



Department
for Education



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Innovation & Skills

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Dear colleague,

Since the incorporation of FE Colleges over twenty years ago, no new Colleges have been formed. Yet new Colleges can offer greater choice to students, drive up standards, and be more responsive to the needs of employers, responding to skills shortages.

Consistent with our support for Free Schools for those of school age, the Government strongly supports the establishment of new Colleges, allowing the entry of new organisations that drive up quality, customer focus and responsiveness of the FE sector.

For the first time, we today set out formally our intention to establish Prospects College of Advanced Technology as a new FE Corporation.

Following a full public consultation under section 16(1)(b) and 17 of the Further and Higher Education Act 1992 (the Act), please find enclosed a draft order, The Prospects College of Advanced Technology (Incorporation) Order 2014 to establish an FE Corporation on 1 September 2014 to be known as 'Prospects College of Advanced Technology'. Head Office address: Crompton Close, Basildon, Essex, SS14 3AY

Section 16A of the Act, as inserted by the Education Act 2011, and Statutory Instrument 2012 No.1157 (The Further Education Corporations (Publication of Proposals) (England) Regulations 2012) requires a copy of the draft order to be sent to the persons listed in section 2(4) (a) – (g) at least four months before the date specified in the draft order. As a person listed in these regulations we are required to notify you of the name, address, age range of students, date of, and reason for, incorporation.

Prospects College of Advanced Technology is being established to deliver a unique new employer-focused, specialist technical college of Further Education in the South Essex Thames Gateway. It will have three specialist apprentice skills training centres for Engineering (including rail), Building Services and Aviation and a post-16 campus. At the time it is fully operational it will deliver provision to 800 full time and 350 part time learners; 1200 Apprentices and 2500 delegates on short corporate courses all aged 16+. A full public consultation has taken place, responses were received from 41 individuals representing 26 organisations and no responses opposed the proposal to open the new college.

I wish this new College every success, and hope it will be the first of many.

MATTHEW HANCOCK MP