



## TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE SCHOOLS' FORUM

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### 1. Consultation on school funding formula

1.1 The authority shall consult the Schools' Forum on: -

- Any proposed changes in relation to the factors and criteria that were taken into account, or the methods, principles and rules that have been adopted, in the formula made in accordance with regulations made under section 47 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, and
- The financial effect of any such change.

1.2 Consultation under paragraph 1.1 shall take place in sufficient time to allow the view's expressed to be taken into account in the determination of the authority's formula and in the initial determination of schools' budget shares before the beginning of the financial year.

### 2. Consultation on contracts

2.1 The authority shall at least one month prior to the issue of invitations to tender consult the Forum on the terms of any proposed contract for supplies or services being a contract paid or to be paid out of the authority's schools budget where either

- The estimated value of the proposed public services contract is not less than the specific threshold which applies to the relevant authority in pursuance of Regulation 7(1) of the Public Services Contracts Regulations 1993; or
- The estimated value of the proposed public supply contract is not less than the specific threshold which applies to the relevant authority in pursuance of Regulation 7(2) of the Public Supply Contracts Regulations 1995.

### 3. Consultation on financial and other school support issues

3.1 The relevant authority shall consult the forum annually in respect of the relevant authority's functions relating to the schools budget, in connection with the following:

- The arrangements to be made for the education of pupils with special educational needs;

- Arrangements for the use of pupil referral units and the education of children otherwise than at school;
- Arrangements for early years education;
- Arrangements for insurance;
- Prospective revisions to the authority's scheme for the financing of schools;
- Administrative arrangements for the allocation of central government grants paid to schools via the authority;
- Arrangements for free school meals;
- Arrangements for brokering services for schools;
- Arrangements for strategic support to schools provided by the Children, Young People & Families Directorate.

3.2 The authority may consult the Schools' Forum on such other matters concerning the funding of schools as they see fit.