

Schools Forum – Tuesday 5th February 2008

Report of the Director of Children's Services

Schools Forums (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2008

Purpose of Report

1. To advise Schools Forum of the DCSF guidance on the Schools Forums (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2008, which come into force from 11 February 2008.

Budget Working Group Discussed

2. No- statutory changes by DCSF.

Action for Schools Forum

3. To note.

Attachments to Report

4. Appendix 1 – DCSF guidance letter dated 17th January 2008.
5. Appendix 2 – Schools Forums: Powers and Responsibilities

Karen Cocker
Children's Services Finance Manager
22 January 2008

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Purpose of Report

1. To advise Schools Forum of the DCSF guidance on the Schools Forums (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2008, which comes into force from 11 February 2008.

Background

2. The Schools Forums Regulations (England) 2008 will be laid shortly before Parliament, following technical consultation with stakeholders. They will come into force from 11th February 2008 and will amend the Schools Forums (England) Regulations 2002.
3. The Department has written to all Directors of Children's Services with guidance on the Schools Forum (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2008. The letter, dated 17 January 2008 containing the guidance can be viewed on TeacherNet at this address: <http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/schoolsforums/>. A copy is attached at Appendix 1.
4. The changes required of the 2008 regulations have already been discussed by Schools Forum and the necessary action taken.
5. The DCSF letter of 17th January 2008 also advises Schools Forums of their powers and responsibilities. A copy of this is attached at Appendix 2.

Finance

6. The funding of schools is prescribed by the DCSF through the School Finance (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2007.
7. Schools Forums are regulated by the Schools Forums Regulations 2002 as already amended by the Schools Forums (Amendment) Regulations 2004, the

Schools Forums (Amendment) 2005 Regulations and Schools Forums (England)(Amendment) Regulations 2008 .

8. From 1st April 2006, the Schools Budget will be 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. That Schools Forum to note the contents of this report and in particular their powers and responsibilities as detailed in Appendix 2.



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Director of Children's Services

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