

Jim

As you may already know we are reviewing the factors permitted in our formula in line with the DfE announcements on 14/15 funding arrangements. There will be a further consultation with Schools in September 2013. The School Forum technical funding group have already met (16th July) for the first review of 14/15 arrangements.

The Council had an opportunity at the end of June 2013 to apply for exceptions for 14/15 factors, and we did take that opportunity to make an application in principle, that could inform the discussions with the School Forum . We were aware that the CBC rent factor was not permitted based on 5% of schools and more than 1% of their School Budget Share, therefore our 2nd attempt included an application listing the individual schools in question and asked for them to be considered. The Department accepted 6 of the 9 schools as being exceptional and therefore have agreed the 'in principle' application for those 6 schools for 2014/15.

The School Forum technical group have subsequently also agreed and will be recommending this to the full Forum, once all factors have been reviewed. This will then be included in the consultation document.

I hope that gives you some assurance that we did take your concerns seriously and have tried to help within the restrictions of the regulations.

I apologise that you have not had a formal response to your letter, Gezim and I have seen the letter and forwarded your concerns to the School Forum.

Please come back to me if you need any clarification on this.

Thanks
Best Regards

Dawn