

Standing Group of Education Building Development Officers

Notes of the twenty first meeting held in Birmingham on 13th November 2002

Chairman: Shirley Turner, Hampshire

Present: Keith Armstead, Geoff Black, Tony Blackman, Chris Boderick, Greg Durkin, Bob Dutton, Doug Elliott, Jeff Fletcher, Peter Foale, Chris Gilbert, Jo Humphreys, Clare Medland, Tony Palmer, Penny Pennington, John Proctor, Clare Townend, Shirley Turner, Tim Wear.

	ACTION
<p>1. <u>Apologies</u></p> <p>Janice Beck, Surrey</p>	
<p>2. <u>Notes of the 20th Meeting</u></p> <p>Replace "LB of Bracknell" – with "Bracknell Forest"</p>	
<p>3. <u>Matters Arising</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• BN consultation document response has been sent. Thanks to ST for its production.• NOF PE and Sport – letter from the Chief Executive in response to the meeting was disappointing. Stage One approvals have been given and Stage Two will be a lengthy process.	
<p>4. <u>AMP Planning</u></p> <p>JP made a presentation on the AMP planning which is underway in Herts. Keeping data up to date is a significant issue. Software is being used to analyse any correlation between standards and the AMP data. Software is used to generate new net capacities from changes made to the AutoCAD plans.</p> <p>Birmingham's website gives its schools access to AMP data and will eventually provide access to CAD plans with layered information such as asbestos.</p> <p>Dorset developing a system similar to VASIS for tracking the progress of capital building projects and the related expenditure.</p>	
<p>5. <u>DfES Cost Guidance</u></p> <p>PP reported back on a meeting of the steering group and the current proposed secondary guidance. The group welcomed the work being undertaken by the DfES.</p>	

6. AMP Appraisal feedback

Colleagues reported on their feedback from the AMP appraisal. Some LEAs will be challenging some of the statements made in the feedback.

Queries were raised about 'poor performing' LEAs, and what support they were receiving from the DfES and whether this group could help. Ealing has scored 4 (the only LEA to do so).

7. AMP data as basis for prioritising VA investment

Some Diocese seem reluctant to use AMP data to determine priorities for building projects.

8. VOA – Survey Results

LB of Brent only received VOA data at the end of October and therefore will not meet the DfES deadline (Nov 2002).

Recent correspondence from DfES (11/11/02) indicates a new deadline in December 2002.

9. School Organisation Proposals – consultation LSC

The consultation documents reveal proposals for much wider powers by LSC. Colleagues are urged to respond to the proposals.

10. New asbestos regulations

LB of Brent's lawyers suggest the LEA should fund surveys at community schools and Diocese should carry them out at VA schools.

Herts has carried out surveys at 530 schools at a cost of £1.3m. Every school has a site asbestos log. Herts offered a copy to those wanting one.

11. Schools Capital Strategy Consultative Group

ST reported back from the meeting at the end of October. The main items were:

- TCF bidding guidance (now published)
- PFI and Joint Venture guidance (now published)
- Seed Challenge – possible amendments include relaxation of new money rule if the project addresses issues such as schools in challenging circumstances, Inclusion, 14 – 19 curriculum. Concerns had been expressed by representatives on operating on a dual system.

<p>12. <u>RIBA Schools Client Forum</u></p> <p>ST reported on the last meeting and the queries raised regarding its role and membership. Conference will be asked for their views on its value and whether it should continue.</p>	<p>ST</p>
<p>13. <u>Birmingham Conference</u></p> <p>CG reported on the planning of the necessary changes. 150 delegates tomorrow with 80 staying for the conference dinner. An EBD OG website has been created so delegates will be able to access information on the Standing Group and notes of meeting etc.</p> <p>The group thanked Chris and team for organising the conference and setting up the website.</p>	
<p>14. <u>Any Other Business</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CM is leaving Bracknell Forest and moving to South Gloucestershire – congratulations were extended to her. She will remain on the Standing Group if her LEA is supportive. • Concern regarding lack of communication by DfES regarding the issue of documents was expressed. 	<p>CM</p> <p>ST</p>
<p>15. <u>Next Meeting</u></p> <p>Wednesday 19th March 2003, 11.00am – 2.00pm. Leicestershire.</p>	
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