



Julia Harnden

ASCL Funding Specialist |  @julia_harnden



Sam Ellis

ASCL Funding Consultant

Webinar five – The challenge of making budget assumptions



- ASCL approach to budget planning
- Key budget assumptions
- Making budget assumptions work for you
- What happens next?

ASCL approach to budget planning



CONTEXT IS
EVERYTHING



CHOICES MINDSET



CLUTTER FREE

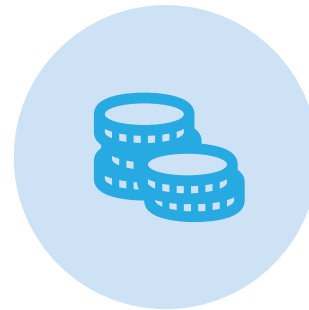
Budget planning building blocks



SOFTWARE



**PAST, PRESENT,
FUTURE**



**VALUE FOR
MONEY**



SCRUTINY

Assumptions

As well as the 'known knowns', a good budget plan will include a set of assumptions to cover the 'known unknowns'!

There are always more questions than answers



1

Consider

Trend analysis

Information available

Planning approach

[ASCL three-year budget
planning information paper](#)



2

Key assumptions

Pupil numbers

Revenue per pupil

Staff pay awards

Employer contributions

Inflation

Impact of local context

3

Options

Scenario planning

Balancing assumptions

Risk appetite

Making assumptions work for you

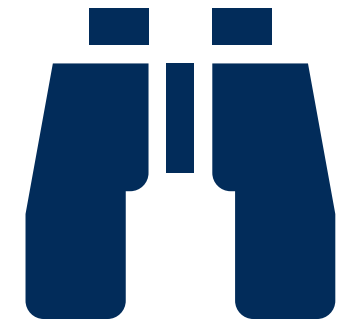
What are the outcomes that will be most important for strategic success?

Given these priorities where should resources go?

How can we test these resource allocation strategies quickly and efficiently?



Financial precision



Strategic success

Success criteria



Sustainable curriculum – priorities



Teaching contact time – connectivity/ remote learning



Safe and well maintained buildings



Curriculum resources – access to remote learning



Support staff - bubbles

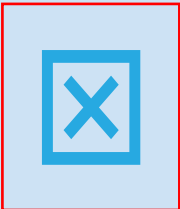


Local context

Approaches to avoid



Assumptions are dangerous when accepted as reality without thorough examination



Tick box exercise

What happens next?

Hard national funding formula

Spending Round 2020



Spending round spoilers

Schools 5-16

Schools capital

Colleges capital

Holiday activities fund (Haf)

Spending round key questions

Early years

16-19 programme funding and FE

Capital

Public sector pay

COVID costs

ASCL Information Paper : Three year budget planning

https://www.ascl.org.uk/Resources/Information-Paper_Three-year-budget-planning

The equation of life

<https://www.ascl.org.uk/The-Equation-of-Life>

Basic Principles of ICFP

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/828604/ICFP_guidance_-_basic_principles_logo.pdf



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