

**REPORT TO:** Schools Forum

**DATE:** 19<sup>th</sup> October 2022

**REPORTING OFFICER:** Operational Director - Finance

**SUBJECT:** Funding for Financial Management posts from CSSB

**WARDS:** Borough wide

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

To request Schools Forum approval for a change to the level of funding from the Central Schools Services Block for two posts within the Financial Management Division.

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That**

- 2.1 The report is noted.
- 2.2 That approval is given to fund a full time Senior Finance Officer post.

## **3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

### **3.1 Current position**

We currently have agreement to fund from the Former ESG retained duties element of the Central Schools Services Block a 0.8fte Senior Finance Officer post and a full time Finance Officer post at an estimated cost for 22-23 of £88,520.

### **3.2 Proposed position**

As both posts are becoming vacant, we wish to advertise for a full time Senior Finance Officer post as well as the full time Finance Officer post. This will be an increase of £12,720 when both posts are at the top of their respective grades based on the current pay rates, although it is likely that there will be a slight saving during 22-23 due to the time the posts will be vacant and the likely appointment at below the top of the respective grades.

## **4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 Failure to agree to fund the Senior Finance Officer post at full time will likely result in us being unable to recruit to the post. This will severely impact on the service that can be provided to schools, academies and Schools Forum.

## **5.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

- 5.1 **Children & Young People in Halton**

It is essential that schools and education support services receive sufficient funding to allow them to support all children and young people.

**5.2 Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton**

None.

**5.3 A Healthy Halton**

None.

**5.4 A Safer Halton**

None.

**5.5 Halton's Urban Renewal**

None.

**6.0 RISK ANALYSIS**

6.1 We need to comply with the regulations otherwise could have formula imposed on us.

**7.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

7.1 The Local Authority must discharge its statutory responsibilities in relation to all schools and settings.