

**Report to: Schools Forum**

**Date: 22nd June 2020**

**Report of: Nichola Jones (Assistant Director: Inclusion and SEND)**

**Title: Developing provision locally: HN funding for mainstream developments**

1. **Purpose of the Report**

Birmingham has received additional money for High Needs from Government for 2020/21 with some indication that funding will be maintained at existing levels. The Authority’s report to Schools Forum in January 2020 set out plans for how this money would be used. A significant amount would be targeted at developments in mainstream to help strengthen capacity for inclusion.

Since then, officers have been working with mainstream Heads to identify funding available, to develop priorities and set out the processes by which money will be accessed.

This report summarises the approach which we consider to be most likely to be effective and sustainable. It is focused on schools working together in local areas to meet local needs. The report includes responses to key FAQs that have been raised so far, as well as outlining next steps in driving this development forward.

1. **Recommendations**
2. That Schools Forum note and support the proposed approach
3. That an update on progress should be provided for the next Schools Forum meeting in September