

Subject: PPP1 Schools

From: Jason Rust <Jason.Rust@edinburgh.gov.uk>

Date: 08/06/2016 16:18

To: Jason Rust <Jason.Rust@edinburgh.gov.uk>

Dear All

A brief email to advise that the update report I requested at the last committee setting out proposed terms of reference for the inquiry and timescale has now been published. A link to the report is here [http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/download/meetings/id/51005/item_71 -
_edinburgh schools - independent inquiry](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/download/meetings/id/51005/item_71_-_edinburgh_schools_-_independent_inquiry)

and I have cut and paste the draft terms of reference etc here:

Edinburgh Schools Inquiry – Draft Terms of Reference

Background

As a result of a wall collapse at Oxbgangs Primary School in Edinburgh in January 2016, structural issues were identified at all schools built under the Public Private Partnership programme ("PPP1") in Edinburgh between 2002 and 2005. This led to the temporary closure of the affected schools and alternative arrangements for children in nearly all the schools having to be urgently put into place.

Purpose and scope

To inquire into and report on the following matters:

1. The rationale for the Council entering into the PPP1 contract for schools and the effect this financing arrangement may have had on the construction process;
2. The contractual arrangements between the Edinburgh Schools Partnership and Edinburgh Council;
3. The role of the Council with regard to the quality assurance of the construction of the buildings, including the granting of completion certificates to allow the buildings to become operational, the management of risks to the Council; and if standard practice regarding quality assurance provided adequate checks and balances for all parties to the contract;
4. The management and maintenance of the buildings since construction, including advising on whether the current defects should have been found earlier;
5. The management of the contract by the relevant parties since construction; and the quality of the contract undertaken;
6. Establish the reason(s) for, and necessity of, the schools closures, including a review of the reasons for the Oxbgangs Primary School wall collapse;
7. A review of Edinburgh Council's handling of the incident from January 2016 to the reopening of the schools in Summer 2016;
8. Provide advice and recommendations on any specific or wider lessons which can be learned from these unfortunate events for Edinburgh Council and any other bodies; and
9. Any further matters the Chair of the inquiry wishes to pursue relevant to this matter.

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Method

The inquiry will examine and review all documents as the inquiry Chairman shall determine

appropriate.

The inquiry will receive such oral and written evidence as the inquiry Chairman shall determine appropriate.

The Council will endeavour to ensure that all third parties cooperate with the inquiry chairman but recognises that the Chairman will not have statutory powers in this regard.

Report

The inquiry will report to the Chief Executive as soon as practicable.

Timescales

It is currently anticipated that the inquiry report will be delivered by December 2016.

Regards

Jason

Councillor J G Rust

Colinton/Fairmilehead Ward

Sent from my iPad

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