



Schools Capital Sub-Group Meeting

Thursday 23rd June 2022

Held remotely via Microsoft Teams



PRESENT	
Mark Tilling	Headteacher - High Tunstall College of Science (Chair)
Mary Frain	Headteacher - St Teresa's RC Primary
Jo Heaton	CEO – Northern Lights Learning Trust
Julie Reed	Pupil Place Planning, Admissions & Capital Manager - HBC
David Mitchell	Capital Projects Officer - HBC
Claire Appleton	Group Accountant (Corporate and Schools) - HBC
Kieran Bostock	Assistant Director (Place Management) - HBC
Louise Robson	Head of Corporate Services – Catcote Academy
David Turner	Headteacher – Rift House Primary
APOLOGIES	
Amanda Whitehead - Assistant Director (Education) – HBC	
Carole Bradley – Headteacher – St Helen's Academy	

Item		Action
1.	Review of minutes from 20th January 2022.	
	<p>No matters arising from the minutes. Minutes of previous meeting agreed.</p> <p>Actions from previous minutes:</p> <p>DM confirmed that the latest condition surveys have been forwarded to the schools.</p> <p>KB said that the contact for final accounts information, regarding the capital projects, is Heather James.</p> <p>DM confirmed that a request to Jane Watt had been made that the sub group membership continue to be an item on the agenda at the School Forum, in the hope of replacing those that have stepped down.</p>	
2.	2022/23 Schools' Capital Works Programme - Progress Update (JR)	
	JR updated the group on the current position for the 2022/23 schools' capital programme and added that some problems have been experienced with both internal and external resourcing of services for the programme this year. In addition, there are supply chain issues which is delaying the progress of works. All mechanical & electrical	

Item		Action
	works are going ahead this summer apart from Kingsley fire alarm, which will proceed in later in the year.	
3.	Finance Update (CA)	
	There is not a lot to report on due to the progress of this year's schemes and only £44,000 has been spent so far this year.	
4.	Fire Safety / door replacements Update (DM)	
	<p>Capital funding for the fire safety modifications, at Throston and Kingsley schools, was approved last year.</p> <p>Door installs & maintenance have been undertaken at both schools and are about 90% complete.</p> <p>We have been advised, by a fire consultant, that before we undertake further works, that the electrical wiring, above the ceiling, should be reviewed and tidied, lifted off ceiling tiles and made safe where necessary. Works are currently underway identifying the best way of completing both the fire stopping and, where necessary, the electrical works.</p> <p>Once we have developed the most effective methodology we will identify a programme of works that allows us to address the modifications over a number of phases in both schools.</p>	
5.	DfE CDC2 Programme (Condition Data Collection) (DM)	
	<p>The DfE's Condition Data Collection 2 will be carried out from 2021 to 2026 and it will visit every government-funded school in England to collect data about the condition of their buildings.</p> <p>The purpose of the data collected is to provide the DfE with a comprehensive picture of the condition of the schools and help prioritise investment in terms of condition funding and rebuilding programmes.</p> <p>The condition survey also benefits schools inasmuch as it highlights condition issues which need attention or further investigation, provides a view of roof condition which is not normally seen and provide good photographic evidence of condition issues.</p> <p>The survey, however, does have limitations as it's not invasive, it's not structural, does not report on hazardous materials (principally asbestos), does not address critical health and safety requirements such as fire and intruder alarm functionality, does not take into account building use or capacity and does not provide descriptions of defects, remedies or cost information for schools or responsible bodies.</p> <p>There will be 9 tranches of school visits programmed over the next 5 years. Tranche 1 included Rossmere, Catcote Academy and Barnard Grove, while tranche 2 included Greatham. The following tranches are also confirmed by the DfE:</p> <p>Tranche 3 - February 2022 – July 2022</p>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Horizon School • St John Vianney • Rift House • Clavering • St Teresa's • Golden Flatts <p>Tranche 4 - August 2022 to January 2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St Joseph's • Stranton • Grange • Manor <p>All responsible bodies will receive information from surveyors or DfE so schools need to keep an eye out for the information.</p> <p>Discussion was held around the experiences of the Headteacher's whose school had been surveyed. It was identified that the thoroughness and time taken to carry out the surveys were different for different schools (possibly depending on the different surveying companies used). MF pointed out that accompanying the surveyor round the school provided the opportunity to point things out to the surveyor to ensure everything was picked up in the survey.</p>							
6.	High Needs Capital (JR)							
	<p>JR provided an update that had been received from Danielle Swainston.</p> <p>The Local Authority receives funding to support High Needs. Allocations as below:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="277 1258 963 1330"> <thead> <tr> <th>2022/23</th> <th>2023/2024</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>£962,737</td> <td>£732,295</td> <td>£1,695,032</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>A Children's Services Committee report sets out allocations to Springwell and Catcote 6th form – these schemes were formally approved last year but costs have increased. In addition, there are additional fire safety works at Springwell that need to be completed before the building can be signed off by Building Control. These were not in the original costs.</p> <p>There is £1,486,520.11 remaining. The proposal is to use this in mainstream schools to increase the provision for secondary age children with MLD and primary age children with ASD (these are the two areas that are under significant pressure at the moment). High Tunstall are the only secondary provision that have expressed an interest. Discussions are taking place with a number of schools regarding primary ASD provision.</p> <p>Recently, we were notified that Kingsley have increasing numbers of children with high level needs (not including ARP children). The majority are school transfers which is causing significant issues as the school cannot accommodate these children safely, however due to parental preference (and the school having some places) they have had to take these children. Danielle Swainston and Kelly Armstrong have reviewed the building and do not consider it to be safe for the level of needs, therefore they are</p>	2022/23	2023/2024	Total	£962,737	£732,295	£1,695,032	
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£962,737	£732,295	£1,695,032						

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	<p>exploring a temporary demountable on site until alternative options, for ASD enhanced provision, can be developed. This will need to go through planning. We are currently looking at costs.</p> <p>JH asked if the cost of the demountables comes out of the £1,486,520.11. JR confirmed that it will.</p> <p>JH also asked what is the mechanism in relation to how the funding is allocated to specific projects and how they are prioritised? JR said she will take it back to Danielle Swainston and Kelly Armstrong for comment.</p> <p>DT commented that it was an opportunity to have ASD ARP in schools. JR will look into a response.</p> <p>DT also raised the point that any funding needs to be sustainable, perhaps with year on year funding not just one off improvements.</p> <p>MT queried whether the £750k not spent in the SEMH budget could be looked at in reacting to need.</p> <p>KB flagged concerns regarding timescales for completion of schemes especially with regards to Kingsley demountables/classroom and that a September completion date was unrealistic.</p> <p>JH also queried if other schools could perhaps find a quicker and cheaper solution than demountables to alleviate pressures and who would be looking at this?</p>	<p>JR</p> <p>JR</p> <p>JR</p> <p>JR</p> <p>JR</p> <p>JR</p>
7.	Free School – Brenda Road (JR)	
	<p>JR provided an update on behalf of Danielle Swainston.</p> <p>The new school is currently in the planning process.</p> <p>There has been delays with approval from ministers. We were expecting the school to be open in Sept 2023, however it now looks like it will be 2024. This is a concern as we have a cohort of children we were expecting to attend the Free School from Sept 2023. Discussions are taking place to see if there are any options to open the school from Sept 2023 but in demountables. Not sure if this is feasible, however it is being explored.</p> <p>MT asked if we can ask DfE for more funding for higher needs as we were planning towards 2022 and it has been delayed until 2023?</p>	
8.	Any other business	
	<p>Free School – Wynyard - JR informed the group that the LA had recently received correspondence from the DfE in respect of the approval of a new 420 place primary school at Wynyard, Hartlepool, (St Joseph’s Church of England Primary School). The school will now progress to the pre-opening stage. During this phase, the free school proposer group will finalise plans, develop policies and undertake a statutory consultation. An opening date hasn’t been confirmed as yet.</p>	

Item		Action
	<p>Mary Frain Retiring</p> <p>The group thanked MF for her service to the Schools' Capital Sub Group and the Admissions Forum while wishing her well in her retirement.</p> <p>JH asked MF if she could ask the Head, replacing her at St Teresa's, if they would be prepared to attend the sub group.</p>	MF
9.	Date and Time of Meetings for 2022/23 Academic Year	
	<p>Thursday 20th October 2022 at 10:00</p> <p>Thursday 26th January 2023 at 10:00</p> <p>Thursday 22nd June 2023 at 10:00</p>	