

ANGUS COUNCIL

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

22 AUGUST 2000

BUDGET 2000 – ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL RESOURCES FOR SCHOOLS

REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

1 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Education Committee:

- a notes the terms of Scottish Executive Education Department Circular No 1/2000
(copy attached)
- b notes that an additional sum of money has been allocated to the devolved budget of each Angus school for 2000/2001 in accordance with the distribution proposed in the attached circular

2 BACKGROUND

The background is described in the attached Circular. In accordance with the terms of the Circular, monies have been allocated to the 2000/2001 devolved budgets of all Angus schools as follows:

Primary School with 100 pupils or less (35 schools)	£3,000	(Total £105k)
Primary School with more than 100 pupils but less than 201 pupils (5 schools)	£6,000	(Total £30k)
Primary School with 201 pupils or more (22 schools)	£9,000	(Total £198k)
Secondary School with more than 600 but less than 1201 pupils (All 8 Angus secondary schools fall into this category)	£40,000	(Total £320k)

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The additional £653,000 made available to the Council has been devolved to 2000/2001 devolved school budgets as indicated above. This sum will be included within the Education budget totals for revenue budget monitoring purposes.

4 CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Standing Orders of the Council, this report has been the subject of consultation with the Chief Executive, the Director of Finance and the Director of Law and Administration.

Jim Anderson
Director of Education

No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report.

APPENDIX

JAA/CJ



Education Department

Victoria Quay
Edinburgh EH6 6QQ

Circular No 1/2000

Telephone: 0131-244 0954
Fax: 0131-244 0957

Chief Executives of Local Authorities

Copy to: Directors of Education
Directors of Finance
Chief Executive, COSLAYour ref:
Our ref: KEB/1/21

17 May 2000

BUDGET 2000 – ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL RESOURCES FOR SCHOOLS

1. This circular provides details of the arrangements for the distribution and payment of the additional financial resources to be made available to schools in Scotland following the Budget statement by the Chancellor of the Exchequer on 21 March 2000. It asks authorities to verify the basis of the distribution of the grant (and thereby the amounts payable to each authority) and advises them how to claim payment.

Allocation to Authorities

2. The additional resources will be allocated to education authorities for distribution to schools in their areas under the Grants for Improvements in School Education (Scotland) Regulations 1998. The resources will be allocated on the basis of the roll of schools in each authority's area on the schedule set out in Annex A.
3. The distribution of grant to authorities will be determined on the basis of the categorisation of schools as at the September 1999 Census.
4. I am sending to each Director of Education 2 copies of a list of the schools in their areas which we believe, on the basis of the September 1999 School Census, to be in each of the categories shown in Annex A. To allow processing of the grant, I would be grateful to receive confirmation of the accuracy of that list. This should be done on the application form at Annex B, which should be signed by both the Director of Education and the Director of Finance.
5. Payment will be made to authorities in one lump sum for onward transmission to schools as soon as possible after receipt and checking of the completed application form and any amendments to the list of schools.



Distribution to Schools

6. It will be a condition of payment of this grant that the resources involved will be distributed to schools; that all the schools in the authority's area will benefit from additional resources, and that the resources will be additional to existing or planned school budgets for financial year 2000-01.

7. Ministers wish all schools to benefit from these additional resources. On the basis of reporting of the Budget and subsequent statements, schools may be expecting to receive the amounts which have been publicised. In distributing the resources to schools, authorities may, therefore, wish to be guided by the distribution scale in Annex A. Authorities may, however, wish to vary these amounts in order better to reflect local priorities and the local implications of such factors as very small schools, recent refurbishment, or other significant recent investments in particular schools or across schools for particular purposes. Subject to the conditions described at paragraph 6, authorities are free to do so.

Using the resources

8. Ministers wish these resources to be used to the maximum effect on the priority objective of raising standards in schools. They believe that this priority is shared between themselves, education authorities and schools, and that it will be properly reflected in school development plans. They therefore, consider that within the framework of local priorities identified by the authority (as referred to in paragraph 7) it should be schools which determine how these additional resources should be spent, taking account of the school development plan and other relevant issues. Priorities might include books and other educational materials and equipment (including ICT), staff development, and improvements in building fabric. Schools may also wish to take account of needs arising from the National Year of Maths. Where schools wish to fund additional support staff they should bear in mind that these resources will only be available in this form this financial year.

9. Any enquiries about these arrangements should be directed to Graeme Stuart, telephone 0131 244 0944, or to Martin Jones, telephone 0131 244 0943.

10. Directors of Education should return one copy of the annotated list of schools and the grant application form to Martin Jones at the address at the head of this letter. It would be helpful if these returns could be made as quickly as possible to ensure early payment of the money.



R N IRVINE