

Monday 22nd May 2023

Dear head teacher colleagues,

Oracle update - May 2023

Thank you for your patience and understanding during these challenging times. It was good to meet you virtually at last week's council/BEP head teacher briefing meeting and apologise in person. The Council accepts that the implementation of Oracle has, unfortunately, resulted in reduced functionality of day-to-day operational services across finance, payroll and some HR services. We understand that this has had and may potentially continue to negatively impact your School until such time as the issues are resolved.

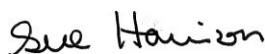
As you are aware from previous briefings, correcting the issues is of paramount importance for us all and it is essential that the issues, whilst corrected speedily are done efficiently and robustly for the longer-term stabilisation and overall functionality of Oracle.

However, during this period I would like to offer you the confidence that all steps will be taken so as to minimise any foreseen negative impact on your school. As a result of the difficulties experienced it is not possible for the Council to confirm your school's financial outturn position at present though officers are committed to working closely with you to advise and support in this intervening period.

I am content, should the need arise, for this letter to be shared with external regulators, such as Ofsted, to offer clarity to them of the current position relating to Oracle and the challenging impact this is currently having.

In respect of Internal Audit, I understand you may have received communication directly from the Head of Internal Audit. I am not in a position to suspend the process of internal audit for your School, but I would urge you to liaise closely with colleagues in internal audit about the delivery of your audit plan so that you can continue to achieve assurances of your internal processes whilst the issues with Oracle are resolved. I can confirm that Internal Audit are fully apprised of the issues with Oracle and the actions and timeframes for its remediation.

Yours sincerely



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