



FINANCE AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE - MINUTES

Minutes of the Finance and Resources Committee held virtually on Wednesday 25th June 2025 at 4pm.

Trustees: Mrs A George (Chair), Mr S Spry, Mr J Green, Miss A Hutchinson, Mrs A Firth

Also Present: Mr S Davis (Chief Financial Officer), Mrs B Couch (Head of Corporate Governance), Mr C Pickles (Director of Operations)
Mrs J Blunden (Chief Executive Officer)

Apologies: Mrs H Andrew (Director of People and Strategy).

Item	Decision	Action
1.	Welcome, Introductions and Apologies All were welcomed to the meeting of the Finance and Resources committee. Apologies were RECEIVED and ACCEPTED from Mrs H Andrew.	
2.	Minutes of the meeting of 28th January 2025 The minutes and the confidential minutes of the meeting of 28 th January were ACCEPTED as a true and accurate record of proceedings. Declaration of Interests Trustees were invited to declare any additional conflicts of interests; none were declared.	
3.	Chief Financial Officers Report Trustees RECEIVED the previously circulated report and DISCUSSED and NOTED the significant work underway to monitor deficits at school level. Trustees DISCUSSED the cumulative deficit at Cape Cornwall and NOTED discussions continue with the DfE regarding this position. Trustees thoroughly DISCUSSED the financial position of the Trust – <i>see confidential minutes</i> . Trustees APPROVED the overall TPAT budget for 2025/26, including those schools proposing in year deficit budgets. Trustees APPROVED the MAT Central, Hybrid and IT Replacement Budgets for 2025/26. Trustees APPROVED the three year budgets for the submission of the Budget Forecast Return to the ESFA by 28th August 2025. Trustees APPROVED that the Trust is a going concern given the current budget projections for 2025/26.	

	<p>Trustees NOTED the Risks, Opportunities and Financial Controls set out in this paper.</p> <p>Trustees APPROVED the position for the period ending 31st May 2025 as set out within the reporting.</p> <p>THANKS were expressed to the finance team for the significant amount of work involved in the budget setting process.</p>	
4.	<p>Director of People and Strategy Report</p> <p>Trustees RECEIVED the previously circulated report and QUESTIONED how sickness is currently managed in schools, they were INFORMED that there is a clear staff absence policy in place with Headteachers currently being challenged to implement this consistency and robustly.</p> <p>Trustees DISCUSSED the need for systems that allow timely information sharing to the Trust HR team in order to monitor and ensure consistency of approach across the Trust.</p> <p>Trustee NOTED the actions highlighted in the report to address sickness absence.</p>	
5.	<p>Director of Operations report</p> <p>Trustees RECEIVED and NOTED the previously circulated report with the following highlighted:</p> <p><u>Fleet management</u></p> <p>One significant accident has been reported with an insurance claim in progress.</p> <p>Fleet reduction is underway with further optimisation planned.</p> <p><u>Operational Leases</u></p> <p>The new multi functional device contract is showing significant cost savings</p> <p>Further harmonisation of IT and vehicle leases is ongoing</p> <p><u>Hybrid Operations</u></p> <p>Revised job descriptions and HR consultations are in progress</p> <p>Administrative steer groups are established and are being well received</p> <p><u>IT Strategy</u></p> <p>Asset mapping has been completed with 13,000 devices tracked</p> <p>Schools are contributing to the IT replacement based on capacity</p> <p>Prioritisation of critical replacements is underway with a fully funded model by 2026/27.</p>	
6.	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>Thursday 25th September 2025 at 2pm.</p>	