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To: Directors of Children's Services in Local Authorities in England, Chairs of Schools Forums and the organisations listed in the Annex to this letter

Email: Margaret.judd@dcsf.gsi.gov.uk

5 June 2009

Dear Colleagues,

CONSULTATION ON THE SCHOOLS FORUMS (ENGLAND) REGULATIONS 2009

The Department is today launching a consultation on the new Schools Forums (England) Regulations 2009.

The main purpose of the draft regulations is to give effect to the government's recent legislation and policy developments. As such, one of the proposed changes is to bring academies into membership of the forum. These draft regulations replace the Schools Forums Regulations 2002 as already amended by the Schools Forums (Amendment) Regulations 2004, 2005, and 2008, and have been re-written for clarity.

We would also like to consult on making the representation of early years PVI providers more effective, and on giving local authorities the option of changing the composition of their schools members of Schools Forums to reflect locality working, from 2011. Additional questions seeking views on these subjects have been added to the accompanying notes.

The draft regulations and accompanying notes for consultation are available at www.teachernet.gov.uk/schoolfundingframework/. The notes ask for consultation responses to be sent to Schools.Forums@dcsf.gsi.gov.uk by Friday 28 August 2009. Please also send any queries on the draft regulations or the additional consultation questions to the same mailbox.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Judd

School Funding Policy Adviser

Margaret Judd

Annex

Consultation on draft Schools Forums (England) Regulations 2009

Organisations invited to respond

Association of the Directors of Children's Services

Local Government Association

London Councils

Association of School and College Leaders

Association of Teachers and Lecturers

NASUWT

National Association of Head Teachers

National Union of Teachers

Professional Association of Teachers

GMB

TGWU

Unison

Independent Academies Association

Academies Finance Directors Forum

National Association of School Business Management

National Governors Association

Foundation and Aided Schools National Association

National Association of Special Schools

SEN Consortium

National Childminding Association

National Day Nurseries Association

Pre-School Learning Alliance

14-19 Partnerships

Audit Commission

Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy

General Teaching Council for England

Health and Safety Executive

Learning and Skills Council

National College of School Leadership

Ofsted

Training and Development Agency for schools

Communities and Local Government

Welsh Assembly

Association of Muslim Schools UK

Board of Deputies of British Jews

Catholic Education Service

Church of England

Churches Together in England

Free Churches

Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Thyateira & Great Britain

Hindu Council UK

Hindu Forum of Britain

I-Foundation

Jewish Community Schools Advisory Board
Leo Baeck College
Methodist Church
Movement for Reform Judaism
Muslim Council of Britain
Network of Sikh Organisations
Quakers
Seventh Day Adventist Church
UK Islamic Education WAQF / Muslim Education Forum
Union of Orthodox Hebrew Congregations
United Synagogues Agency of Jewish Education