

Notes of Meeting: East Midlands and Humber Headteacher Board

25th April 2019

Attendance*

RSC, Chair	John Edwards	Guests
Headteacher Board (HTB) Members	Andrew Burns Andrew Child Peter Bell Paul Stone Roisin Paul	Apologies** Anne Martin Inderjit Sandhu
DfE Senior Civil Servants	Carol Gray ESFA representative	<p>*Attendance data is published annually on gov.uk</p> <p>**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).</p>

General Discussion Points

Item	Discussion Point
RSC Update	None

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 Cave Church of England VC Primary School, East Riding of Yorkshire to join The Education Alliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Good Ofsted rating since 2006• Performance of school was discussed – it would benefit from the support of a strong trust• Impact of financial capacity and long term viability was considered• Reconstitution of Trust to accept church schools into minority faith governance	Approve	
Further Actions Required	Academy Order to be sent to Chair of Governors. Trust and DCS to be informed of decision.		
Totley All Saints Church of England VA Primary School, Sheffield to join The Diocese of	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• School can add further capacity to the trust• School and trust already have a working relationship• Recommendation to build on school improvement strategy as the trust grows• The financial health of the trust was considered and financial impact on both the trust and individual school	Approve	

Project	HTB discussed:	RSC Decision	Conflicts
Sheffield			
Further Actions Required	Academy Order to be sent to Chair of Governors. Trust and DCS to be informed of decision.		
Heather Wood School, Doncaster to join Nexus Multi-Academy Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School will add educational capacity to the trust Strength of financial management arrangements in place at the trust and the impact on the trust's future financial health if they take on the school was considered, taking in to consideration Heather Wood's pupil number projections and finances Continuous development of school improvement development with growth of trust Trust has strong footprint within the local area 	Approve	Andrew Child did not receive papers and was not present for this item
Further Actions Required	Academy Order to be sent to Chair of Governors. Trust and DCS to be informed of decision.		
Coppice School, Doncaster to join Nexus Multi-Academy Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School will add educational capacity to the trust Strength of financial management arrangements in place at the trust and the impact on the trust's future financial health if they take on the school was considered, noting Coppice School's pupil number projections and finances Continuous development of school improvement plan with growth of trust was discussed Trust has a strong footprint within the local area 		Andrew Child did not receive papers and was not present for this item
Further Actions Required	Academy Order to be sent to Chair of Governors. Trust and DCS to be informed of decision.		

Project	HTB discussed:	RSC Decision	Conflicts
Athersley South Primary School, Barnsley to join Every Child Matters Academy Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance and results were discussed as well as trust governance. • It was noted that Athersley Primary School welcomed the culture and ethos of the trust and is already working with trust staff. • Trust to work with a school resource management advisor (SMRA) and implement integrated curriculum financial planning (ICFP), to support sustainable financial health 	Approve	
Further Actions Required	Academy Order to be sent to Chair of Governors. Trust and DCS to be informed of decision.		
St Werburgh's Church Of England VA Primary School, Derby to join Derby Diocesan Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School will add capacity to the trust and strengthen its Derby based hub • The financial impact on both the trust(s) and individual schools was considered. Derby Diocesan Trust I and II operate as one organisation but are separate legal entities registered at Companies House. St Werburgh's was approved to join Derby Diocesan Trust II 	Approve	
Further Actions Required	Academy Order to be sent to Chair of Governors. Trust and DCS to be informed of decision.		
Ivy House School, Derby to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strength of financial management arrangement in place at the trust and the impact on the trust's future financial health if they take on the school was considered, noting Ivy House School's 	Approve	

Project	HTB discussed:	RSC Decision	Conflicts
join The Shaw Education Trust	<p>pupil number projections and finances</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trust is based in West Midlands region; West Midlands RSC has confirmed content for trust to grow 		
Further Actions Required	Academy Order to be sent to Chair of Governors. Trust and DCS to be informed of decision.		
Bilborough Sixth Form College, Nottingham to join Better Future Multi-Academy Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strength of financial management arrangement in place at the trust and the impact on the trust's future financial health if they take on the Bilborough Sixth Form College was discussed School improvement strategy was discussed and the trust's plans to secure education expertise As a new trust, it would benefit from engaging with the local Teaching School Alliances to provide best possible support and build working relationships within the area 	In principle agreement approved – prompting due diligence	
Further Actions Required	Approval in principle – subject to further financial approval		
North Wingfield Primary and Nursery School, Derbyshire to join Redhill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strength of financial management arrangement in place at the trust and the impact on the trust's future financial health was considered School is a feeder school for Tupton Hall, currently joining Redhill Academy Trust The school would benefit from the primary capacity and expertise within the trust 	Approve	Andrew Burns did not receive papers and was not present for this item

Project	HTB discussed:	RSC Decision	Conflicts
Academy Trust			
Further Actions Required	Academy Order to be sent to Chair of Governors. Trust and DCS to be informed of decision.		
The Willoughby School, Lincolnshire to join The Priory Federation of Academies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ofsted rated Good in 2012 • Willoughby shares the same ethos and values as the trust and is already working with them to audit SEN provision within the trust. The school feels it will benefit from strong central service support and strategic decision-making • School improvement model discussed, and the progress made by the trust in improving performance • Financial impact of this school joining the trust was considered • Given the number of financially challenging schools the trust has taken on over recent years, the offer of support from a SMRA will be made to the trust 	Approve	Peter Bell did not receive papers and was not present for this item
Further Actions Required	Academy Order to be sent to Chair of Governors. Trust and DCS to be informed of decision.		
Whaley Thorns Primary School, Derbyshire to form Together Everyone Achieves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership capacity and availability discussed • Proposal to set up a trust with special and mainstream schools. • Leadership capacity and availability to work across schools was discussed • Strong structure in place with more emphasis needed on strategy and school improvement • Robustness of financial modelling and financial planning assumptions need to be tested ensuring the opening of the 	Defer – requires a more detailed school improvement strategy focusing mainly on capacity and engagement with ESFA – to ensure the rigour and robustness of	Andrew Child did not receive papers and was not present for this item

Project	HTB discussed:	RSC Decision	Conflicts
More Multi-Academy Trust	trust is financially viable and will remain so in future. The proposed Trust's financial management and governance arrangements were considered	the trust's financial modelling and financial management and governance arrangements	
Further Actions Required	Project Lead to inform trust/school of the decision		
Model Village Primary School, Derbyshire to form Together Everyone Achieves More Multi-Academy Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • Proposal to set up a trust with special and mainstream schools. • Leadership capacity and availability to work across schools was discussed • Strong structure in place with more emphasis needed on strategy and school improvement • Robustness of financial modelling and financial planning assumptions needs to be tested ensuring the opening of the trust is financially viable and will remain so in future. The proposed Trust's financial management and governance arrangements were considered 	Defer – requires a more detailed school improvement strategy focusing mainly on capacity and engagement with ESFA – to ensure the rigour and robustness of the trust's financial modelling and financial management and governance arrangements	Andrew Child did not receive papers and was not present for this item
Further Actions Required	Project Lead to inform trust/school of the decision		

Project	HTB discussed:	RSC Decision	Conflicts
Brookfield Primary School, Derbyshire to form Together Everyone Achieves More Multi-Academy Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposal to set up a trust with special and mainstream schools. • Leadership capacity and availability to work across schools was discussed • Strong structure in place with more emphasis needed on strategy and school improvement • Robustness of financial modelling and financial planning assumptions needs to be tested ensuring the opening of the trust is financially viable and remain so in future. The proposed Trust's financial management and governance arrangements were considered 	Defer – requires a more detailed school improvement strategy focusing mainly on capacity and engagement with ESFA – to ensure the rigour and robustness of the trust's financial modelling and financial management and governance arrangements	Andrew Child did not receive papers and was not present for this item
Further Actions Required	Project Lead to inform trust/school of the decision		
Stubbin Wood Special School, Derbyshire to form Together Everyone Achieves More Multi-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposal to set up a trust with special and mainstream schools. • Leadership capacity and availability to work across schools was discussed • Strong structure in place with more emphasis needed on strategy and school improvement • Robustness of financial modelling and financial planning assumptions needs to be tested ensuring the opening of the trust is financially viable and remain so in future. The proposed Trust's financial management and governance 	Defer – requires a more detailed school improvement strategy focusing mainly on capacity and engagement with ESFA – to ensure the rigour and robustness of the trust's financial	Andrew Child did not receive papers and was not present for this item

Project	HTB discussed:	RSC Decision	Conflicts
Academy Trust	arrangements were considered	modelling and financial management and governance arrangements	
Further Actions Required	Project Lead to inform trust/school of the decision		

Sponsored Route

Project	HTB discussed:	RSC Decision	Conflicts
The St Nicholas Church Of England Primary School, Lincolnshire to join Infinity Academies Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geography was considered and it was noted that the trust can build capacity in the area A strong school improvement strategy is in place alongside a well-supported local collaboration Strength of financial management in place at the trust and the impact on the trust's future financial health was discussed 	Approve	

Project	HTB discussed:	RSC Decision	Conflicts
Further Actions Required	Trust to be informed of the decision		

Sponsor Application

Project	HTB discussed:	RSC Decision	Conflicts
Infinity Academies Group, Lincolnshire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A strong school improvement strategy is in place alongside a well-supported local collaboration Strength of financial management in place at the trust and the impact on the trust's future financial health was discussed The trust would benefit from advice to support ongoing growth of trust as a sponsor, including mentor and HR services support 	Approve	
Further Actions Required	Trust to be informed of the decision		

Academy Opening Approved in Principle

Project	HTB discussed:	RSC Decision	Conflicts
Bradfield Dungworth Primary School, Sheffield	Proposed School Opening Date – 01/05/2019 No issues were raised	Approve	
Further Actions Required	No action required		
Brookfield Primary School, Derby	Proposed School Opening Date – 01/05/2019 No issues were raised	Approve	
Further Actions Required	No action required		
Farnsfield St Michael's CofE VA School, Nottingham shire	Proposed School Opening Date – 01/05/2019 No issues were raised	Approve	
Further Actions Required	No action required		
Stannington Infant School, Sheffield	Proposed School Opening Date – 01/05/2019 No issues were raised	Approve	

Project	HTB discussed:	RSC Decision	Conflicts
Further Actions Required	No action required		
Carr Junior School, York	Proposed School Opening Date – 01/05/2019 No issues were raised	Approve	
Further Actions Required	No action required		
Loxley Primary School, Sheffield	Proposed School Opening Date – 01/05/2019 No issues were raised	Approve	
Further Actions Required	No action required		
Nook Lane Junior School, Sheffield	Proposed School Opening Date – 01/05/2019 No issues were raised	Approve	
Further Actions Required	No action required		
Oughtibridge Primary School, Sheffield	Proposed School Opening Date – 01/05/2019 No issues were raised	Approve	

Project	HTB discussed:	RSC Decision	Conflicts
Further Actions Required	No action required		
Wharncliffe Side Primary School, Sheffield	Proposed School Opening Date – 01/05/2019 No issues were raised	Approve	
Further Actions Required	No action required		

Significant Change

Project	HTB discussed:	RSC Decision	Conflicts
Grobby Community College and Brookvale High School, Leicestershire to merge increasing age range from 11-19 and closing Groby Community College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future financial modelling and projected savings if merger were to go ahead was discussed • Governance arrangements and financial management in place at the trust was considered • An effective highly organised structure of leadership 	Approve	Paul Stone did not receive papers and was not present for this item
Further Actions Required	Project lead to inform trust/school of the decision		

Trust Change

Project	HTB discussed:	RSC Decision	Conflicts
Hope Valley College, Derbyshire to join Chorus Education Trust (SAT to MAT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leadership of school was considered along with improvements made at trust level Clear plans in place to strengthen deployment of expertise and support the school Sustainability discussed. Recent performance of sponsored project supported by the trust Strength of financial management and governance in place at the trust and the impact on the trust's future financial health if they take on this school was discussed 	Approve	Roisin Paul did not receive papers and was not present for this item
Further Actions Required	Trust to be informed of the decision		
Mercenfeld Primary School, Leicestershire to join Bradgate Education Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ofsted inspection rated Inadequate The trust will benefit from a centralised team producing financial efficiencies and effective deployment of school improvement resources from the trust New leadership has made a positive impact Strength of financial management and governance in place at the trust and the impact on the trust's future financial health if they take on this school was discussed 	Approve	Paul Stone did not receive papers and was not present for this item
Further Actions Required	Trust to be informed of the decision		

Project	HTB discussed:	RSC Decision	Conflicts
Academy of Lincoln Trust consisting of Ermine Primary Academy & Lincoln Castle Academy, Lincolnshire to join Healing Multi Academy Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance arrangements in place at both trusts were considered • Healing has capacity to take on these schools • The financial impact on both the trust and individual schools was considered. Trust to work with a SMRA 		
Further Actions Required	Trust to be informed of the decision		

Decisions taken by another RSC – Lancashire & West Yorkshire on behalf of East Midlands & Humber

Project	HTB discussed:	RSC Decision	Conflicts
Bradfield School, Sheffield to join Tapton School Academy Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trust is in a strong position to support Bradfield through their time of transition with school improvement Strong changes at trust level allowing a steady growth approach Financial stability discussed with detailed plan of projected savings and future improvements 	Approve	
Further Actions Required	Project Lead to inform trust/school of the decision		