

Mr Andrew Kerr (Chief Executive)  
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8 April 2016

Dear Mr Kerr

### **Edinburgh Schools Partnership Estate**

We write with reference to our letter of 5 April 2016 in terms of which we confirmed that the Estate buildings identified in that letter were safe for occupancy. That letter was based on intrusive engineering investigations and advice and was subject to the precautionary measure of placing exclusion zones in identified areas until remediation works were undertaken.

Shortly before noon today we were advised by the design and build contractor who is executing the remedial works at Oxbgangs Primary and St Peters Primary that it had discovered further serious defects as a result of which it has advised that these schools are no longer safe to occupy. Representatives of the Council were advised of the position this afternoon at a meeting with ourselves and the design and build contractor.

At present it is impossible to confirm whether the same defects may exist at the other Estate buildings. In these circumstances we are afraid that we have no option but to withdraw the confirmation contained in our letter of 5 April 2016 that the Estate buildings identified in that letter are safe for occupancy. Obviously further investigations are being undertaken as a matter of extreme urgency and we will keep you advised of all developments.

We are fully aware of the further inconvenience this will cause and would like to take this opportunity to sincerely apologise for that.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Desmond French', is written over a horizontal line.

Desmond French

Project Company Representative