

## **Purpose of the Report**

To inform, and seek feedback from, the Early Years & Schools Forum (the Forum) on the Council's proposed consultation with Local Authority Maintained Schools (LAMS) regarding the Department of Education's Risk Protection Arrangements (RPA) Scheme.

## **Information and Advice**

On the 1 April 2020 the Department for Education extended the RPA Scheme for Academies to LAMS. As the Council and its LAMS are tied in to a Long-Term Agreement (LTA) with Zurich Municipal until April 2022 the Council will not be able to permit LAMS to join the scheme until after the LTA has expired.

The Council recognises that there may be some interest amongst schools in joining the RPA once the Council's current LTA with its insurers has expired. To inform a future decision on this, the Council is proposing to consult with all LAMS to gauge the current level of interest in potentially opting into the RPA, or whether schools would prefer to continue with the current insurance arrangements offered by the Council.

Any future transition of the Council's LAMS to the RPA will result in significant operational changes for both the schools and the Council and therefore schools need to understand both arrangements.

It is proposed that the appendices to this report are shared with headteachers and the schools' governing bodies to provide further information about the Council's current insurance arrangements and how these compare to the cover provided by the RPA scheme. This is to enable all schools to come to an informed view on how they would prefer insurance cover to be provided post April 2022.

It is proposed that this information will be shared, and the consultation undertaken through a non-public engagement through the Council's Citizen Hub.

Appendices included with this report are as follows:

- Appendix A – Draft Report to be shared with headteachers and governing bodies
- Appendix B – RPA membership rules for LAMS
- Appendix C – Nottinghamshire County Council - School Platinum Insurances

- Appendix D – Front Cover for the Online Consultation

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **That the Forum:**

- 1) Reviews the proposed consultation and decides whether this is the best course of action for gauging interest in the RPA.
- 2) Provides feedback on the contents and question posed to schools no later than the 11 March 2021 so any suggestions can be considered and, where appropriate, incorporated within the finalised documents.

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