



SCHOOLS FORUM

Proposed Amendments to the Leicestershire Scheme for Financing Schools

20 June 2013

Content Applicable to;		School Phase;	
Maintained Schools	X	Pre School	
Academies		Foundation Stage	X
PVI Settings		Primary	X
Special Schools / Academies		Secondary	X
Local Authority		Post 16	
		High Needs	

Purpose of Report

Content Requires;		By;	
Noting		Maintained Primary School Members	X
Decision	X	Maintained Secondary School Members	X
		Maintained Special School Members	X
		Academy Members	
		All Schools Forum	

1. This report presents changes to the Leicestershire Scheme for Financing Schools which are necessary as a result of a directed revision by the Secretary of State for Education.

Recommendation

2. That Schools Forum approve the revised Scheme for Financing Schools to be retrospectively applied to 1st April 2013.

Background

3. The Scheme for Financing Schools sets out the financial relationship between a local authority and the schools it maintains, it is not applicable to Academies who have their own separate financial framework.
4. Much of the scheme is prescribed by the Department of Education (DfE) although there is flexibility to incorporate locally agreed changes following consultation with all schools. The proposed changes are largely the result of a directed revision by the Secretary of State issued in March 2013 to ensure that the scheme is reflective of current legislation and school funding reform.
5. The document proposes two local changes;
 - Paragraph 2.23 clarifies that the local authority may issue a financial Notice of Concern to a school converting to sponsored academy status and a closing school. This is to ensure that the local authority is able to protect its financial position through involvement within the school's financial management to prevent a deficit position which would fall to be charged to Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG).
 - Paragraph 4.12 clarifies the treatment of local authority loans to schools upon academy conversion. Loans will become payable in full unless the local authority agrees to maintain the former repayment schedule.
6. The revised document was issued for consultation on 5th April and consultation closed on May 20th. No comments were received from schools.
7. The proposed Scheme is shown as Appendix 1.

Resource Implications

8. There are no resource implications directly arising from this report.

Equal Opportunity Implications

9. There are no equal opportunities implications directly arising from this report.

Officer to Contact

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