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Date:	8 May 2003	Email:	bryan.slater.edu@norfolk.gov.uk

To: Headteachers
All Schools

Dear Colleague

SCHOOLS BUDGET QUESTIONS 2003/04

You will have been aware through the publicity over the past month of the school budget funding questions being posed by the DfES.

I felt I ought to clarify the situation for schools to avoid any confusion on the treatment of school funds in Norfolk.

The £10.7 million DfES suggest is being withheld from schools is made of three amounts. £2.8 million relates to Band E SEN funding and funding for NQT induction which will be released to schools in the next two terms as needs are identified. £6.3 million relates to Standards Fund resources which DfES guidance is being followed on its use and release. A full list of the £6.3 million is attached. The remaining £1.6 million is the additional DfES grant which was allocated to schools on 8 April.

A second point that is being made is that £4 million was being diverted from Norfolk schools, because the non-delegated element of schools block expenditure has grown more quickly than the delegated element. An example of this element of expenditure is nursery education which has indeed expanded rapidly and is set to continue to do so. In fact the DfES analysis also shows Norfolk passporting £10 million more than required

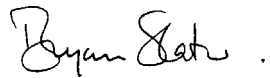
The third point is that DfES claims £3.4 million is being diverted from schools into capital spending. This sum is in fact Norfolk's contribution to the National Grid for Learning Spending which will be spent within schools once needs have been identified. It is classified as capital expenditure as a DfES requirement. I hope the above information clarifies that Norfolk is not withholding funds due to schools. The processes being used this year are identical to those employed in previous years.

I would add that I am very much aware of the budgetary situation facing all schools. I will be reporting the overall situation to local members later this month. I am also ensuring that local MP's including the Secretary of State are aware of the local school funding situation.

If you have any questions on the contents of this letter please contact your named Finance Support Officer.

I have also enclosed a copy of this letter for your Chairman of Governors, please pass it on to him/her.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bryan Sato". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a period at the end.

Director of Education

cc: Chair of Governors

Unallocated 2003 - 2004 Devolved Standards Fund

SF100a	Leadership Incentive Grant <i>Balance of funding to be devolved to schools on the approval by the DfES of their plans.</i>	£1,230,000
SF202	Special Education Needs <i>To be allocated to schools for cluster school based activities in the summer term following successful school cluster bids.</i>	£550,000
SF206	Study Support <i>Funding allocated to lead cluster schools in spring and summer terms on the production of local plans.</i>	£228,000
SF301	National Literacy & Numeracy Strategies <i>The LEAs literacy and numeracy action plan was submitted to Regional Directors before the 31 January 2003 deadline for agreement by the end of February. The plan was approved in March too late for the funding to be included in the initial 28 February allocation.</i> <i>Funding targeted to named to provide intensive support and an intervention programme schools to be allocated by the end of May 2003.</i> <i>Funding to provide the national literacy and numeracy training priorities, catch-up training programmes, leadership training, year 3 and year 6 training and capacity building to be allocated in May, 2003.</i> <i>This funding is available for training related costs and cannot be used to support general schools pending.</i> <i>£696,000 to be allocated to run booster classes. This will be allocated to schools in September following KS2 test results.</i>	£2,600,000
SF302	Key Stage 3 Strategies <i>This funding will be allocated in summer, autumn and spring terms to provide intensive support and an intervention programme to named schools. The resources available for in-school activities has already been allocated.</i>	£1,246,000
SF303	Ethnic Minority Achievement <i>The Standards Fund Circular originally required this</i>	£156,000

*money should be devolved to schools.
The DfES changed the rules to indicate that this grant
should be 100% retained subject to consultation with
schools. This consultation is being undertaken with
Norfolk Schools Forum.*

SF402	Gifted & Talented Summer Schools <i>£9,000 to 5 named schools running this programme. Bids from schools currently being scrutinised.</i>	£45,000
SF504	Advanced Skills Teachers <i>To fund the recruitment of additional ASTs to reach Norfolk's AST target numbers. Will be allocated when additional ASTs appointed.</i>	£240,000
Total		<u>£6,295,000</u>