



National Audit Office

The UK's independent public spending  
watchdog

Switchboard +44 (0)207 798 7000  
Direct Line +44 (0)207 798 7264  
Email [FOI@nao.org.uk](mailto:FOI@nao.org.uk)

Reference FOI-1636  
Date 20 July 2023

## SCHOOL BUILDINGS IN THE PROCESS OF REPAIR

Thank you for your further request dated 10 July 2023 about school buildings in need of major rebuilding or refurbishment. You requested:

*“In addition to the list of buildings, please clarify how schools are to be repaired if as you say “The responsible body in control of the school...must manage the condition of the Buildings and ensure they are safe”*

*The bodies you name are not likely to be able to afford major repairs. Please indicate How many of these identified buildings are in the process of repair?”*

We have handled your request under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). We can confirm that we do not hold the details of which school buildings are in the process of being repaired.

As our previous response of 10 July 2023 explained, 400 schools of the 1,200 schools were chosen by the Department for Education (DfE) to form part of its School Rebuilding programme. We provided a link to a document called “[School rebuilding programme: list of selected schools](#)” which lists the 400 schools selected. Paragraph 3.16 of our [Condition of school buildings - National Audit Office \(NAO\) report](#) sets out DfE’s progress with this rebuilding programme.

As we set out in paragraph 3.17 onwards, DfE also provides schools and/or responsible bodies funding to undertake maintenance work and repairs. Figure 8 summarises how these funds have been distributed. The NAO does not hold information about the existence or progress of repairs to individual schools.

I hope you find this response helpful in explaining why we do not hold the additional information you have requested. **Annex A** sets out the steps you may wish to take if you are not satisfied with the way we have handled your request for information under FOIA.

Yours sincerely,

**NAO FOI Team**

## **Annex A**

### **Statement of Policy**

Our policy is to respond to requests made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 as helpfully and promptly as possible, having regard to the principles set out in the Act. I therefore hope you are happy with the way we have handled your request. If you are not, then you should take the following steps.

In the first instance, within 40 working days, write to the National Audit Office Freedom of Information (FOI) Team at [FOI@nao.org.uk](mailto:FOI@nao.org.uk) or by post to:

FOI Team, Green 2, National Audit Office, 157-197 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 9SP

The Head of FOI will arrange a review, which will be conducted by a senior member of staff who was not involved in decisions relating to your original request. Once the review has been completed, we will write informing you of the outcome.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The primary way of escalating your concerns to the Information Commissioner is at: <https://ico.org.uk/foicomplaints>. Alternatively, you can contact the ICO at <https://ico.org.uk/> or Information Commissioner's Office Wycliffe House Water Lane Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF.