

REPORT FOR SCHOOLS FORUM

1.	Date of meeting:	28th April 2023
2.	Title:	Scheme for Financing Schools (updated)
3.	Directorate:	Finance and Customer Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report builds upon previous reports to Schools Forum setting out the main amendments to the Scheme for Financing Schools to bring in line with the DfE's latest version, updated 31 March 2023.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 2.1 That Schools Forum note the updates to the Scheme for Financing Schools sections highlighted in yellow.
- 2.2 That Schools Forum note the DfE's latest version, updated 31 March 2023.
- 2.3 That the Schools Forum agree for the Updated Scheme for Financing Schools to be disseminated to schools.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION & CONTEXT

- 3.1 Nationally the DfE publishes statutory guidance for local authorities.
- 3.2 Local authorities are required to publish schemes for financing schools, setting out the relationships between them and the schools they maintain.
- 3.3 The DfE's latest version, updated 31 March 23 can be found by following the link below:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/schemes-for-financing-schools>
- 3.4 It was a recommendation of the Ratings of School Audit that The Scheme for Financing Schools be reviewed to confirm the correct procedures and contract limits that should be used by schools are included and reflects the statutory requirements of the Governments 'schemes for financing LA maintained schools' and other legislation.

4 UPDATES TO THE SCHEME FOR FINANCING SCHOOLS

4.1 The main updates to the Scheme for Financing Schools document are highlighted in yellow in the document itself and detailed in the table below.

Section	Section Title	Index Number	Index Title	Page(s)	New/Update
C	Governance and Accountability	C.12	Notice of Concern	11-12	New Content
C	Governance and Accountability	C.13	Responsibility for Legal Costs	12	New Content
E	Budget Monitoring and Reporting	E.4	Central Funds and Earmarking	19	New Content
F	Financial Management and Administration	F.8	Employment Status and IR35 Assessments	24-26	New Content
F	Financial Management and Administration	F.10	Retention of Documents	27	Updated Content
F	Financial Management and Administration	F.12	Service Level Agreements	28	New Content
F	Financial Management and Administration	F.13	Capital Spending from Budget Shares	28	New Content
F	Financial Management and Administration	F.14	Maintaining Debtor Records	28-29	New Content
H	Procurement	H.3	Standing Orders (Competitive Tendering)	33	Updated Content
I	Staff	I.2	Personal Administration	37	Updated Content
L	Security and Control of Assets	L.1-2	Assets	43-47	New Content

6. NAMES & CONTACT DETAILS

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