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12 February 2015



Minister for Skills and Equalities

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I am writing to inform you of the government's view of the position of Greenwich Community College in light of the Further Education (FE) Commissioner's review, and the next steps that will be taken to secure improvement.

As you are aware, in light of the inadequate grading following the Ofsted inspection of Greenwich Community College in November 2014, I asked the FE Commissioner, David Collins, to carry out a short, sharp assessment. The assessment of Greenwich Community College was conducted between 12 January and 16 January 2015.

I have now considered the FE Commissioner's assessment, which includes a set of recommendations. I have accepted all these recommendations. A summary of the assessment and the recommendations is provided with this letter. The summary and my letter to you will be published on www.gov.uk following receipt of your response to this letter.

In light of the significant weaknesses identified and concerns about the long term future of the College, I am placing Greenwich Community College into Administered College status with immediate effect. Given these weaknesses, I have decided that the FE Commissioner should conduct a Structure and Prospects Appraisal that will consider what is the best solution for learners, employers and the local community. As part of the Appraisal the FE Commissioner will consider and advise me on what governance and leadership arrangements should be put in place to support the transition to any new arrangements. In the meantime, a revised Post Inspection Action Plan and Financial Recovery Plan will enable the College to begin to address the full range of issues identified by the FE Commissioner and by Ofsted. Progress against these plans will be monitored through monthly case conferences.

My officials at the Skills Funding Agency will be in touch shortly to arrange a meeting between you, the Principal and the FE Commissioner to discuss this letter and agree next steps, including the timing of the Structure and Prospects Appraisal and how the College will work with the FE Commissioner on it.

If you have any questions about the FE Commissioner's assessment or this letter please contact Malcolm Rodrigues (<u>malcolm.rodrigues@sfa.bis.gov.uk</u>) at SFA in the first instance.

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NICK BOLES MP