



## Record of meeting

### Cumbria and North Yorkshire sub-regional improvement board

3 May 2018

#### Attendance

Sub-regional improvement board members

Jane Wilson	Regional Schools Commissioner's Office, North (Chair)
John Hardy	Teaching Schools Council
Andy Lancashire	North Yorkshire County Council
Dale Hill	Cumbria County Council
Michael Mill	Diocese of Carlisle
Andrew Smith	Diocese of York
Richard Noake	Diocese of Leeds

DfE officials in attendance included

Paul Green

Apologies

Kevin Duffy	Diocese of Middlesbrough
Angela Cox	Diocese of Leeds

#### 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, many applications were viewed as thoughtful and collaborative. Many applications met the sub-regional priorities. A number 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

### Cumbria and North Yorkshire sub-regional improvement board

13 December 2017

#### Attendance

##### Sub-regional improvement board members

Jane Wilson	Regional Schools Commissioner's Office, North (Chair)
John Hardy	Teaching Schools Council
Dale Hill	Cumbria County Council
Andy Lancashire	North Yorkshire County Council
Michael Mill	Diocese of Carlisle
Richard Noake	Diocese of Leeds
Andrew Smith	Diocese of York
Kevin Duffy	Diocese of Middlesbrough

##### Invited representatives

Lorraine Hughes	Cumbria Alliance of System Leaders
-----------------	------------------------------------

##### DfE officials in attendance included

Sam Kelly

##### Apologies

Angela Cox	Diocese of Leeds
Daniel Barton	Cumbria County Council
Paul Brennan	North Yorkshire County Council
Len Hampson	Diocese of Lancaster

#### 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 sub-region:

1) improving outcomes for disadvantaged and vulnerable pupils at:

- a) primary, with a focus on
  - communication, language and literacy at early years
  - reading and writing at KS1
  - maths at KS2
  - writing at KS2
  - raising aspirations in coastal areas
  
- a) secondary, with a focus on
  - improving Progress 8
  - eliminating in school variations
  - raising aspirations in coastal areas
  - improving attendance
  - reducing exclusions

2) improving transition at all stages, with a focus on

- all pupils who have not met age related expected standards

The SRIB is particularly interested in applications that incorporate one or more of the following approaches:

- focus on improving leadership and management
- focus on strengthening current governance arrangements to sustain improvement in pupil outcomes
- models that will impact successfully on small and rural schools with small cohorts of disadvantaged pupils
- contribute to recruitment, retention and development of high quality teachers and leaders

The key measures that the SRIB wish to improve are:

- % of pupils achieving 'Good Level of Development' at the end of EYFS
- % of pupils achieving the expected standard in reading and writing at KS1
- maths progress at KS2
- writing progress at KS2
- Progress 8
- attendance and exclusion rates
- teacher vacancy rates

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 TSC representative John Hardy. 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

### Cumbria and North Yorkshire sub-regional improvement board

31 October 2017

#### Attendance

##### Sub-regional improvement board members

Jane Wilson	Regional Schools Commissioner's Office, North (Chair)
Angela Cox	Diocese of Leeds
Len Hampson	Cumbria County Council
John Hardy	Teaching Schools Council
Dale Hill	Cumbria County Council
Andy Lancashire	North Yorkshire County Council
Michael Mill	Diocese of Carlisle
Richard Noake	Diocese of Leeds (CofE)
Andrew Smith	Diocese of York

##### Invited representative

Lorrayne Hughes	Cumbria Alliance of System Leaders
-----------------	------------------------------------

##### DfE officials in attendance included

Paul Green

##### Apologies

Dan Barton	Cumbria County Council
Paul Brennan	North Yorkshire County 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 two cross-regional applications, met the sub-regional priorities. The majority of applications targeted appropriate schools for support; however 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. These points were then fed into the Department's assessment of each application.

### **Risk register**

The risk identified was the need to develop applications relatively quickly between publication of round 2 outcomes and the window for round 3 closing.

© Crown copyright 2018



## Record of meeting

### Cumbria and North Yorkshire sub-regional improvement board

27 September 2017

#### Attendance

##### Sub-regional improvement board members

Paul Brennan	North Yorkshire County Council (Chair)
Dan Barton	Cumbria County Council
Angela Cox	Diocese of Leeds
Len Hampson	Diocese of Lancaster
Rachel Mays	Teaching Schools Council
Michael Mill	Diocese of Carlisle
Andrew Smith	Diocese of York
Jane Wilson	Office of the Regional Schools Commissioner, North

##### Invited representatives

Janet Bates	North Yorkshire County Council
Steven Holmes	North Yorkshire County Council
Lorrayne Hughes	Cumbria Alliance of System Leaders

##### DfE officials in attendance included

Paul Green

##### Apologies

John Hardy	Teaching Schools Council
Dale Hill	Cumbria County Council
Richard Noake	Diocese of Leeds (CofE)

#### Discussion points

The final terms of reference for the Board were noted as how the discussions in these meetings would operate and how decisions on funding were for the Secretary of State only.

It was agreed that in order to provide for continuity a member can bring an observer, who will cover for that member, should they be unable to attend a future meeting.

The next meeting of the sub-regional improvement board will review all applications which relate to the sub-region, including any which have not been commissioned by the sub-regional improvement board, and any that are cross-regional and include schools in the sub-region.



An overview was provided of the outcome of round 1 of the Strategic School Improvement Fund (SSIF), noting the DfE announcement from early September included four successful applications in North Yorkshire.

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 the Cumbria and North Yorkshire sub-region was discussed.

The closing date for round 2 applications to be sent to DfE was confirmed as 20 October.

The key changes for round 2 of the SSIF were noted as:

- revised and improved online application form
- clarification about what makes a good application
- clearer guidance on the types of evidence DfE would expect to underpin the selected improvement approaches
- extended flexibility on eligibility criteria to PRUs, APUs and where applications are specifically to increase the proportion of children in infant/first schools meeting or exceeding expectations for language and communication, literacy and mathematics
- a requirement for MATs to support at least 25% schools outside of their Trust (or for applications in support of more than 20 schools, a minimum of 5 schools not in the MAT and not due to join)

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:

1) Improving outcomes for disadvantaged and vulnerable pupils at:

- a) primary, with a focus on
  - communication, language and literacy at Early Years
  - reading and writing at KS1
  - maths at KS2
  - writing at KS2
- b) secondary, with a focus on
  - improving Progress 8
  - eliminating in school variation
  - raising aspirations in coastal areas
  - improving attendance

- reducing exclusions

2) improving transition at all stages, with a focus on

- all pupils who have not met age related expected standards

The sub-regional improvement board is particularly interested in applications that incorporate one or more of the following approaches:

- focus on improving leadership and management
- focus on strengthening current governance arrangements to sustain improvement in pupil outcomes
- models that will impact successfully on small and rural schools with small cohorts of disadvantaged pupils
- contribute to recruitment, retention and development of high quality teachers and leaders

The key measures that the sub-regional improvement board wishes to improve are:

- % of pupils achieving 'Good Level of Development' at the end of EYFS
- % of pupils achieving the expected standard in reading and writing at KS1
- maths progress at KS2
- writing progress at KS2
- progress 8
- attendance and exclusion rates
- teacher vacancy rates

The role of all sub-regional improvement board members and especially the Teaching Schools Council (as set out in the published terms of reference for sub-regional improvement boards) in disseminating these priorities to 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 share knowledge of any potential applications with Academies regional delivery group who will liaise with other members. 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