

**Dudley Schools Forum – 8<sup>th</sup> July 2014**

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

**Schools Forum Proposed Meetings 2014/15 Academic Year**

**Purpose of Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to provide Schools Forum with a schedule of proposed meeting dates for the 2014/15 academic year.

**Budget Working Group Discussed**

2. Yes – 2 July 2014.

**Schools Forum Role and Responsibilities**

3. The current Schools Forums (England) Regulations 2012 state that a Schools Forum must meet at least four times a year and are quorate if at least two fifths of the total membership is present at a meeting.

**Action for Schools Forum**

4. To agree the proposed dates for the 2014/15 academic year.

**Attachments to Report**

5. Appendix A – Schedule of proposed Schools Forum, Agenda Setting and Budget Working Group meetings for the 2014/15 academic year.

Karen Cocker  
Children's Services Finance Manager  
23 June 2014

**Schools Forum 8 July 2014**

**Report of the Interim Director of Children’s Services**

**Schools Forum Proposed Meetings 2014/15 Academic Year**

1. The purpose of this report is to provide Schools Forum with a schedule of proposed meeting dates for the 2014/15 academic year.

**Background**

2. The 8 July meeting is the last scheduled meeting of the Forum for the 2013/14 academic year.
3. Whilst the Schools Forum Regulations state that a Schools Forum must meet at least four times a year, the Dudley Schools Forum normally meets six times a year and more frequently if there are strategic funding decisions to be made.
4. Given the ongoing nature of the School Funding Reforms and DFE policy changes it is anticipated that additional meetings will be required between September 2014 and March 2015. Therefore the schedule of meetings for the forthcoming academic year is detailed in Table 1. In the event that a meeting is not necessary then this will be cancelled and members advised.
5. Table 1 – Schools Forum Meetings for 2014/15 Academic Year

<b>Schools Forum Meeting 6pm</b>	<b>Venue</b>
23 September 2014 (Tues)	<b>Saltwells EDC</b>
21 October 2014 (Tues)	<b>Saltwells EDC</b>
25 November 2014 (Tues)	<b>Saltwells EDC</b>
16 December 2014 (Tues)	<b>Saltwells EDC</b>
27 January 2015 (Tues)	<b>Saltwells EDC</b>
24 February 2015 (Tues)	<b>Saltwells EDC</b>
24 March 2015 (Tues)	<b>Saltwells EDC</b>
2 June 2015 (Tues)	<b>Saltwells EDC</b>
7 July 2015 (Tues)	<b>Saltwells EDC</b>

6. The meetings will commence at 6pm and be held at Saltwells Educational Development Centre.
7. Appendix A includes details of the proposed agenda setting meetings with likely agenda item together with the meeting dates for the Agenda setting and the Head Teachers Consultative Forum – Budget Working Group (HTCF-BWG).

## **Finance**

8. The funding of schools is prescribed by the Department for Education (DfE) through the School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2013.
9. Schools Forums are regulated by the Schools Forums (England) Regulations 2012.
10. From 1 April 2006, the Schools Budget has been funded by a direct 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 to consider the schedule of meetings proposed for 2014/15 academic year and to advise the Interim Director of Children's Services if any variations are required.



**Pauline Sharratt**  
**Interim Director of Children's Services**

Contact Officer: Karen Cocker, Children's Services Finance Manager  
[Karen.cocker@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:Karen.cocker@dudley.gov.uk) Tel: 01384 815382