

# EDUCATION, YOUNG PEOPLE AND THE WELSH LANGUAGE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

09/10/2023

## Subject: School Budgets

**Purpose: Review of the position regarding school budgets in primary, secondary and special schools**

### The Scrutiny Committee Is Asked To:-

Review and assess the information contained in Report and provide any recommendations, comments, or advice to the Cabinet Member and / or Director prior to the report's consideration by Cabinet.

### Reason(s)

Update to be provided following initial consideration by the Governance and Audit Committee in July 2022, who requested that a further update report be considered by the Scrutiny Committee.

### Cabinet Member Portfolio Holder:-

**Cllr. Glynog Davies, Education and Welsh Language**

**Directorate: Education and Children's Services**

**Name of Head of Service:**

Aneirin Thomas

**Report Author:**

Susannah Nolan

Aneirin Thomas

**Designations:**

Head of Education and Inclusion

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## School Budgets

### SUMMARY OF PURPOSE OF REPORT.

This report provides an update on school budgets following initial consideration by the Governance and Audit Committee in July 2022, who requested that a further update report be considered by the Scrutiny Committee.

The detailed analysis is based on year-end figures for the 2022-23 financial year.

<b>DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED ?</b>	<b>YES</b>
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# IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

Signed: Aneirin Thomas

Head of Education and Inclusion

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>

## **FINANCE**

The challenges facing school budgets have escalated since Covid with schools utilising reserves to meet essential core costs. Schools have to spend grants on the specified objectives of the funding and the future of these grants are uncertain which could lead to further financial challenges.

## **STAFFING IMPLICATIONS**

With challenging budgetary positions Governing Bodies have to prioritise expenditure. As a high percentage of a school's budget is spent on staffing, a reduced/challenged budget position can lead to staff redundancies.

## **PHYSICAL ASSETS**

With challenging budgetary positions Governing Bodies have to prioritise expenditure. On occasions, required repairs and maintenance are not completed leading to impact an adverse impact on the condition of school buildings.

<b>CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER(S) AWARE/CONSULTED</b>	YES
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**Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information  
List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:**

**THERE ARE NONE**