EXECUTIVE NOTE

THE ST MARY'S MUSIC SCHOOL (AIDED PLACES) (SCOTLAND) AMENDMENT REGULATIONS 2007 SSI/2007/115

The above instrument was made in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 73(f) and 74(1) of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980. The instrument is subject to negative resolution.

Policy Objectives

The policy objective of these Regulations is to amend the St Mary's Music School (Aided Places) (Scotland) Regulations 2001 ('the 2001 Regulations') to uprate the qualifying parental income levels for the remission of fees and charges and the making of grants under the Aided Places Scheme.

The parental income scales (which determine the level of support received by individual parents through the scheme) are increased annually in order to ensure, as far as possible, that parental contributions remain a constant proportion of salary. The increase is usually based on movement in the Retail Price Index (RPI) and therefore this Regulation brings into effect a 3.7 % increase for the school session 2007/08, in line with inflation.

The 3.7% RPI modification to the parental contribution tables consequently affects increases in grants in respect of expenditure on clothing and school travel.

Although the 2001 Regulations are now being amended for the sixth time, each set of amending regulations has essentially been concerned with doing no more than making adjustments, on an annual basis, to qualifying income levels to take account of inflation. In those circumstances, and taking account also of the consultation which takes place with the limited number of bodies with a particular interest in the Regulations, the view has been taken that it is unnecessary to prepare consolidating regulations.

Consultation

While, in relation to the Aided Places Scheme, there is no statutory obligation to consult, the Scottish Council of Independent Schools, together with St Mary's Music School, have been consulted on the amending regulations, and raised no objections.

Financial Effects

The instrument creates no additional cost for the Scottish Executive.

Scottish Executive Education Department
2007