



POLICY ON ACADEMY CAPITAL FUNDING

Three sources of capital funding are available to Academy Schools within this Diocese.

Devolved Formula Capital (DFC) allocations are paid directly to academy trusts at a rate of £4,000 plus £11.25 per pupil (Primary) or £16.875 per pupil (Secondary).

The **Condition Improvement Fund (CIF)** runs one bidding round each financial year (in December with allocations announced in April) and academies can make two bids. The primary criterion is condition related (including health & safety or security issues) but occasionally an expansion project may be accepted.

It should be noted that, as there is no guarantee that a bid will be successful in the first instance and therefore Academies should be prepared to reimburse any consultants for the costs of work carried out to prepare the bid(s).

For some academies, funding is available through the **Formula Allocation** made to NRCDES and monitored by the Finance Committee.

Most Catholic Voluntary Academies in our Diocese access funding for capital works directly via bids to the Condition Improvement Fund therefore there is a danger that the Diocesan Trustees who own the buildings from which Catholic Voluntary Academies operate may not have the opportunity to take an overview of capital developments in Diocesan schools.

In order to protect the interests of the Diocesan Trustees and to safeguard their responsibilities as landlords of Catholic Voluntary Academy premises, it is a requirement that any Diocesan Catholic Voluntary Academy seeking to access funding for capital works on its site should notify the Diocesan Education Service in advance of preparing its submission.

Those Academies who for whom NRCDES receives a formula allocation should send information about proposed works to the Consultant Buildings Officer who will present this request to the Finance Board. Should the Board approve the project; the funds will be allocated to the academy upon receipt of the relevant invoices.

This proposal does not in any way remove the right of a Catholic Voluntary Academy to request support from the Education Funding Agency should this be the decision of the Local Governing Body. It merely ensures that any works are carried out with the full knowledge and agreement of the Diocesan Trustees and that the Trustees can be satisfied that the guidelines for capital works in Diocesan schools have been followed.

A small administration fee (up to 1% of the total building costs) will be charged for the assistance of NRCDES in this work.

Catholic Voluntary Academies proposing to undertake capital works should refer to the **Policy for Building Works in Diocesan Schools and Academies** and the guidelines given in the document **Managing a Capital Project** (both of which appear on the DES website) and ensure that they follow the procedure outlines in these documents.

Before any work is undertaken the relevant Proposal Form should be completed and submitted to Ken Daly.