

Glossary of BSF Terms

14-19 Agenda	A key Government policy designed to provide secondary age, and older, pupils with a wider range of educational options, including vocational courses, than might traditionally have been available. An Authority' Education Vision (see below) must set out how its BSF proposals will also meet the relevant elements of this policy, in partnership with other local providers, such as Further Education colleges.
4ps	Public Private Partnership Programme – part of the Local Government Association, working with Local Authorities to develop their project teams in the pre-procurement phase.
Academies	Academies are all ability independent schools established by sponsors from business, faith or voluntary groups working in partnership with central government and local education partners.
Affordability	Generic term for the management of the costs that must be met for the delivery of a local BSF programme. The Authority will be required to meet some of those costs from local resources – the difference between total costs and the level of funding provided by central Government is often called 'the affordability gap'.
BSF	Building Schools for the Future – the 15 year Government programme to transform education across the secondary sector in England. This is being delivered by Partnerships for Schools.
BSFI	Building Schools for the Future Investment Ltd – the separate company that invests in LEPs (see below) on behalf of PfS, and appoints a Director to each LEPs board.
CABE	Commission for Architecture & the Built Environment – established by the Government to encourage a high quality of architectural design in public buildings.
Capital receipt	Also known as a 'land receipt' – the income generated through selling off a piece of the Council-owned land, which may be used to part fund the Authority's BSF proposals. Specific rules exist to govern the use of such funds where they arise from the sale of school land.
CD	Competitive Dialogue – the procurement route for the BSF projects, as prescribed by EU legislation.
DCLG	Department of Communities and Local Government
DCS	Director of Children's Services
DCSF	Department for Children, Schools and Families
Design & Build	The standard delivery route for delivering building works to schools that are being refurbished or remodelled (a combination of some new build work, and refurbishment).
Diversity	Descriptive term for the extent to which an Authority's Education Vision (see below) offers a range of governance arrangements and educational models to give parents and pupils a genuine choice when selecting schools.
EV	Education Vision – produced by the Local Authority as part of its SfC1 (see below) to articulate its aims for transforming education through the BSF programme.

EWA	Early Works Agreement – a contract to enable construction to start on site in advance of the main contract being signed. These are typically only used where a school must be opened by a certain date which would not be achieved if building works did not commence ahead of the formal signing of the LEP (see below) contract.
Extended Schools	A key Government policy for increasing the community focus and use of school buildings, either through the dual use of existing facilities (such as sports halls, or providing adult education on school premises), and/or the co-location of other public services (such as libraries, health centres, etc.) on school sites. In BSF this is usually provided by the LEP (see below).
FAM	Funding Allocation Model – PfS will provide the local authority with a funding 'envelope' for a group of schools in a project. The envelope is calculated using the FAM, based on recommended gross floor areas and the agreed projected number of pupils.
FBC	Final Business Case – produced by the Local Authority immediately before Financial Close (see below) to confirm that the contracts to be signed will deliver the original visions and offer value for money.
FC	Financial Close – the completion and signing of the contracts including financial aspects.
FM	Facilities Management – the provision of services to a school (such as cleaning, pest control and waste management) to allow the facility to function effectively. In BSF this is usually provided by the LEP (see below).
Gateway Review	A process operated by 4ps to assess the 'health' of a given project at prescribed stages in its development. Gateway Reviews 1 & 3 are mandatory in the BSF programme.
GBA	Governing Body Approval – the formal record of a School's Governing Body agreeing to participate in the BSF programme, and (where applicable) contribute some of the Delegated School Budget to meet specific service costs. Usually in the form of a letter.
Governance	A number of the models exist for the management of schools – Community, Trust, Foundation, Voluntary Aided and Academy being the main options. Schools may choose to adopt these themselves, or in discussion with the Local Authority. See also 'Diversity'.
HMT	The Treasury
ICT	Information and Communication Technology – in the BSF context, the provision of a managed ICT service and MLE (see below) to schools by the LEP.
IPD	Invitation to Participate in Dialogue – Stage 1 – the issue of documents to 3 bidders, inviting initial outline proposals under the Competitive Dialogue Procedure. The bidders submit formal responses to these proposals, allowing the Authority to deselect one bidder to take forward to the IPD stage 2. Stage 2 - the issue of documents to 2 bidders inviting full bid responses under the Competitive Dialogue Procedure. Bidders then prepare formal bids that allows the Authority to choose its single Preferred Bidder

LA	Local Authority
LEP	Local Education Partnership – the bespoke delivery vehicle for the BSF programme, whereby a private sector consortium (including all the skills and services required to deliver the Local Authority’s BSF vision) comes together in a formal partnership with the Authority and PfS, after Financial Close (see above).
LSC	Learning & Skills Council
MLE	Managed Learning Environment – a web-based portal, allowing pupils and staff to manage learning online, communicate between each other and store work on a central server. This is a key component of the provision of ICT services by the LEP.
MRA	Main Review Approval – a combined panel of DCSF, PfS, HMT, and PUK representatives who consider and ultimately approve OBCs.
NDPB	Non-Departmental Public Body – the governance model for agencies established by Government to deliver specific objectives that are not part of a Government Department. PfS is a NDPB.
OBC	Outline Business Case – produced by the Authority to confirm that its proposals for a given Wave of BSF investment are deliverable, affordable and offer value for money. The OBC should also include a Communications Plan that sets out how the Authority proposes to manage relationships with its stakeholders throughout the ensuing procurement period.
OJEU	Official Journal of the European Union – the journal in which the advert to the market for a scheme is placed, once the OBC has been approved (see above).
OSC	Office of the Schools Commissioner – officials of the OSC (part of the DCSF) are closely involved in the analysis of each Authority’s Education Vision (see above) to ensure proposals will be genuinely transformational and offer diversity of choice (see above).
PA	Project Agreement – the standard title for a PFI contract.
PB	Preferred Bidder - the title used to describe a chosen private sector partner, selected at the end of the ITCD period, prior to financial or contractual close.
PCP	Primary Capital Programme – the DCSF’s programme for investment in primary schools in England. This can be delivered by LEPs.
PD	Project Director – the usual title for the officer responsible for delivering a local BSF programme on a day-to-day basis. Also the job title for the PfS individual who works with a given LA to assist to develop and deliver the latter’s programme.
PFI	Private Finance Initiative – the standard funding and delivery model for schools that are being entirely, or largely (e.g. >70%) rebuilt through the BSF programme.
PfS	Partnerships for Schools – the NDPB (see above) charged with delivering the BSF programme.

PPP	<p>1) Public Private Partnership – the generic term for any, typically large scale, partnership between a private contractor and a public sector body. The LEP (see above) is an example of a PPP.</p> <p>2) Pupil place planning – the analysis of existing and anticipated pupil numbers to ensure that sufficient, but not surplus, school places are available in the future. This activity is undertaken by the Local Authority, in c-operation with PfS and DCSF.</p>
PQQ	<p>Pre Qualification Questionnaire - A questionnaire designed to assess the competence of potential bidders from the expressions of interest submitted in response to the OJEU notice. Assessment is of technical and financial resources, business eligibility and experience necessary to undertake and complete the project. The Local Authority will select 3 bidders to take forward to the IPD stage 1 process.</p>
Project Board	<p>The Project Board is established by the Local Authority to provide strategic direction and leadership to its BSF proposals. This will usually be given delegated authority to take certain decisions on behalf of the Council.</p>
Project Sponsor	<p>The individual, usually the LA Chief Executive or DCS, ultimately responsible for leading a LA's BSF project. This person does not lead or manage the project on a day-to-day basis, but represents it corporately and externally as its public 'voice' and advocate.</p>
PSP	<p>Private Sector Partner – in the BSF context, the generic title given to a consortium of different companies that comes together to bid to deliver a given Authority's BSF proposals. If that consortium is successful in its bid, it will form the LEP (see above), with the Authority and PfS.</p>
PUK	<p>Partnerships UK – formally part of HMT, PUK is now an independent body that delivers procurement advice and support to agencies engaged in public private partnerships (see above). PUK is one of the joint founders of PfS, with DCSF, and remains closely involved in the BSF programme via its governance links.</p>
Readiness to Deliver	<p>The process for assessing whether a given Local Authority is sufficiently resourced and prepared formally to enter the BSF programme. The LA prepares a formal submission for PfS and DCSF to allow its readiness to be analysed.</p>
Remit Meeting	<p>Once the Authority has submitted an acceptable Readiness to Deliver submission, a Remit meeting will be called, involving the key personnel from the LA (usually including the Chief Executive), PfS and DCSF. This meeting will formally set out a number of objectives that all present have committed to take forward and deliver.</p>
Section 77	<p>The process for limits on the disposal of school playing fields is set out on Section 77 of the Schools (Standards and Framework) Act 1998. Any formal application to dispose of a playing field is thus called a 'Section 77 application'.</p>

SEN	Special Educational Needs – Secondary age SEN schools, and some ‘all through’ (i.e. taking pupils of all school ages) schools, are included in BSF.
SfC1	Strategy for Change Part 1 – produced by the Local Authority to articulate its Education Vision for the delivery of its local BSF programme. The SfC1 should also include a Communications Plan that sets out how the Authority proposes to manage relationships with its stakeholders throughout the ensuing procurement period.
SfC2	Strategy for Change Part 2 – produced by the Local Authority to develop its Education Vision by applying it to its existing schools estate, and indicating what changes it wishes to make to specific facilities to deliver that vision.
SHA	Shareholders’ Agreement – the contract between the partners in the LEP (see above) that governs their formal business relationship as shareholders in that organisation.
Studio School	Studio Schools are a new kind of small school for 14-19 year olds that are being developed to complement the existing programme of academies. They are being designed to draw on decades of experience in integrating work and learning, while going further than any schools or colleges have in the past in terms of creating an environment that will foster the enterprise skills and entrepreneurship needed for young people to succeed in an increasingly globalised service economy. They will be simultaneously schools – providing qualifications and a full range of skills – and businesses providing services directly to customers.
SPA	Strategic Partnership Agreement – the contract between the Local Authority and the LEP for the provision of services to the former, and how these will be measured.
TUPE	Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) – the official title of the legislation that protects the rights of staff transferring from one employer to another when a service is taken over by another provider. In the BSF context, this will apply, for example, to cleaning staff employed by a school who transfer to the LEP when the latter takes over providing that service after Financial Close (see above).
Wave	All BSF local authorities are grouped in one of 15 ‘Waves’ which are launched on approximately an annual basis. The grouping was initially based on a deprivation score (GCSE attainment and free school meal uptake), with the local authorities and schools most in need being prioritised for BSF funding. From Wave 4, local authorities have also had to demonstrate their readiness to deliver BSF. A local authority may appear in several Waves, depending on the scale and condition of their schools estate.
VfM	Value for Money – the technical term used to describe the analysis of whether investing in a proposal will produce the outcomes sought at an ‘acceptable’ cost. It does <i>not</i> mean choosing the cheapest option.
VLE	Virtual Learning Environment – similar to a MLE (see above).