

## Notes of Meeting: Lancashire & West Yorkshire Advisory Board

21<sup>st</sup> 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

- Vicky Beer (RSC)

### Advisory Board (AB) members

- Duncan Jacques
- Karen Bramwell
- Jonathan Nichols
- Lesley Gwinnett
- Julian Appleyard

### Apologies

- Chris Melia
- Julie Bradley

### DfE senior civil servants

- ESFA Representatives

### Representations received

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

### General Discussion Points

- The RSC provided an update on the Regional Group Model, Advisory Board elections and the Schools White Paper.

## Converter Academy Orders

Points discussed in relation to school conversion.

**Project:** Discussion to consider Bowling Park Primary School, Bradford, to convert and join Exceed Academies Trust.

### **AB discussion:**

- The board agreed that this sets a good example of a strong converter school joining a well-established Bradford based trust.
- The board also noted the geographical placement of this school in comparison to the existing schools in the trust align well.
- No concerns raised by the board.

### **RSC decision: Approved**

**Conflicts:** Duncan Jacques was not present for this conversation

**Further actions required:** Project lead to inform Trust and DCS of decision and Academy Order to be sent.

**Project:** Discussion to consider Miriam Lord Community Primary School, Bradford, to convert and join The Priestley Academy Trust

### **AB discussion:**

- The board suggested that the trust use this time to review schemes of delegation and school improvement.
- No concerns raised by the board.

### **RSC decision: Approved**

**Conflicts:** Duncan Jacques was not present for this conversation

**Further actions required:** Project lead to inform Trust and DCS of decision and Academy Order to be sent.

**Project:** Discussion to consider The Springfield Centre, Wakefield, to convert and join Ethos Academy Trust.

### **AB discussion:**

- The board recognised the growing size of the PRU School and the level of risk this may bring. The board however, agreed that the trust should have capacity to manage these risks.
- SRMA to be deployed to help provide further support.

### **RSC decision: Approved**

**Conflicts:** None

**Further actions required:** Project lead to inform Trust and DCS of decision and Academy Order to be sent.

## **Sponsored Route:**

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

**Project:** Discussion to consider St Augustine's CofE Primary School, Calderdale, to convert and join Learning Accord.

**Reason for Academy Order: Ofsted Category 4**

**AB discussion:**

- The board felt reassured by the Diocese partnership working with the school
- The board observed that the trust is capable and have the capacity to take on low-performing schools.
- The board felt confident with this proposal and reflected on the opportunities the trust can bring to the school.

**RSC decision: Approved**

**Conflicts: None**

**Further actions required:** Project lead to inform trust of decision

**Project:** Discussion to consider the sponsor options for St Mary's Roman Catholic Primary School, Stockport.

**Reason for Academy Order: Ofsted Category 4**

**AB discussion:**

- The board agreed that this was a sensible proposal.
- No concerns raised.

**RSC decision: Approved in Principle**

**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 Healthy Learning Trust, Trafford, to transfer to Vantage Multi-Academy Trust

### **AB discussion:**

- The board queried where the trust would acquire its Secondary Improvement Lead to provide secondary support.
- The board agreed to the following conditions:
  - Provide clarity on the composition of the trust board in its new structure
  - Manage the trust's expectations regarding its growth strategy
  - SRMA deployment to support the trust's understanding of its own potential growth

### **RSC decision: Approved with Conditions**

**Conflicts:** Karen Bramwell was not present for this conversation.

**Further actions required:** Project lead to inform trust of decision

**Project:** Discussion to consider Sola Fide CoE Trust, Oldham, to transfer to Forward as One CoE Multi-Academy Trust

### **AB discussion:**

- The board agreed that this was a sensible proposal

### **RSC decision: Approved**

**Conflicts:** Karen Bramwell was not present for this conversation.

**Further actions required:** Project lead to inform trust of decision