
Scheme for Financing Schools

Report being considered by: Schools Forum on 19th October 2020

Report Author: Melanie Ellis

Item for: Decision **By:** All Maintained schools representatives

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To approve the proposed consultation on the updated Scheme for Financing Schools to go to Schools Forum.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That the updated Scheme for Financing Schools goes out to consultation for three weeks from 21 October to 11 November 2020 and that the updated Scheme is in place from 1 April 2021.

Will the recommendation require the matter to be referred to the Council or the Executive for final determination?	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/>	No: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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3. Introduction

- 3.1 Local authorities are required to publish schemes for financing schools which set out the financial relationship between the local authority and the schools they maintain.
- 3.2 The Department for Education (DfE) issues statutory guidance for local authorities on schemes for financing schools. The DfE guidance lists the provisions which a local authority must, should or may include. Local schemes need not follow the exact format used in the DfE guidance, except for the text of directed revisions. The DfE guidance is updated annually. Issue 12 was published on 1 April 2020 and updated on 5 August 2020 and can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/schemes-for-financing-schools/schemes-for-financing-local-authority-maintained-schools>
- 3.3 In making any changes to the scheme, a local authority must consult all maintained schools in their area and receive the approval of the members of their schools forum representing maintained schools.
- 3.4 The local authority has reviewed the current scheme to ensure that all sections are still appropriate. Following on from this review a number of changes are proposed. The proposed Scheme for Financing Schools (2020) is attached to this document, along with a guide to changes that have been made.

4. Consultation

- 4.1 A three week consultation with maintained schools will be undertaken between 21 October and 11 November 2020.