



Rt Hon Anne Milton MP

Minister of State for Apprenticeships and Skills
Sanctuary Buildings Great Smith Street Westminster London SW1P 3BT
tel: 0370 000 2288 www.education.gov.uk/help/contactus

Ray Linforth

Chair of Governors

North Warwickshire and South Leicestershire College

Hinckley Road

Nuneaton

Warwickshire

CV11 6BH

4th March 2019

Dee A. Linforth

I am writing following the assessment of North Warwickshire and South Leicestershire College by the Further Education (FE) Commissioner on 29th and 30th November 2018.

It is clear from the Commissioner's report that urgent actions are now required, in order to address the colleges financial weaknesses and to secure the college's long-term future.

It is the assessment of the FEC team that forecasting at the college has been overly optimistic. They have recommended that the board assure itself that the 2018/19 plan is realistic and that particularly the planned reductions in sub-contracting costs without significant costs in direct provision are achievable.

The Commissioner has made a number of other recommendations including the need to review the organisational structure of the college that appears to be unnecessarily complex; that the college develop an accommodation strategy; and that there is an extensive review of the college's management information in order to enable the college to quickly identify and manage risks.

Although the college has much to do, I am heartened by the FEC team's confidence in you and your governing body. It is their view that you are fully

aware of the strategies that need to be introduced to ensure the continuing viability of the college.

The FEC team and the ESFA will engage regularly with the college to monitor progress, and to ensure the right leadership and governance capability is in place to secure recovery.

I have accepted all of the recommendations of the Commissioner and am providing a copy of the Commissioner's report with this letter. The report will be published on GOV.UK on or shortly after 22 March 2019.

Please confirm, in writing, within three weeks, what actions you are taking to address all of the recommendations and your timetable for doing so.

If you have any questions about the FE Commissioner's assessment or this letter, please contact the Commissioner at **FE.Commissioner@education.gov.uk**.

I have written separately to all the following, local MPs who may have learners attending the college from their constituency to inform them of the FE Commissioners findings:

Marcus Jones MP – Nuneaton
David Tredinnick – Bosworth
Andrew Bridgen - Leicestershire North West
Alberto Costa – Leicestershire South
Craig Tracey – Warwickshire North

*Best wishes
Ae M/E.*

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