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Jim Leivers
Director for Children, Education and Families
Oxfordshire County Council
County Hall
New Road
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OX1 1ND

13 May 2012

Dear Mr Leivers

## Oxfordshire 4 - Oxford Spires Academy: Feasibility Study Approval

I am writing to inform you that consideration of the Feasibility Study you submitted for the above Academy has been completed. I am pleased to confirm the approval of your Feasibility Study and that your project will receive central Government support.

On the basis of your Feasibility Study, we expect the capital support for this project to be conventional capital funding of £7,808,298 which includes £1,040,000 for ICT Hardware. Please note that following changes to the VAT status of academies in the Finance Act the VAT allowance on ICT hardware has been deducted from the funding allocation.

A top-slice of the funding envelope of £150,000 for project support has been agreed with the Education Funding Agency (EFA), formerly Partnerships for Schools.

The funding allocation is fixed and any additional costs that have not been accounted for will have to be met by Oxfordshire County Council.

EFA must be informed immediately if the scope, contract, need for funding, timetable, or any other aspect of the project is changed in any material way from that which has been agreed. If this happens you will need to obtain EFA's written agreement to all proposed changes in good time before the contract is signed. Failure to secure prior agreement to deviations will invalidate any undertaking by the DfE / EFA to support your scheme.

The ICT element of the Feasibility Study requires further development. Please work with our ICT Adviser to develop the ICT strategy, and in particular the ICT Cost Principles during the procurement phase.

This project will, of course, continue to be supported by EFA during procurement, the selection of the Contractors Framework Panel Member and

progress towards contract award - please keep in touch with your EFA Project Director so that they can review and monitor progress.

We look forward to receiving your Final Business Case (FBC) in due course. Your Project Director will advise you on the format and content of this document.

This letter is without prejudice to any other consent that may be required, for example, in connection with planning legislation.

Yours sincerely

Mike Coleman

**Divisional Director** 

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