



Notes of Meeting: Yorkshire and Humber Advisory Board

19 September 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

- Alison Wilson.

Advisory Board (AB) members

- Carol Dewhurst OBE
- Rowena Underwood
- Jonny Uttley
- Kash Rafiq
- Andy Child MBE
- Tom Banham
- Jenny Plews

Guests

- None

Apologies

- Mark Wilson

DfE senior civil servants

- Charlotte Marr (Deputy Director)
- Matthew Edwards (Deputy Director)

Representations received

- None

Converter Academy Orders

Points discussed in relation to school conversion.

Project: To discuss Hackness Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School, North Yorkshire to convert and join Elevate Multi Academy Trust.

AB Discussion:

- This item was discussed alongside Wykeham Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School, North Yorkshire, to convert and join Elevate Multi Academy Trust.
- Hackness and Wykeham Church of England Schools Federation formed in 2016. The federation consists of two small rural primary schools situated in the villages of Hackness and Wykeham in the North York Moors, near Scarborough in North Yorkshire. As such, it is part of the Priority Education Investment Area.
- Both schools are RI with a shared executive headteacher. The headteacher and governing body recognise the need for additional support from a MAT to accelerate improvement. They have identified Elevate as their preferred trust, citing the professional development and central trust support available. The federation also believes that joining Elevate will provide additional financial stability and security to the two schools. The schools share a federated budget and work in close collaboration. Both schools have 3 mixed age classes and do not have nursery provision.
- The Board considered the Trust's financial forecasts in light of current pressures on budgets. It was considered that the Trust has appropriate experience of running similar schools.
- Board members agreed with the schools' view that they would benefit from joining a strong MAT, and that Elevate had the experience and capacity to provide the required support.
- Advisory Board members gave their support of this item. It was confirmed that this item would need to be referred to Katherine Cowell, North East Regional Director, for a decision to be made.

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: Alison Wilson was not present and did not receive papers for this item. This item was chaired by Charlotte Marr (Deputy Director, Yorkshire and The Humber) and subsequently approved by Katherine Cowell (Regional Director, North East) by correspondence after the meeting.

Further actions required:

- Delivery Officer to inform school / trust of the decision.

Project: To discuss Wykeham Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School, North Yorkshire, to convert and join Elevate Multi Academy Trust.

AB Discussion:

- This item was discussed alongside Hackness Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School, North Yorkshire, to convert and join Elevate Multi Academy Trust.
- Hackness and Wykeham Church of England Schools Federation formed in 2016. The federation consists of two small rural primary schools situated in the villages of Hackness and Wykeham in the North York Moors, near Scarborough in North Yorkshire. As such, it is part of the Priority Education Investment Area.
- Both schools are RI with a shared executive headteacher. The headteacher and governing body recognise the need for additional support from a MAT to accelerate improvement. They have identified Elevate as their preferred trust, citing the professional development and central trust support available. The federation also believes that joining Elevate will provide additional financial stability and security to the two schools. The schools share a federated budget and work in close collaboration. Both schools have 3 mixed age classes and do not have nursery provision.
- The Board considered the Trust's financial forecasts in light of current pressures on budgets. It was considered that the Trust has appropriate experience of running similar schools.
- Board members agreed with the schools' view that they would benefit from joining a strong MAT, and that Elevate had the experience and capacity to provide the required support.
- Advisory Board members gave their support of this item. It was confirmed that this item would need to be referred to Katherine Cowell, North East Regional Director, for a decision to be made.

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: Alison Wilson was not present and did not receive papers for this item. This item was chaired by Charlotte Marr (Deputy Director, Yorkshire and The Humber) and subsequently approved by Katherine Cowell (Regional Director, North East) by correspondence after the meeting.

Further actions required:

- Delivery Officer to inform school / trust of the decision.

Project: To discuss Threshfield Primary School, North Yorkshire, to convert and join Yorkshire Collaborative Academy Trust.

AB Discussion:

- Threshfield School is a small, rural, voluntary controlled primary school located in Threshfield village, Skipton. In June 2014 and May 2016, Threshfield School received Ofsted requires improvement reports highlighting outcomes for children as the main area to improve. The current headteacher was appointed to the school in 2017 and on 4 July 2018 the school received a good Ofsted report.
- The Board considered the Trust's finances and School Financial Support and Oversight colleagues are working closely with the trust. The trust is awaiting the final report from the recent School Resource Management Adviser deployment and has provided information on the strategies they have in place to mitigate against any future deficits. Declining pupil numbers across the Local Authority were discussed.
- Board members were supportive of the project, whilst noting the Trust's recent growth.

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required:

- Delivery Officer to inform school / trust of the decision.

Project: To discuss Oakfield Community Special School, North Yorkshire, to convert and join The Consortium Academy Trust.

AB Discussion:

- Oakfield school is a co-educational school for both day and residential pupils who have social, emotional and mental health needs. The school caters for pupils between the ages of 11 and 16 years who have an Education, Health and Care Plan for Special Educational Needs. They can currently accommodate up to 110 pupils and residential provision that can accommodate up to 34 pupils.
- The viability of the residential element was discussed given the current take up of the provision. Board members advised that more detailed financial modelling of different scenarios would be beneficial and reassurance that the trust has a good understanding on how SEND funding works within the system.
- The Board discussed the trajectory of the Trust's academic performance and agreed that it would be helpful to have more detail on the Trust's school improvement model and how they are investing in and embedding school improvement across the trust.
- It was decided that the most appropriate decision with regards to this item would be to defer it and to bring it back to a future Advisory Board meeting.

RD decision: Defer

Conflicts: None

Further actions required:

- Trust Relationship Manager / Delivery Officer to discuss the below with the Trust:
 - Viability of the residential element, including whether any financial impact modelling has been done which considers different levels of commissioned residential places.
 - How they are investing in and developing their SI model.

Project: To discuss The Calder Learning Trust, Calderdale, to convert and join Pennine Academies Learning Trust.

AB Discussion:

- This item was discussed alongside Old Town Primary School, Calderdale, to convert and join Pennine Academies Learning Trust, Midgley School, Calderdale, to convert and join Pennine Academies Learning Trust. and Todmorden High School, Calderdale, to convert and join Pennine Academies Learning Trust.
- There is currently no MAT presence in the West of Calderdale (Hebden Bridge and Todmorden) which has much smaller and several rural/village schools. Schools in this area are looking to formalise their pre-existing relationships by coming together under one MAT. The 6 founding schools have all stated that they have a shared vision and ethos and believe that the MAT will provide an all-through academic and personal development pathway for West Calderdale children and young people ages 3-16.
- The Board considered the Trust's future financial forecasts once the six schools have formally created the new trust, SFSO colleagues were content that any financial risks were manageable.
- Board members recommended that the Trust's CEO and CFO need to be full time positions (or equivalent, such as jobshares) because there will be extensive leadership and financial work needed as this trust is established – as such the Regional Director made this a condition of approval. The Regional Director would also like to see mentoring arrangements for both the CEO and CFO. A Scheme of Delegation and final trust board structure should be in place prior to the formation of the MAT.
- It was also recommended that the Trust look to recruit an additional trustee with both primary and secondary educational experience. An External Review of Governance should be commissioned towards the end of this academic year. Board members would like to see further development of the Trust's school improvement strategy.

RD decision: Approve with conditions

Conflicts: None

Further actions required:

- The trust to review its proposed governance structure and draw on best practice models which are simpler models with fewer and better-defined committee remits.

Project: To discuss Old Town Primary School, Calderdale, to convert and join Pennine Academies Learning Trust.

AB Discussion:

- This item was discussed alongside The Calder Learning Trust, Calderdale, to convert and join Pennine Academies Learning Trust, Midgley School, Calderdale, to convert and join Pennine Academies Learning Trust and Todmorden High School, Calderdale, to convert and join Pennine Academies Learning Trust.
- There is currently no MAT presence in the West of Calderdale (Hebden Bridge and Todmorden) which has much smaller and several rural/village schools. Schools in this area are looking to formalise their pre-existing relationships by coming together under one MAT. The 6 founding schools have all stated that they have a shared vision and ethos and believe that the MAT will provide an all-through academic and personal development pathway for West Calderdale children and young people ages 3-16.
- The Board considered the Trust's financial forecasts in light of current pressures on budgets. Schools Funding and Financial Oversight (SFSO) colleagues confirmed there was no existing concerns.
- Board members recommended that the Trust's CEO and CFO need to be full time positions (or equivalent, such as jobshares) because there will be extensive leadership and financial work needed as this trust is established – as such the Regional Director made this a condition of approval. The Regional Director would also like to see mentoring arrangements for both the CEO and CFO. A Scheme of Delegation and final trust board structure should be in place prior to the formation of the MAT.
- It was also recommended that the Trust look to recruit an additional trustee with both primary and secondary educational experience. An External Review of Governance should be commissioned towards the end of this academic year. Board members would like to see further development of the Trust's school improvement strategy

RD decision: Approve with conditions

Conflicts: None

Further actions required:

- The trust to review its proposed governance structure and draw on best practice models which are simpler models with fewer and better-defined committee remits.

Project: To discuss Midgley School, Calderdale, to convert and join Pennine Academies Learning Trust.

AB Discussion:

- This item was discussed alongside The Calder Learning Trust, Calderdale, to convert and join Pennine Academies Learning Trust, Old Town Primary School, Calderdale, to convert and join Pennine Academies Learning Trust and Todmorden High School, Calderdale, to convert and join Pennine Academies Learning Trust.
- There is currently no MAT presence in the West of Calderdale (Hebden Bridge and Todmorden) which has much smaller and several rural/village schools. Schools in this area are looking to formalise their pre-existing relationships by coming together under one MAT. The 6 founding schools have all stated that they have a shared vision and ethos and believe that the MAT will provide an all-through academic and personal development pathway for West Calderdale children and young people ages 3-16.
- The Board considered the Trust's financial forecasts in light of current pressures on budgets. Schools Funding and Financial Oversight (SFSO) colleagues confirmed there was no existing concerns.
- Board members recommended that the Trust's CEO and CFO need to be full time positions (or equivalent, such as jobshares) because there will be extensive leadership and financial work needed as this trust is established – as such the Regional Director made this a condition of approval. The Regional Director would also like to see mentoring arrangements for both the CEO and CFO. A Scheme of Delegation and final trust board structure should be in place prior to the formation of the MAT.
- It was also recommended that the Trust look to recruit an additional trustee with both primary and secondary educational experience. An External Review of Governance should be commissioned towards the end of this academic year. Board members would like to see further development of the Trust's school improvement strategy.

RD decision: Approve with conditions

Conflicts: None

Further actions required:

- The trust to review its proposed governance structure and draw on best practice models which are simpler models with fewer and better-defined committee remits.

Project: To discuss Todmorden High School, Calderdale, to convert and join Pennine Academies Learning Trust.

AB Discussion:

- This item was discussed alongside The Calder Learning Trust, Calderdale, to convert and join Pennine Academies Learning Trust, Old Town Primary School, Calderdale, to convert and join Pennine Academies Learning Trust and Midgley School, Calderdale, to convert and join Pennine Academies Learning Trust.
- There is currently no MAT presence in the West of Calderdale (Hebden Bridge and Todmorden) which has much smaller and several rural/village schools. Schools in this area are looking to formalise their pre-existing relationships by coming together under one MAT. The 6 founding schools have all stated that they have a shared vision and ethos and believe that the MAT will provide an all-through academic and personal development pathway for West Calderdale children and young people ages 3-16.
- The Board considered the Trust's financial forecasts in light of current pressures on budgets. Schools Funding and Financial Oversight (SFSO) colleagues confirmed there was no existing concerns.
- Board members recommended that the Trust's CEO and CFO need to be full time positions (or equivalent, such as jobshares) because there will be extensive leadership and financial work needed as this trust is established – as such the Regional Director made this a condition of approval. The Regional Director would also like to see mentoring arrangements for both the CEO and CFO. A Scheme of Delegation and final trust board structure should be in place prior to the formation of the MAT.
- It was also recommended that the Trust look to recruit an additional trustee with both primary and secondary educational experience. An External Review of Governance should be commissioned towards the end of this academic year. Board members would like to see further development of the Trust's school improvement strategy.

RD decision: Approve with conditions

Conflicts: None

Further actions required:

- The trust to review its proposed governance structure and draw on best practice models which are simpler models with fewer and better-defined committee remits.

Project: To discuss Park Aspire, Bradford, to convert and join Exceed Academies Trust.

AB Discussion:

- Park Aspire wants to join a trust with similar schools, to be able to improve what the school offers to the community and share practices with other Alternative Provision schools. The school is keen to access the CPD offered by Exceed Academies Trust.
- Park Aspire has been Ofsted rated as 'Good' since October 2008 – previously 'Satisfactory' (February 2006).
- Schools Funding and Financial Oversight (SFSO) colleagues confirmed there was no existing concerns on the financial forecasts, and Board members were supportive of the project.

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required:

- Delivery Officer to inform school / trust of the decision.

Project: To discuss Strawberry Fields Primary School, Leeds, to convert and join Selby Educational Trust.

AB Discussion:

- Strawberry Fields Primary School is a 3-11 Foundation School in Leeds. The school was rated Ofsted 'Good' at their most recent short inspection in March 2019. The report highlights the strong leadership in place which has brought about school improvement, as well as the effective support and challenge from governors.
- The work undertaken by the CEO in supporting other trusts was recognised by the Board, as was the track record of school improvement and the healthy financial forecasts. It was agreed that Selby Education Trust was a good option for growth and to take on the school.

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required:

- Delivery Officer to inform school / trust of the decision.

Sponsored Route

Points discussed in relation to the Sponsored Route

Project: To discuss Sherburn Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School, North Yorkshire, to be sponsored by Ebor Academy Trust

AB Discussion:

- This item was discussed alongside Luttons Community Primary School, North Yorkshire, to be sponsored by Ebor Academy Trust
- Sherburn CofE VC Primary School and Luttons Community Primary School are federated, sharing leadership and a governing body. In June 2022, Sherburn was judged inadequate by Ofsted. At the time, several sponsor options were considered and in discussion with the Diocese of York, Ebor Academy Trust was approached to conduct due diligence on Sherburn. Separately, Ebor was approached by North Yorkshire Council to provide leadership capacity across the federation. An Ebor headteacher was seconded by the federation and started in January 2023.
- The forecasted pupil numbers for the schools were discussed, and it was agreed that Ebor has the expertise of running similarly sized schools.

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required:

- Delivery Officer to inform school / trust of the decision.

Project: To discuss Luttons Community Primary School, North Yorkshire, to be sponsored by Ebor Academy Trust

AB Discussion:

- This item was discussed alongside Sherburn Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School, North Yorkshire, to be sponsored by Ebor Academy Trust.
- Sherburn CofE VC Primary School and Luttons Community Primary School are federated, sharing leadership and a governing body. In February 2023, Luttons was inspected and judged to be inadequate so Ebor's due diligence process then took into account both of the schools.
- The forecasted pupil numbers for the schools were discussed, and it was agreed that Ebor has the expertise of running similarly sized schools.
- The Advisory Board gave their support to this project.

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required:

- Delivery Officer to inform school / trust of the decision.

Project: To discuss Townville Infants School, Wakefield, to be sponsored by Accomplish Multi Academy Trust.

AB Discussion:

- Castleford Townville Infant School is an infant school in the Castleford district of Wakefield. The school provides education for children between ages 3-7. The percentage of pupils eligible for free school meals at any point over the last six years is 31%, above the national average. Pupils are predominately white British, with very few speaking English as an additional language and the level of pupils with an EHCP is also slightly above the national average.

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required:

- Delivery Officer to inform school / trust of the decision.

Trust Change

Points discussed in relation to academies moving to another trust.

Project: To discuss Huntcliff School (Huntcliff Academy Trust) joining Lincolnshire Gateway Academies Trust.

AB Discussion:

- Huntcliff School (Huntcliff) is a smaller than average secondary single academy trust based in Kirton in Lindsey in North Lincolnshire, having converted to academy status in February 2012. Huntcliff was judged inadequate by Ofsted (serious weaknesses) in April 2022.
- Lincolnshire Gateway Academies Trust (LGAT) has completed extensive due diligence and has already been supporting the school.
- There was a discussion about the governance structures of LGAT and how they could be strengthened by increasing the amount of separation across the different levels of governance.
- It was noted that the Local Authority of supportive of the proposal.

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: Andy Child was not present and did not receive papers for this item.

Further actions required:

- Delivery Officer to inform school and trust of the decision.
- Trust Relationship Manager to have a conversation with LGAT about continuing to increase the separation between the different levels of governance.

Project: To discuss Byron Primary School, Bradford, (Nurture Academies Trust) joining Northern Star Academies Trust.

AB Discussion:

- This item was discussed alongside Denholme Primary School, Bradford, (Nurture Academies Trust) joining Northern Star Academies Trust, Fearnville Primary School, Bradford, (Nurture Academies Trust) joining Northern Star Academies Trust, Lapage Primary School, Bradford, (Nurture Academies Trust) joining Northern Star Academies Trust, Parkwood Primary School, Bradford (Nurture Academies Trust) joining Northern Star Academies Trust and Victoria Primary School, Bradford (Nurture Academies Trust) joining Northern Star Academies Trust.
- Nurture Academies Trust was established in January 2017 and currently consists of six primary schools, all located in Bradford. Three of the academies are judged as 'Good' by Ofsted, with the other three judged as 'Requires Improvement'. The trust was issued with a Termination Warning Notice relating to Victoria Primary School on 16 June 2023. This was following Victoria Primary School being judged 'Requires Improvement' by Ofsted in November 2019 and falling into scope for the 2RI+ intervention powers which came into force in September 2022. This contributed to a full review of the trust's capacity for school improvement. A School resource management adviser's visit and external review of governance had previously confirmed concerns around the financial viability, sustainability and compliance of the trust.
- Nurture Academies Trust has agreed to voluntarily dissolve and transfer all of its schools to a new Trust.

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: Jenn Plews was not present and did not receive papers for this item.

Further actions required:

- Delivery Officer to inform school / trust of the decision.

Project: To discuss Denholme Primary School, Bradford, (Nurture Academies Trust) joining Northern Star Academies Trust.

AB Discussion:

- This item was discussed alongside Byron Primary School, Bradford, (Nurture Academies Trust) joining Northern Star Academies Trust, Fearnville Primary School, Bradford, (Nurture Academies Trust) joining Northern Star Academies Trust, Lapage Primary School, Bradford, (Nurture Academies Trust) joining Northern Star Academies Trust, Parkwood Primary School, Bradford (Nurture Academies Trust) joining Northern Star Academies Trust and Victoria Primary School, Bradford (Nurture Academies Trust) joining Northern Star Academies Trust.
- Nurture Academies Trust was established in January 2017 and currently consists of six primary schools, all located in Bradford. Three of the academies are judged as 'Good' by Ofsted, with the other three judged as 'Requires Improvement'. The trust was issued with a Termination Warning Notice relating to Victoria Primary School on 16 June 2023. This was following Victoria Primary School being judged 'Requires Improvement' by Ofsted in November 2019 and falling into scope for the 2RI+ intervention powers which came into force in September 2022. This contributed to a full review of the trust's capacity for school improvement. A School resource management advisers visit and External Review of Governance had previously confirmed concerns around the financial viability, sustainability and compliance of the trust.
- Nurture Academies Trust has agreed to voluntarily dissolve and transfer all of its schools to a new Trust.
- It was agreed that Northern Star Academies Trust would be a suitable trust for these schools to join.

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: Jenn Plews was not present and did not receive papers for this item.

Further actions required:

- Delivery Officer to inform school / trust of the decision.

Project: To discuss Fearnville Primary School, Bradford, (Nurture Academies Trust) joining Northern Star Academies Trust.

AB Discussion:

- This item was discussed alongside Byron Primary School, Bradford, (Nurture Academies Trust) joining Northern Star Academies Trust, Denholme Primary School, Bradford, (Nurture Academies Trust) joining Northern Star Academies Trust, Lapage Primary School, Bradford, (Nurture Academies Trust) joining Northern Star Academies Trust, Parkwood Primary School, Bradford (Nurture Academies Trust) joining Northern Star Academies Trust and Victoria Primary School, Bradford (Nurture Academies Trust) joining Northern Star Academies Trust.
- Nurture Academies Trust was established in January 2017 and currently consists of six primary schools, all located in Bradford. Three of the academies are judged as 'Good' by Ofsted, with the other three judged as 'Requires Improvement'. The trust was issued with a Termination Warning Notice relating to Victoria Primary School on 16 June 2023. This was following Victoria Primary School being judged 'Requires Improvement' by Ofsted in November 2019 and falling into scope for the 2RI+ intervention powers which came into force in September 2022. This contributed to a full review of the trust's capacity for school improvement. A School resource management advisers visit and External Review of Governance had previously confirmed concerns around the financial viability, sustainability and compliance of the trust.
- Nurture Academies Trust has agreed to voluntarily dissolve and transfer all of its schools to a new Trust.
- It was agreed that Northern Star Academies Trust would be a suitable trust for these schools to join.

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: Jenn Plews was not present and did not receive papers for this item.

Further actions required:

- Delivery Officer to inform school / trust of the decision.

Project: To discuss Lapage Primary School, Bradford, (Nurture Academies Trust) joining Northern Star Academies Trust.

AB Discussion:

- This item was discussed alongside Byron Primary School, Bradford, (Nurture Academies Trust) joining Northern Star Academies Trust, Denholme Primary School, Bradford, (Nurture Academies Trust) joining Northern Star Academies Trust, Fearnville Primary School, Bradford, (Nurture Academies Trust) joining Northern Star Academies Trust, Parkwood Primary School, Bradford (Nurture Academies Trust) joining Northern Star Academies Trust and Victoria Primary School, Bradford (Nurture Academies Trust) joining Northern Star Academies Trust.
- Nurture Academies Trust was established in January 2017 and currently consists of six primary schools, all located in Bradford. Three of the academies are judged as 'Good' by Ofsted, with the other three judged as 'Requires Improvement'. The trust was issued with a Termination Warning Notice relating to Victoria Primary School on 16 June 2023. This was following Victoria Primary School being judged 'Requires Improvement' by Ofsted in November 2019 and falling into scope for the 2RI+ intervention powers which came into force in September 2022. This contributed to a full review of the trust's capacity for school improvement. A School resource management advisers visit and External Review of Governance had previously confirmed concerns around the financial viability, sustainability and compliance of the trust.
- Nurture Academies Trust has agreed to voluntarily dissolve and transfer all of its schools to a new Trust.
- It was agreed that Northern Star Academies Trust would be a suitable trust for these schools to join.

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: Jenn Plews was not present and did not receive papers for this item.

Further actions required:

- Delivery Officer to inform school / trust of the decision.

Project: To discuss Parkwood Primary School, Bradford (Nurture Academies Trust) joining Northern Star Academies Trust.

AB Discussion:

- This item was discussed alongside Byron Primary School, Bradford, (Nurture Academies Trust) joining Northern Star Academies Trust, Denholme Primary School, Bradford, (Nurture Academies Trust) joining Northern Star Academies Trust, Fearnville Primary School, Bradford, (Nurture Academies Trust) joining Northern Star Academies Trust, Lapage Primary School, Bradford, (Nurture Academies Trust) joining Northern Star Academies Trust and Victoria Primary School, Bradford (Nurture Academies Trust) joining Northern Star Academies Trust.
- Nurture Academies Trust was established in January 2017 and currently consists of six primary schools, all located in Bradford. Three of the academies are judged as 'Good' by Ofsted, with the other three judged as 'Requires Improvement'. The trust was issued with a Termination Warning Notice relating to Victoria Primary School on 16 June 2023. This was following Victoria Primary School being judged 'Requires Improvement' by Ofsted in November 2019 and falling into scope for the 2RI+ intervention powers which came into force in September 2022. This contributed to a full review of the trust's capacity for school improvement. A School resource management advisers visit and External Review of Governance had previously confirmed concerns around the financial viability, sustainability and compliance of the trust.
- Nurture Academies Trust has agreed to voluntarily dissolve and transfer all of its schools to a new Trust.
- It was agreed that Northern Star Academies Trust would be a suitable trust for these schools to join.

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: Jenn Plews was not present and did not receive papers for this item.

Further actions required:

- Delivery Officer to inform school / trust of the decision.

Project: To discuss Victoria Primary School, Bradford (Nurture Academies Trust) joining Northern Star Academies Trust.

AB Discussion:

- This item was discussed alongside Byron Primary School, Bradford, (Nurture Academies Trust) joining Northern Star Academies Trust, Denholme Primary School, Bradford, (Nurture Academies Trust) joining Northern Star Academies Trust, Fearnville Primary School, Bradford, (Nurture Academies Trust) joining Northern Star Academies Trust, Lapage Primary School, Bradford, (Nurture Academies Trust) joining Northern Star Academies Trust and Parkwood Primary School, Bradford (Nurture Academies Trust) joining Northern Star Academies Trust.
- Nurture Academies Trust was established in January 2017 and currently consists of six primary schools, all located in Bradford. Three of the academies are judged as 'Good' by Ofsted, with the other three judged as 'Requires Improvement'. The trust was issued with a Termination Warning Notice relating to Victoria Primary School on 16 June 2023. This was following Victoria Primary School being judged 'Requires Improvement' by Ofsted in November 2019 and falling into scope for the 2RI+ intervention powers which came into force in September 2022. This contributed to a full review of the trust's capacity for school improvement. A School resource management advisers visit and External Review of Governance had previously confirmed concerns around the financial viability, sustainability and compliance of the trust.
- Nurture Academies Trust has agreed to voluntarily dissolve and transfer all of its schools to a new Trust.
- It was agreed that Northern Star Academies Trust would be a suitable trust for these schools to join.

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: Jenn Plews was not present and did not receive papers for this item.

Further actions required:

- Delivery Officer to inform school / trust of the decision.

Project: To discuss Wainstalls School, Calderdale, (I-trust - to dissolve trust), to transfer to Pennine Academies Learning Trust.

AB Discussion:

- This item was discussed alongside Burnley Road Single Academy Trust, Calderdale, to transfer to Pennine Academies Learning Trust.
- Wainstalls School is a village school currently part of I-trust Education Multi Academy Trust. Pupil numbers are stable although there is expected to be a slight decline in the next 3 years as part of the trend in the Local Authority. In 2016, the school expanded their pupil admission number from 21 to 30 to cater for the increase demand and popularity of the school.

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required:

- The Regional Director's view is that the Multi Academy Trust will need more of the time of the incumbent Chief Executive Officer and Chief Finance Officer to achieve the rapid maturing of the Multi Academy Trusts plans. Therefore, she asks the trust board to increase the amount of time these two vital postholders dedicate to this given this MAT will commence at a scale of six academies. The trust to provide the Regional Director's team with a scheme of delegation within three months of this approval.
- Delivery Officer to inform school / trust of the decision.

Project: To discuss Burnley Road Single Academy Trust, Calderdale, to transfer to Pennine Academies Learning Trust.

AB Discussion:

- This item was discussed alongside Wainstalls School, Calderdale, (I-trust - to dissolve trust) to transfer to Pennine Academies Learning Trust.
- Burnley Road Academy became a Single Academy Trust in September 2011 and has been looking at their Multi Academy Trust options since the beginning of this academic year. They are keen to join the proposed new Multi Academy Trust given that Calder High is the main feeder school where the majority of their children move onto and to be able to share best practice and resources.

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: Jenn Plews was not present and did not receive papers for this item.

Further actions required:

- Delivery Officer to inform school / trust of the decision.

Decisions taken between AB meetings. List of decisions taken by the RD outside of AB meetings

Project: To discuss Cambrai Primary School, part of Lingfield Education Trust, adding an 8- place Special Educational Needs provision

Decision Type: Significant Change

RD Decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further Actions Required: Delivery Officer to inform school / trust of the decision.

Project: To discuss Hallam Primary School, Sheffield, creating a 16-place Integrated Resource unit, using existing internal space and development on an external space.

Decision Type: Significant Change

RD Decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further Actions Required: Delivery Officer to inform school / trust of the decision.

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