



Notes of Meeting: North East Advisory Board

Thursday 18 January 2024

Attendance - **The meeting was held via correspondence only.**

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 note of the meeting (where appropriate). This excludes items where that member declared a conflict of interest.

Regional Director (RD) chair

- Katherine Cowell (RD)

Advisory Board (AB) members

- Dame Maura Regan (AB)
- Jo Heaton (AB)
- Colin Lofthouse (AB)
- Robert Tarn (AB)
- Dame Nicola Stephenson (AB)
- Jason Brine (AB)
- Anita Bath (AB)
- Elizabeth Horne (AB)

Apologies

- None

DfE senior civil servants

- None

Representations received

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

Converter Academy Orders

Points raised in relation to school conversion.

Project: Acklam Whin Primary School, Middlesbrough to convert and join The Legacy Learning Trust.

AB key points raised:

- Acklam Whin is an Ofsted 'Good' school.
- This proposal is in line with the Department for Education's published Trust Development Statement for Middlesbrough.
- Acklam Whin has already established effective partnerships with the other primary schools in The Legacy Learning Trust (TLLT) and has been working with TLLT on school improvement for several months.
- TLLT is a local trust of currently six schools (five primary and one secondary).
- The Board sought assurances around the trust's future growth plans.
- The Board sought assurances around trust finances and supported the SRMA deployment.

RD decision: Approve with conditions - provision of the trust's financial plan following the SRMA report.

Conflicts: Jo Heaton - Trustee at Legacy Learning Trust, did not receive papers for this item.

Further actions required: Delivery officer to inform school/trust of decision.

Significant Change

Points raised in relation to significant changes application.

Project: Framwellgate School, Durham to increase capacity.

AB key points raised:

- Framwellgate School has secured a full new build under the Government School Rebuilding Programme 2022.
- Durham Local Authority requested an increase in site capacity of 300 places to recognise the building of new homes in the area.
- The board were informed of strong support for this proposal, following stakeholder consultation in 2023.
- Students will be admitted gradually with numbers increasing over subsequent years.
- The board members considered the details of the project and supported the proposed recommendation.

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Delivery officer to inform school/trust of decision.

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

List of projects that were on the published draft agenda but not discussed at the AB meeting.

Project: Sponsor match discussion for Fellgate Primary School, South Tyneside, to be sponsored by Oak Learning Trust.

Type of decision: Sponsored Route

Reason for why it was taken off agenda: Rescheduled for a future AB meeting.

Academy Opening Approved in Principle

List of academies approved to open.

Project: Beamish Primary School County Durham

AB discussion: Proposed opening date 01/02/2024

Further actions required: No further action required.

Academy Opening Approved in Principle

List of academies approved to open.

Project: Castleside Primary School County Durham

AB discussion: Proposed opening date 01/02/2024

Further actions required: No further action required.

Academy Opening Approved in Principle

List of academies approved to open.

Project: Catchgate Primary School County Durham

AB discussion: Proposed opening date 01/02/2024

Further actions required: No further action required.

Academy Opening Approved in Principle

List of academies approved to open.

Project: Pelton Primary School County Durham

AB discussion: Proposed opening date 01/02/2024

Further actions required: No further action required.