

TITLE OF REPORT: De – Delegation Trade Union Facility Time and Maternity Credits

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of the report is to bring to Schools Forum options for them to consider for de-delegation so that maintained schools by phases (primary and secondary schools) can consult with their sector on the options for de-delegation.

Background

2. De-delegation is the process by which Schools Forum can agree for the LA to centrally hold funding for specific purposes.
3. Revenue funding arrangements for schools changed following the school funding review which commenced in 2013/14. It is now not permissible for LA's to hold budgets centrally for the provision of some services to schools. This previously centrally held funding has been delegated to schools on a per pupil basis.
4. However there are some areas that schools have the option for de-delegation.

These are:-

- a) Contingencies, (including support for schools in financial difficulties, new/closing/amalgamating schools, closing school deficits and growing schools)
 - b) Behaviour Support Services
 - c) Support for minority ethnic minority pupils or underachieving groups
 - d) Free School Meals (FSM) eligibility
 - e) Insurance
 - f) Library and museum services
 - g) Licences/subscriptions
 - h) Staff costs – supply cover (long term sickness, maternity, trade union and public duties)
5. For each of these areas, it is for the Schools Forum members in the relevant phase (primary or secondary) to decide whether that service should be retained centrally.
 6. The decision will apply to all maintained schools in that phase and will mean that the funding for these services will be removed from the formula before school budgets are issued. There can be different decisions for each phase.
 7. Academies, special schools, the behaviour support service and nursery schools can buy back into these services if they wish to.

