

Children & Young People's Directorate

To: Headteachers/Principals of all Devon
Primary, Secondary and Special Schools,
Colleges and PRUs
All Chairs of Governors
Chairs of all stakeholder groups, DAPH, SHAD,
DAB, DASH and DAG
All members of SOF
RC & C of E Dioceses

Strategic Planning Group
County Hall
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Exeter
EX2 4QD

cc: Strategic Planning (Simon Niles / Chris
Cooper / Jane Baker / Leo Critchlow /
Neil Pateman / Andy Dexter / Kate Dixon /
Jim Weedon / Fiona Colamarino)
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8 February 2008

Dear Colleague

Consultation for the proposed Devon Maintenance
Partnership (DMP) scheme for Non VA Schools

As you are aware, the County Council's current maintenance buy back scheme for non VA schools (Promise Mark 4) comes to the end on 31 March 2008. The Strategic Planning Group, in conjunction with NPS (South West) Ltd, have produced a draft copy of the proposed replacement maintenance buy back scheme called The Devon Maintenance Partnership (DMP), which is available via:

www.devon.gov.uk/cypsp-maintenancepartnership.pdf

The new scheme discharges some of the Governing Bodies' Statutory Duties relating to premises management, and will cost £9.75 per pupil.

The Scheme is a 2 year agreement commencing on 1 April 2008 and provides for the servicing, inspection and testing of fixed plant and equipment commonly installed in schools as follows:

1. Inspection and testing of fixed electrical installations (not including Portable Appliance Testing);
2. Inspection, testing and servicing of fire alarm and emergency lighting systems;
3. Inspection, testing and servicing of ventilation systems to kitchens;

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4. Inspection, testing and servicing of lifts;
5. Inspection, testing and servicing of heating plant and associated equipment;
6. The 6 and 12 monthly checks of the Legionella Risk Assessments.

In the case of 4 and 5, for contractual reasons the repairs of this plant and equipment will be charged directly to the school's budget and not the DMP scheme. NPS (South West) Ltd will raise the necessary orders and authorise payment of the contactors' accounts.

The Devon Maintenance Partnership also provides for the following Annual Inspections which will be undertaken by NPS (South West) Ltd:

1. Inspection and updating the report of known asbestos containing materials within the premises;
2. Inspection and updating the annual report of the premises condition survey.

The scheme is available to all Non VA Schools and Colleges, whether they currently subscribe to Promise or not.

The scheme also takes into account the proposed changes to the current maintenance framework partnerships which are also due to be terminated on 31 March 2008, and their replacement with the new maintenance delivery model called the Maintenance Panel Agreement (MPA) for works with a value from £0 to £5,000.00 and the Standing List of Approved Contractors (SLoAC) for works with a value from £5,000.00 to £300,000.00. Full details of the new schemes will be made available to schools and premises managers shortly by the County Council's Business Transformation Unit.

Other building related maintenance not covered by the DMP will be the responsibility of schools by using the delivery arrangements above and supported, if required, by NPS' technical staff under a new Service Level Agreement.

An advanced copy of NPS' Service Level Agreement for professional services available to support schools in maintenance matters is available via:

www.devon.gov.uk/cypsp-npssw-sla.pdf

The above documents provide full details of the proposals under consultation, and will form part a series of 10 local presentations from the County Council's Business Transformation Unit and NPS (South West) Ltd, due to commence in March. In the meantime, we would be grateful if you could pass any comments regarding the proposed new arrangements to your School's Organisation Forum representative for discussion at the next School Organisation Forum meeting on 27th February 2008.

For further information about the proposed Devon Maintenance Partnership

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please contact either: Chris Dyer (C&YPS) on 01392 382531 or by email on chris.dyer@devon.gov.uk; or Chris Jay (NPS (South West) Ltd) on 01392 382192 or by email on chris.jay@devon.gov.uk.

For further information about NPS (South West) Ltd Service Level Agreements please contact Chris Jay (NPS South West Ltd) on 01392 382192 or by email on chris.jay@devon.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

(signed) *Chris Dyer*

Chris Dyer
Capital Programme Manager