

## Gillian Keegan MP

Parliamentary Under Secretary 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

25 November 2020

Mark Taylor Chair of Governors City of Wolverhampton College Paget Road Wolverhampton WV6 0DU

## Dear Mr Taylor,

I am writing following the intervention assessment of City of Wolverhampton College by the Further Education (FE) Commissioner on 20 July and 25 September 2020, which took place following the re-issuing of a Financial Notice to Improve by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) in July 2020.

From the Commissioner's report, I am encouraged by the numerous positive developments at the college, including sound and effective governance and leadership, excellent systems and controls to develop and monitor curriculum and quality, and the progress that has been made since the college's most recent Ofsted inspection in November 2017.

Notwithstanding these achievements, it is also clear from the Commissioner's report that significant issues remain. I urge you to implement the Commissioner's recommendations to further strengthen college governance and to address those issues which challenge the college's long-term financial sustainability, including the tight cash position and delayed campus relocation project.

I have accepted all the recommendations of the FE Commissioner. A copy of the assessment is provided with this letter.

The assessment and my letter will be published on gov.uk. Once confirmed, the intended publication date will be shared with you.

I have written separately to the following local MPs, whose constituencies are served by the college, to inform them of the FE Commissioner's findings:

- Stuart Anderson MP
- Jane Stevenson MP
- Rt Hon Pat McFadden MP
- Marco Longhi MP
- Rt Hon Gavin Williamson MP

Wolverhampton South West

Wolverhampton North East

Wolverhampton South East

**Dudley North** 

South Staffordshire

Yours sincerely,

Gillian Keegan MP Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Apprenticeships and Skills