

REPORT TO: School Forum

DATE: 18th June 2013

REPORTING OFFICER: Senior Finance Officer

SUBJECT: Revisions to the Scheme For Financing Schools

WARDS: Boroughwide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To inform School Forum of the changes to the Department for Education guidance on local authority schemes for financing schools, effective from 1st April 2013.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That

- (1) That the report be noted.**
- (2) A working group of nursery, primary, secondary and special school representatives is set up to review the scheme.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 In March 2013 the Department for Education issued new guidance to Local Authorities to be taken into account when revising their schemes in consultation with their School Forums.

3.2 The updated, detailed guidance can be found on the DfE website at: [Finance Regulations and legal framework – The Department for Education](#)

3.3 With the new funding arrangements from 1st April 2013 it is timely to undertake a comprehensive review Halton's Scheme for Financing Schools.

3.4 We would recommend a working group is set up to include representatives from nursery, primary, secondary and special schools plus others such as Schools Support and Internal Audit. For specific sections – e.g. procurement, we would look to getting a representative from the Procurement Team.

3.5 The Financial Management Division will take the lead on the review.

4.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer
Schemes For Financing Schools: Section 48 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, and Schedule 14 to the Act	Kingsway House	Anne Jones