



Record of meeting

East Midlands South sub-regional improvement board

30 April 2018

Attendance

Sub-regional improvement board members

John Edwards	Regional Schools Commissioner for East Midlands and the Humber (Chair)
Heather Sandy	Lincolnshire County Council
Gill Curtis	Rutland County Council
Annette Montague	Leicester County Council
Jane Moore	Leicestershire County Council
Paul Thompson	Diocese of Lincoln
Andrew Lakatos	Diocese of Peterborough
Carolyn Lewis	Diocese of Leicester
Chris Wheatley	Teaching Schools Council

Invited representatives

Helen Barker	Teaching Schools Council Local Hub Lead
Rhian Richardson	Teaching Schools Council Local Hub Lead
Inderjit Sandhu	Teaching Schools Council Local Hub Lead
Juliet Brooks	Kyra Research School
Kate McKenna	Teaching Schools Council

DfE officials in attendance included

Laura Lane

Apologies

Rob Gooding	Teaching Schools Council Local Hub Lead
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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.

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Record of meeting

East Midlands South sub-regional improvement board

12 December 2017

Attendance

Sub-regional improvement board members

John Edwards	Regional Schools Commissioner for East Midlands and the Humber (Chair)
Helen Barker	Teaching School Alliance
Heather Sandy	Lincolnshire City Council
Paul Thompson	Diocese of Lincoln
Gill Curtis	Rutland County Council
Annette Montague	Leicester County Council
Alison Bradley	Leicestershire Council
Chris Maher	Diocese of Nottingham

Invited representatives

Kate McKenna	Teaching Schools Council
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DfE Officials in attendance included

Chris Caroe, Beverly Annables

Apologies

Chris Wheatley	Teaching Schools Council
Inderjit Sandhu	Teaching Schools Council Local Hub Lead
Miranda Robinson	Diocese of Peterborough

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, within specific local authority areas:

Leicester

- improve the percentage of pupils achieving a good level of development in the EYFS
- improve KS2 reading outcomes
- improve KS4 outcomes with a focus on disadvantaged pupils.

Leicestershire

- improve the percentage of pupils achieving at least expected level across all early learning goals
- improve KS1 outcomes in reading, writing and maths
- improve KS2 reading progress
- improve KS4 outcomes with a focus on disadvantaged pupils.

Rutland

- improve outcomes for children eligible for pupil premium, including looked after and service children
- improve progress, particularly for higher attaining pupils.

Lincolnshire

- improve the percentage of pupils achieving at least expected level across all early learning goals
- improve attainment of pupils in receipt of SEND support in the primary phase
- improve KS1 and KS2 reading, writing and maths outcomes with a focus on disadvantaged pupils
- improve KS4 outcomes with a focus on disadvantaged pupils.

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.

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Record of meeting

East Midlands South sub-regional improvement board

2 November 2017

Attendance

Sub-regional improvement board members

John Edwards	Regional Schools Commissioner for East Midlands and the Humber (Chair)
Heather Sandy	Lincolnshire County Council
Gill Curtis	Rutland County Council
Sandra Roberts	Leicester County Council
Jane Moore	Leicestershire City Council
Paul Thompson	Diocese of Lincoln
Peter Giorgio	Diocese of Nottingham
Carolyn Lewis	Diocese of Leicester
Chris Wheatley	Teaching Schools Council

Invited representatives

Inderjit Sandhu	Teaching Schools Council Local Hub Lead
Rhian Richardson	Teaching Schools Council Local Hub Lead
Helen Barker	Teaching Schools Council Local Hub Lead

Kate McKenna Teaching Schools Council

DfE officials in attendance included

Debbie Usherwood, Anna Mercy

Apologies

Rob Gooding Teaching Schools Council Local Hub Lead

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 targeted 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.

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Record of meeting

East Midlands South sub-regional improvement board

4th September 2017

Attendance

Sub-regional improvement board members

John Edwards	Regional Schools Commissioner for East Midlands and the Humber (Chair)
Heather Sandy	Lincolnshire County Council
Gill Curtis	Rutland Country Council
Sandra Roberts	Leicester City Council
Jane Moore	Leicestershire City Council
Paul Thompson	Diocese of Lincoln
Peter Giorgio	Diocese of Nottingham
Carolyn Lewis	Diocese of Leicester
Chris Wheatley	Teaching Schools Council

Invited representatives

Kate Mckenna	Teaching Schools Council
Inderjit Sandhu	Teaching Schools Council Local Hub Lead
Rhian Richardson	Teaching Schools Council Local Hub Lead
Rob Gooding	Teaching Schools Council Local Hub Lead
Helen Barker	Teaching Schools Council Local Hub Lead

DfE officials in attendance included

Carol Gray, Chris Caroe

Apologies

Frances Craven	Leicester City Council
Miranda Robinson	Diocese of Peterborough (CofE)

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 South 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 South 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, within specific LA areas

Leicester

- improve KS4 Progress 8 results with a focus on disadvantaged pupils
- improve KS2 primary reading outcomes

Leicestershire

- improve KS1 outcomes in Reading, Writing and Maths
- improve KS2 reading outcomes

Rutland

- improve the performance of pupil premium children, including looked after and service children, especially at KS2 and in the early years
- improve progress, particularly for higher attaining pupils
- strengthen leadership, with a focus on governance

Lincolnshire

- improve Progress 8 outcomes including KS4 attainment and progress particularly for pupils eligible for the Pupil Premium
- improve attainment at KS4 particularly for EAL pupils
- improve KS2 Maths outcomes

The role as set out in the draft 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 applications was emphasised, including to identify any deficit or excess of applications relating to specific

geographies or priority school improvement needs. Sub-regional improvement board members were encouraged to pass any knowledge of potential applications 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.

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