Dear colleague,

## School Condition Allocations for 2022-23

I am writing to confirm that your Voluntary Aided (VA) body meets the eligibility criteria for a School Condition Allocation (SCA) in the financial year 2022-23.

SCA is a formula-based allocation of capital funding for eligible responsible bodies to maintain and improve the condition of school buildings, so that children can learn in a safe and effective environment. Investment should be prioritised on keeping school buildings safe and in good working order by tackling poor building condition, building compliance, energy efficiency, and health and safety issues.

As the responsible bodies for managing SCA across your VA schools you will best understand your schools' needs and should be able to make the most effective investment decisions for the long-term condition of your school buildings. The Department has published guidance on good estate management, which sets out the policies, processes and documents that schools, local authorities and multi-academy trusts and VA groups should consider when managing their estates effectively, at <a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/good-estate-management-for-schools">https://www.gov.uk/guidance/good-estate-management-for-schools</a>. You should review the fundamentals of good estate management and use the self-assessment tool provided to assess your organisation's approach. Further tools are also available to help make sure your organisation has the right skills, processes and policies: Tools and checklists - Good estate management for schools - Guidance - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

Responsible bodies must ensure value for money is secured through appropriate procurement routes. For large projects, the DfE School Buildings <a href="Construction Framework">Construction Framework</a> is available for use and should be considered as part of project development planning.

SCA is to be invested strategically across the buildings you are responsible for. Unexpected, or emergency, capital projects do arise occasionally, and we normally expect responsible bodies in receipt of SCA to manage these through, for example, re-prioritising spending plans or using insurance arrangements or other resources where available.

SCA must only be used for capital projects, in line with the terms and conditions that will be sent to you in spring 2022. You will need to comply with any assurance processes set out within the terms and conditions.

The level of the allocation will reflect the eligible schools within your VA body at 1 April 2022, provided a return was made in the January 2021 census or 2020/21 ILR. It will not include any schools that are eligible to bid into the Condition Improvement Fund (CIF) for the 2022-23 financial year. We do not change eligibility within a financial year, so any school that is eligible for CIF will not be included within your SCA calculation.

We will publish the funding methodology for 2022-23 in due course. The methodology for 2021-2022 is available at: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/school-capital-funding">https://www.gov.uk/guidance/school-capital-funding</a>.

All final funding allocations are subject to confirmation by ministers of the funding system for 2022-23. In order to ensure School Condition Allocations are invested effectively and efficiently, we may also ask trusts and VA bodies to supply further information on their estate management plans, processes and governance. Where there are concerns about a trust's or VA body's ability to manage a School Condition Allocation effectively, alternative funding arrangements may be put in place for 2022-23.

We aim to publish final allocations amounts for SCA and Devolved Formula Capital (DFC) in spring 2022. For information, you can view the published amounts allocated to all of last year's qualifying responsible bodies at

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/school-capital-funding#funding-allocations-for-the-2021-to-2022-financial-year

Please do not reply directly to this email, as this mailbox is not monitored and we cannot guarantee a response. If you have any queries about this letter, please use our enquiry form: <a href="http://bit.ly/KCenquiryform">http://bit.ly/KCenquiryform</a>.

Please ensure that you share the information in this letter with each of your schools, so that they understand how funding is being used.

Yours faithfully.

Central Capital Unit | Strategic Finance | Operations Group

