

WIRRAL COUNCIL

WIRRAL SCHOOLS FORUM Wednesday 28th March 2012

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

School Finance Regulations 2012 – Summary of changes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Last October, the Department consulted on changes to the School Finance (England) Regulations 2012 to give effect to the Government's policy developments. The following changes have been made in the 2012 Regulations:

- Minimum Funding Guaranteed (MFG) – to improve the process of dis-application the number of exceptions that can be agreed locally have been widened;
- Pupil Premium – for excluded pupils that attract the Pupil Premium, this funding will now follow the pupil as well as the age-weighted funding;
- Remission of boarding fees – new category allowing central expenditure within the central schools budget to enable Local Authorities to replicate arrangements for registered pupils boarding at Academies as they do with registered pupils boarding at maintained schools;
- Strategic management – wording in Schedule 1, 20(g), has been updated. This clarifies that work developing and reviewing schools funding formula is an LEA cost.
- Deficits for closing schools – clarified that deficits for closing schools can be charged to the Schools Budget, including deficits relating to sponsored Academies;
- Single budgets for Federation – requirement has been added that in the event of one or more schools leaving a federation the local authority must determine budget for leaving school(s) and re-determine budget for federation.

RECOMMENDATION

1. The Forum notes the report

David Armstrong
Acting Director of Children's Services