



## Notes of Meeting: North

Thursday 14 January 2021

### Attendance

Attendance data is published annually on the GOV.UK website.

HTB members who sent apologies have been consulted on all projects, where available, before the meeting. This excludes items where there were conflicts. Their views are reflected in the discussion at the meeting (where appropriate).

### Regional school commissioner (RSC) chair

- Katherine Cowell (RSC)

### Headteacher board (HTB) members

- Zoe Carr (HTB)
- George Beveridge (HTB)
- Lesley Powell (HTB)
- Nick Hurn (HTB)
- Elizabeth Horne (HTB)
- Andy Bayston (HTB)
- Chris Clarke (HTB)
- Sir Michael Wilkins (HTB)

### Guests

- none

### Apologies

- none

### DfE senior civil servants

- none

## General discussion points

Points discussed in the meeting.

### RSC Update

RSC welcomed board members to the meeting. RSC carried out a Covid 19 temperature check, inviting members to share some of their key concerns.

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.

### Trust Change

Points discussed in relation to academies moving to a new trust.

**Project:** This is a proposal for South Cumbria Multi Academy Trust (SCMAT) to form a Multi Academy Trust.

#### HTB discussion:

- The board was advised that Furness College proposes to create a new MAT to provide more choice for schools considering academy conversion.
- Furness College has provided advice and support to a local school to help overcome financial difficulties, the relationship has since developed, and both the college and school would like to formalise this relationship. Furness College also sees the development of a MAT as the next step in contributing to educational outcomes and pathways for young people in Cumbria, building on the college's provision and links to local industry.
- The board was informed that, if approved, SCMAT would benefit from robust financial management and other service support from Furness College.
- The board noted the proposed governance of the trust and the relationship with the college and asked for assurances around the college's commitment in future years.
- The board was advised that the proposed trust has provided a robust scheme of delegation, meeting DfE expectations.
- The board was made aware that the trust intends to grow steadily and work with strong schools in its initial stages of development.
- The board discussed the potential for future growth of this trust; the board would like some further information which outlines the commitment from schools to join this trust.
- The board agreed to defer the decision on this proposal pending further information on the risks and opportunities discussed.

**RSC decision:** defer

**Conflicts:** none

**Further actions required:** Project Lead to inform school/trust of decision.

## Converter Academy Orders

Points discussed in relation to school conversion.

**Project:** This is a proposal for SS Peter & Paul RC VA Primary School to convert and join Bishop Chadwick Catholic Education Trust.

**HTB discussion:**

- The board was advised that this proposal is in line with the Bishop of Hexham and Newcastle Diocese's vision on Catholic education.
- SS Peter & Paul RC VA Primary School was judged by Ofsted to be 'Good' in November 2017.
- The board was advised that educational performance at the school is strong.
- SS Peter & Paul's secondary feeders are already part of the trust supporting transition, this proposal will strengthen links that have already been formed.
- The board was advised that this proposal will add to the primary capacity of the trust.
- Trust governance structure is in line with DfE guidelines and includes a good mix of skills.
- The board was advised that the DfE will continue to monitor trust progress as more schools join Bishop Chadwick CET.
- The board was informed that, as a result of a previous RSC decision, a formal condition was approved to deploy a SRMA into the trust, this deployment is due to take place in 2021.
- The board supported this proposal.

**RSC decision:** approve

**Conflicts:** none

**Further actions required:** Project Lead to inform school/trust of decision.

**Project:** This is a proposal for Bishopton Centre to convert and join Tees Valley Collaboration Trust.

**HTB discussion:**

- The Bishopton Centre, was judged by Ofsted to be 'Good' in June 2017.
- The board was advised that the Bishopton Centre is a pupil referral unit, providing provision for pupils aged 11-16 that are at risk of or have been permanently excluded.
- The board was informed that the school has been recognised as a centre of excellence for inclusion.
- The board was advised that the school has received an SRMA visit in early 2020, recommendations have been considered but not yet implemented.
- Academic outcomes are not published because this school is a PRU, the board wanted some further assurances that the performance is in line with expectations.
- The board discussed current leadership arrangements within the school and agreed some further clarity on responsibilities and accountability was required.
- Tees Valley Collaborative Trust is a MAT consisting of a sixth form college and primary school. The board was advised that the sixth form college is located in close proximity of the Bishopton Centre.
- Both academies within the trust are judged by Ofsted to be 'Good'.
- The board was informed that inclusion is a core value of Tees Valley Collaborative Trust, the sixth form college is an approved provider of places for pupils at risk of permanent exclusion for Stockton, Redcar and Cleveland, and North Yorkshire.
- The board discussed the trusts experience in AP and agreed they wanted to see how robust their involvement has been at KS4.
- The board also discussed the trust's long-term strategic plan and agreed they wanted to see how an AP academy fits within this.
- A decision on this case was deferred pending additional information.

**RSC decision:** defer

**Conflicts:** none

**Further actions required:** Project Lead to inform school/trust of decision.

## **Academy opening approved in principle**

Project: Helmsley Community Primary School

HTB discussion: Proposed opening date 01/02/2021

RSC decision: approve

Conflicts: none

Further actions required: No further action required.

Project: Kirkbymoorside Community Primary School

HTB discussion: Proposed opening date 01/02/2021

RSC decision: approve

Conflicts: none

Further actions required: No further action required.

Project: Lamplugh CofE School

HTB discussion: Proposed opening date 01/02/2021

RSC decision: approve

Conflicts: none

Further actions required: No further action required.

Project: Ryedale School

HTB discussion: Proposed opening date 01/02/2021

RSC decision: approve

Conflicts: none

Further actions required: No further action required.

Project: Sinnington Primary School

HTB discussion: Proposed opening date 01/02/2021

RSC decision: approve

Conflicts: none

Further actions required: No further action required.

Project: St Benet's Roman Catholic Voluntary Aided Primary School

HTB discussion: Proposed opening date 01/02/2021

RSC decision: approve

Conflicts: none

Further actions required: No further action required.

Project: St Joseph's RC Primary School

HTB discussion: Proposed opening date 01/02/2021

RSC decision: approve

Conflicts: none

Further actions required: No further action required.

Project: St Teresa's RC Primary School

HTB discussion: Proposed opening date 01/02/2021

RSC decision: approve

Conflicts: none

Further actions required: No further action required.

Project: St Mary's Roman Catholic Voluntary Aided First School

HTB discussion: Proposed opening date 01/02/2021

RSC decision: approve

Conflicts: none

Further actions required: No further action required.