

Minutes of the Board
8 October 2019

Present

Julius Weinberg (Chair)	Hamid Patel
Amanda Spielman (HMCI)	Pamela Scriven
Dame Kathryn August	Martin Spencer
John Cridland	Carole Stott
John Hughes	Venessa Willms
Julie Kirkbride	Baroness Laura Wyld

Apologies

None

Also in attendance

Matthew Coffey (Chief Operating Officer)
 Louise Grainger (Director, Finance, Planning and Commercial)
 Sean Harford (National Director, Education)
 Emma Ing (Regional Director, East Midlands)
 Chris Jones (Director, Corporate Strategy)
 Yvette Stanley (National Director, Social Care)
 Kate Dixon (Department for Education observer)
 Matt Terry (Corporate Governance Manager)
 Emily Williams (Head of Private Office and Corporate Governance)
 Lucy Mayor (Corporate Governance Officer)

Status: Approved.

1 Welcome, apologies and declarations of interest

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed new members to their first board meeting. There were no apologies.
- 1.2 The Chair notified members that he has taken the role of chair of the Buckinghamshire Cultural Partnership.
- 1.3 Venessa Willms declared that she will chair ARK Boulton's Local Governing Body.

2 Minutes, matters arising, action log and forward look

2.1 The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed without amendment.

3 Update from Her Majesty's Chief Inspector (HMCI)

3.1 HMCI presented her update. The Board noted that:

- the successful introduction of the EIF would be covered in detail in the education update report.
 - DfE have announced several measures to improve school standards; including the removal of the outstanding exemption and further support for stuck schools. We will carry out full diagnostic visits to stuck schools so that they, their advisers and Regional Schools Commissioners have a full understanding of where they need to improve.
 - the DfE has confirmed additional funding for the inspection of outstanding schools. Removing the exemption will increase costs in future years as these providers return to routine inspection.
 - the teacher attitude survey had recorded a fall in the number of respondents who viewed Ofsted as a responsible and trusted arbiter. EIF may have a positive impact upon next year's findings.
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4 Update from the Chief Operating Officer

4.1 The Chief Operating Officer presented their report to the board. The Board noted that:

- Ofsted are on track to achieve all statutory inspection targets this year, as with 2018-19.
 - There are challenges to meeting EY volumes targets. The COO is working closely with Regional Directors to ensure that this target is met.
 - The way that evidence is gathered on inspection has changed. Inspectors will now use Electronic Evidence Gathering (EEG) to collate their evidence bases in real time.
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5 Update from the National Director, Education

5.1 The National Director, Education presented their update. The Board noted that:

- Early feedback following the implementation of the EIF has been positive. The Board will receive an update on the feedback it has generated following their December meeting.

- Some smaller schools where teachers have responsibility over several areas of the curriculum have noted that the need for inspectors to have out of class discussions with these teachers has sometimes led to these teachers being absent from class for longer than they would like. Inspectors will be asked to keep this in mind for future inspections to ensure teachers aren't away from their classes for a disproportionate period of time.
 - A response will shortly be sent to DfE's consultation on full cost recovery.
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6 Update from the National Director, Social Care

6.1 The National Director, Social Care presented their update. The Board noted that:

- Three children's homes have recently been judged inadequate. Monitoring of these homes has since shown progress in each.
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7 Update from the Director, Corporate Strategy

7.1 The Director, Corporate Strategy, presented the Corporate Strategy update. The Board noted that:

- The research plan for the next two years has been set. The Board will discuss the research programme at an upcoming strategy session.
 - **Action:** There are areas where legislative change would have a positive impact on our ability to inspect and regulate. It was agreed the Board should be briefed on these changes at an upcoming meeting.
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8 Strategic Risk Register

8.1 The Board noted that a number of delivery profiles are behind schedule, but were assured that forecasts show that inspections targets will likely be met.

9 Finance Report

9.1 The board noted the finance report. There is no risk to parliamentary control totals.

10 Audit and Risk Assurance Committee update

10.1 Actions arising from the NAO and PAC reports on Ofsted's inspection of schools

have now been tracked to completion by the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee.

- 10.2 NAO will be outsourcing our financial audit to another firm. They will undertake a full tendering process and have confirmed that although this is a different approach to the audit than taken during the previous financial year, this is routine practice.
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11 Corporate Governance Framework

- 11.1 The Chair asked board members to provide any comments on the Corporate Governance Framework to Private Office by the end of October. The final version of the document will be reviewed and approved by the Chair and HMCI outside of the meeting.
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12 AOB

- 12.1 No further business was raised.

Meeting closed.