

SCHOOLS FORUM – 24 JANUARY 2013

Title of paper:	Strategic Partnership Bids	
Director(s)/ Corporate Director(s):	Gill Ellis, Director of Schools and Learning	Wards affected: All
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Summary		
<p>During financial year 2012/2013 it was agreed that £0.500m from reserves be made available for partnerships and schools to access in order to deliver one off schemes and/or pilot schemes</p> <p>A further sum of £0.500m was agreed at Forum in December 2012.</p>		
Recommendation(s):		
For Schools Forum to agree the basis for distribution of the total fund £0.625m		

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 A set of eligibility criteria was identified and approved at Forum 8th May 2012. (Appendix 1).
- 1.2 An update of the successful bids was given to Forum 19th July 2012.
- 1.3 A final update of the bids was given to Forum 20th December 2012, identifying that £0.375m had been allocated.
- 1.4 It was agreed at Forum 20th December 2012 that the remaining amount of £0.125m be carried forward in to 2013/2014.
- 1.5 It was also agreed at Forum 20th December 2012 that a further amount of £0.500m would be added to the balance of £0.125m giving a new total available in 2013/2014 of £0.625m.

2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)

- 2.1 Agreement as to the method of distribution of the fund, £0.625m, now needs to be decided and the options for consideration are as follows:

Option 1 – Continue with the current process and invite bids. These will be allocated using the same criteria as originally used.

Option 2 – Identify successful schemes to roll out City wide. The remaining balance would then be allocated as in Option 1.

Option 3 – Distribute the total amount of £0.625m to partnerships based on the number of pupils on roll in each EIP. A breakdown of this is shown in **Table 1**. The partnerships would still need to go through the same process to seek approval for the schemes as in Option 1.

Table 1	No of Pupils	Allocation of £
Aspire Learning Partnership	2593	47220
Beckett	620	11291
Bulwell EIP	2540	46255
Central Learning Partnership	5430	98883
Clifton Family of Schools	2333	42485
Ellis Guilford EIP	3767	68599
Emmanuel Cluster	1139	20742
EPIC Partnership St Ann's and Sneinton EIP	4679	85207
Fernwood EIP - Wollaton Family	2417	44015
Keys 2 Success	2203	40118
Sherwood EIP	1708	31104
Southwark Primary School	567	10325
Top Valley Academy	606	11036
Trinity	1996	36348
West 8 Partnership EIP	1721	31340
TOTAL	34319	624966

3. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 No other options considered at this stage.

4. OUTCOMES/DELIVERABLES

4.1 The outcomes are detailed in the criteria document attached.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING VALUE FOR MONEY/VAT)

5.1 Schemes which have an invest to save impact will not affect individual schools budgets.

5.2 All bids will be required to demonstrate value for money when being considered and when finalised.

5.3 Bids will not be accepted where it is considered that there would be financial implications beyond the one-off project funding.

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6. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES (INCLUDING LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND CRIME AND DISORDER ACT IMPLICATIONS)

6.1 None.

7. OBSERVATIONS OF THE DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS AND LEARNING

7.1 This is a very significant amount of money, and we need to ensure that impact on outcomes can be assured. I would therefore advise that evidence based research is carried out to inform bids or allocation.

Gill Ellis
Director, Schools & Learning

8. HR ISSUES

8.1 None

9. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Has the equality impact been assessed?

- Not needed (report does not contain proposals or financial decisions)
No
Yes – Equality Impact Assessment attached

10. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS OTHER THAN PUBLISHED WORKS OR THOSE DISCLOSING CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION

10.1 None

11. PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT

11.1 None.

Schools Partnership Bids Framework

(a) Eligibility Criteria

In order to be eligible, projects/bids must be intended to address at least one of the following priority areas, and have partnership as the underlying theme:

1. developing strong and effective partnerships to bring about improvement;
2. help schools to achieve 'outstanding' at Ofsted; through partnership working;
3. innovative approaches to improving attendance and reducing persistent absence;
4. developing new effective approaches to ensure children are reading at an early age;
5. developing early intervention approaches;
6. maximising and extending learning opportunities for Children and Young People to achieve from activities that are beyond the formal curriculum.

(b) Assessment Criteria

Eligible projects/bids will be assessed against 4 main criteria:

1. level of fit with priority areas;
2. value for money;
3. partnership working;
4. sustainability.

Projects/bids will be awarded a score on a scale of 1 to 4 for each of the 4 criteria and the combined score will be used to judge the relative merits of competing bids.

Individual schools are not barred from bidding for funding but such bids are likely to score less highly than partnership bids against the assessment criteria.

Bids will not be accepted where it is considered that there would be detrimental implications for other services or settings, or if there are financial implications beyond 2012/13 once the one-off project funding ceases.

(c) Information Requirements

In order to judge bids against the eligibility and assessment criteria, standard information will be required for all bids. It is suggested that the following pro-forma could be used, as a bid application form.

SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP BID FUNDING: APPLICATION FORM

Project/Bid Title	
Funding Requested (£)	
Lead Contact Name	
Participating Schools	
Project Description	Please give a high level explanation of the proposed project.
Project Outputs/Deliverables	Please describe in detail how the project will be delivered. This must include a <u>detailed financial breakdown of how the requested funding would be spent</u> (this can be separately provided as an appendix).
Intended Outcomes	Please outline the intended outcomes and describe how these will be measured and evaluated.

Fit with priority areas	Please highlight how you consider this bid/project relates to the priority areas.
Other Funding Sources	Please outline whether any other funding sources have been considered and if these are available to support the project e.g. grants, school reserves, match funding from 2012/13 school budgets.
Value for Money	Please outline how/why you consider that this project provides value for money.

SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP BID FUNDING: BID ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Project/Bid Title	
Funding Requested (£)	

PRIORITY AREAS	Addressed By Bid?
Developing strong and effective partnerships to bring about improvement	Yes/No
Help schools to achieve 'outstanding' at Ofsted; through partnership working	Yes/No
Innovative approaches to improving attendance and reducing persistent absence	Yes/No
Developing new effective approaches to ensure children are reading at an early age	Yes/No
Developing early intervention approaches	Yes/No
Maximising and extending learning opportunities for Children and Young People to achieve from activities that are beyond the formal curriculum	Yes/No
Is the project/bid eligible?	Yes/No
Score for Level of Fit to Priority Areas	1 /2 /3 /4
Notes on key reason(s) for Level of Fit score	
Score for Value for Money	1 /2 /3 /4
Notes on key reason(s) for Value for Money score	
Score for Partnership Working	1 /2 /3 /4
Notes on key reason(s) for Partnership Working score	
Score for Sustainability	1 /2 /3 /4
Notes on key reason(s) for Sustainability score	
Combined Score (1-16)	
Bid Outcome	Successful/ Unsuccessful
Recommended Funding Award	£