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Report title:	Southwark Scheme for Financing Schools	
Author name and contact details:	Russell Dyer russell.dyer@southwark.gov.uk Evert Potgeiter Evert.potgeiter@southwark.gov.uk	
Officers to present the report:	Russell Dyer and Evert Potgeiter	

Executive Summary

This reports updates and identifies changes to the statutory “Scheme for Financing Schools” which is in line with DFE regulations and good practice prior to it going out to consultation with schools. This does not apply to academies or free schools.

Schools Forum Actions

Schools Forum is asked to note the proposed changes and the consultation process.

1 Background and Requirements

- 1.1 Local Authorities (LAs) are required to publish a scheme for financing schools, setting out the financial relationship between them and the schools they maintain which is based on statutory guidance - this is set out in the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/schemes-for-financing-schools>

- 1.2 Before publication LAs must propose and consult on any changes to the Scheme and consult with all schools governing bodies and heads.
- 1.3 Once consulted upon, the Schools Forum must agree on the changes, should the Schools Forum not agree, then, the Secretary of State will adjudicate.
- 1.4 The current published Scheme dates from 2012 (see link below) and requires to be updated urgently to ensure full compliance and to reflect any changes in regulations and the bodies quoted. The review also offered the opportunity to research other LAs for examples of good practice.

http://www.2.southwark.gov.uk/downloads/download/300/scheme_for_financing_schools

- 1.5 Attached as Appendix 1 to this report are the proposed changes to the Scheme together with a note for the reasons for the change where appropriate. Schools Forum is therefore asked for its views on the proposed changes and also to agree to a consultation being undertaken in January in line with requirements prior to be asked to make a decision at the March 2018 meeting to ensure full implementation for the financial year 2018-19. This will ensure that the position is fully regularised.

