

department for

**education and skills**

creating opportunity, releasing potential, achieving excellence

Cllr George Meehan  
Leader of the Council  
Haringey

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Dear Councillor Meehan

## BUILDING SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE

I am delighted to tell you that your local authority has been selected to develop its Building Schools for the Future (BSF) project in Wave 4 of the programme, and would like to offer you my congratulations.

BSF is an exciting opportunity for educational transformation, and the programme is starting to make good progress. So far over 20 local authorities have taken their projects to market, and I am pleased that the first three projects have signed, with more scheduled to do so in the next few months. Waves 4-6 will add around 600 schools to the 380 currently involved in BSF in Waves 1-3. This, coupled with the Chancellor of the Exchequer's announcement in the Budget 2006 that schools capital investment will rise to at least £8 billion in 2010-11, puts us well on the way to realising our ambition that by 2011 all local authorities will either have started in BSF or have funding to rebuild at least one secondary school through the Academies programme, Targeted Capital programmes or One School Pathfinders.

I would like to invite you to join me at the *Building Schools for the Future: Wave 4 Launch* on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January at the Emirates Stadium in London, where speakers will deliver strategic messages regarding educational transformation and good and sustainable design. The value and importance of lessons learned will be a key theme of the day. The event will include key information about the next steps for Wave 4 authorities, updates on Strategy for Change, funding, procurement and design. In the afternoon, the key support partners for BSF will be introduced and their roles and responsibilities clarified. There will also be an opportunity for networking with other local authorities. You will receive a formal invitation from the event organisers shortly.

The ability of local authorities to deliver – both in terms of managing such a large building programme, and achieving the educational transformation which is fundamental to BSF – is essential in ensuring that BSF maintains momentum, minimises delays and maximises the potential of this investment. Departmental officials and Partnerships for Schools made the assessment of the appropriate wave for your authority based on your Readiness to Deliver submission and information

held by the Department. I must emphasise that your progression within Wave 4 is conditional upon you demonstrating adequate delivery capacity and addressing the feedback from your submission satisfactorily. Officials will be in touch early next week with this feedback, outlining areas for further development.

As part of the new 'Strategy for Change' process, projects will have an early remit meeting to determine the high level strategic objectives to meet with BSF investment. Wave 4 projects will have this meeting and start developing the detail of their Strategy for Change submission from January 2007, and will sign and start to receive funding from 2009-10.

I am copying this letter to your Lead Member for Education, Chief Executive, Director of Finance, Director of Children's Services and BSF Project Manager.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Knight". The signature is stylized with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

Jim Knight MP