

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

	<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. 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 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 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 Schools are contributing to the IT replacement based on capacity 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>	