



## Record of meeting

### North West London South Central - West sub-regional improvement board

11<sup>th</sup> May 2018

#### Attendance

##### Sub-regional improvement board members

Martin Post	Regional Schools Commissioner, NWLSC (Chair)
Elaine Ricks-Neal	West Berkshire Council
Rebecca Matthews	Oxfordshire County Council
Gillian Cole	Wokingham Borough Council
Rachel Cross	Slough Borough Council
Zaheer Ahmed	Bracknell Forest Council
Paul Wagstaff	Reading Council
Kirsteen Roberts	Diocese of Oxford
Adam Hardy	Diocese of Birmingham
Sarah Bennett	Teaching Schools Council

##### Invited representatives

Brian Ball	Teaching Schools Council
------------	--------------------------

##### DfE officials in attendance included

Amanda Sasia, Tania Rawle

##### Apologies

Mo Galway	Reading Borough Council
Chris Kiernan	Reading Borough Council
Vicky Pearce	West Berkshire Council
Rachel Morgan	Bracknell Forest Borough Council
Kashif Nawaz	Bracknell Forest Borough Council
Johnny Kyriacou	Slough Borough Council
Catherine Hayward	Oxfordshire County Council
Roy Leach	Oxfordshire County Council
Jane Winterbone	Wokingham Borough Council
Lauren Ruta	Buckinghamshire County Council
Penny Bingham	Diocese of Oxford
John Dwyer	Birmingham Diocesan Education Service
Clive Haines	Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead
Teresa Tunnadine	Teaching School Council
Stephanie Boak	Teaching School 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 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 were those that would most benefit from the 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 then fed into the Department's assessment of each application.

© Crown copyright 2018



## Record of meeting

### North West London South Central - West sub-regional improvement board

11<sup>th</sup> December 2017

#### Attendance

##### Sub-regional improvement board members

Martin Post	Regional Schools Commissioner, NWLSC (Chair)
Elaine Ricks-Neal	West Berkshire Council
Sandra Higgs	Oxfordshire County Council
Gillian Cole	Wokingham Borough Council
Johnny Kyriacou	Slough Borough Council
Zaheer Ahmed	Bracknell Forest Council
Mo Galway	Reading Council
Clive Haines	Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead
Kirsteen Roberts	Diocese of Oxford
Sarah Bennett	Teaching Schools Council

##### Invited representatives

Brian Ball	Teaching Schools Council
------------	--------------------------

##### DfE officials in attendance included

Tania Rawle, Frances Blurton

##### Apologies

Adam Hardy	Diocese of Birmingham
------------	-----------------------

#### 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:

1. Bracknell Forest: Narrowing the gap for disadvantaged pupils at key stage two.
2. Buckinghamshire: Improving writing for key stage one and key stage two disadvantaged pupils.
3. Oxfordshire: Improving outcomes in maths for key stage two to four disadvantaged pupils.
4. Reading: Improving the rate of progress for SEND and EHCP pupils across the system at all key stages especially at key stage one and key stage two.
5. Slough: Improving reading and maths for key stage two disadvantaged pupils.
6. Windsor and Maidenhead: Improving attendance and exclusion across all key stages.
7. Wokingham: Improving progress for reading and writing at key stage 1 and key stage 2 with a focus on boys.

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 Brian Ball. 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

### North West London South Central - West sub-regional improvement board

3 November 2017

#### Attendance

##### Sub-regional improvement board members

Martin Post	Regional Schools Commissioner, NWLSC (Chair)
Chris Kiernan	Reading Borough Council
Jane Winterborne	Wokingham Borough Council
Johnny Kyriacou	Slough Borough Council
John Constable	Slough Borough Council
Bernadette Harding	Birmingham Diocese Education Service
Adam Hardy	Birmingham Diocese Education Service
Clive Haines	Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead
Kashif Nawaz	Bracknell Forest Council
Catherine Hayward	Oxfordshire County Council
Atifa Sayani	Buckinghamshire County Council
Elaine Ricks Neal	West Berkshire Council
Kirsteen Roberts	Diocese of Oxford
Sarah Bennett	Teaching Schools Council

##### Invited representatives

Teresa Tunnadine	Teaching Schools Council
Mick O'Leary	Teaching Schools Council
Brian Ball	Teaching Schools Council

##### DfE officials in attendance included

Dame Kate Dethridge, Jim Addison

#### 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 managed 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 applications, with the exception of one, clearly 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.

© Crown copyright 2018



## Record of meeting

### North West London South Central - West sub-regional improvement board

28 September 2017

#### Attendance

Sub-regional improvement board members

Martin Post	Regional Schools Commissioner, NWLSC (Chair)
Zeheer Ahmed	Bracknell Forest Council
Adam Hardy	Diocese of Birmingham
Chris Kiernan	Reading Borough Council
Roy Leach	Oxfordshire Country Council
Elaine Ricks Neal	West Berkshire Council
Atiyfa Sayani	Buckinghamshire County Council
Jane Winterborne	Wokingham Borough Council

Invited representatives

Brian Ball	Teaching Schools Council
------------	--------------------------

DfE officials in attendance included

Dame Kate Dethridge, Jim Addison

Apologies

Sarah Bennett	Teaching Schools Council
---------------	--------------------------

#### Discussion points

An overview was provided of the outcome of round 1 of the Strategic School Improvement Fund (SSIF), noting the three successful applications in NWLSC. Within the West sub-regional improvement board area, West Berkshire Council made a successful application.

The features that distinguished projects which the Secretary of State had decided to fund through round 1 compared to 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

Around £19m has been spent in round 1 from the £280m available. Therefore there remains a significant opportunity in round 2 and round 3 due to the level of funding remaining if applications are suitably robust.

An overview of SSIF round 2 was provided which included:

- the closing date for round 2 applications to be sent to DfE was confirmed as 20 October 2017.
- the guidance and application form have been updated for round 2 to be clearer and more user-friendly e.g more space for text and a 'save' feature.

An overview of the Teaching Schools Council in the newly-formed NWLSC Teaching Schools Council region was provided, which included reference to SSIF advisors and lead schools in the region. A letter outlining this support structure has been sent to the DCS in all LAs in NWLSC and to Teaching Schools within the region from the Teaching Schools Council leads for NWLSC. The same information will be sent shortly to Dioceses and MATs by the RSC team. The West sub-regional improvement board is covered by the West sub-region Teaching School Alliance.

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:

1. Bracknell Forest - Narrowing the gap for disadvantaged pupils at KS2 and Early reading
2. Oxfordshire - Disadvantaged particularly BME KS2 and KS4 and Reducing exclusions particularly at KS2
3. Wokingham - Disadvantaged PPG and Disadvantaged phonics
4. Slough - Disadvantaged KS2 for reading and maths and Disadvantaged good passes at GCSE English and Maths
5. Buckinghamshire - Disadvantaged writing KS1 and KS2 and KS4 disadvantaged English and Maths
6. West Berkshire – Disadvantage at all KSs and phonics
7. Reading - reducing exclusions and progress and attainment of SEND all KSs
8. Windsor and Maidenhead - Disadvantaged PPG, especially in small cohorts

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 advisors 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 advisor for the region Brian Ball. 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 some important areas for focus and, subject to the Secretary of State's decisions in due course, potential SSIF funding.