



Record of meeting

South West sub-region D (Cornwall, Devon, Isles of Scilly, Plymouth, Torbay) sub-regional improvement board

9 May 2018

Attendance

Sub-regional improvement board members

Joy Tubbs	Diocese of Salisbury (Chair)
Jane Black	Cornwall Council
Dawn Stabb	Devon County Council
Judith Harwood	Plymouth City Council
Rachel Williams	Torbay Council
John Searson	Diocese of Exeter
Simon Cade	Diocese of Truro

Invited representatives

Teresa Lawrance	Regional Teaching School Lead
Chris Mitten	Regional Teaching School Lead

DfE officials in attendance included

Lucy Gordon, Claire Nineham

Apologies

Kate Griffin	Diocese of Plymouth
Alison Botham	Plymouth County Council
Keith Grossett	Council of the Isles of Scilly
Jennifer Blunden	Teaching Schools 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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Record of meeting

South West sub-region D (Cornwall, Devon, Isles of Scilly, Plymouth, Torbay) sub-regional improvement board

7 December 2017

Attendance

Sub-regional improvement board members

Tim Osborne	Cornwall County Council
Debbie Horn	Torbay Council
Dawn Stabb	Devon County Council
Jennifer Blunden	Teaching Schools Council

Invited representatives

Jim Rogers	Regional Teaching School Lead
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DfE officials in attendance included

Claire Nineham (Chair), Sophie Turner

Apologies

Keith Grossett	Council of the Isles of Scilly
John Searson	Diocese of Exeter
Simon Cade	Diocese of Truro
Mark O'Keefe	Diocese of Plymouth
Judith Harwood	Plymouth City Council

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 the 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.

The following priorities were identified for the South West and/or that are common across the sub-regions:

- leadership
- maths
- EYFS/phonics/oracy
- disadvantage
- SEND
- teacher recruitment and retention

In addition, for some schools, as relevant, within the sub-region D local authority areas:

- leadership: governance
- teacher and leadership recruitment in all key stages especially for maths
- sustainable enquiry led professional development
- workforce development of small schools and geographically isolated schools
- maths: maths transition KS2 – KS3/4
- SEND and behaviour
- inclusive practice leading to reduced exclusion
- progress and attainment of underachieving groups: boys and more able
- Plymouth and Cornwall: Leadership: secondary leadership

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 regional teaching school lead 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 regional teaching school lead Jim Rogers. 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

South West sub-region D (Cornwall, Devon, Isles of Scilly, Plymouth, Torbay) sub-regional improvement board

3 November 2017

Attendance

Sub-regional improvement board members

Jenny Blunden	Teaching School Council
Tim Osborne	Cornwall County Council
Dawn Stabb	Devon County Council
David Bowles	Plymouth City Council
Rachel Williams	Torbay Council
John Searson	Diocese of Exeter
Mark O'Keefe	Diocese of Plymouth
Simon Cade	Diocese of Truro

Invited representatives

Joy Tubbs	Regional Schools Commissioner, South West (Chair)
Jim Rogers	Regional Teaching School Lead
Debby Horn	Torbay Council

DfE officials in attendance included
Hannah Woodhouse, Claire Nineham

Apologies

Lisa Mannall	Regional Schools Commissioner
Aisling Hicks	Council of the Isles of Scilly

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 discussion 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 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

All applicants, with the exception of two cross-regional applications, met the sub-regional priorities.

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Record of meeting

The members of the sub-regional improvement board met at a sub-regional teaching school meeting and took part in an additional discussion after that meeting as set out below.

South West sub-region D (Cornwall, Devon, Isles of Scilly, Plymouth, Torbay) teaching school meeting

11 September 2017

Discussion points

An overview was provided of the outcome of round 1 of the Strategic School Improvement Fund (SSIF), noting the DfE announcement from early September setting out the seven successful applications from the South West.

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 closing date for round 2 applications to be sent to the 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, across the South West

- leadership
- maths
- EYFS/phonics/oracy
- disadvantage

South West sub-region D (Cornwall, Devon, Isles of Scilly, Plymouth, Torbay) sub-regional improvement board

11 September 2017

Attendance

Sub-regional improvement board members

Jenny Blunden	Teaching Schools Council
Eileen Barnes Vachell	Devon County Council

Invited representatives

Jim Rogers	Regional Teaching School Lead
Paul Smith	Devon County Council
Debbie Horn	Torbay Council

DfE officials in attendance included

Hannah Woodhouse (Chair), Sally Viner

Apologies

Lisa Mannall	Regional Schools Commissioner
Trevor Doughty	Cornwall County Council
Aisling Hicks	Council of Isles of Scilly
Carole Burgoyne	Plymouth City Council
John Searson	Diocese of Exeter
Simon Cade	Diocese of Truro
Joy Tubbs	Diocese of Salisbury
Mark O'Keefe	Diocese of Plymouth

Discussion points

Further to the discussion in the sub-regional teaching school meeting on the four priorities for the South West, sub-regional priorities were identified and by no means exclusive:

For some schools, as relevant, within specific LA areas

- leadership: secondary leadership (in Plymouth and Cornwall); governance (in all LAs)
- maths: maths transition KS2 – KS3/4 (in all LAs)
- SEND, behaviour and inclusion (in all LAs)

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