

## Schools Forum

22 June 2023

### Section 48 – Scheme for the Financing of Schools

This report relates to Maintained Schools only.

#### Recommendation

1. The maintained school representatives of Schools Forum are asked to approve the updated Scheme (which reflects the same proposed changes brought to March's Schools Forum meeting).

#### 1. Introduction

- 1.1. Warwickshire County Council is required to publish a Scheme for financing of schools setting out the financial relationship between the authority and the schools it maintains.
- 1.2. The guidance the local authority publishes covers the following legislation:
  - Section 48 of the Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998, and Schedule 14 to the Act.
  - Schools and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2018.
- 1.3. The Department for Education (DfE) periodically revise their guidance to Local Authorities. As such, the changes reflect the DfE's most updated guidance prior to the March 2023 Schools Forum meeting

#### 2. Outcome of Consultation

- 2.1. Following the March Schools Forum meeting, the draft changes were sent to all maintained schools for consultation. The consultation started on Monday 27 March and concluded on Tuesday 2 May 2023 (reflecting a 5 week period to allow for school holidays and bank holidays).
- 2.2. Two responses were received; but no objections to the proposed amendments were made.

### **Table of Comments**

<b>Ref</b>	<b>Comment</b>
1	Just to note that [the school] agree with the changes. No further comments needed.
2	<p>The revisions proposed reflect what is being applied to us as a school facing a budget deficit, so is understandable.</p> <p>What of course the scheme does not address is the underlying reasons for such deficits arising which are not related to the management of the funding available but that the total provided is inadequate both overall and especially with regard to the financial support of SEN pupils. in the latter case the issue of the timeliness of what support is offered is also an issue.</p>

- 2.3. As no objections were made, it is recommended that Schools Forum approve the proposed amendments to the Scheme.

**Purnima Sherwood**

Service Manager for Finance Delivery

Email: [purnimasherwood@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:purnimasherwood@warwickshire.gov.uk)