Act; 2010 Children Schools and Families Act). It will therefore be essential for KCC to retain the capacity to monitor provision that is being made for pupils defined above, and to retain the financial capacity to meet the needs of any pupils for whom schools no

Original recommendation:	Retain
Schools view:	Retain
Forums view:	Retain
Final recommendation	Retain

37. 14-19 Innovation Team

£477,000

Background

14-19 Innovation Team

There are a number of KCC statutory functions which the team delivers including the duty to encourage participation of learners ages 16 to 19 and to 24 for Learners with Learning Difficulties or Disability (LLDD); duty to provide sufficient suitable provision up to 19 and 24 for LLDD; duty to provide a post-16 transport policy under the new Education Bill, implementation of the new all age careers service by September 2012; tracking all young people up to the age of 19, and registering unemployed under 19 year olds. The team also continues to develop the vocational programme, responding to the Wolf report and supports the ongoing development of the skills centres.

Original recommendation:	Retain
Schools view:	Retain
Forums view:	Retain
Final recommendation	Retain

38. Free school meals eligibility

£107,000

Background

Free school meals eligibility

This process cannot be undertaken independently by individual schools since there are significant financial implication/costs for the public purse if the number of entitlements were to be over-stated or incorrectly assessed. The KCC service has access to government data that enables a cost-effective, independent system to be operated that would not be available to individual schools and academies.

Original recommendation:	Retain
Schools view:	Retain
Forums view:	Retain
Final recommendation	Retain

39. Termination of Employment costs

£3,232,000

Background

Termination of employment costs

The majority of current commitments relate to previous staff redundancies and delegation is not therefore appropriate. The uncommitted portion could be delegated. This meets the agreed redundancy costs of school staff and pension costs of school support staff over the age of 55. Payments relate to staff made redundant when unavoidable school staffing reductions are required, eg because of falling rolls or other funding reductions. Delegation could create real difficulties for small schools.

If retained, the arrangements will be tightened to resist cases of restructures that are not necessitated by funding constraints.

Original recommendation:	Retain
Schools view:	Retain
Forums view:	Retain
Final recommendation	Retain

40. Trade union representation

£231,000

Background

Trade union representation requires a considerable time commitment from a small number of nominated or elected school staff who need to be released from normal duties. Without a central contribution to the costs of covering their absence individual schools are unlikely to agree to such release and representation would not be possible.

Original recommendation:	Retain
Schools view:	Retain
Forums view:	Retain
Final recommendation	Retain

41. School Admissions

£1,339,000

Background

School admissions

This budget supports the county-wide admissions process. The statutory requirement is to manage a system according to regulations, to allocate places in all Kent schools, taking account also of academies, aided and foundation schools that have their own admissions policies. This responsibility could not function on a fully delegated basis.

Original recommendation:	Retain
Schools view:	Retain
Forums view:	Retain
Final recommendation	Retain

42. Schools Funding Forum

£35,000

Background

Servicing of forums

This part of the budget supports the running costs of the schools Funding Forum, the operation of which is a statutory requirement. This cannot be delegated.

Original recommendation:	Retain
Schools view:	Retain
Forums view:	Retain
Final recommendation	Retain

43. Carbon Reduction Tax

£1,000,000

Background

Carbon Reduction Tax

This levy is new from April 2011. KCC is required to purchase credits from the government based on the carbon emissions of its schools and academies. It would be pointless delegating this funding as schools would simply be required to pay it back again to KCC.

Original recommendation:	Retain
Schools view:	Retain
Forums view:	Retain
Final recommendation	Retain