

**Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council**

**Schools Forum 6 February 2007**

**Report of the Director of Children's Services**

**Scheme for Financing Schools**

**Purpose of Report**

1. To advise Schools Forum of responses received to the consultation regarding changes to Dudley's Scheme for Financing Schools.

**Discussed at HTCF – BWG**

2. Yes- brief update given 10 January 2007.

**Actions for Schools Forum**

3. To approve the proposed changes to Dudley's Scheme for Financing Schools.

**Attachments to Report**

4. Appendix 1 revised Scheme for Financing Schools.

Karen Cocker

Children's Services Finance Manager

February 2007

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### **Report of the Director of Children's Services**

#### **Dudley Scheme for Financing Schools**

##### **Purpose of Report**

1. To advise Schools Forum of responses received to the consultation regarding changes to Dudley's Scheme for Financing Schools.

##### **Background**

2. Under section 48 of the Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998 all local authorities are required to establish and maintain a scheme for financing schools setting out the relationship between the local authority and the schools it maintains.
3. The Schools Finance Regulations 2006, schedule 6, lists the issues that all schemes should address. The DfES provides guidance to local authorities on the more detailed content of their schemes. This guidance is revised from time to time to reflect changes and amendments to legislation and policy.
4. The DfES has recently issued revised guidance to local authorities that have required Dudley's Scheme to be amended.
5. At a meeting on 12 December 2006 details of the proposed amendments to the Scheme were presented to Schools Forum for information. It was agreed that the revised Scheme should be issued for consultation.
6. The consultation period ended on 15 January 2007.
7. No responses were received so the document will be submitted as appended.

##### **Finance**

8. The funding of schools is prescribed by the DfES through the School Finance (England) Regulations 2006.
9. From 1<sup>st</sup> April 2006, the Schools Budget is funded by a direct DfES grant: Dedicated School Grant (DSG).

##### **Law**

10. 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**

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

**Recommendation**

12. That Schools Forum approves Dudley's revised Scheme for Financing Schools (Appendix 1).

13. The Scheme should be forwarded to the DfES to be formally approved.



**John Freeman**

**Director of Children's Services**

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