Audit & Risk Committee Page | 2 2022-2023

Audit & Risk Committee Page | 3 2022-2023



Audit & Risk Committee Page | 4 2022-2023



LS explained that Kenwood's issues relate to the age and condition of the building, which will be picked up by RLB's condition surveys. West Riding – The estates team at Barnsley College have been commissioned to rectify issues, though remains a short term site.

SB requested that the data in Chart 1 be adjusted to show the date of the last audit at the top.

Action: LS agreed to make those

Audit & Risk Committee Page | 5 2022-2023



RP queried that when condition survey results are received, will we see a prioritised Nexus wide plan possibly linked to SCA funding? If so, what would be the timescales for this?

CEO believes it to be within this school year. We're looking at reframing the Asset Strategy to Asset and ICT which is a more holistic brief and aspiration. Action: JH to provide an update at the next Board of Directors meeting re: timescale for the more detailed Asset Improvement Plan. Also, to deliver an update in Feb and provide a bridging update to directors, with more detail possibly being provided at the March meeting.

RP expressed how exciting and amazing the designs are, but that it also raises practical questions around cost, upkeep and maintenance. LS provided r



SS questioned if an additional meeting would be necessary following the Government's financial statement on 17<sup>th</sup> November.

CEO stated that it could link into HR and the risk register. We're not anticipating a reduction in school funding, and the Trust meeting schedule should allow for Directors to remain engaged via business as usual meetings. CEO believes that any cuts would be scheduled beyond the next election. This would affect the Finance Risk Register, rather than Strategic Risk Register.

CEO stated that on reflection, he's made some amendments to the risk register which will be presented at the Standards Committee re: the curriculum and quality of education. The uncertainty in funding could lead to a downturn in quality of education in our schools. Our job is to find solutions to problems.

## 5.2. Finance Risk Register

KS stated no change to level of risk re: requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook. Schools dealing with some of these tasks, which has resulted in improvements with compliance.

New risk is related to funding pressures with no increases in income, so therefore reported as a red RAG risk. Need to work with schools to find savings. KS reported that there is a strong finance team and good relationships with Headteachers. The CEO has now commissioned the CFO and team to review budgets.

## **Questions/Comments**

RP queried what brief the Assistant CFO's have been given, when talking to Headteachers. KS responded that they're being advised to update their forecasts, focus on this year and to bring it back to a balance position wherever possible. They're having difficult but realistic conversations and that these conversations are also happening at a higher level. CEO stated that line managers have already been tasked to meet with Headteachers to provide accurate forecasting and modelling. Heads need to understand how to maintain a good level of education whilst facilitating and enabling growth, if costs can't be reduced.

SB commented that we're not alone in this situation, so is glad it's been highlighted on this register.

SS reflected that the content of this document is proving to become really valuable.

Potential risk re



| KS clarified that these checks are in place when taking on new suppliers, so not deemed a significant risk.  All agreed to change rating to green.  |  |
|---|--|
| 5.3. High Level 12-Month Delivery Plan  |  |
| KS stated that nothing has changed since the last meeting. No other changes to note. KS to add in 2 x debtors and creditors reporting twice a year. |  |

## 5.4. Record of Accounting Officer Financial Decisions

KS confirmed that we had a National College CPD training expense of £7,500.

SS queried why we pay rent for Becton School.

CEO clarified that it's not unusual to pay rent across our schools. We have looked at **EMMENSURMANDAD** be

Audit & Risk Committee Page | 8 2022-2023



Pension figure will be significantly affected. Questions/Comments:

NJ: Are we putting any reserves into an investment pot? CEO: This is not something we are prioritising and m

