

Consultation results

This form is for consultation team members to input results of a consultation which will then be published on the NCC website.

All fields marked with an asterisk * are mandatory.

What is the consultation title?*

What were the results?*

School Funding Arrangements for 2017-18

During the consultation period, a total of 71 responses were received, with around 400 head teachers, governors and bursars attending the five briefing sessions supporting the consultation.

A presentation on the results of the consultation was taken to the October 2016 Schools Forum Meeting. The slides and minutes of the meeting have been published, and can be accessed via the link below this summary (after clicking on the link, please select the meeting of 4th October 2016, then select Agenda item 5 to see the consultation outcomes in full).

During the consultation, it was evident that on some items, there is a clearer consensus than others. Proposals with majority support that will be taken forward included:

- The principle of moving to use the proposed National Funding Formula factors before they become compulsory
- The use of the formula factor for English as an Additional Language (EAL), with this increase being funded through a reduction in the deprivation rate.
- Making changes in steps i.e. phasing in any changes.
- Utilising any headroom to fund the High Needs pressures.
- Capping 'gainers' to fund the protection on the 'losers'.

The overarching comments received were as follows:

- A number of responses suggested waiting for greater clarity on the Government's final proposals for the national formula before changing the local formula, while this is still a local decision.
- Similarly, some respondents suggested that we should wait for confirmation on any increases in Schools Grant for Northamptonshire arising from the national fairer funding process, before making these changes.
- Several comments were made against additional support (beyond the school lump sum) for small rural schools.
- Concerns were expressed that staggering the changes would prevent as much protection from MFG.
- Comments about the consultation process. For example, Survey Monkey not allowing responders to revisit and amend their submission and people wanting a "don't know" option. All of these comments have been duly noted.