

Schools Forum 17 March 2009

Report of the Interim Director of Children's Services

Dudley Schools Forum - Constitution

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to seek Schools Forum approval to an updated version of the Dudley Schools Forum constitution.

Budget Working Group Discussed

2. No

Action for Schools Forum

3. To approve an updated version of the Dudley Schools Forum constitution. This has been amended slightly to reflect the operational requirements of the School Member election process.
4. To note paragraph 30 of the Constitution regarding 'substitutes'- Appendix 1 refers.
5. To receive an update in respect of the School Member election process, this is currently underway.

Attachments to Report

6. Updated Dudley Schools Forum Constitution for approval – Appendix 1.
7. Dudley Schools Forum Constitution approved in December 2009 – Appendix 2.
8. 2009 Election process for School Members – Appendix 3.

Karen Cocker
Children's Services Finance Manager
2 March 2009

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Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to seek Schools Forum approval to an updated version of the Dudley Schools Forum constitution.

Background

2. At the December 2008 meeting, Forum Members approved the Dudley Schools Forum Constitution.
3. In January 2009 the process for electing School Members was discussed in detail with the Governance Team. This highlighted that the recently approved constitution needed slight amendments in order to comply with the election process for School Members. None of the proposed amendments are changes in principle but more of process and therefore Schools Forum is asked to approve the Constitution at Appendix 1 as the latest version. Paragraph 16 and 17 are new.
4. Also, at the meeting in February 2009, the arrangement for substitutes was discussed. This is outlined in paragraph 30 of the Constitution at Appendix 1.
5. Appendix 3 outlines the election process in respect of School Members. An update will be presented to Schools Forum at the meeting on 17 March 2009.

Finance

6. The funding of schools is prescribed by the DCSF through the School Finance (England) Regulations 2008.
7. 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.
8. From 1st April 2006, the Schools Budget has been funded by a direct DCSF 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 approve the latest updated version of the Dudley Schools Forum Constitution and note any information presented at the meeting.



Jane Porter

Interim Director of Children's Services

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