

## HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

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### REPORT OF THE CHILDREN, SCHOOLS AND FAMILIES SELECT COMMITTEE 24 JANUARY 2001

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**NOTE:** A copy of the report mentioned below has been sent to all members of the Children, Schools and Families Select Committee and other members who have requested it. Further copies are available from Julia Harries, Room 222, County Secretary's Department, County Hall, Hertford.  
(Telephone: 01992 555563)

#### **SCHOOL FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS 2001/02**

The Select Committee considered a report outlining the outcomes of consultation with headteachers and governors on the proposed arrangements for funding schools in 2001/02 and later years. The proposals referred to the arrangements for funding nursery, primary, secondary and special schools that are maintained by the Authority, including schools that were formerly grant maintained.

The Committee expressed concern about the effects of additional delegation on schools, in particular on the headteachers and governors of primary schools. In order that the delegation of meals to primary schools was made as straightforward as possible for schools, there were advantages in making a decision in principle now for implementation in April 2002.

The Committee supported the proposed changes to the Funding Formulae recommended by the School Funding Review Steering Group and set out below:

#### **Implementation of the recommendations of the School Funding Review Steering Group, concerning:**

- Economic and social deprivation
- Casual admissions
- Looked after children
- Adjustments to the Age Weighted Pupil Units (AWPUs)

#### **Implementation of the interim recommendations of the Special School Funding Review Steering Group:**

- Introduction of small school payments
- Delegation of income from meals
- Introduction of weighting factor based on the age of the school buildings

**Options for new delegation:**

- Delegation of SEN units (partial hearing, speech and language, and autism bases)
- Property and liability insurance
- School meals and kitchen maintenance

**Changes to simplify the formula:**

- Factor for the provision of school meals
- London fringe factor
- SEN units for pupils with emotional and behavioural difficulties

**Other proposal formula changes:**

- Budget protection for schools with falling numbers
- Factor for funding brand new primary schools
- Secondary schools' split site funding

**Proposed changes to the Scheme for Financing Schools:**

- Minor changes

Tanis Kent  
Chairman  
County Hall  
Hertford

24 January 2001