

Lord Agnew Kt DL

Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the School System
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Mr Andrew Baird Chair of Governors Brooklands College Heath Road Weybridge KT13 8TT

der M Baird,

October 2019

I am writing following the assessment of Brooklands College by the Further Education (FE) Commissioner. The college has been escalated to formal intervention because of insufficient progress made from its initial Diagnostic Assessment visit 21 to 22 January 2019 to its monitoring visit 10 May 2019. This was specifically in response to recommendations relating to its subcontractor, SCL Security Ltd (SCL).

It is clear from the Commissioner's report that despite the board putting in place measures to drive forward the recommendations from the January visit, the college's response to concerns around SCL have not been adequate.

I welcome the efforts the college has made to reduce costs. The FEC team see evidence of the progress the college has made in managing the rapid decrease in the college turnover in recent years.

In spite of this, the board and leaders still face significant challenges that put the future of the college at risk. I support the FE Commissioner's recommendation that you appoint an experienced interim principal to support the new leadership team. I also encourage you to engage fully with the support offered by the National Leader of Governance now working with the college.

The Commissioner, his team and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (EFSA) will engage regularly with the college to monitor progress. I have, therefore, asked to be kept abreast of progress in these matters.

Given the significant challenges facing the college, I am placing the college in to Supervised College Status with immediate effect. The Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) will attend all future board meetings and finance and resources committee meetings.

I have accepted all of the recommendations of the Commissioner and a summary of the initial assessment is provided with this letter. This document and my letter will be published on gov.uk.

Please confirm within three weeks to the FE.Commissioner, <u>FE.Commissioner@education.gov.uk</u> what actions you are taking to address all of the recommendations and your timetable for doing so.

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:

Rt Hon Philip Hammond MP

Rt Hon Kwasi Kwarteng MP

Rt Hon Dominic Raab MP

Rt Hon Michael Gove MP

Sir Paul Beresford MP Mr Jonathan Lord MP

Adam Afriyie MP

Runnymede and Weybridge

Spelthorne

Esher and Walton

Surrey Heath

Mole Valley

Woking

Windsor

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