

Funding for Universal Careers Guidance Update

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REASON FOR ITEM

To further advise members of the position in relation to the future funding of universal careers guidance following a request for an update at the Education and Children's Services Policy Overview Committee meeting of 26th April 2010.

OPTIONS OPEN TO THE COMMITTEE

- To note the information provided in the report.

INFORMATION

1. Members were previously advised of emergent national policy changes relating to the provision of careers guidance. Clarification of policy has been provided now that the Education Bill 2011 has received Royal Assent on 17th November 2011.

2. The Education Bill states that local authorities will no longer have a duty to provide Careers Information, Advice and Guidance (CIAG) from September 2012 and schools will assume a duty to secure impartial, independent, careers guidance for students in Years 9 -11 in September 2012.

3. Schools have now been issued with draft statutory guidance setting out the Government's expectations in relation to meeting the requirements of this duty. A copy of the guidance is appended to this report as Appendix A.

4. Paragraph three of the guidance states that *"Schools should meet the costs of provision from their overall budgets which are generally unringfenced in line with the Government's commitment to provide head teachers with the flexibility to use their resources in ways that best meet their needs"*.