

Changes to the Scheme of Delegation

1. Purpose of the Report

To incorporate the changes to the Scheme of Delegation as directed by the Secretary of State

2. Recommendation

The Forum agree to incorporate the changes as detailed in the attached revised Scheme of Delegation.

3. Background

- 3.1 Under the Education Act 2011, the Secretary of State has the power to issue directed revisions to local authorities Schemes for Financing Schools.
- 3.2 The Department consulted stakeholders and interested parties on possible changes in the Spring and the consultation ended on 19 March 2012. Some of these changes have already been implemented at the Forum meeting in January 2012 when the annual review of the Scheme and the Finance Manual took place.
- 3.3 The Secretary of State can require the exact wording of the scheme and despite incorporating some of these changes there needs to be a tidying up of the wording.
- 3.2 The current scheme documentation has been reviewed and the amendments are shown in the attached revised scheme.

4. Proposals

The following sets out the directed revisions

4.1 General Teaching Council (GTC)

Direction	All references to the GTC must be removed from the scheme as it was abolished by the Education Act 2011 with effect from 1st April 2011.
Action	Section 6.4 of scheme to be deleted.

4.2 Efficiency and value for money (replaces current Best Value section)

Direction The scheme must include the following provision, which imposes a requirement on schools to achieve efficiencies and value for money, to optimise their resources and invest in teaching and learning; taking into account purchasing, tendering and contracting requirements. It is for heads and governors to determine at school level how to secure better value for money. The text for this provision is set out below.

“Schools must seek to achieve efficiencies and value for money, to optimise the use of their resources and to invest in teaching and learning, taking into account the Authority’s purchasing, tendering and contracting requirements. It is for heads and governors to determine at school level how to secure better value for Money”.

Action 2.22 has been inserted into the scheme with the above wording

4.3 Schools Financial Value Standard

Direction The secretary of state has determined the precise wording to the section of the scheme

Action Section 2.2.1 has been amended to show the exact wording

4.4 Fraud

Direction The scheme must include the following provision, which requires schools to have a robust system of controls to safeguard themselves against fraudulent or improper use of public money and assets.

Action The precise wording required has been added to 2.1.4

4.5 Other changes

The Secretary of State also required the removal of references to Best Value and the Financial Management Standard and this has already been actioned. Changes to the scheme have already been actioned regarding redundancy provision.

4.6 Effective Date

If the Forum agree to these changes the revised Scheme will be effective from 1 September 2012

Conclusion

These changes represent minor changes to the scheme of delegation and have resulted in a tidying up of some of the wording.

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