

## **Schools Forum – 4 July 2017**

### **Notices of Concern Protocol**

#### **Recommendation**

1. Members note the amendment to the Notices of Concern protocol.

#### **Report of the Deputy Chief Executive and Director for Families and Communities**

##### **PART A**

#### **Why is it coming here – what decision is required?**

2. Any amendments to the Notice of Concern protocol should be approved by Schools Forum.

#### **Reasons for recommendation**

3. To reduce risk and provide additional control, members should consider reviewing the protocol to include the issuing of a notice of concern to schools who require a Licensed Deficit for values over the existing maximum amount of £200k or 10% of budget value.

##### **PART B**

#### **Background:**

4. School budgets for large schools are of a value that the current limits do not enable them to plan a realistic achievable repayment plan.
5. Such schools will be reviewed by the commissioner on a case by case basis to ensure that their business case and repayment plan is reasonable and sustainable.
6. If approved, it is suggested that a Notice of Concern remains in place until the balance remaining falls below £200k or 10% of their budget. For values below £200k the NOC will be withdrawn once a repayment plan has been approved.
7. A notice of concern is not able to guarantee repayments but is designed to minimise the risk of a deficit occurring.

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#### **List of background papers:**

Schools Forum 7 December 2016 – Item 6 - Notices of Concern: revised protocol