Schools Capital Sub-Group Meeting Thursday 3rd November 2022 Held remotely via Microsoft Teams



PRESENT	
Mark Tilling	Headteacher - High Tunstall College of Science (Chair)
Louise Robson	Head of Corporate Services – Catcote Academy
Jo Heaton	CEO – Northern Lights Learning Trust
David Turner	Headteacher – Rift House Primary
Chris Connor	Headteacher – Fens Primary
Claire Appleton	Group Accountant (Corporate and Schools) - HBC
David Mitchell	Capital Projects Officer - HBC
Julie Reed	Pupil Place Planning, Admissions & Capital Manager - HBC
Chris McCulloch	Construction Manager - HBC

APOLOGIES

Amanda Whitehead - Assistant Director (Education) – HBC Kieran Bostock - Assistant Director (Place Management) - HBC Carole Bradley – Executive Headteacher – Northern Lights Learning Trust Sara Crawshaw – Headteacher – English Martyrs

Item		Action
1.	Review of minutes from 20 th January 2022.	
	JH asked that her job title be updated. Minutes of previous meeting agreed.	
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.	
3.	Finance Update (CA)	
	There is not a lot to report on due to the progress of this year's schemes and only £68,000 has been spent so far this year, however it is expected that there will be more by the end of March.	
	JR pointed out that HBC have regular capital monitoring meetings where final accounts are requested to be processed as soon as possible.	

Item		Action
4.	Fire Safety / door replacements Update (DM)	
	Capital funding for the fire safety modifications was approved last year.	
	Approved work includes fire door replacement, door maintenance & fire stopping i.e. the work above ceilings to stop fire spread.	
	Door installs & door maintenance have been undertaken at both schools and are largely complete, however the fire stopping works are still outstanding in both schools.	
	HBC have commissioned an independent fire consultant to advise on the current fire stopping works. Currently, the focus is on the design for a small manageable section of Throston which we are aiming to complete next summer.	
	Once a sound methodology has been developed we will design further phases for Throston and move onto Kingsley.	
5.	DfE CDC2 Programme (Condition Data Collection 2) (DM)	
	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.	
	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.	
	The condition survey also benefits schools insomuch 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.	
	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.	
	There will be 9 tranches of school visits programmed over the next 5 years.	
	Tranche 1 (Complete): • Rossmere • Catcote Academy • Barnard Grove	
	Tranche 2: (Complete) • Greatham	
	Tranche 3: (Complete)	

Item		Action
	St Teresa's RC Primary School	
	St John Vianney RC Primary School	
	The Horizon School	
	Tranche 4: (Complete)	
	Stranton Primary School	
	Manor Community Academy	
	Grange Primary School	
	St Joseph's Catholic Primary School	
	Tranche 5: (Underway)	
	Lynnfield Primary School	
	Throston Primary School	
	High Tunstall College of Science	
	Eldon Grove Academy	
	West View Primary School	
	Sacred Heart Primary Catholic School	
	St Bega's Primary Catholic School	
	All responsible bodies will receive information from surveyors or the DfE so schools	
	need to keep an eye out for the information.	
	MT raised issue around DfE contacting schools direct re "Connect the Classroom" funding, raising concerns that High Tunstall were asked to complete forms for the funding but then only to be told they can't have the funding because it's a new building.	
	MT asked if JR could liaise with the DfE around "Connect the Classroom"	JR
6.	High Needs Capital (JR)	
	Responses to actions from the previous minutes have been forwarded with the agenda.	
	MT queried how much funding has already been allocated and what remains.	
	JR confirmed that a DfE return is to be submitted, however Kelly Armstrong may be able to provide further details.	JR
	MT commented that his MLD ARP is full and children will have to be placed out of town which will increase the burden on the high needs block funding.	
	JH commented that St Helen's is planning for an ASD ARP for which they are currently in the process of recruiting staff.	
	JH referred to the response from Danielle Swainston regarding a further expression of interest for an ASD ARP received in September and asked for clarification on this other ASD ARP so that they could work with this provision and also so that they can plan staffing and resources effectively.	KA/DS

Item		Action
	Kingsley	
	Planning permission has been submitted for demountables at Kingsley.	
	CA commented that demountables are going to be rented, therefore capital funding cannot be used for this.	
	MT commented that High Needs Capital requires a more joined up approach. As there are still enquiries with respect to High Needs Capital JR would liaise with Danielle Swainston and Kelly Armstrong regarding their availability to attend the next meeting to provide further information.	JR
	DT reiterated his call for sustainable funding streams to allow for forward planning for staff and resources.	
	MT advised that he will also raise concerns to Danielle at the Next High Needs Block Review meeting on 25th November.	МТ
	JH clarified her question from the previous minutes.	
	The previous minutes stated: 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?	
	However, JH's original question was why we are spending on demountables when other schools might have had space and expertise to accommodate these children, thus saving money on demountables.	
	With reference to the demountable at Kingsley, MT made a comment querying are parents choosing Kingsley because they have the provision or because there is no other provision?	
7.	School Rebuilding Programme (JR)	
	Earlier this year, the government announced the next round of schools which will have buildings replaced or refurbished as part of the School Rebuilding Programme. The programme addresses school buildings in the worst condition across England.	
	In 2022 to 2023, the DfE (subject to future spending rounds) expect to prioritise up to 300 schools in total.	
	St Helen's was nominated to be included in the programme.	
	The assessment of nominations is ongoing and St Helen's has received a recent visit from the DfE's Technical Advisors. It is expected that an announcement will be made this financial year as to which schools are to be included.	
8.	Free School – Brenda Road (JR)	
	JR provided an update on behalf of Kelly Armstrong.	

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Item		Action
	A planning application has been submitted by HBC for the access road to the free school, the access road has caused some delays to the project and current timescales mean the school will be delayed until approximately February/March 2024, we feel this may extend further and an early summer 2024 completion date is more likely.	
	The knock on effect of the delay is that we will have to find school places out of area for approximately 10-12 children with SEMH for 23/24 academic year. Due to issues we have had for this academic year securing places Kelly Armstrong and Louise Allen have carried out a piece of work to identify those children who may require specialist SEMH provision.	
	A meeting is being held on Monday 16th October to discuss the children and young people in more detail with Lorna McClean (Director, Spark of Genius) who are the delivery partner for the free school. We are hoping to secure places at the Spark of Genius School in Norton by early block booking of places, the children and young people will then transfer to the free school in Hartlepool when it opens in 2024.	
9.	SEMH Update (CA)	
	CA provided an update.	
	Forum agreed that some of the £743k SEMH Capital funding will be used for training (Trauma, etc.) and will be organised by an organisation called Together to Succeed. This would aim to address issues facing gaps in knowledge and understanding of SEMH provision. The Schools Forum have requested that the Board of Together to Succeed draft a suggested programme and costing for training across schools in the Hartlepool. This will be taken to a future Schools Forum meeting for approval.	
	It was clarified that this training would not use the entire remaining SEMH funding. It was pointed out the need to utilise, and to make best use of, the remaining funding. However, currently there are no plans for the remaining funding.	
	It was further clarified that the funding has reverted back to revenue from capital, therefore this training can be funded.	
	JH queried if, given schools are facing budgetary issues, it would it be possible to divide up the funding and distribute an allocation to all schools? MT pointed out that as the allocations would be based around pupil numbers many schools would only receive small sums.	
	It was agreed that a breakdown of the remaining funding based on the £743k be provided at the next meeting to see what school have been allocated.	
	Could the breakdown of the remaining funding (based on 750k) to schools be drafted to see what the allocations actually are?	CA
	LR asked if SEMH funding can be linked into SEND training. MT advised that the funding will start with trauma training and then may be able to address additional training later.	

Item		Action
	DT commented that Emma Rutherford (HBC) also provides trauma training and asked if she is part of the discussions?	MT
	JH commented that it was raised, at the Education Partnership Board, that the strain on resources, to release staff for training, highlighted the need to manage training carefully. JH also queried if there was the possibility to "train the trainers" so that schools could manage their training more flexibly?	
10.	Any other business	
	None.	
11.	Date and Time of Meetings for 2022/23 Academic Year	
	Thursday 26 th January 2023 at 10:00 Thursday 22 nd June 2023 at 10:00	