

TITLE OF REPORT: Schools Forum Meetings

Purpose of the Report

1. To bring to Schools Forum proposals on the nature of future meetings.

Background

2. The Schools Forums (England) (Coronavirus) (Amendment) Regulations 2020 were put in place to allow schools forum meetings to be held remotely due to the pandemic. These regulations ceased to have an effect from 1 April 2021. The Schools Forum Operational and Good Practice Guide was updated in March 2021 and stated that The Schools and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2021 amended The Schools Forums (England) (Coronavirus) (Amendment) Regulations 2020 to make permanent provisions to enable schools forums meetings to be held remotely.
3. The change in regulations was brought to Schools Forum attention as an item of any other business during May 2021 Schools Forum meeting. However, it was thought best to formalise the approach to future meetings with a Schools Forum report.
4. The nature of future meetings was discussed and it was proposed that future meetings should continue to be held remotely as this was the best use of everyone's time due to the lack of travel time and meetings should only be held in person if there were complex matters to be discussed and presented to Schools Forum. It was also proposed that meetings would either be virtual or in-person and that there would be no mixing of the meeting arrangements.

Proposal

5. That Schools Forum agrees that all meetings should take place remotely unless the nature of the item/s to be discussed would benefit from an in-person meeting.

Recommendation

6. It is recommended that Schools Forum approves: -
 - That all meetings be held remotely unless there is a requirement for an in-person meeting.

For the following reason(s):

- To ensure that Schools Forum meetings are held efficiently
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