



Record of meeting

North East London sub-regional improvement board

14 May 2018

Attendance

Sub-regional improvement board members

Claire Mycock	Deputy Director, Regional Schools Commissioner's Office, East of England and North East London (Chair)
Inigo Woolf	Diocese of London
John Paul Morrison	Diocese of Westminster
Sian Davies	Hackney London Borough Council
Trevor Cook	Havering London Borough Council
Tracey Smith	Tower Hamlets London Borough Council
David Kilgallon	Waltham Forrest London Borough Council
Colin Stewart	Redbridge London Borough Council
Stephen Noon	Barking and Dagenham London Borough Council
Mitch Karunaratne	Teaching Schools Council
Jane Robinson	Teaching Schools Council

DfE officials in attendance included

Alex Birkhamshaw, Sarah Fielding

Apologies

Dani Wade	Newham London Borough Council
Jane Blakely	Haringey London Borough 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.

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- 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 opened on 22 December.

For 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 sub-region:

- improve key stage 2 reading, writing and maths (including higher-level) outcomes
- improve key stage 4 maths outcomes, especially white working class and black boys
- improve key stage 5 outcomes, especially for pupils that are more able
- Havering and Barking and Dagenham: Improve key stage 4 progress 8 outcomes, especially for disadvantaged pupils
- develop quality of governance and leadership at all levels
- recruit the best teachers and improve the workload and therefore capacity of teachers
- improve mental health and social and emotional wellbeing support of all pupils, including vulnerable pupils and looked after children, across all key stages
- support schools to prevent exclusions and reduce persistent absence to improve attendance
- improving financial efficiency across small and single form entry schools

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 advisers Mitch Karunaratne and Jane Robinson. 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

North East London sub-regional improvement board

7 November 2017

Attendance

Sub-regional improvement board members

Claire Mycock	Deputy Director, Regional Schools Commissioner's Office, East of England and North East London (Chair)
Martin Lavelle	Teaching Schools Council
Robert Simpson	Roman Catholic Diocese of Brentwood
Inigo Woolf	Diocese of London
Ian Starling	Barking and Dagenham London Borough Council
Sian Davies	Hackney London Borough Council
Trevor Cook	Havering London Borough Council
Dani Wade	Newham London Borough Council
Colin Stewart	Redbridge London Borough Council
Adrian Loades	Redbridge London Borough Council
Tracey Smith	Tower Hamlets London Borough Council
David Kilgallon	Waltham Forrest London Borough Council

DfE officials in attendance included

Dan Cooke

Apologies

Tim Elbourne	Anglican Diocese of Chelmsford
J P Morrison	Diocese of Westminster
Jane Hargreaves	Barking & Dagenham London Borough Council
Anne Canning	Hackney London Borough Council
Jane Blakely	Haringey London Borough Council
Eveleen Riordan	Haringey London Borough Council
James Page	Haringey London Borough Council
Tim Aldridge	Havering London Borough Council
Sue Imbriano	Havering London Borough Council
James Thomas	Newham London Borough Council
Colin Stewart	Redbridge London Borough Council
Debbie Jones	Tower Hamlets London Borough Council
Christine McInnes	Tower Hamlets London Borough Council
Stacey Walker	Waltham Forrest London Borough 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; overall, the applications were viewed as well well-thought-out and rigorous. All applicants, with the exception of three applications, met the sub-regional priorities. The three applications, which did not meet a sub-regional priority, were all identified as ineligible. The vast majority of applications targeted appropriate schools for support, but there were a few where additional schools with greater needs could have been included.

Consideration was given to the proposed providers' track record, capacity and capability of 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.

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Record of meeting

North East London sub-regional improvement board

12 September 2017

Attendance

Sub-regional improvement board members

Claire Mycock	Deputy Director, Regional School Commissioner's Office, East of England and North East London (Chair)
Inigo Wolf	Diocese of London
Robert Simpson	Diocese of Brentwood
Martin Lavelle	Teaching Schools Council
Sian Davies	Hackney London Borough Council
Eveleen Riordan	Haringey London Borough Council
Trevor Cook	Havering London Borough Council
Jane Moon	Newham London Borough Council
Tracy Smith	Tower Hamlets London Borough Council
David Kilgallon	Waltham Forest London Borough Council

DfE officials in attendance included

Daniel Cooke

Apologies

JP Morrison	Diocese of Westminster
Anne Bristow	Barking and Dagenham London Borough Council
Colin Stewart	Redbridge London Borough Council

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 that some London based applications were approved. Re-submission of revised applications was encouraged.

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 and ultimately improve outcomes for children
- stronger evidence of the capacity of providers to deliver the proposed intervention showing

- why specific schools should be supported and that they would engage
- a more specific action plan with clear milestones and risk management
- more robust plans to sustain the impact of the intervention
- clearer evidence of steps taken to secure value for money including a more specific breakdown of project costs and benchmarking.

The need to identify and manage risks to successful delivery of the SSIF in London was discussed. The burden on schools should be considered when submitting applications, and the commitment required from supported schools must be made clear from the onset.

The closing date for round 2 applications to be sent to DfE was confirmed as 20 October. Updated guidance would 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 North East London

- improving Key Stage 2 reading outcomes
- improving Key Stage 4 maths outcomes for all pupils, especially white groups. Factors include improving the retention, recruitment and deployment of maths teachers
- building the capacity and quality of middle and senior leadership.

For some schools, as relevant, within specific LA areas

- Havering: Improving Key Stage 4 outcomes at Progress 8, especially for disadvantaged pupils. Improving science, humanities and languages outcomes
- Barking & Dagenham: Improving Key Stage 4 outcomes at Progress 8, especially for disadvantaged pupils
- Hackney: Improving the achievement of Black Caribbean boys, with a focus on Key Stage 2
- Haringey: Improving the achievement of Black Caribbean boys, with a focus on Key Stage 2.

[The areas of focus were discussed again on 9 October by some members. See Annex A.]

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 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.

Annex A

9 October 2017

Ahead of SSIF round 2 the meeting reviewed 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 North East London

- improving Key Stage 2 reading outcomes
- improving Key Stage 4 maths outcomes for all pupils, especially white groups. Factors include improving the retention, recruitment and deployment of maths teachers
- improving Key Stage 5 outcomes, including 'more able' pupils
- building the capacity and quality of middle and senior leadership.

For some schools, as relevant, within specific LA areas

- Havering: Improving Early Years outcomes (Reception). Key Stage 4 outcomes at Progress 8, especially for disadvantaged pupils. Improving science, humanities and languages outcomes
- Barking & Dagenham: Improving Key Stage 4 outcomes at Progress 8, especially for disadvantaged pupils
- Hackney: Improving the achievement of Black Caribbean boys, with a focus on Key Stage 2
- Haringey: Improving the achievement of black and minority ethnic pupils, including Black Caribbean boys, with a focus on Key Stage 2 and Key Stages 4/5 science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM)
- Tower Hamlets: Improving outcomes for reading at Key Stage 1, reading/writing at Key Stage 2, and maths/geography at Key Stage 4
- Waltham Forest: Improving primary and secondary school attendance.

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