



Notes of Meeting: London Advisory Board

23 March 2023

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 Director (RD) chair

- Claire Burton

Advisory Board (AB) members

- Cassie Buchanan
- Rama Venchard
- Lee Mason-Ellis
- Gill Ball
- Susan Douglas
- Emma Bradshaw
- Vanessa Ogden
- Penny Barratt

Guests

- None

Apologies

- None

DfE senior civil servants

- Anna Barker

- Alan Parnum

Representations received

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

General Discussion Points

RD update

- Minutes of last meeting agreed.

Discussion topic

- LA overview provided for Ealing.

Converter Academy Orders

Points discussed in relation to school conversion.

Project: Haggerston School, Hackney, to become an academy and join Community Schools Trust

AB discussion: Haggerston School is an 11 to 19 Community School in Hackney. It has applied to convert to academy status and join Community Schools Trust, a trust comprising of four secondary schools: Forest Gate Community School and Cumberland Community School, both in Newham, Waterside Academy in Hackney and most recently, the University Technical College, Norfolk.

Haggerston School reports strengths in a number of areas, including its SEND provision, teacher training and leadership, which make the school a strong partner and capacity giver.

The school has had an informal relationship with the trust for the last five years, and now wishes to establish a more formal relationship.

Discussed the outcome of the consultation.

Discussed trust finances.

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: No further action required.

Sponsor Application

Points discussed in relation to applications for sponsor application.

Project: The Eden Academy sponsor application

AB discussion: Eden Academy Trust (EAT) was established in 2012 when two maintained schools in Hillingdon (Grangewood and Moorcroft) converted to academy status. Since then it has grown through voluntary conversions, a free school as well as expansion of existing schools into satellite sites.

AB discussed EAT's vision and growth plan.

AB discussed finance and risk management.

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: Susan Douglas did not receive the papers and was not present for this item.

Further actions required: No further action required.

Significant Change

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

Project: Amalgamation of Dormer Wells Infant School and Dormer Wells Junior School to form Dormers Wells Primary School

AB discussion: The Dormer Wells Infant (DWIS) and Junior (DWIS) school have worked closely together since September 2019 and operate under a single headteacher as well as utilising a joint governing body.

The application is to merge DWIS and DWJS to form the 3-11, Dormers Wells Primary School from September 2023.

Discussed governing body. Noted they had a recent SRMA visit.

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: No further action needed.

Project: Charville Primary School, Hillingdon - to add a School Resource Provision

AB discussion: In collaboration with Hillingdon local authority, Charville Academy, a single academy trust (SAT), is proposing to establish a 16 place SRP by September 2023, for pupils with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (8 places in the first year) by adapting 2 classrooms in the main school building.

Discussed governance at the school.

Discussed funding pressures in Hillingdon and noted it is on the Safety Valve programme.

Queried the funding levels for the project.

AB discussed the complexities in categorising autism.

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Recommendation for an SRMA visit to futureproof the school against financial risks. To ensure longer term sustainability, school to consider joining a MAT to build capacity and capability.

Trust Change

Points discussed in relation to academies moving to another trust.

Project: Chislehurst School for Girls (SAT), Bromley, to join Bullers Wood MAT

AB discussion: This is a voluntary academy transfer of Chislehurst School for Girls (CHSFG) to Bullers Wood Multi-Academy Trust (BWMAT) to form a three secondary school MAT in September 2023. Upon completion, the trust will also undergo a name change.

LA is supportive of the proposal.

Discussed trust's governance.

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Members, trustees and trust name to be agreed before completion date.

Decisions taken by another RD

List of decisions taken by another RD.

Project: Red Gates School to become an academy and join Pegasus Academy Trust

Name of RD who made the decision: Vicky Beer

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: Claire Burton did not receive the papers and was not present for this item.

Further actions required: No further action required.

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