

Schools Forum 8 July 2008

Report of the Director of Children's Services

Schools Forum Training

Purpose of Report

1. To identify and agree a training programme for Schools Forum members.

Budget Working Group Discussed

2. No

Actions for Schools Forum

3. To identify training needs.

Attachments:

4. Appendix A – Training proposal.

Karen Cocker
Children's Services Finance Manager
23 June 2008

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Purpose of Report

1. To identify and agree a training programme for Schools Forum members.

Background

2. There is no national training available for Schools Forum members despite the Schools Budget being the largest single area of revenue expenditure for the Council.
3. The Director of Children's Services is proposing a programme of training for Forum members to embrace:
 - The changing role of Schools Forum
 - The appointment of new members to the Forum
 - The DCSF Every Child Matters agenda together with the role of the Children's Trust
 - The strategic direction of the Children's Services Directorate
 - The DCSF deprivation agenda and linkages with attainment
 - School Improvement and school inclusion
4. It is proposed that the training programme would be facilitated with a guest speaker and scheduled for a late Friday afternoon start with a Saturday lunchtime closure.
5. The content of the training programme will be with the agreement of Schools Forum.
6. In order to compile a programme of training requirements, a schedule of training topics is attached at Appendix A.

7. Forum members are asked to review this training schedule before the July meeting and advise the Director at the meeting. Further work can be carried out to identify a training programme or, alternatively the proforma at Appendix A can be returned after completion.

Finance

8. The funding of schools is prescribed by the DCSF through the School Finance (England) Regulations 2008.
9. Schools Forums are regulated by the School Forums Regulations 2002 as already amended by the Schools Forums (Amendment) Regulations 2004 the Schools Forums (Amendment) 2005 Regulations and the Schools Forums (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2008.
10. From 1st April 2006, the Schools Budget has been funded by a direct DCSF grant: Dedicated School Grant (DSG).

Law

11. 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

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

Recommendation

13. Schools Forum review the schedule of training topics attached at Appendix A and indicate to the Director their training requirements.



John Freeman

Director of Children's Services

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