

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2015/2016 REPORT NO. 16

MEETING TITLE AND DATE:

Schools Forum – 20 January 2016

REPORT OF:

Interim Director of Children's Services and
Interim Chief Education Officer

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Item: 4b

Subject:

Scheme for Financing – 2016/17: Revision

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The DfE have recently published revisions to the regulations governing the arrangements for the Scheme for Financing and also the revisions identified as part of changes to the local arrangements. This report provides information on the revisions and seeks the Schools Forum approval to amending the local scheme.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Forum is asked to consider and approve the required revisions to the Scheme for Financing.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Local Authority is required to agree and publish annually a Scheme for Financing Maintained Schools. The Scheme aims to cover the financial relationship between maintained schools and the Local Authority.
- 3.2 This report informs Members of any proposed amendments to the Scheme for 2016/17.

4. UPDATES

- 4.1 The Schools Budget 2016/17 update report (elsewhere on the agenda) includes a change to the arrangements for funding primary schools on a split site. If this proposal is agreed then this change will need to be included in the Scheme for Financing.
- 4.2 The EU thresholds for tendering have been revised and the new thresholds are as follows:
 - Services £164,176
 - Supplies £164,176
 - Works £4,104,394

Schools were advised of this change but this report seeks formal approval from the Forum to amend the Scheme to reflect this change.

- 4.3 The DfE recently published revisions to the regulations governing the arrangements for admission appeals. Currently, the Local Authority is the statutory admission authority for community schools and therefore the cost of the appeals has been met from the DSG. For other types of maintained schools, the Governing Bodies are the admission authority and they have been charged for the cost of admission appeals.

It is proposed that the Local Authority service encompasses the admission appeals for all maintained schools and, in line with the regulations, the Scheme for Financing is amended to include the following: *Costs incurred by the authority in administering admissions appeals, where the local authority is the admissions authority and the funding for admission appeals has been delegated to all schools as part of their formula allocation.*