

REPORT TO THE WORCESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS FORUM
SCHOOLS IN FINANCIAL DIFFICULTY – CONSULTATION OUTCOMES

1. PURPOSE

1.1 To advise the Schools Forum on the outcomes of the recent consultation on the proposed scheme to support schools in financial difficulty.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 Following the deliberations of the Schools Forum Working Group the Forum agreed to all schools being consulted on the detailed proposals of such a scheme.

2.2 The closing date for responses was 25th May 2007.

3. CONSULTATION OUTCOMES

3.1 A summary of the responses to the consultation questions is attached at Appendix A.

3.2 In total there were responses from 36 (14%) of schools. For the key question of 'Do you support the proposal to introduce a scheme to support schools in financial difficulty' 27 respondents supported this.

3.3 Given the nature of the proposals the majority of schools that replied provided detailed comments on the questions. These have been analysed and are attached at Appendix B. The Forum is requested to consider these detailed comments prior to making a decision on the proposed scheme.

3.4 If the Forum decides to introduce such a scheme from the financial year 2008/09 then consideration will need to be given on the final scheme parameters, operational issues and budgetary implications.

4. RECOMMENDATION

4.1 The Schools Forum decides whether to proceed with the introduction of such a scheme from 2008/09.

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