

## INVERNESS ROYAL ACADEMY STAKEHOLDERS GROUP

### Meeting No 3.

Minute of the meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2012

Those attending:

Alasdair Christie, Norrie Donald, Janet Hackel, Alastair McKinlay, Robert Ferrier, Philip Shannon, Simon Swanson, Emma Taylor and Ken Allan

Apologies: Fraser Parr, Clifford Cooke and Robert Campbell

1. Minute of the previous meeting was accepted with one minor amendment, the Scottish Government's (SG) area metric for a school with 1,150 pupils is 11 m2. Otherwise, the minute was accepted.
2. Schools for the Future (SSF) bid – RM outlined the following:

There will be a new Inverness Royal Academy

Timescales for design and build are challenging with an anticipation that construction will commence early 2014 and the new school be handed over to the Council by April 2016.

In accordance with Scottish Government requirements any Secondary School in receipt of SSF funding the new IRA project will progress as a Design, Build, Finance and Maintain project in partnership with a private sector consortium know as Hub North Scotland Limited (or aka Hubco). On this basis Hubco will design and build the school in partnership with the Council. In addition they will provide the funding and will have on-going contractual responsibilities for life cycle maintenance and external ground works.

What are the implications of this?

The SSF programme is being managed and delivered by the Scottish Futures Trust (SFT) on behalf of the SG.

The SG funding contribution is based on their metric of £11 per pupil and £1,900 per M2 *based on a roll of 1153 pupils*. On this basis the SG

contribution to the construction project will not exceed £16M. There may be additional funding provided for specific areas relating to Additional Support Needs (ASN) and Gaelic, although this will not be confirmed until the New Project Request document is completed.

The Council's Capital contribution to the DBFM contract cannot exceed 45% of the total DBFM contract value. This is to comply with the SG accounting requirements.

Any difference between the total DBFM contract value and the contributions from the SG and the Capital contribution has to be met through an annual unitary charge payment, currently estimated to be around £0.40M for the duration of the contract. (Please note, with the exception of the SG figure quoted above, all figures quoted are estimates at this stage and should therefore be qualified as such).

In addition there will be an annual unitary charge payment of approximately £0.60M payable by the Council for life cycle maintenance and external ground works

The DBFM contract process comprises 3 stages

- The submission of a New Project Request (NPR) to Hubco that will outline the project brief and the Council's Capital and Revenue affordability figures – target date January 2013.
- Stage 1 response from Hubco that confirms that it can deliver the project within the Council's affordability caps and to the specification required – target date – April 2013
- Stage 2 – finalisation of design, funding and other contractual requirements leading to contract signature - target date first quarter 2014

Thereafter, construction can begin around summer 2014 with handover to Council around April 2016

RM emphasised that the DBFM contractual process will be challenging and will require the Group to take into account the views of Hubco and the SFT.

3. Presentation re Wick Community Campus – PS and RF delivered a presentation re the current design of the Wick Community Campus which is coming to the end of Stage 1 of the DBFM contractual process and therefore provided the Group with a real live example of what a new IRA building might look like.
  
4. The next steps for the IRA project:
  - RM emphasised that the project has to hit the ground running and therefore it is critical that the education brief, accommodation schedules and initial design sketches are completed before Christmas 2012
  - In order to deliver this the project group structure has to be established during October. There will be a number of groups with different purposes (curriculum, community, ASN and Gaelic). RM and KA will deliver proposals for group membership to the next over-arching group meeting in early November. This will reflect the experiences of the Wick Community Campus to date
  - In addition the next over-arching group should determine a communication strategy to ensure that all communication is managed tightly and that information is shared with as wide a constituency as possible.

#### DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The initial date suggested was 8<sup>th</sup> November. However, it is now proposed that this meeting takes place on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November at 19:00 at the school.