



## NORTH YORKSHIRE SCHOOLS FORUM

2.

<b>Date of meeting:</b>	Thursday 15 May 2025
<b>Title of report:</b>	<b>North Yorkshire Council Scheme for Financing Schools</b>
<b>Type of report:</b> Delete as required	For information and decision
<b>Executive summary:</b> Including reason for submission	This report provides an update and requests approval from the Schools Forum for the amendment of the North Yorkshire Council Scheme for Financing Schools
<b>Budget / Risk implications:</b>	None for schools
<b>Recommendations:</b>	<p>The Schools' Forum is asked:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To note the DfE changes to the statutory guidance on Schemes for Financing local authority-maintained schools</li> <li>- To approve an amendment to the North Yorkshire Council Scheme for Financing Schools to reflect the latest DfE statutory guidance.</li> </ul>
<b>Voting requirements:</b>	LA Maintained School members only
<b>Appendices:</b> To be attached	None
<b>Report originator and contact details:</b>	<p>Sally Dunn, Head of Finance – Schools &amp; Early Years</p> <p><a href="mailto:sally.dunn@northyorks.gov.uk">sally.dunn@northyorks.gov.uk</a></p> <p>01609 532118</p>
<b>Presenting officer:</b> If not the originator	

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the DfE recent changes to their statutory guidance on Schemes for Financing local authority-maintained schools and to seek approval from the Schools Forum on an amendment to the North Yorkshire Council Scheme for Financing Schools.

## **2.0 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 Local authorities are required to publish a Scheme for Financing Schools that sets out the financial relationship between them and the schools they maintain.
- 2.2 Any amendments to the Scheme that are proposed by the local authority must be consulted on with all maintained schools within the local authority and be approved by the Schools Forum.
- 2.3 The DfE is able to direct local authorities to amend their schemes to reflect the latest statutory guidance. Schools are not required to be consulted on DfE directed changes.
- 2.4 On 27 March 2025, further guidance has been issued by the DfE in relation to 8.3 Circumstances in which charges may be made. An additional item has been added in respect of where a school's budget share may be charged:
21. *the cost of an undisputed invoice for energy where a school has entered into an agreement with the Secretary of State for the supply of energy and failed to pay such an invoice (Regulation 23 of the regulations)*
- 2.5 Section 6.3 of the North Yorkshire Scheme for Financing Schools will be updated to include the additional item text, as detailed in 2.4 above.

## **3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 The Schools Forum is asked to note the changes in DfE guidance and to approve the amendment to the North Yorkshire Council Scheme for Financing Schools relating to The Charging of School Budget Shares, as per the DfE update in March 2025 to reflect current policy positions and changes in legislation.

**SIR STUART CARLTON**

Corporate Director – Children and Young People's Service

*Report Prepared by Sally Dunn, Head of Finance for Schools & Early Years*