



Record of meeting

East Midlands North sub-regional improvement board

2 May 2018

Attendance

Sub-regional improvement board members

John Edwards	Regional Schools Commissioner for East Midlands and the Humber (Chair)
Kathryn Boulton	Derbyshire County Council
John Dexter	Nottingham City Council
Linda Foster	Nottinghamshire County Council
Pauline Anderson	Derby City Council
David Channon	Diocese of Derby
Claire Meese	Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham
Chris Maher	Diocese of Nottingham
Chris Wheatley	Teaching Schools Council

Invited representatives

Jeanette Hart	Teaching Schools Council Local Hub Lead
Adrian Taylor	Teaching Schools Council Local Hub Lead
Paul Goodman	Teaching Schools Council Local Hub Lead
Rebecca Meredith	Teaching Schools Council Local Hub Lead
Kate McKenna	Teaching Schools Council

DfE officials in attendance included

Carol Gray, Chris Caroe

Apologies

Marion Clay	Nottinghamshire County Council
Angela O'Brien	Derby Research School
Bob Sawyer	Diocese of Hallam

Discussion points

Sub-regional improvement board members were reminded of the confidentiality of the papers and discussion at the meeting and that they must declare any actual or potential interests that might impact upon their impartiality in the review and prioritisation of applications. Conflicts of interest were dealt with in line with the published terms of reference.

Strategic School Improvement Fund (SSIF) rounds 1 & 2

A discussion took place on the progress of SSIF rounds 1 and 2 projects being delivered in the sub-region. The group discussed any knowledge they had of projects' recent successes or challenges.

Strategic School Improvement Fund (SSIF) round 3

An overview was provided of SSIF round 3 applications. Sub-regional improvement board members considered the applications and fed in their views on:

1. the fit of the proposal with the identified sub-regional priorities, including whether the schools selected are those most in need of support; and
2. whether the applicant and specified providers have the capacity and capability to successfully deliver the activity such that it delivers the desired outcomes.

The views in the meeting on round 3 applications were broadly in support of the applications submitted; on the whole, the applications were viewed as thoughtful and collaborative.

The majority of applications met the sub-regional priorities. The majority of applications targeted appropriate schools for intervention, but there were some where schools with greater needs could have been included. Consideration was given to the proposed providers' capacity, capability and track record in delivering improvement support similar to that proposed in the applications. All of these points were noted to be fed into the Department's assessment of each application.

© Crown copyright 2018



Record of meeting

East Midlands North sub-regional improvement board

15 December 2017

Attendance

Sub-regional improvement board members

John Edwards	Regional Schools Commissioner for East Midlands and the Humber (Chair)
Pauline Anderson	Derby City Council
Marion Clay	Nottinghamshire County Council
Claire Meese	Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham
John Dexter	Nottingham City Council
Saranjit Shetra	Derbyshire County Council
Chris Maher	Diocese of Nottingham
Chris Wheatley	Teaching Schools Council

Invited representatives

Kate McKenna	Teaching Schools Council
Jeanette Hart	Teaching Schools Council Local Hub Lead
Adrian Tayler	Teaching Schools Council Local Hub Lead

DfE officials in attendance included

Anna Mercy, Paul Roberts

Discussion points

An overview was provided of the applications received within the sub-region for round 2 of the Strategic School Improvement Fund (SSIF). It was noted that the announcement of successful projects would be made in January 2018 and that following the announcement TSC would link with teaching schools and providers to consider:

- eligible schools not yet supported by SSIF projects
- commissioning of projects to address sub-regional priorities for SSIF round 3 which had not been met in round 2.

It was noted that SSIF round 3 will open before Christmas.

Ahead of SSIF round 3 the meeting discussed the data and local intelligence on priority needs for different schools within the areas. These were identified as priorities as areas of focus for some schools and were by no means exclusive.

For some schools, as relevant across the East Midlands North sub-region:

- improving progress across all key stages in all subjects with a focus on vulnerable groups, disadvantaged pupils, boys and those on SEN support
- developing inclusive practice and family engagement to support the outcomes, behaviour and wellbeing of disadvantaged and other vulnerable pupils, including children in care
- improving communication, language and literacy development in the early years with a focus on disadvantaged pupils
- improving transition across all phases, particularly for disadvantaged pupils.

For some schools, as relevant, within specific local authority areas:

Derby

- improving KS4 outcomes with a focus on the progress of underachieving pupils, disadvantaged pupils and other vulnerable groups
- improving pupil outcomes by developing leadership capacity with a focus on middle leadership and governance
- improving the inclusion and achievement of pupils new to the English education system
- improving outcomes for high and low prior attainment pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds in the primary phase.

Derbyshire

- improving KS4 outcomes with a focus on the progress of underachieving pupils, disadvantaged pupils and other vulnerable groups
- improving pupil outcomes by developing leadership capacity with a focus on middle leadership and governance
- improving the inclusion and achievement of pupils new to the English education system
- improving outcomes for high and low prior attainment pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds in the primary phase.

Nottingham

- improving outcomes for pupils excluded or at risk of exclusion, including a focus on pupils with SEND
- improving numeracy outcomes at all key stages, particularly through the development of sustainable leadership and teaching capacity
- improving the transition of pupils to and from secondary schools to reduce the attainment dip, particularly for disadvantaged pupils
- improving outcomes in the secondary phase particularly for disadvantaged pupils.

Nottinghamshire

- improving outcomes for disadvantaged white boys in targeted underperforming towns
- improving outcomes for learners with SEND with a focus on building resilience of both staff and pupils
- improving outcomes in small and rural schools through developing leadership capacity
- improving outcomes in secondary schools including school sixth forms.

The list of priorities within the region will be circulated to sub-regional improvement board attendees after the meeting. This will also be disseminated to MATs after the meeting.

The benefits to potential applicants of the SSIF advisers and the TSC being aware of the number and nature of likely applications was emphasised, including to identify any areas of overlap. Sub-

regional improvement board members were encouraged to pass any knowledge of potential applications to DfE, via the SSIF adviser Kate McKenna. This again was not for reasons of exclusivity, but to mitigate gaps in provision emerging given that the data and intelligence was showing all attendees at the meeting some important areas for focus and, subject to the Secretary of State's decisions, in due course, potential SSIF funding.

© Crown copyright 2018



Record of meeting

East Midlands North sub-regional improvement board

31 October 2017

Attendance

Sub-regional improvement board members

John Edwards	Regional Schools Commissioner for East Midlands and the Humber (Chair)
Pauline Anderson	Derby City Council
Kathryn Boulton	Derbyshire County Council
David Channon	Diocese of Derby
Claire Meese	Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham
John Dexter	Nottingham City Council
Marion Clay	Nottinghamshire County Council
Colin Pettigrew	Nottinghamshire County Council

Invited representatives

Paul Goodman	Teaching Schools Council Local Hub Lead
Adrian Taylor	Teaching Schools Council Local Hub Lead
Rebecca Meredith	Teaching Schools Council Local Hub Lead
Jeanette Hart	Teaching Schools Council Local Hub Lead
Kate McKenna	Teaching Schools Council

DfE officials in attendance included

Debbie Usherwood, Chris Caroe

Apologies

Chris Maher	Diocese of Nottingham
Chris Wheatley	Teaching Schools Council

Discussion points

Sub-regional improvement board members were reminded of the confidentiality of the papers and discussion at the meeting and that they must declare any actual or potential interests that might impact upon their impartiality in the review and prioritisation of applications. Conflicts of interest were dealt with in line with the published terms of reference.

Strategic School Improvement Fund (SSIF) round 2

An overview was provided of SSIF round 2 applications. Sub-regional improvement board members considered the applications and fed in their views on:

1. the fit of the proposal with the identified sub-regional priorities, including whether the schools selected are those most in need of support; and

2. whether the applicant and specified providers have the capacity and capability to successfully deliver the activity such that it delivers the desired outcomes.

The views in the meeting on round 2 applications were broadly in support of the applications submitted; on the whole, the applications were viewed as thoughtful and collaborative. All applicants, with the exception of a small number of cross-regional applications, met the sub-regional priorities. The majority of applications targetted appropriate schools for support but there were some where schools with greater needs could have been included. Consideration was given to the proposed providers' capacity, capability and track record in delivering improvement support similar to that proposed in the applications. All of these points were then fed into the Department's assessment of each application.

Risk register

The risk register was discussed. Risks were assessed and amended to reflect the likelihood of the risk continuing or materialising. The register will be amended and produced for the next meeting.

© Crown copyright 2018



Record of meeting

East Midlands North sub-regional improvement board

15 September 2017

Attendance

Sub-regional improvement board members

John Edwards	Regional Schools Commissioner for East Midlands and the Humber (Chair)
David Channon	Diocese of Derby (CofE)
Claire Meese	Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham (CofE)
John Dexter	Nottingham City Council
Chris Maher	Diocese of Nottingham (RC)
Chris Wheatley	Teaching Schools Council
Pauline Anderson	Derby City Council
Kathryn Boulton	Derbyshire County Council
Colin Pettigrew	Nottinghamshire County Council

Invited representatives

Kate Mckenna	Teaching Schools Council
Paul Goodman	Teaching Schools Council Local Hub Lead
Rebecca Meredith	Teaching Schools Council Local Hub Lead
Adrian Taylor	Teaching Schools Council Local Hub Lead
Jeanette Hart	Teaching Schools Council Local Hub Lead

DfE officials in attendance included

Debbie Usherwood, Chris Caroe, Paul Roberts

Discussion points

The draft sub-regional improvement board terms of reference were noted as how the discussions in these meetings would operate and how decisions on funding were for the Secretary of State only.

An overview was provided of the outcome of round 1 of the Strategic School Improvement Fund (SSIF), noting the DfE announcement from early September set out the relatively high success rate of applications from East Midlands North compared to the average nationally. John recognised and thanked both applicants and sub-regional improvement board members for all of the hard work that had gone into round 1 applications.

The features that distinguished projects which the Secretary of State had decided to fund through round 1 compared to those that were not were noted as:

- clearer articulation and stronger evidence of the need to be addressed in the specific schools identified

- more robust evidence for how and why the proposed intervention would deliver the proposed impact
- stronger evidence of the capacity of providers to deliver the proposed intervention
- a more robust and specific action plan
- more robust plans to sustain the impact of the intervention
- clearer evidence of steps taken to secure value for money

The need to identify and manage risks to successful delivery of the SSIF in East Midlands North was discussed.

The closing date for round 2 applications to be sent to DfE was confirmed as 20 October. Updated guidance will be published shortly together with an updated application form.

Ahead of SSIF round 2 the meeting discussed the data and local intelligence on priority needs for different schools within the areas. These were identified as areas of focus for some schools and were by no means exclusive:

For some schools as relevant across East Midlands North

- developing inclusive practice and family engagement to support the outcomes, behaviour and wellbeing of disadvantaged and other vulnerable pupils, including children in care
- attracting and retaining more high quality teachers and leaders to the East Midlands North sub-region

For some schools, as relevant, within specific LA areas

Derby

- KS4 outcomes with a focus on the progress of disadvantaged boys
- improving leadership with a focus on middle leadership and governance, particularly governance across groups of schools
- the integration of pupils new to the English education system arrived in the city
- raising progress of high and low prior attainment pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds, particularly in numeracy

Derbyshire

- improving sustainability and capacity for improvement by developing models of leadership and governance, particularly for small and rural schools
- improving progress across the key stages, particularly at KS4 and with a focus on Pupil Premium and other disadvantaged pupils
- improving reading and phonics outcomes in the early years with a particular focus on Pupil Premium and other disadvantaged pupils

Nottingham

- improving outcomes for pupils excluded or at risk of exclusion, including a focus on pupils with SEND
- improving numeracy outcomes at all key stages, particularly through the development of sustainable leadership and teaching capacity
- improving the transition of pupils to and from secondary schools to reduce the attainment dip, particularly for disadvantaged pupils

Nottinghamshire

- improving sustainability and capacity for improvement by developing models of leadership and governance particularly for small and rural schools
- improving reading outcomes across the key stages with a particular focus on phonics and the other foundations of reading in the early years
- improving the sustainability and quality of sixth form provision in schools
- improving outcomes for disadvantaged white boys in targeted underperforming towns

The role as set out in the terms of reference of all sub-regional improvement board members, especially the Teaching Schools Council, in disseminating these priorities for potential round 2 applicants was noted as an urgent priority.

The benefits of maintaining an overview of the number and nature of potential application was emphasised, including to identify any deficit or excess of application relating to specific geographies or priority school improvement needs. Sub-regional improvement board members were encouraged to pass any knowledge of potential application to DfE, via the Teaching Schools Council. This again was not for reasons of exclusivity but to mitigate gaps in provision emerging given what the data and intelligence was showing all attendees at the meeting about some important areas for focus and, subject to the Secretary of State's decisions in due course, potential SSIF funding.

© Crown copyright 2018