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Midlothian Council
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18 April 2023

Dear Fiona,

LEARNING ESTATE INVESTMENT PROGRAMME (LEIP) – BEESLACK REPLACEMENT & PENICUIK

Thank you for your letter of 16th March outlining the reasons for the delays to Beeslack Replacement & Penicuik, which means that Beeslack Replacement will not be able to meet the LEIP Phase 1 deadline of being open to pupils by 31st August 2024 and Penicuik will not be able to meet the LEIP Phase 2 deadline of being open to pupils by 31st August 2026.

I appreciate that delivery of these projects has proven to be more complex than first envisaged and as such Ministers were content to provide your authority an extension for the opening of Beeslack Replacement to August 2026 and Penicuik to December 2026 with the understanding that the council is aiming for as close to August 2026 for the delivery of Penicuik. Ministers have requested that every effort should be made to meet this revised timescale and it is imperative we keep to this revised schedule.

Scottish Government are very keen to maintain momentum across the programme and we expect that local authorities will continue to work collaboratively with SFT and Government to achieve the ten guiding principles of the Learning Estate Strategy and defined programme metrics, terms & conditions and outcomes on each project.

As per the agreed programme funding principles, the inflationary risk of project delays sits with the Local Authority. Please contact SFT regarding any project specific funding queries.

Please let the programme team know through myself or colleagues at Scottish Futures Trust if there is anything that we can do to continue to support the project and the outcomes it is aiming to achieve.



Kind regards,

Andrew Dailly
Head of School Building
Scottish Government

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