

Dudley Schools Forum – 21st January 2014

Report of the Interim Director of Children's Services

School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2013

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to update Schools Forum on the latest amendments to the School Finance Regulations as advised by Central Government.

Budget Working Group Discussed

2. No.

Schools Forum Role and Responsibilities

3. To be aware of the regulatory framework, which governs the financing of schools.

Action for Schools Forum

4. To note the amendments to the School Finance Regulations.

Attachments

5. Appendix A– School and Early Years Finance Regulations (England) 2013.
6. Appendix B – Summary of new features in the Regulations and DSG conditions of grant for the financial year 2014/15.

Karen Cocker
Children's Services Finance Manager
7 January 2014

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School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2013

1. The purpose of this report is to update Schools Forum on the latest amendments to the School Finance Regulations as advised by Central Government.

Background

2. The School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2013 were laid before Parliament on 9 December 2013 and come into force on 1 January 2014
3. These apply for the financial year 2014/15 and revoke the School Finance (England) Regulations 2012 on 1 April 2014. As previously, they define the non-schools education budget, the schools budget, the central expenditure and the individual schools budget and require local authorities to determine budget shares for schools maintained by them in accordance with the appropriate formula. They also prescribe the amounts to be allocated in respect of nursery classes in schools maintained by them and relevant early years providers in their area and impose requirements in relation to local authorities' Financial Schemes.
4. The changes from the 2012 Regulations are summarised in Appendix B.
5. In particular, Forum should note that local authorities are required to determine the amount of individual school's budget share by 28 February 2014, except in relation to sixth form funding, special schools, pupil referral units and nursery provision which must be determined by 31 March 2014.

Finance

6. The funding of schools is prescribed by the DfE through the School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2012 and 2013.
7. Schools Forums are regulated by the Schools Forums (England) Regulations 2012.
8. From 1st April 2006, the Schools Budget has been funded by a direct grant: Dedicated School Grant (DSG).

Law

9. Councils' LMS Schemes are made under Section 48 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998. The Education Acts 1996 and 2002 also have provisions relating to school funding.

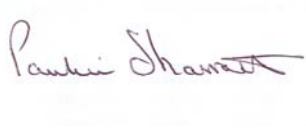
Equality Impact

10. The Council's Equal Opportunities Policy is taken into account when considering the allocation of resources.

Recommendation

11. Schools Forum to:

- Note the amendments to the School Finance Regulations referred to in Appendix B of this report.



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