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I am writing to inform you of the Government's view of the position of Wandsworth London Borough Council's Lifelong Learning Service in the light of the FE Commissioner's stock-take assessment.

As you will be aware the FE Commissioner's initial assessment in February 2015 made several recommendations for improvement following the 'inadequate' Ofsted inspection report, including: the linkage between the Council's priorities for skills and employment and the curriculum planning for Adult and Community Learning and Apprenticeships to be significantly strengthened; the Council to review the strategic decision to accelerate apprenticeship growth through sub-contractors operating outside of London and should withdraw from areas where success rates are low. In September 2015 one of the FE Commissioner's Advisers conducted a short assessment in order to review the progress made against all of the FE Commissioner's recommendations.

I have now received the FE Commissioner's assessment report. A copy of the report is provided alongside this letter.

As you will see, the assessment concludes that the Council has made sufficient progress since the initial assessment to evidence that there is no longer a need for the Council's Service to be in FE Commissioner-led intervention. The formal FE Commissioner intervention process is thus now at an end. The Skills Funding Agency will shortly write to you about its continuing monitoring and intervention process.

I am encouraged by the actions taken by the Council to implement the necessary improvements and welcome the FE Commissioner's confidence that it can sustain improvement. I wish you every success for the future.

You should note that we plan to publish this letter but will not be publishing the attached report.

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Nick Boles

NICK BOLES MP