

Notes of Meeting: Lancashire & West Yorkshire Advisory Board

15th July 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

- a) 2 Representations received; Discussion to consider Hanson School, Bradford, to convert and join Delta Academies Trust (Sponsored Route)

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 15th July 2021) to the board

AB member reflections

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

Converter Academy Orders

Project: Discussion to consider Littlemoor Primary School, Oldham, to convert and join Kingfisher Learning Trust

AB discussion:

- The board discussed concerns regarding the trust's School Improvement strategy and agreed that it required further work
- The board agreed that the trust have the capacity to support a new school
- The board, Project Lead and ESFA agreed to deploy an SRMA after the school joins the trust

RSC decision: Approved

Conflicts: None

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

Project: Discussion to consider The Hollins, Lancashire, to convert and join Lancashire Education Trust

AB discussion:

- The board shared concerns about the formation of this trust and its implications
- Further concerns were shared in regards to having staff at different sites and how this may reflect in the leadership team.
- The board also discussed ways LET could access and seek support from more experienced trusts in the local area.
- The board did agree that there is a need for more MATs in this area.
- The board suggested that both the CEO and CFO receive formal training to provide further support

RSC decision: Approved with conditions

Conflicts: None

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

Sponsored Route:

Project: Discussion to consider Manchester Health Academy, Manchester, sponsor options

AB discussion:

- The board agreed with this proposal and recognised that this requires an established trust who could make the necessary improvements at the academy
- The board queried whether staff would be relocating from Dixons Academy Trust to drive these improvements. The project lead stated that there are staff from Dixons Academy Trust who live in the area and they are also aware of the regional challenges

RSC decision: Approved

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Project lead to inform Trust/ School of decision

Project: Discussion to consider Hanson School, Bradford, to convert and join Delta Academies Trust

AB discussion:

- The board discussed the representations received in response to this project and the claims made by the councillors.
- The board discussed the progress that Hanson School has made from the support it has received from the Opportunity Area Board. They agreed that the school requires a trust which can make significant improvements both within the school and financially.
- The board supported this proposal

RSC decision: Approved

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Project lead to inform Trust/ School of decision

Significant Change

Project: Discussion to consider Bishop Young Church of England Academy, Leeds (Abbey Multi Academy Trust) to add Resource Provision

AB discussion:

- The board supported this proposal

RSC decision: Approved

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Project lead to inform Trust/ School of decision

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