

Governance & Audit Committee 16 July 2021

Subject and Purpose: Schools' Deficits and Surpluses – Progress Update		
Recommendations / key decisions required: To receive the report.		
Reasons: A progress update was requested at the Audit Committee meeting on 24 th January 2020.		
Relevant scrutiny committee to be consulted: N/A		
Exec. Board Decision Required: N/A Council Decision Required: N/A		
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER: Cllr Glynnog Davies		
Directorate: Education & Children's Services Name of Head of Service: Aneirin Thomas Report Authors: Aneirin Thomas Randal Hemingway Susannah Nolan	Designations: Head of Education & Inclusion Services Head of Financial Services Group Accountant	Tel No.: 01267 246645 E Mail Address: ARThomas@carmarthenshire.gov.uk RHemingway@carmarthenshire.gov.uk SNolan@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Governance & Audit Committee 16 July 2021

Schools' Deficits and Surpluses – Progress Update

1. BRIEF SUMMARY OF PURPOSE OF REPORT.

The Authority distributes funding to maintained Schools according to a formula which corresponds with regulations prescribed by the Welsh Government. The budget is then delegated to the Governing Body of the School concerned; the budget must be controlled in line with the Scheme for the Financing of Schools which sets out the broad responsibilities of the School and the Authority.

All Schools within the Authority are responsible for managing their annual budget and controlling expenditure.

There are currently 98 Primary Schools, 12 Secondary Schools, and 2 Special Schools within the Authority area.

This report provides an update on the Local Authority's strategy and position with maintained schools facing or predicting budget deficit. It follows a previous presentation made to the Audit Committee. The report considers the procedures relating to the management of deficits and surpluses of School budgets. To ensure budgets are submitted and reported in a timely manner, and in accordance with both the School Funding (Wales) Regulations 2010 and the Scheme for the Financing of Schools.

It is recognised that the last 17 months has seen a significant impact on schools and services across Carmarthenshire. As a result, school budgets have been impacted significantly and the Finance Team's capacity with support from School Improvement to support and challenge schools has been severely disrupted.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

YES

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 & Inclusion Services

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

Finance

Actions contained within the report include those related to financial processes and procedures.

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: Aneirin Thomas - Head of Education & Inclusion Services

1. Scrutiny Committee: Not Applicable
2. Local Member(s): Not Applicable
3. Community / Town Council: Not Applicable
4. Relevant Partners: Not Applicable
5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations: Not Applicable

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Internal Audit Report	4118016	Internal Audit Unit