



School Finance Survey

Aware of the financial challenges facing schools in recent years, the GBA issued a survey to member schools in June 2018. The data collected was used to help inform meetings with key political decision makers. The GBA has already met with Department of Education Permanent Secretary, Derek Baker,

and meetings with political party education spokespeople are scheduled in September. The data collected ensured an evidence-based approach to our advocacy work.

Some of the key findings from the survey can be seen below:

- 28 respondents indicated that they operated at a deficit in 2017-18.
- 9 of these schools were operating at a deficit greater than £100,000.
- 35 respondents indicated that they will operate at a deficit in 2018-19.
- 23 of these schools will be operating at a deficit greater than £100,000.
- 19 schools reported that they made redundancies in 2017-18.
- Respondents indicated that there were 50 redundancies made in 2017-18 (teaching and non-teaching).
- 20 schools reported that they were impacted by the apprenticeship levy.
- Levels of the apprenticeship levy to be paid by member schools varies from £666 - £24,000.
- 3 schools reported a decrease in funding from the Extended Schools Programme.
- 1 school reported that they will no longer receive extended schools' funding of £22,000 per annum.
- Payroll costs as a percentage of the LMS budget increasing year on year.

The GBA would like to thank all the schools who responded to the survey. The information gathered will also be used in our submission to the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee inquiry into education funding.

Westminster Inquiry - Education Funding

The Northern Ireland Affairs Committee is conducting an inquiry into education funding. The GBA has welcomed the inquiry given the absence of Executive and Assembly and will be providing evidence. The committee is seeking views on the following questions:

- Are the funds allocated to the Department of Education in the Northern Ireland Budget Act 2018 sufficient to improve educational outcomes in Northern Ireland?
- How should the UK Government manage additional funding earmarked for education as part of the confidence and supply arrangement?
- Are levels of capital funding sufficient to support investment in improvements to Northern Ireland's schools?

- What are the areas of greatest need in the education sector in Northern Ireland?
- How can funding be best deployed to ensure value for money in education spending?
- How can funding be used to support the different school sectors in Northern Ireland, including schools for children with special educational needs and disabilities?

The GBA will provide a submission to the committee in advance of 31st August 2018 deadline. For more information regarding the inquiry please click this [link](#).

Derek Baker Meeting

The GBA met with Derek Baker, Department of Education Permanent Secretary, and senior officials in July to highlight concerns over the education budget. At the meeting the GBA used findings from the financial survey to inform discussion regarding the precarious state of school finances. The GBA also raised concerns regarding the level of funding for schools operating across split sites and called for this to be re-examined by the Department. Other items on the agenda included area planning and minibus licensing. The meeting with Derek Baker is part of the GBA's continuous engagement with senior officials and party representatives to address levels of funding for front line education provision.

GBA Executive

The last GBA Executive meeting prior to the summer break was held in Methodist College, Belfast on 27th June 2018, with the following items discussed on the agenda:

- Area Based Planning
- Teachers' Negotiating Committee
- Education Budget
- General Teaching Council NI
- LMS Steering
- Lot 8 Project Board

The next GBA Executive meeting will be held on 19th September 2018. If you would like any items to be added to the agenda for discussion at the meeting, please contact Aidan (e) <mailto:Administrator@gbani.org>

Area Planning Update

Local Group meetings are scheduled to take place on 10th and 11th September 2018. These sub-groups will explore proposals for consideration in the 2019/20 plan.

Subgroups have been convened to take forward proposals contained in the 2018/19 Annual Action Plan. On the 29th August the sub-group will meet to look at post primary provision in the Greater Belfast area. The Dungannon sub-group is due to meet in the Autumn.

If you are considering a development proposal for 2019/20 you should contact the designated Area Planning representatives.

GBA Area Planning Contacts

Area Planning	Name	Email
Area Planning Steering Group	Nuala O'Neill	Nuala@gbani.org
Area Planning Working Group	Finbarr McCallion	fmccallion@hotmail.com
Area Planning Local Group Locality 1 Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon Fermanagh & Omagh Mid Ulster	Ronnie Hassard	jrassard@hotmail.com
Area Planning Local Group	Ronnie Hassard	jrassard@hotmail.com

<p>Locality 2</p> <p>Antrim & Newtownabbey</p> <p>Causeway Coast & Glens</p> <p>Derry & Strabane</p> <p>Mid and East Antrim</p>		
<p>Area Planning Local Group</p> <p>Locality 3</p> <p>Newry, Mourne & Down</p> <p>Ards & North Down</p> <p>Lisburn & Castlereagh</p> <p>Belfast</p>	<p>Geraldine Pettigrew</p>	<p>mtgpettigrew@gmail.com</p>

Shared Education

A reminder to schools that funding for Shared Education is available through the EU's PEACE IV programme, with matched funding provided by the

Department for Education and the Department for Education and Skills in the Republic of Ireland.

To date, over 89 local partnerships involving over 200 schools with a funding commitment of close to €1 million has been approved.

If you would like further information, please contact Nuala O'Neill (e) nuala@gbani.org

Advertising a Teaching/Non-Teaching Vacancy

As you may be aware the GBA can host teaching and non-teaching vacancies on its website <http://www.gbani.org/> and the information is also shared on our Twitter account. This service is free of charge for all member schools. Details of vacancies should be sent to Administrator@gbani.org, please allow one working day for the vacancy to be updated.

Upcoming Events

[Skills Northern Ireland](#) – Wednesday 7th and Thursday 8th November 2018

Website and Twitter

Please visit the Governing Bodies Association website on the following [link](#).

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Email Subscription

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