

## **RM to be appointed preferred bidder for Knowsley Building Schools for the Future ICT Contract**

RM has been informed by Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council that the Council intends to appoint the Group as preferred bidder for the Authority's Building Schools for the Future (BSF) ICT contract. Knowsley MBC's BSF programme will replace Knowsley's existing secondary schools with seven new community learning centres serving 8,100 pupils.

RM will design, implement and deliver a sophisticated managed ICT service across the seven new community learning centres. The Group will also work with the Council to develop a personalised learning environment which meets the educational and transformational requirements of Knowsley's BSF programme. As part of this, RM will provide its Integris<sup>G2</sup> Web-based, centrally hosted school MIS system.

Commenting on the contract, Tim Pearson, CEO of RM, said:

*"Knowsley MBC has a bold vision for taking education forward and we're proud that they've selected RM to work with them, and their chosen building contractor, to realise their BSF plans. We're keen to get on working together to improve teaching and learning across the Borough."*

Damian Allen, Knowsley's Executive Director of Children's Services, said:

*"The BSF programme is set to transform education in the Borough, both through the learning environments that will be created and the innovative new approach to teaching and learning. We look forward to a productive partnership with RM as we work towards achieving our vision for education in Knowsley."*

Tim Byles, Chief Executive of Partnerships for Schools, said:

*"We are delighted that Knowsley have chosen an ICT preferred bidder for their innovative BSF scheme, and we look forward to working with the Council and RM on delivering their vision to the children of Knowsley."*

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For further information, please contact:

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### **Notes to Editors:**

The RM Group is a leading provider of educational products and services to schools, colleges and universities, local government and central government education departments and agencies. Founded in 1973, RM works closely with educationalists to use new products, processes and technology to improve teaching and learning and is recognised as a leading innovator in the educational information and communications technology (ICT) arena.

This is the fourth BSF project RM has won. RM announced in February 2006 that it had signed the first BSF ICT contract to be awarded, a £6.4 million contract with Solihull Council; the Group was appointed preferred bidder by Stoke-on-Trent City Council in September and by Leeds City Council in November 2006.

Building Schools for the Future (BSF) is a £45 billion Department for Education and Skills initiative that will rebuild or substantially refurbish all English secondary schools over the next 10-15 years. A key part of the initiative is to ensure that schools develop a sustainable ICT strategy focused on improving teaching and learning. Partnerships for Schools, the government agency responsible for delivering the BSF programme, has set a budget of £1,450 per pupil (over five years) for the delivery of managed ICT services in BSF schools.