



Department
for Education

John Brewster
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15 April 2014

I am writing to let you know about the government's view of your college's position in light of the FE Commissioner's review, and to invite you to confirm the actions your college will now take in response to the significant concerns raised.

As you are aware, in light of the inadequate judgement for financial health by the Skills Funding Agency, I decided that the FE Commissioner should review the position of your College in line with the intervention policy set out in Rigour and Responsiveness in Skills (April 2013). The FE Commissioner completed his assessment on 28 March 2014.

I have now received the FE Commissioner's assessment – a copy of the FE Commissioner's summary report is attached – which includes a set of recommendations. I have accepted all these recommendations.

Whilst the FE Commissioner's report confirmed that good progress has been made in improving the quality of provision to learners and employers, the assessment identified significant weaknesses in the capacity and capability of the existing governance and leadership to deliver financial recovery. Governors are guardians of public money and are responsible for ensuring its effective and efficient use. It is therefore essential that the governing body has the necessary skills and experience, and ensures that the leadership has the necessary skills and experience, to fulfil these responsibilities.

It is therefore essential that the governance and leadership of Weymouth College recognise the significant weaknesses identified in the FE Commissioner's review and put in place a robust action that will deliver financial recovery. Therefore, can you please confirm, in writing, by Monday 28th April 2014 what actions you will take to address the recommendations, and your timetable for doing this.

I have asked the FE Commissioner and my officials in the funding agencies to monitor progress and report back to me regularly. My officials at the Skills Funding Agency will be in touch shortly to arrange a meeting with you and the Principal to discuss this letter and agree next steps.

If you have any questions about the FE Commissioner's assessment or this letter please contact Claire Froggatt (Claire.Froggatt@sfa.bis.gov.uk) in the first instance.

MATTHEW HANCOCK MP



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