



**Agenda Item  
7**

**Report Status**

For information/note   
For consultation & views   
For decision

**The Children and Young People's Service**

**Report to Haringey Schools Forum – 13 May 2010**

**Report Title:** The results of the 2009/10 Financial Management Standards in Schools (FMSiS) audit programme and 2010/11 FMSiS audit programme.

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**Purpose:**

To advise the Schools Forum of the results of the 2009/10 FMSiS audit programme and provide the programme of work to be undertaken in 2010/11 in order to comply with the requirements of FMSiS.

**Recommendations**

1. That the Schools Forum note the positive results of the 2009/10 FMSiS audit programme.
2. That the Schools Forum agree the proposed timetable for 2010/11 to ensure that the programme of FMSiS re-assessment can be achieved by 31 March 2011.

**1. Background and results of 2009/10 programme.**

1.1 The statutory FMSiS programme required that all schools within Haringey met the Financial Management Standard by 31 March 2010. The initial three year programme of assessments of schools against the Financial Management Standard in Schools (FMSiS) has been completed and the

final assessments were made during 2009/10. Training, support and guidance has been provided to schools' staff and governors by Internal Audit and Corporate Finance throughout the FMSiS programme. Toolkits and standard pro-forma templates for any of the FMSiS requirements which schools did not have in place have also been provided.

- 1.2 Internal audit planned to visit 18 schools in 2009/10 to complete the FMSiS assessment programme – 15 primary schools and 3 secondary schools. Fifteen schools have been assessed as achieving the Financial Management Standard. A further two schools' FMSiS assessment visits have been completed and have achieved conditional passes. Internal Audit are currently in discussions with the schools to finalise the assessments.
- 1.3 Internal Audit have been unable to undertake the FMSiS assessment at one school. A date for the assessment visit was agreed with the school for December 2009 but when the auditor attended the school, they were advised that the FMSiS assessment could not take place as the school was not prepared. Internal Audit have subsequently been in contact with the school via email and telephone, but have been unable to obtain a revised date when the FMSiS assessment could take place. Internal Audit will therefore issue a notice to the school that they have failed to achieve the Financial Management Standard.
- 1.4 The approach taken by Internal Audit during the initial three year programme has meant that most of the authority's schools have been assessed as meeting the Financial Management Standard. The authority's s151 Officer (the Chief Financial Officer) has completed an annual return to the Department for Children, Schools and Families confirming the status of all schools in relation to FMSiS.

## **2. Proposed programme 2010/11**

- 2.1 The Council has supported, and will continue to support, all schools to achieve the Financial Management Standard and has fulfilled the requirements of the initial statutory FMSiS programme which ended on 31 March 2010.
- 2.2 FMSiS assessments are valid for a period of three years, after which a re-assessment must take place. Therefore, schools which achieved the Standard in 2007/08 need to be re-assessed in 2010/11 in order to maintain their accreditation. A list of schools due for re-assessment is attached at Appendix A. Internal Audit have already started to plan for the 2010/11 programme and a number of visits to schools have already been agreed. The dates of the planned assessments are included in the table where these have been agreed with the school concerned. The remainder of the visits will be agreed with the respective Head teachers over the next few weeks.
- 2.3 Schools have already been assessed under FMSiS, and no changes to the requirements have been introduced by the DCSF for the 2010/11 programme. It is therefore anticipated that all the necessary systems and

processes are in place and operating as expected at each school, which will enable the assessment to be completed within the allocated timescales.

- 2.4 Internal Audit will raise an invoice to each school when the FMSiS assessment has been completed. A charge of £750 per school will be made, assuming that all the required information for the FMSiS assessment is readily available at the time of the audit visit. If the school cancels the FMSiS assessment at short notice (within 5 working days of the planned visit), or any follow up visits are required, then additional charges may have to be raised. The Head teacher will be advised if any additional charges are likely to be incurred by the school.

### **3. Recommendations.**

- 3.1 That the Schools Forum note the positive results of the 2009/10 FMSiS audit programme.
- 3.2 That the Schools Forum agree the proposed timetable for 2010/11 to ensure that the programme of FMSiS re-assessment can be achieved by 31 March 2011.

## Appendix 1

### London Borough of Haringey - Financial Management Standard in Schools (FMSiS) Programme 2010/11

<b>Schools requiring re-assessment in 2010/11</b>		<b>Date of assessment</b>
Weston Park Primary School	Primary	8 November 2010
Northumberland Park Community School	Secondary	TBC
Hornsey School for Girls	Secondary	TBC
St Thomas More RC	Secondary	TBC
Woodside High	Secondary	TBC
St Ann's CE Primary School	Primary	17 June 2010
Tiverton Primary School	Primary	21 June 2010
St Francis de Sale RC Infants	Infant	TBC
Highgate Wood School	Secondary	TBC
Chestnuts Primary School	Primary	27 September 2010
Coleridge Primary School	Primary	TBC
Earlsmead Primary School	Primary	TBC
Lordship Lane Primary School	Primary	TBC
Our Lady of Muswell RC Primary School	Primary	TBC
Rokesly Infants School	Infant	23 June 2010
St Francis de Sale RC Junior School	Junior	TBC
St John Vianney RC Primary School	Primary	2 February 2011
St Mary's CE Infants School	Infant	TBC
St Mary's Priory RC Junior School	Junior	TBC
St Michael's CE Primary School, N6	Primary	TBC
Coldfall Primary School	Primary	N/A
Earlham Primary School	Primary	27 September 2010