

Notes of Meeting: East of England and North East London Headteacher Board

6th December 2018

Attendance*

RSC, Chair	Sue Baldwin	Guests	Dominic Herrington (Interim National Schools Commissioner)
Headteacher Board (HTB) Members	Diane Rochford (HTB) Caroline Derbyshire (HTB) Karen Kerridge (HTB) Andrew Aalders-Dunthorne (HTB) Brian Conway (HTB) Duncan Ramsey (HTB)	Apologies**	Tom Canning (HTB)
DfE Senior Civil Servants	Claire Mycock (Deputy Director) Alan Parnum (Deputy Director)	*Attendance data is published annually on gov.uk	
		**Members of the board who apologised have been consulted on all projects, where available, prior to the meeting (excluding items where there were conflicts). Their views are reflected in the discussion at the meeting (where appropriate).	

General Discussion Points

Item	Discussion Point
RSC Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Update on the new style note of meeting.
Discussion of the potential for Essex LA to form a Multi-academy Trust – provisionally called Essex MAT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opportunity to discuss proposal with HTB members prior to submitting to minister for decision.• MAT representatives presented updated proposal to HTB and invited questions.• Discussed school improvement plans and financial support.• Discussed proposed governance, leadership and skillset.• Discussed values and aims of the trust.• Discussed relationship between trust and local authority.

Discussion of projects, including decisions made by RSC with advice from HTB:

All decisions are made in reference to relevant legislation and the published criteria.

Converter Academy Orders

Project	HTB discussed:	RSC Decision	Conflicts
North Beckton Primary school, Newham, to join Tapscott Learning Trust	<p>The Trust's strong performance and its capacity to improve performance and leadership.</p> <p>The school and trust's finances and the trust's effective use of Integrated Curriculum financial planning.</p> <p>The trust was seen as a strong fit for North Beckton with its school improvement capacity, leadership and the performance of its current schools seen as compelling reasons to approve the conversion.</p>	Approve	Diane Rochford
Further Actions Required	School and Trust to be informed		

<p>Doddinghurst Church of England Voluntary Controlled Junior School, Essex LA, to join the Osborne Co-operative Academy Trust</p>	<p>The regional context of the school, its subsequent effect on pupil numbers and the financial pressures this might create.</p> <p>Performance of the trust and capacity for school improvement.</p> <p>The strong leadership and governance of the trust, and how this could mitigate the risks of taking a school in a rural context.</p> <p>On balance it was agreed that strength of the trusts leadership and governance, alongside the past performance at its schools was enough to overcome any reservations that taking on a small rural school might adversely affect the trust.</p>	<p>Approve</p>	
<p>Further Actions Required</p>	<p>School and Trust to be informed</p>		

Converter Academy Orders

Project	HTB discussed:	RSC Decision	Conflicts
St Andrew's Primary School in Great Yeldham, and Colne Engaine Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School, Essex, to join the Vine Academy Trust (Diocese of Chelmsford)	The HTB considered information pertaining to the leadership of both schools, their financial positions and the views of the Diocese. The conversion proposal was agreed without comment.	Approve	None
Further Actions Required	School and Trust to be informed		

Sponsored Route

Project	HTB discussed:	RSC Decision	Conflicts
William Torbitt Primary School, Redbridge, to join EKO Trust	<p>The context surrounding the Ofsted Inadequate judgement and the state of the school following this judgement.</p> <p>Regional context and Trust's capacity to sponsor a school in a challenging climate.</p> <p>The rationale behind EKO trust being the preferred sponsor.</p> <p>The need of the school and the school improvement offer provided by EKO trust were seen as compelling reasons to approve this project.</p>	Approve with conditions	
Further Actions Required	Trust and school to be informed. Conversation with trust around due diligence and potential issues.		

Significant Change

Project	HTB discussed:	RSC Decision	Conflicts
<p>Dycorts School, Havering, age range change to 2-19 (currently 4-16), addition of a sixth form and change to SEN designation.</p>	<p>The background to the school and rationale for the application.</p> <p>Regional need for SEND provision and support from Local Authority.</p> <p>The potential for a negative impact on existing sixth form provision in area and how this might be mitigated.</p> <p>The need for the type of SEND provision in this area was seen as crucial to this area and the board were confident that the risks of potential harm to other schools had been mitigated.</p>	<p>Approve</p>	
<p>Further Actions Required</p>	<p>School to be informed</p>		