

# Scheme for Financing Schools

**Report being considered by:** Schools' Forum on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2025

**Report Author:** Elizabeth Griffiths

**Item for:** Decision **By:** All Maintained School Members

## 1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To discuss the responses to the consultation on the updated Scheme for Financing Schools.

## 2. Recommendation

- 2.1 To recommend to Schools Forum to approve the suggested amendment and publish and adopt the updated Scheme for Financing Schools by 15<sup>th</sup> July 2025.

**Is the Schools' Forum required to make a decision as part of this report or subsequent versions due to be considered later in the meeting cycle?**

Yes: ☒

No: ☐

## 3. Implications and Impact Assessment

Equalities Impact:	Positive	No Impact	Negative	Commentary
<b>A</b> Are there any aspects of the proposed decision, including how it is delivered or accessed, that could impact on inequality?		x		
<b>B</b> Will the proposed decision have an impact upon the lives of people with protected characteristics, including employees and service users?		x		

<b>Data Impact:</b>		x		
<b>Consultation and Engagement:</b>	All maintained schools			

#### 4. Introduction/Background

- 4.1 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.
- 4.2 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.
- 4.3 Issue 16 was published on 27 March 2025 and can be found at:

[Schemes for financing local authority maintained schools 2025 to 2026 - GOV.UK](#)

- 4.4 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.
- 4.5 The local authority has reviewed the current scheme to ensure that all sections are still appropriate. The proposed Scheme for Financing Schools (2025 update) and Appendix B highlighting the proposed updates were both emailed to schools.

#### 5. Supporting Information

- 5.1 Two responses have been received both of which were happy with the changes and had no comments to make.

#### 6. Appendices

- 6.1 None