

**Asset Management Plans**

**Overview**

All Church school buildings are owned by the Diocese, with either the Diocesan Board of Finance or the local vicar and churchwardens as trustees of the property. The extent of the property owned by the Diocese is normally recorded in the school’s trust deed, and this may include conveyances of different parcels of land or buildings added over the lifetime of the school.

Different LAs have different methods for monitoring the condition of voluntary aided school buildings. In order to ensure that the Diocese has consistent and accurate information upon which to base decisions on the allocation of strategic capital funding, and to enable Diocesan officers to agree school proposed DFCG expenditure, The Hookway Partnership (Surveyors for the Diocesan Education Department) endeavours to visit all VA schools every two years to prepare a draft report in consultation with the school to help schools to assess where priorities for investment should lie over the next 5 year period.

In addition, where Local Authorities do not carry out condition surveys on VA schools, it is in the interest of schools to ensure these are carried out and updated every two years as they are referred to when allocating Locally Coordinated Voluntary Aided Programme funding.

**Asset Management Planning**

The elements considered in asset management planning are:

**Sufficiency**

This is based on the net capacity of the school, calculated according to a national DfE formula taking into account the floor area of the school available for teaching and support areas.

Significantly oversubscribed or overcrowded schools may be eligible for basic need funding from the Local Authority.

**Suitability**

This element should be led by the school and assesses the suitability of each space for its purpose. School staff are best placed to assess the effectiveness of each space and consideration must be given to these assessments when developing the overall asset management priorities for the school.

**Condition**

This will be assessed by the surveyor and a guide to the potential cost of any work needed will be given in order to help governors with their strategic planning.

**Health & Safety**

Health and safety issues should be considered when compiling the AMP plan. Any issue should be supported by a risk assessment in order to be considered.

**DDA (Disability Discrimination Act)**

School governing bodies should give reasonable consideration to resolving DDA issues within their school and should have minuted records of decisions made, as well as having a school accessibility policy and plan. This plan should be regularly reviewed and updated. VA schools are not eligible for capital funding from the LA for alterations needed for a specific pupil or teacher with special needs attending the school. The requirement for a school without any pupils with specific needs is for access to a disabled toilet, the headteacher’s office or room for a private conversation, and to the hall or large space such as a classroom. It is not a

requirement for every part of the school to be fully accessible, but any pupil with special needs must be able to access every curriculum area.

**Ofsted and SIAMS**

These reports can identify specific building issues which impact on the school’s ability to develop teaching and learning, or on safeguarding or security issues. These issues could include such instances as access to outdoor play areas, freeflow play for the foundation stage or perimeter fencing or secure access to the school.