

# **Durham County Council Schools Forum Meeting, 10 July 2024, Item No 8, Future Meeting Dates**

## **Report of Rob Davisworth, Head of Corporate Finance and Commercial Services**

### **Purpose of the Report**

- 1 To recommend that members approve Forum revised meeting dates for the calendar year 2024, and dates for the calendar year 2025.

### **Voting**

- 2 All members are entitled to vote on the recommendation in this report.

### **Recommendation**

- 3 Forum members are recommended to:
  - (a) Approve the dates and format, (online or face-to-face), set out in this report.

### **Forum meetings**

- 4 Forum meeting dates are set in advance, to give notice to members of future dates.
- 5 The Forum must meet at least four times each year. The usual practice is for the Forum to meet once in the spring term, once in the summer term and twice in the autumn term.
- 6 The second meeting in the autumn is usually held in the second half of November, with the next meeting being at the end of March. The usefulness of meetings could be improved by moving the November meeting to late January.
- 7 A meeting in January would allow for more meaningful consultation with the Forum about Early Years funding for the coming year. Announcements about funding for the coming year, are usually made by the DfE in December, and the next Forum

meeting, in March, gives little time for the Forum's views to be taken into account for implementation in the following month.

- 8 A meeting in late January would give sufficient time for the council to consider Early Years arrangements for the coming year in the light of the DfE announcements, taking account of other work in December and early January, including finalising the mainstream primary and secondary funding formula.
- 9 Late November meetings were originally set to allow further consultation about the mainstream funding formula. The formula is now aligned to the National Funding Formula and there is less need for further discussions in November, and usually little new information to add to that already provided at the September meeting.
- 10 Accordingly, the council proposes to delete the November 2024 meeting and hold a meeting in late January. The proposed dates are:
  - Tuesday 28 January 2025 (online)
  - Thursday 27 March 2025 (DLC, Spennymoor)
  - Wednesday 25 June 2025 (online)
  - Tuesday 23 September 2025 (DLC, Spennymoor)
- 11 Meetings have been arranged for different days of the week in accordance with usual practice. All meetings will start at 9:30 am.
- 12 Additional meetings can be arranged as required and can be supplemented by Forum Working Parties on specific issues.

## **Contact**

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