



Education & Skills  
Funding Agency

Education and Skills Funding Agency  
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[www.education.gov.uk/efa-enquiry-form](http://www.education.gov.uk/efa-enquiry-form)

15 September 2020

Annette Hall  
Chair of Trustees  
The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust  
Longthorpe Lane  
Lofthouse  
Wakefield  
WF3 3PS

Dear Annette

### **Financial Notice to Improve**

On 27 September 2019, Mike Pettifer wrote to your predecessor, Jan Bennett in their capacity as the Chair of Trustees to serve notice that The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust ('the trust') was required to improve the financial management and governance at the trust.

This was because of the weak financial governance and management of the trust. The Financial Notice to Improve (FNtI) set out the actions that were needed to be taken by the trust to make sure necessary improvements were made.

We have closely monitored the trust's progress against the conditions set out in the notice, which included:

- strengthening governance by making new governance appointments
- increasing the board to a minimum of 9 trustees with specialist expertise
- ensuring there is significant separation between members and trustees
- demonstrating and ensuring a robust internal audit programme is in place
- undertaking an integrated curriculum financial planning (ICFP) review
- demonstrating that every possible economy is being made to achieve a balanced budget
- implementing the recommendations made in the July 2019 governance review
- producing and adhering to a revised and accurate 5 year recovery plan

I am pleased to inform you that I am satisfied that the FNtI conditions have been met. As a result, the FNtI will be lifted with effect from the date of this letter.

This letter will be published on the GOV.uk website. I am copying this letter to Andy Gouly, Accounting Officer of the trust and Vicky Beer, Regional Schools Commissioner for Lancashire and West Yorkshire.

It is important that the trust continues to embed the controls and processes which have led to this improvement and continues to exercise strong governance and financial oversight of the trust. I would like to thank you for your contribution in ensuring the trust has reached this position.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Warwick Sharp', is centered on the page.

**Warwick Sharp**  
**Director, Academies and Maintained Schools Directorate**

Cc: Andy Goulty, Accounting officer of the trust  
Vicky Beer, Regional Schools Commissioner for Lancashire and West Yorkshire