








FOI 202300383305 - INDEX OF ENCLOSURES

Enclosure Number	Description	Explanation of redactions	Clause	Copy of document
1	Note of Phase 3 meeting on 15 th December 2022 – 09/01/2023	Personal information and out of scope information.	Section 38(1)(b)	 ENCLOSURE 1.pdf
2	Email to Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills – 10/02/2023	Personal information and out of scope information.	Section 38(1)(b)	 ENCLOSURE 2.pdf
3	Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills clearing press query on Phase 3 – 28/06/2023	Personal information and out of scope information.	Section 38(1)(b)	 ENCLOSURE 3.pdf
4	Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills clearing press query on Phase 3 – 11/08/2023	Personal information and out of scope information.	Section 38(1)(b)	 ENCLOSURE 4.pdf
5	Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills clearing press query on Phase 3 – 18/08/2023	Personal information and out of scope information.	Section 38(1)(b)	 ENCLOSURE 5.pdf
6	Request to Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills for a Ministerial Statement on Phase 3 – 26/09/2023	Personal information and out of scope information.	Section 38(1)(b)	 ENCLOSURE 6.pdf
7	Phase 3 Q&A Briefing sent to the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills – 27/10/2023	Personal information and out of scope information.	Section 38(1)(b)	 ENCLOSURE 7.pdf

ENCLOSURE 1:

From: [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

Sent: 09 January 2023 14:59

To: Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills <CabSecES@gov.scot>

Cc: Director of Learning <DirectorofLearning@gov.scot>; Anson S (Sam) <Sam.Anon@gov.scot>; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

Subject: RE: Note of meeting to discuss LEIP Phase 3 submission (15/12/2022, 13:45-14:15)

[REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

As requested, please see below draft note of the meeting for the Cabinet Secretary's approval.

Meeting about Phase 3 of the Learning Estate Investment Programme
15th December 2022, 1.45 – 2.15pm, via Microsoft Teams

Attendees:

- Shirley- Anne Somerville, Cabinet Secretary for Educations and Skills
- Sam Anson, Learning Directorate, Scottish Government
- [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]
- [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]
- [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]
- [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]
- [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

Points discussed and actions:

[OUT OF SCOPE]

- The Cabinet Secretary indicated that she did not wish to rush any decision on Phase 3 and that she would make a decision in the New Year (before end January 2023).
- SG officials advised the Cabinet Secretary that they would write to LAs before Christmas to advise that the Phase 3 announcement would be delayed until New Year and the Cabinet Secretary was content with this.

Actions:

- SG officials to write to LAs to advise that the LEIP Phase 3 announcement will be delayed until the New Year. Action completed on 22nd December.

[OUT OF SCOPE]

[REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

ENCLOSURE 2:

From: [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

Sent: 10 February 2023 11:01

To: Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills <CabSecES@gov.scot>; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

Cc: Minister for HE, FE, Youth Employment and Training

<MinisterHEFEYET@gov.scot>; Minister for Children & Young People

<MinisterCYP@gov.scot>; DG Education & Justice <dgej@gov.scot>; Director of Learning <DirectorofLearning@gov.scot>; Director for Lifelong Learning and Skills <DirectorforLifelongLearningandSkills@gov.scot>; Anson S (Sam)

<Sam.Anson@gov.scot>; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

Subject: RE: Learning Estate Investment Programme - Phase 3 - advice on project selection

Hi [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)],

Thanks for this feedback.

[OUT OF SCOPE]

However, any decisions on expansion of the overall programme would also very likely need to go to COSLA Leaders.

[OUT OF SCOPE]

If it is to inform the options in the note to FM/DFM then we can look further at the potential impact of a longer delay of the overall announcement on delivery and planning of the projects, for example some projects are planned to be delivered in advance of the 2027 phase 3 deadline - 1 currently included in option 7, further 5 out of total 35 which for example address growth – and we are also mindful that projects feature in budget discussions which are currently live within LAs.

[OUT OF SCOPE]

Thanks,

[REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

ENCLOSURE 3:

From: [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)] On Behalf Of Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills

Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 6:58 PM

To: [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills
<CabSecforES@gov.scot>

Cc: Minister for Children, Young People & Keeping the Promise

<MinisterCYPKP@gov.scot>; Minister for Higher Education, Further Education, and Veterans <MinisterHEFEV@gov.scot>; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; Communications Education & Skills
<CommunicationsEducationandSkills@gov.scot>;

Subject: RE: TO CLEAR: Scotsman - LEIP Phase 3

Hi [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)],

Ms Gilruth is content to clear. The Cab Sec also requested that policy colleagues we ensure FM has lines for FMQs tomorrow.

Thanks,

[REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

From: [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 5:51 PM

To: Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills <CabSecforES@gov.scot>

Cc: Minister for Children, Young People & Keeping the Promise

<MinisterCYPKP@gov.scot>; Minister for Higher Education, Further Education, and

Veterans <MinisterHEFEV@gov.scot>; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED –

s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED –

s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED –

s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; Communications Education & Skills

<CommunicationsEducationandSkills@gov.scot>;

Subject: TO CLEAR: Scotsman - LEIP Phase 3

PO/ Education Secretary

cc Minister for Children and Young People, Minister for Higher Education and Further Education for awareness

The Scotsman have asked if the next phase of LEIP funding will be announced this week, following PQs earlier this afternoon.

Ms Gilruth stated that the next phase would be announced “as soon as possible” during today’s PQ.

Comms has discussed with SpAds and officials and had originally proposed just pointing back to PQs but following discussion with SpAds, suggest the below lines.

A Scottish Government spokesperson said:

“Since 2007, the number of schools in ‘good’ or ‘satisfactory’ condition has increased from 61% to 90.4% - seeing a 77% reduction in pupils educated in substandard conditions. The £2 billion investment in the school estate through LEIP is intended to build on that progress.

“Scottish Government officials wrote to all local authorities in March, to explain that consideration of the projects that would form part of Phase 3 was still ongoing. This set out that further time was necessary to consider the scope of Phase 3, including to take account of the impact of market volatility on current projects.

“We are currently giving careful consideration to local authorities’ bids for Phase 3 of the Learning Estate Investment Programme and intend to announce the successful bids as soon as possible.”

Grateful if PO can confirm if Ms Gilruth is content.

Many thanks,

[REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

QUERY

As discussed, I just hoped to check if the projects that have secured funding from LEIP will be announced this week?

Jenny Gilruth previously said the announcement would be made before the end of the parliamentary term, but has said in the chamber this afternoon it will be as "soon as possible"?

Is there a further delay?

ENCLOSURE 4:

From: [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)] On Behalf Of Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills

Sent: Friday, August 11, 2023 3:32 PM

To: [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills <CabSecforES@gov.scot>

Cc: Minister for Higher Education, Further Education, and Veterans <MinisterHEFEV@gov.scot>; Minister for Children, Young People & Keeping the Promise <MinisterCYPKP@gov.scot>; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; Communications Education & Skills <CommunicationsEducationandSkills@gov.scot>; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

Subject: RE: FOR CAB SEC VIEW - Fife Schools Funding – Courier

[REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)],

Lines cleared.

[REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

From: [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]
Sent: Friday, August 11, 2023 12:59 PM
To: Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills <CabSecforES@gov.scot>
Cc: Minister for Higher Education, Further Education, and Veterans <MinisterHEFEV@gov.scot>; Minister for Children, Young People & Keeping the Promise <MinisterCYPKP@gov.scot>; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; Communications Education & Skills <CommunicationsEducationandSkills@gov.scot>; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)];
Subject: FOR CAB SEC VIEW - Fife Schools Funding – Courier

PO Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills,

We've been approached by the Courier about claims of a "hold-up" with LEIP funding.

[OUT OF SCOPE]

Is Ms Gilruth content for the below to be reissued?

Many thanks [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

RESPONSE

A Scottish Government spokesperson said:

“Since 2007, the number of schools in ‘good’ or ‘satisfactory’ condition has increased from 61% to 90.4% - seeing a 77% reduction in pupils educated in substandard conditions. The £2 billion investment in the school estate through LEIP is intended to build on that progress.

“Scottish Government officials wrote to all local authorities in March, to explain that consideration of the projects that would form part of Phase 3 was still ongoing. This set out that further time was necessary to consider the scope of Phase 3, including to take account of the impact of market volatility on current projects.

“We are currently giving careful consideration to local authorities’ bids for Phase 3 of the Learning Estate Investment Programme and intend to announce the successful bids as soon as possible.”

INQUIRY

Hi [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

Fife Council has been waiting to hear whether it will be successful in securing money under the Scottish Government's Learning Estates Investment Programme's third phase for some time.

Funding has been requested towards a new secondary school in Glenrothes to replace two ageing schools.

The Scottish Government said in December 2021 that an announcement would be made within 12 months. That was then put off until March and then June and now they are saying September.

Councillors in Glenrothes say they are losing hope that this money will ever come and they claim children in the area are being badly let down.

Can the Scottish Government please explain what the hold-up is and if an announcement will indeed be made next month?

Thanks very much,
[REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

[REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

ENCLOSURE 5:

From: [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]
Sent: Friday, August 18, 2023 12:36 PM
To: Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills <CabSecforES@gov.scot>
Cc: Minister for Children, Young People & Keeping the Promise <MinisterCYPKP@gov.scot>; Minister for Higher Education, Further Education, and Veterans <MinisterHEFEV@gov.scot>; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; Communications Education & Skills <CommunicationsEducationandSkills@gov.scot>
Subject: FOR CAB SEC AWARENESS: LEIP phase 3 delay - West Highland Free Press

Afternoon PO/Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills,

CC: Minister for Children, Young People and Keeping The Promise and Minister for HE, FE and Veterans,

For the Cab Sec's awareness – we were approached by West Highland Free Press for comment on a story it is running on LEIP funding.

The journalist was looking to find out when an announcement will be made on phase 3 and had asked for the reason why this has been delayed.

[OUT OF SCOPE]

I've copied in the lines we issued to this query below for the Cab Sec's awareness.

Thanks,
[REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

RESPONSE

A Scottish Government spokesperson said:

“Since 2007, the number of schools in ‘good’ or ‘satisfactory’ condition has increased from 61% to 90.4% - seeing a 77% reduction in pupils educated in substandard conditions. The £2 billion investment in the school estate through LEIP is intended to build on that progress.

“Scottish Government officials wrote to all local authorities in March, to explain that consideration of the projects that would form part of Phase 3 was still ongoing. This set out that further time was necessary to consider the scope of Phase 3, including to take account of the impact of market volatility on current projects.

“We are currently giving careful consideration to local authorities’ bids for Phase 3 of the Learning Estate Investment Programme and intend to announce the successful bids as soon as possible.”

QUERY

Highland Council submitted a bid for LEIP phase 3 funding in October last year. When will SG make a decision/announcement on that bid? What's the hold up?
[REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

ENCLOSURE 6:

From: [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)] On Behalf Of Minister for Parliamentary Business
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2023 4:29 PM
To: Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills <CabSecforES@gov.scot>
Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice <CabSecSJ@gov.scot>; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; Spads Admin <Spads_Admin@gov.scot>; Minister for Parliamentary Business <MinisterforPB@gov.scot>
Subject: FW: Ministerial Statement request - LEIP 3 Funding

Hi [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)],

Please see below request from Labour for a ministerial statement on the Learning Estate Investment Programme.

[OUT OF SCOPE]

Many thanks
[REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

From: [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

Sent: 25 September 2023 16:15

To: Minister for Parliamentary Business <MinisterforPB@gov.scot>; Burnett A (Alexander), MSP <Alexander.Burnett.msp@parliament.scot>; Whitfield M (Martin), MSP <Martin.Whitfield.MSP@Parliament.scot>; Mackay G (Gillian), MSP <Gillian.Mackay.MSP@Parliament.scot>

Cc: Presiding Officers <PresidingOfficers@parliament.scot>; Business Team <Business.Team@parliament.scot>; Cole-Hamilton A (Alex), MSP <Alex.Cole-Hamilton.msp@parliament.scot>

Subject: Ministerial Statement request - LEIP 3 Funding

Dear Minister

I request a Statement be brought to the chamber on the LEIP 3 funding, I believe it is imperative that the Cabinet Secretary make a statement on this funding as soon as possible.

Relevant background information:

Summary of timescale on delay to LEIP funding for schools with RAAC

- 5 RAAC school applied for Phase 3 funding - Currie High School, Forres Academy, Dumfries Academy, Riverside Primary and Hazelhead Academy
- Govt confirmed Phase 3 in December 2021 and said that it would open to LA bids in 2022 with projects confirmed by the end of that year
LAs had until Oct 2022 to submit bids
- Scot Govt then wrote to LAs in March 2023 advising that confirmation of bids would be delayed. Jenny Gilruth confirmed in April in an exchange with Colin Smyth that she was committed to announcing successful projects by June 2023.
- On 1st June the cabinet secretary re-committed in the chamber that successful projects would be announced by the end of the parliamentary session.
- Michael Marra asked for a further update on 29th June, at this stage the cabinet secretary said bids would be announced as soon as possible.
- On 5th September, Colin Smyth highlighted during TQs that one of the Dumfries Schools identified as having RAAC has been included in that LAs bid for LEIP funding, and asked for an update on when this would be announced. Shirley-Anne Sommerville then advised that an announcement from Jenny would come in due course.
- Fife Council are expecting to hear in the coming weeks.
- Dumfries and Galloway have also repeatedly raised this issue with ECYP and are now concerned that their bid is no longer viable given the increase in costs.
- So far the government have blamed both the economic situation and a change in cabinet secretary for delays, however as pointed out in letter from South Lanarkshire Council, the longer the funding takes the more projects are likely to cost given the increase in the cost of building materials.

Given the information above I hope this request will be considered positively.

Kind regards Martin Whitfield MSP

ENCLOSURE 7:

LEIP PHASE 3 - Q&A BRIEFING

LEIP

[OUT OF SCOPE]

3. Why was Phase 3 delayed?

- Consideration of Phase 3 bids has been delayed due to several factors, which could not have been anticipated when the original invitation to bid was issued.
- For example, there has been significant market volatility affecting a number of current Phase 1 and 2 LEIP projects which required careful analysis and consideration.
- As a result of this a market volatility, adjustment to twenty Phase 1 and 2 projects was agreed and communicated to local authorities over the summer.
- The impact of RAAC on our school estate is also an issue, and it was important that we considered the interface between that and LEIP before committing to this investment.
- This has meant that this important decision, which will impose a significant cost to the public purse for the next 25 years, has been subject to delay to ensure that all relevant factors are fully considered.

[OUT OF SCOPE]