



Notes of Advisory Board: North-West London South Central

21 October 2021

Attendance

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

HTB members who sent their apologies for the meeting have, where possible, been consulted on all projects before the meeting. Their views are reflected in the discussion at the meeting (where appropriate). This excludes items where that member declared a conflict of interest.

Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) chair

- Dame Kate Dethridge

Advisory Board (AB) members

- Sarah Bennett
- Dame Yasmin Bevan
- Dame Sue Bourne
- Sarah Brown
- Dr Jamie Clarke
- Claire Robins OBE

DfE senior civil servants

- Jo Thomas, Deputy Director, NWLSC

Representations received

- Two representations for the discussion on Sponsor Route for Jewish Free School, Brent. These representations were shared with attendees in advance of the meeting and considered alongside their corresponding item.

General Discussion Points

- The meeting note of September Advisory Board was confirmed and agreed.
- The RSC and Board took time for reflections on the forthcoming Advisory Board elections.

Items for discussion in this meeting

North Sub-Region

Converter Academy Order

Project: Whether to approve the voluntary application made by St John Fisher Roman Catholic School, **Hertfordshire**, to join All Saint Catholic Academies Trust.

Advisory Board (AB) discussion:

- AB members discussed the distance between All Saint Catholic Academies Trust and St John Fisher Roman Catholic School.
- AB members discussed the School Improvement Model submitted by All Saint Catholic Academies Trust.
- AB members discussed the governance at All Saint Catholic Academies Trust.
- AB members discussed the finances of both the trust and the school.

RSC decision: Approve.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: Inform the school and trust of the RSC decision.

Significant Change

Project: To approve the retrospective significant change request from Northampton Primary Academy Trust (NPAT) to increase physical expansion at Lings Primary School, **West Northamptonshire**, from 1FE to 2FE with effect from September 2015.

Significant Change

Project: To approve the retrospective significant change request from Northampton Primary Academy Trust (NPAT) to increase SEN unit pupils (from 30 to 40 pupils) at Headlands Primary School, **West Northamptonshire**, with effect from September 2020.

Significant Change

Project: To approve the retrospective significant change request from Northampton Primary Academy Trust (NPAT) to increase SEN unit numbers (from 40 to 47 pupils) at East Hunsbury Primary School, **West Northamptonshire**, with effect from January 2021.

Advisory Board (AB) discussed the above 3 items together:

- AB members commented on the lateness of the applications coming to the Advisory Board.
- AB members discussed the level of consultation which took place.
- AB members discussed the governance and finances at NPAT.
- AB members discussed the performance of Lings Primary, Headlands Primary and East Hunsbury.

RSC decision (Lings Primary): Approve.

RSC decision (Headlands Primary): Approve.

RSC decision (East Hunsbury): Approve.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: Inform the schools and trust of RSC decision.

London Sub-Region

Discussion on Sponsor Route Application (not for decision)

Project: Whether to approve the Jewish Community Academy Trust (JCAT) as the sponsor for Jewish Free School (JFS), **Brent**.

Advisory Board (AB) discussion:

- AB members discussed JCAT's capacity to take on JFS and the trust's secondary experience.
- AB members discussed the governance at JCAT
- AB members discussed the need for a revised school improvement plan that demonstrates clear accountability.
- AB members discussed and considered the religious authority and foundation body's preference for JFS to join JCAT.
- AB members discussed the finances of JFS.
- AB members discussed the representations received.

RSC decision: This item was for discussion and will be for ministerial decision.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: Further consideration internally.

Academy Opening Approved in Principle

- No academies in the region were opening on 1 November 2021.