

Item 6**TITLE OF REPORT: Risk Protection Assurance (RPA)**

Purpose of the Report

The Department of Education (DfE) consulted on rolling out RPA to maintained schools, so that schools could take part in the scheme if they choose to do so. This report provides information on the scheme, and there will be a further report in March to provide schools with information on the insurance services proposals to be provided by the Local Authority (LA).

Background

The LA has traditionally provided insurance services for maintained schools, however over a number of years VA schools have had the majority of their insurance brokered centrally by the diocese. The LA is currently reviewing its insurance services to maintained schools to ensure it remains value for money and meets the needs of schools and provide a differentiated range of products to suit the different sectors.

The rollout of the RPA to local authority-maintained schools from 1 April 2020 will not apply to all schools. The RPA will be on a voluntary and on an opt-in basis and as the Authority Proforma Tool (APT) has already been submitted to the DfE the ability to de-delegate funds for insurance has passed.

The roll out of RPA is not intended to break any contractual arrangements between the LA and schools, but to give schools an option sharing the same benefits as academies. The original per pupil value when the DfE first started RPA was £25 per pupil which then dropped to £20 per pupil and the proposal for 20/21 is £18 per pupil.

Below is a link to further information and the outcome of the consultation.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/extending-the-academies-risk-protection-arrangement-to-la-schools>

Proposal

That Schools Forum notes the information in the report, the link to further information and that the LA will table a report in March 2020.

Recommendations

It is recommended that Schools Forum notes the information in the report.

For the following reasons:

To provide schools with information on the RPA.

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