

## **Schools Funding Forum 25<sup>th</sup> September 2019    ITEM 11**

**Subject Heading:**

**Financial transparency of LA  
Maintained schools and academy  
trusts**

**Report Author:**

**David Allen – Strategic Finance  
Manager**

**Eligibility to vote:**

**Representatives of LA Maintained  
Schools**

### **SUMMARY**

This item is to discuss a consultation document issued by the DfE on changes to the financial transparency of schools and academies.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

To consider an appropriate response to the consultation.

### **REPORT DETAIL**

While both academy trusts and maintained schools are now funded through DfE specific grants – the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) for maintained schools and General Annual Grant (GAG) for academy trusts – current financial transparency arrangements are different and provide different levels of assurance. Current arrangements for academy trusts therefore provide a useful comparison against which to consider maintained schools. The DfE believes that the current transparency measures used in academies are generally stronger than those in the maintained school sector, which is why this consultation will focus on using or adapting existing academy measures to help change and improve maintained schools' financial transparency and financial health. The consultation document is attached.