

# Lancashire Schools Forum

## eNewsletter

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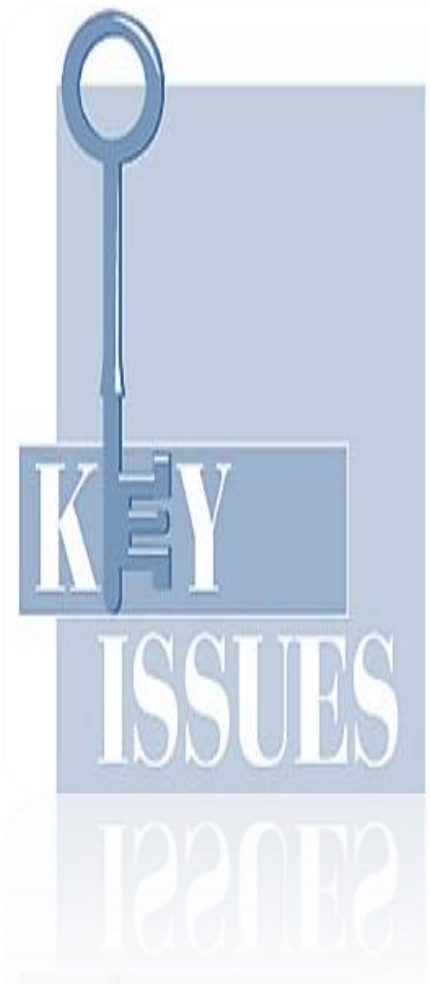
# Fair Exchange?

Welcome to Issue 114 of 'Fair Exchange?' a Pre-Forum Edition of the eNewsletter of the Lancashire Schools' Forum.  
This issue deals with matters to be considered at the summer term 2021 cycle of meetings.

## Summer Term 2021 Cycle

The Forum and Working Groups will continue to meet virtually during the summer term 2021. The working groups will consider issues in June 2021 and recommendations to be presented to the Schools Forum in July. Amongst the main items to be presented are:

- The Schools Budget Outturn position for 2020/21
- Information on the level of individual school balances at 31 March 2021 and about clawback arrangements for March 2022
- The Schools Forum Annual report for 2020/21
- Amendments to the Lancashire scheme for financing schools and responses on the proposals
- Initial information about possible de-delegations and formula changes for 2022/23
- Possible amendments to the Schools in Financial Difficult (SIFD) support criteria and an update on the latest SIFD categorisations
- An update of the Early Years Funding Agreement 2021/22, including sector consultation responses on PVI Headcount Dates and Interim Payments Terms
- Arrangements for the SEN Inclusion fund process in early years
- Consideration of the High Needs Block commissioned places process for 2022/23



### Forum Update

The draft minutes from the Forum meeting held on March 2021 are available on the Schools Forum website [here](#)



## Statutory Finance Returns

Many thanks to all those schools that have submitted their annual Income and Expenditure (I&E) return for 2021/22 and their 2020/21 Schools Financial Value Standard (SFVS) submission. Deadlines for these returns has now passed.

If you have not yet submitted your I&E or SFVS return, you need to make every effort to do so as soon as you are able. Both returns can be submitted via the Schools Portal and are located in the Forms > Finance section of the menu on the left of the portal homepage, then

["Income and Expenditure Form"](#)

Or

["Schools Financial Value Standard"](#)

## WHAT ELSE HAS HAPPENED?

### Closure of Accounts 2020/21

As part of the financial year-end closure of County Council accounts for 2019/20, all school accounts for 2020/21 were closed in accordance with the County Council closure timetable and no major issues were reported from schools.

The County Council would like to say a big thank you all schools for their considerable efforts in achieving this, particularly given the increased challenges faced by schools due to the pandemic.



## WHAT IS HAPPENING NATIONALLY?

### View my financial insights

The DFE have updated their *View my financial insights* (VMFI) tool, which provides schools with insights into the financial position and performance. The updates improve the information for users about how to access the tool.

Guidance for the view my financial insights tool, including how to access and use the tool is available on the Government's website, [here](#)



### QUESTIONS?

Remember, if you have any questions about the Schools Forum, please contact Paul Bonser, Forum Clerk, 01772 531815, or email [schoolsforum@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:schoolsforum@lancashire.gov.uk)