

16 April 2012

Ms Lisa Christensen
Director of Children Services
Norfolk County Council
County Hall
Martineau Lane
Norfolk
NR1 2DH

Dear Ms Christensen,

Property Data Survey Programme – Property Data Surveys in your area

We are writing from the Education Funding Agency to Responsible Bodies (including local authorities, Voluntary Aided and Voluntary Controlled Bodies, Academies, Sixth Form Colleges) across England to make you aware of the launch of Property Data Surveys across the educational estate of England as part of the Property Data Survey Programme (PDSP).

As part of the Government's response to the Review of Education Capital (James Review) in July 2011, the Secretary of State for Education agreed that work should start without delay to collect up-to-date information on the building condition of the education estate. The PDSP was established to enable the collection of this condition data. In the last quarter of 2011 Partnerships for Schools (PfS) – now the Education Funding Agency (EFA) – was asked to lead on the delivery of the national programme to obtain condition data of schools and other educational establishments throughout England. The programme will involve gathering information on around 23,000 state-funded schools in order to ensure future capital maintenance funding is targeted to meet the most urgent condition needs.

During February and March 2012, PfS worked with local authorities and Responsible Bodies to undertake the transfer of existing condition data held at local authority level. Sampling of this data will be completed during a pilot phase of the programme in April and May 2012. Following this period, the Property Data Surveys will commence and will be delivered through a phased approach.

The first phase of surveying work will get under way in schools, Academies and colleges at the end of May 2012, with work carrying on until the completion of the final phase, which is due to finish at the end of September 2013.

The Department for Education/Education Funding Agency have appointed the following organisations to carry out surveys in each of the following regions:

Region	Surveyor Organisation
North West	Davis Langdon
North East	Capita Symonds
Yorkshire & the Humber	Capita Symonds
West Midlands	Davis Langdon
East Midlands	Davis Langdon
East of England	E C Harris
South West	Capita Symonds
South East	E C Harris
London	E C Harris

So that you are aware, during this time both surveying organisations and the EFA will be communicating with schools and educational establishments in your area. In particular, throughout the life of the programme the appointed surveying organisations will be communicating and working with schools, Academies and sixth form colleges directly to arrange site visits to undertake the surveys.

The programme is being managed by Education Funding Agency (EFA) - a new executive agency of the Department for Education. The EFA will fund the education system for 0-19 year olds (or up to 25 for learners with a disability), including Academies, Free Schools, maintained schools and sixth form colleges. It will be responsible for the allocation and payment of approximately £50 billion revenue and capital funding each year, and for the delivery of capital programmes.

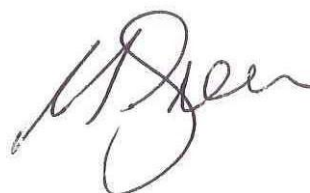
Please help us by alerting the person in your area responsible for the management of your education estates, as well as individual schools and colleges, about the launch of the Property Data Surveys by forwarding this letter to them. Regular updates and frequently asked questions about the programme are available on the DfE website here: www.education.gov.uk/schools/adminandfinance/schoolscapital/a00204970/pdsp

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us via the following email: PDSP.EFACAPITAL@education.gsi.gov.uk

Yours sincerely



Peter Lauener
Chief Executive, EFA



Mike Green
Director of Capital, EFA