

Notes of Meeting: South West Advisory Board

26 April 2022

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

- Hannah Woodhouse

Advisory Board (AB) members

- Brian Hooper
- Sally Apps
- Steve Savory
- Michael Larsen
- Alun Williams
- Paul Jones
- Joy Tubbs
- Suzanne Flack

Guests

- None

Apologies

- None

DfE senior civil servants

- Lucy Livings (Deputy Director)
- Matthew Stevenson (Deputy Director)

Representations received

- No representations were made for any items discussed at this meeting.

General Discussion Points

RSC Update

- AB members were provided with an update on Ofsted school inspection outcomes across the region
- The Schools White Paper. AB members were provided with a summary of the key messages and priorities

Converter Academy Orders

Points discussed in relation to school conversion.

Project: Whether to approve Old Sarum Primary School, **Wiltshire** converting to academy status and joining Magna Learning Partnership

AB discussion:

No concern

RSC decision: Approve

Conflicts: Brian Hooper was not present and did not receive papers for this item

Further actions required: Project lead to inform the school and trust.

Project: Whether to approve Bridge Farm Primary School, **Bristol** converting to academy status and joining Futura Learning Partnership

AB discussion:

Governance:

- AB members discussed the governance structure, and it was noted that the trust will be undertaking a review of governance

School Improvement:

- AB members commented on the strategy, strength of the SI team and its development going forward

Other:

- AB members commented on the growth plans of the trust

RSC decision: Approve

Conflicts: Alun Williams was not present and did not receive papers for this item

Further actions required: Project lead to inform the school and trust

Trust Change

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

Project: Whether to approve Four Acres Academy, **Bristol** (Little Acorn Trust) transferring to Futura Learning Partnership

AB discussion:

Governance:

- AB members discussed the governance structure, and it was noted that the trust will be undertaking a review of governance

School Improvement:

- AB members commented on the strategy, strength of the SI team and its development going forward

Other:

- AB members commented on the growth plans of the trust

RSC decision: Approve

Conflicts: Alun Williams was not present and did not receive papers for this item

Further actions required: Project lead to inform the school and trust

Project: Whether to approve Tregolls School (SAT), **Cornwall** transferring to Aspire Academy Trust

AB discussion:

Other:

- AB members commented on the capacity of the trust.
- Assurances were given that the trust leadership has sufficient school improvement capacity and track record.

RSC decision: Approve

Conflicts: Michael Larsen was not present and did not receive papers for this item

Further actions required: Project lead to inform the trusts.

Decisions escalated to the Minister

Points discussed in relation to a school significant change escalation to the Minister

Project: Whether to approve a proposed merger between Bristol Technology and Engineering Academy and Abbeywood Community School, **South Gloucestershire** (Olympus Academy Trust)

AB discussion:

Other:

- AB members asked for surety that technical teaching will continue
- Assurances were advised, this is a condition of the lease of the site

RSC decision: Recommendation to approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Project lead to proceed with submission to the Minister requesting to approve

Decisions taken between AB meetings

List of decisions taken by the RSC outside of AB meetings.

Project: Whether to approve a significant change for Livingstone Road Infants School, **Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole** to change the age limit from 4-7 to 2-7 to incorporate nursery provision

Decision type: Significant Change

RSC decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Project lead to inform the trust.

Project: Whether to approve a significant change application by Fishponds Church of England Academy, **Bristol** (Diocese of Bristol Academies Trust) to establish an 8 place Special Needs Resource Base

Decision type: Significant Change

RSC decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Project lead to inform the school and trust.

Project: Whether to approve a significant change application for Churchward School, **Swindon** to expand from 75 to 90 places over two sites

Decision type: Significant Change

RSC decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Project lead to inform the school and trust.

List of projects listed on the published draft agenda, but were removed before the meeting

None

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