



Education & Skills  
Funding Agency

Education and Skills Funding Agency  
2 Rivergate  
Temple Quay  
Bristol  
BS1 6EH

29 September 2021

Mr Robert Lasseter  
Chair of Governors  
Kingston Maurward College  
Dorchester  
Dorset  
DT2 8PY

Dear Robert

### **Financial Health Notice to Improve**

This letter and its schedules constitute a Notice to Improve (NTI) in line with clauses within the Funding Agreements between the Secretary of State for Education (DfE) acting through the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) on behalf of the Crown. It sets out additional conditions of funding that Kingston Maurward College is required to comply with in order that ESFA can continue to fund. The conditions set out in the schedule(s) of this NTI are in addition to the conditions of funding set out in the Funding Agreements.

As the college's financial health has been confirmed as Inadequate following the assessment of the CFFR submitted in July 2021 the college is now being placed into Intervention in line with the ESFA policy released in July 2021;

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/college-oversight-support-and-intervention/college-oversight-support-and-intervention>

Schedule 1 attached sets out the action required under this NTI.

### **Monitoring**

ESFA will continue to closely monitor progress made towards meeting these conditions through the scheduled case conferences and will work with you and wider agencies to secure the best outcome for learners, employers, the local community.

### **Compliance**

If Kingston Maurward College does not comply with the additional conditions within the specified time period, ESFA will pursue one or more of a range of options outlined in, or incorporated into, the funding agreements.

In all cases, the removal of the additional conditions will occur when Kingston Maurward College receives a letter from ESFA indicating that the additional conditions have been met.

## Complaints

If you consider that ESFA has acted unreasonably or not followed a proper procedure in issuing the additional conditions, you can make a complaint under the procedure for [dealing with complaints about the ESFA](#).

## Publication

ESFA publishes all NTIs on gov.uk

## Reviews

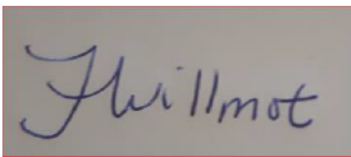
ESFA will regularly review this NTI with you. It is likely that the NTI will be re-issued, at least annually, to ensure the terms and conditions remain relevant. ESFA reserves the right to reissue at any point should circumstances significantly change.

## Action required

Please acknowledge receipt of this letter and the schedule below by writing to me within 5 working days of the date of this letter.

This NTI is being copied to Ofsted, your local authority, the Office for students and the FE Commissioner.

Yours sincerely

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "F Willmot".

Fiona Willmot  
Interim Deputy Director, South West and South Territorial Team, ESFA

Cc:

Luke Rake, Principal Kingston Maurward College [luke.rake@kmc.ac.uk](mailto:luke.rake@kmc.ac.uk)

Jos Parsons, Ofsted [Jos.Parsons@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:Jos.Parsons@ofsted.gov.uk)

Theresa Leavy, Executive Director of People, Dorset Council  
[theresa.leavy@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:theresa.leavy@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

Office for Students, [regulation@officeforstudents.org.uk](mailto:regulation@officeforstudents.org.uk)

FE Commissioner - [fec.operations@education.gov.uk](mailto:fec.operations@education.gov.uk)

## **Schedule: Inadequate Financial Health Kingston Maurward College**

This schedule sets out the additional conditions relating to the improvement of the overall services. It has been issued because the ESFA has assessed Kingston Maurward College as having inadequate financial health following the review of the CFFR submitted in July 2021.

### **Timescales**

The additional conditions outlined within this schedule must be addressed swiftly.

The college is required to submit a revised version of the CFFR by Friday 29 October 2021 including a full commentary.

In addition, where it is evident that sufficient improvement is not or cannot be achieved within the timescales specified, the ESFA reserves the right to take further action open to it at any point.

### **Monitoring and Progress**

All conditions will be reviewed at case conference and monitoring meetings with the ESFA Territorial Team and the FE Commissioner, initially to take place monthly.

### **Specific conditions –**

1. The college must continue to work with ESFA and the FE Commissioner and her advisers (Meredydd David and Becky Edwards) to complete all actions already set out in the reports from their visits (of November 2020, April 2021 and July 2021) to provide assurance on the college's capability and capacity to make the required changes and improvements.
2. The college is required to submit a revised and updated version of the CFFR by Friday 29 October 2021 including a full commentary.
3. The college is required to submit a set of management accounts with a revised cash flow forecast by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month to cover the period up to the end of the previous month.

ESFA and the FE Commissioner will monitor progress to ensure that sufficient progress is being made and agreed milestones are being reached.

4. The ESFA reserves the right to procure a third party firm to undertake an Independent Business Review and that the college co-operates in full with this process
5. The college must attend regular case conference meetings with the ESFA. Attendees should include, as a minimum; the Principal, Director of Finance and Chair or other appropriate Governors to represent the Corporation. The meetings will focus on the college's progress against the activity set out above. The ESFA will arrange these meetings and your first point of contact is Mike Ashworth – [mike.ashworth@education.gov.uk](mailto:mike.ashworth@education.gov.uk)
6. This NTI may be revised and updated subsequent to the date of issue to reflect progress and/or any change in circumstances following the FE Commissioner's

intervention and recommendations. It will be formally reviewed with you, at least annually, to ensure it remains appropriate and current.

7. If, in ESFA's view, the college fails to take the necessary actions (in whole or part) within the timescales set out, or if evidence of progress is not appropriate or not available, the ESFA will take further action.
  
8. ESFA will determine when the college has made sufficient progress for the NTI to be lifted. This will be when the college's financial health grade has improved from inadequate to at least requires improvement (150 points or more) for a period of 2 years as evidenced through the Finance Record and / or the CFFR. When the college complies with the actions within the timescales set out ESFA will lift the NTI and confirm this in writing.