Report of the Borough Treasurer

Item 7 – Scheme for Financing Schools – DfE Directed Revisions

Schools Forum

15th January 2014
1. **Purpose of the Paper**

The purpose of this report is to update Schools Forum on the consultation process re the requirement to update the Oldham Scheme for Financing Schools, effective from July 2013 and to seek approval of the revised scheme.

2. **Background**

Local authorities are required to publish schemes for financing schools setting out the financial relationship between them and the schools they maintain. The DfE has issued revised guidance on local authority schemes for financing schools which Local Authorities must take into account when they revise their scheme.

3. **Revisions**

Changes to some of the wording in the scheme are called ‘directed revisions’. This means that authorities must incorporate within, or remove from, their schemes the specified wording and no other process is needed in order to make the changes. The power of directed revision is used, to remove outdated provisions and to insert new provisions that are required for the implementation of policy.

The summary of scheme changes is in two parts:

- Directed revisions already announced
- Revisions in respect of new funding arrangements from 1st April 2013

The Local Authority has updated Oldham’s scheme in accordance with the specified instructions and has also carried out a review of the scheme and made some proposed amendments and or additions/deletions as required.

4. **Further updates**

At the school forum meeting on the 25th September a summary document of changes was shared with the forum. A further document was requested which listed the current scheme and the changes to the scheme and implications for the school.

This revised paper attached at Appendix A gives the additional information as requested.

5. **Actions/Recommendations**

To seek approval from Schools Forum for the approval of the revised Scheme by members of the forum representing maintained schools.