

Notes of Meeting: Lancashire & West Yorkshire Advisory Board

17th June 2021

Attendance

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

AB 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

- Vicky Beer (RSC)

Advisory Board (AB) members

- Duncan Jacques
- Karen Bramwell
- Julie Bradley
- Jonathan Nichols
- Lesley Gwinnett
- Julian Appleyard
- Chris Melia

DfE senior civil servants

- ESFA Representatives

Representations received

- 1 Representation received; Discussion to consider the transfer of University Technical College Leeds, Leeds, to White Rose Academies Trust, Trust Change

These representations were shared in advance of the meeting with all attendees and considered alongside their corresponding item.

General Discussion Points

Local Update

- RSC provided a COVID 19 local update (as of 17th June 2021) to the board
- RSC provided the board with an update on the Advisory Board elections

AB member reflections

- The board reflected on the impact the pandemic has had on their schools and the wider community

Converter Academy Orders

Points discussed in relation to school conversion.

Project: Discussion to consider Kingsway Park High School, Rochdale, to convert and join Altus Education Partnership

AB discussion:

- The board discussed the trust's School Improvement strategy and agreed that further clarity was required from the trust's Scheme of Delegation and board of representation. Both of these are to be reviewed
- The board acknowledged the challenge of simultaneously managing Kingsway Park High School and opening a new Free School

RSC decision: Deferred

Conflicts: Julian Appleyard was not present and did not receive papers for this item.

Further actions required: Project lead to inform Trust and DCS of decision

Project: Discussion to consider Shuttleworth College, Lancashire, to convert and join Education Partnership Trust

AB discussion:

- The board queried the trust's rate of growth, recognising that the two most recent schools to join the trust had not yet been graded to evidence their progress.
- The board agreed that the trust would benefit from having new member's of staff join their leadership team
- Trust to revisit their School Improvement model and Executive Leadership model at secondary level
- A further SRMA to be deployed to uncover cost savings

RSC decision: Approved

Conflicts: Julie Bradley was not present and did not receive papers for this item.

Further actions required: Project lead to inform Trust and DCS of decision and provide update to board at a future meeting

Sponsored Route:

Points discussed in relation to a school's sponsor status.

Project: Discussion to review sponsor options for Hanson School, Bradford – FOR DISCUSSION ONLY

AB discussion:

- The project lead provided a summary update to the board regarding the progress of Hanson School
- The board were supportive of the department's proposal

RSC decision: None

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: No further action required

Significant Change

Points discussed in relation to significant changes application(s).

Project: Discussion to consider Summerseat Methodist Primary School, Bury to increase the age range from 4 years to 3 years to offer an early years unit of up to 8 pupils

AB discussion:

- The Board were concerned with the school's viability and declining pupil numbers
- ESFA to complete full viability review once SRMA report has been completed. RSC to reconsider project following this outcome

RSC decision: Decline

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Project lead to inform school of decision

Trust Change

Points discussed in relation to academies moving to a new trust.

Project: Discussion to consider the transfer of University Technical College Leeds, Leeds, to White Rose Academies Trust

AB discussion:

- We received 1 representation for this project. The Project Lead provided a concise summary of the representation in their presentation for the board and RSC to consider.
- The board supported this proposal, agreeing that the trust is a viable option with relevant evidence of successful schools under the trust's leadership, which are in a similar regional context as the UTC.

RSC decision: RSC supportive of transfer. Pending Ministerial final decision

Conflicts: Duncan Jacques was not present and did not receive papers for this item.

Further actions required: Project lead to inform school/ trust of decision

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