



Education
Funding
Agency

EFA Business Plan

2013-2015

This business plan will be updated annually

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1. The Education Funding Agency (EFA)

The Education Funding Agency (EFA) was established on 01 April 2012 as an Executive Agency of the Department for Education (DfE). Annex A sets out the organisational structure of the EFA.

The EFA's principal responsibilities are:

- to provide funding for the education of pupils in academies;
- to distribute the dedicated schools grant for the education of pupils up to age 16 in local authority maintained schools;
- to provide funding for all 16-19 education and training;
- to provide funding for the education of children and young people aged up to age 25 with high needs and who are supported by an education, health and care plan;
- to support the delivery of capital programmes for schools, academies, free schools, university technical colleges, studio schools and sixth-form colleges.

2. The EFA Business Plan in Context

The EFA Business Plan has been developed in the context of the Department for Education Business Plan 2011-2015 and the Framework Document agreed between the Secretary of State for Education and the EFA Chief Executive. The plan will be updated annually.

The plan supports the Government's priorities for reform, which are to:

- increase the number of high quality schools and introduce fair funding;
- reform the school curriculum and qualifications;
- reduce bureaucracy and improve accountability;
- train and develop the professionals who work with children;
- improve support for children in Early Years;
- improve support for children, young people and families, focusing on the most disadvantaged.

3. EFA High-level Objectives 2013-15

The EFA has six high-level objectives.

- **Allocations:** ensure that revenue and capital allocations are accurate and on time.
- **Payments:** ensure that funding agreements are in place and payments are made accurately and on time.
- **Capital:** deliver effective programme management and evaluation of strategic capital programmes that will improve the condition of existing buildings and support the creation of new places for pupils and learners.
- **Financial Assurance:** ensure the proper use of public funds through financial assurance undertaken by the EFA itself, or by others.
- **IT Investment Plan:** successfully implement the milestones in our IT Investment Plan to time and budget to support reduction of our operating costs and improved effectiveness.

4. Priorities

Academies and Maintained Schools Funding

- Calculate annual revenue funding allocations, including the pupil premium, for all new and open academies, free schools, university technical colleges and studio schools.
- Implement the 2014/15 schools funding reforms and high needs funding.
- Allocate dedicated schools grant to local authorities.
- Provide an efficient customer enquiry service to open academies and free schools, UTCs and studio schools.
- Act on behalf of the Secretary of State to ensure that open academies and free schools, UTCs and studio schools are complying with their funding agreements and relevant statutory legislation.

Young People

- Monitor the impact of the new mainstream participation formula on institutions' offer to young people, support the introduction of Traineeships from September 2013, and make accurate on-time allocations including bursary funding to institutions by the end of March 2014.
- Support successful local authority implementation for 2013/14 of the new commissioning and funding system for high needs students, improve the allocations process for 2014/15, and make accurate on-time allocations to local authorities and institutions by the end of March 2014.
- Intervene quickly and decisively and with beneficial impact for students where institutions are failing.

Capital

- Provide programme management and support for free schools, the Priority School Building Programme and other school delivery programmes, and make capital grants for building programmes at academies and sixth form colleges.
- Ensure capital investment is delivered on time, on budget and to agreed quality standards.
- Provide advice and guidance on the effective and efficient design of school buildings.

Chief Financial Officer's Group

- Make accurate and timely payments of £54bn of revenue and capital funding including the dedicated schools grant (DSG), Pupil Premium and academies general annual grant (GAG).

- Provide audit and assurance on the proper use of public funds to the EFA Accounting Officer.
- Consolidate academies into Department budgeting and accounting statements.
- Implement systems to support the effective operation of the EFA.

5. Key Deliverables and Performance Measures 2013-15

The EFA identifies nine performance indicators at the centre of a performance framework that we use to monitor our performance. The EFA will publish details of its performance against the following service standards:

Allocations

- Proportion of allocations made accurately and on time.

Payments

- Proportion of payments made accurately and on time.

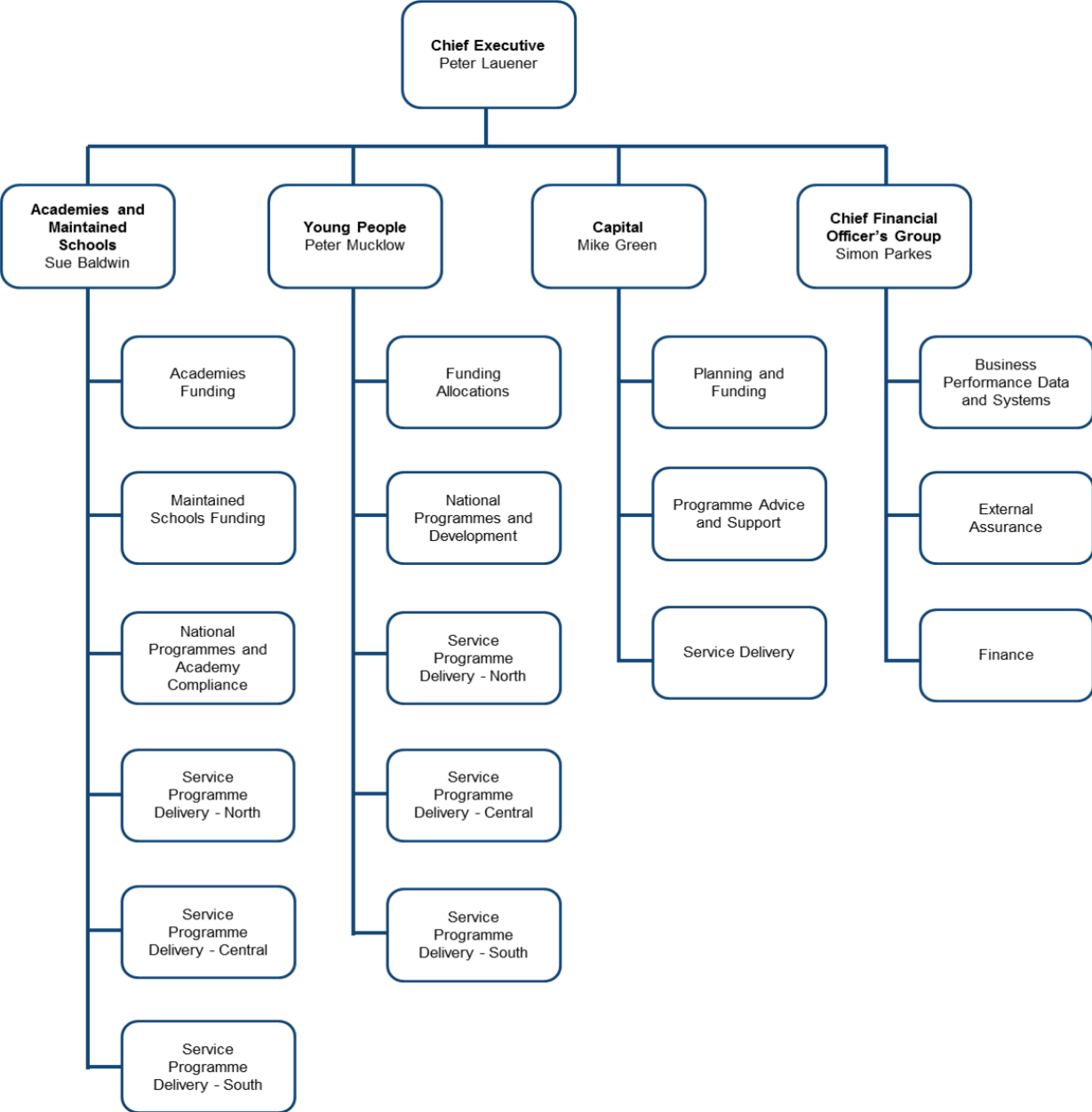
Capital

- Percentage of academy, free school, university technical college, studio school projects completed on time.
- Progress on delivery of Priority Schools Building Programme and residual Building Schools for the Future schools.
- Progress on securing up to date information on the condition of the nation's schools.

Financial Assurance

- Timely receipt, and where relevant consolidation, of all financial returns from academies, sixth-form colleges and local authorities.
- External assurance visits undertaken to academies and sixth-form colleges in line with the external assurance plan.
- Percentage of academy accounts received by 31 December and by 31 March.
- Percentage of Financial Management and Governance Self-assessments being completed by all new academies within four months of conversion.

Annex A - Organisational Structure of the EFA



Annex B - Planned Expenditure 2013-14

Area of Spend	£million
Pre-16	
Dedicated schools grant	28,167
Education services grant	800
Capital	3,520
Pupil premium	1,875
Private Finance Initiative	740
Academies	11,236
16-19	
School sixth forms (including academies)	2,307
Further education	4,228
Youth Contract	42
Learners with Learning Difficulties and Disabilities	89
Capital	146
Financial support for 16 to 18 year olds	228
Apprenticeships	809
Administration	
EFA administration	65
Total	
Total planned expenditure	54,251



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