

# CUMBRIAN SCHOOL FUNDING BULLETIN

## ISSUE 5

March 2<sup>nd</sup> 2007

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Main website: <http://www.cumbria.gov.uk/childrensservices/finance/>

Schools Forum website:

<http://www.cumbria.gov.uk/childrensservices/finance/forum.asp>

## PURPOSE

The purpose of this bulletin is simply to ensure that all schools are aware of recent developments in funding and finance issues.

This is being sent via the portal. However a number of you have asked if we could send it directly to a specific e-mail address (such as school finance staff or governors). We are happy to do that – please send the relevant addresses to [education.finance@cumbriacc.gov.uk](mailto:education.finance@cumbriacc.gov.uk)

We will also be putting these bulletins on our website at:

<http://www.cumbria.gov.uk/childrensservices/finance/latestnews.asp>

**Anton Hodge**  
**Senior Finance Manager – Children’s Services**

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## DUAL AUTHORISATION OF HIGH VALUE INVOICES

I would like to take this opportunity to remind schools that any invoices greater than £25,000 must be signed by two authorised persons. If such invoices only contain one signature, CAPITA will return them (at the request of the County Council) to the school. Obviously this will delay payment to the supplier.

For chequebook schools, a similar rule applies, as the cheque will require two signatories.

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## CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY SCHEME (CIS)

Another reminder to check with Creditor Payments if any construction work which is being undertaken in school falls under the CIS Scheme. This work can include painting and decorating, building work, plumbing, glazing and other alterations.

If the work does not fall under the scheme, then payment can be made. If it does, then Creditor Payments will need to check if the sub-contractor you are using holds a CIS card before payment can be made.

Again chequebook schools should ensure that they have a similar procedure in place.

Any queries on this can be directed to Caroline Cruickshank (01228 673605) or Julie Norman (01228 673612)

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## **SCHOOL BUDGETS 2007-08**

We are expecting that draft budgets will be available in a week or so (around 12<sup>th</sup> March). This is very slightly later than in previous years, but we are hoping to be able to calculate a definitive figure for the Dedicated Schools Grant which funds the Schools Budget. This figure will not be available from DfES until well into the financial year and you will recall that this meant that school budgets for 2006-07 were revised in the summer term.

To avoid this revision in 2007-08 we are going to use our own estimate of the figure, hence the slight delay. The statutory date for publication is 31<sup>st</sup> March and we expect to have issued final budgets well before then. Schools then have until 31<sup>st</sup> May to return their 3-Year Budget Plan (please note that this is later than in previous years – the deadline used to be 1<sup>st</sup> May)

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**NEXT BULLETIN (16<sup>th</sup> MARCH)**