



Notes of meeting: Yorkshire and the Humber

15 October 2024

Attendance

AB members who sent their apologies for the meeting but sent in their comments on agenda items, are listed under the apologies section. These members' views are reflected in the discussions below, unless the AB member(s) declared a conflict of interest.

Regional Director (RD) chair

- Alison Wilson OBE

Advisory Board (AB) members

- Tom Banham
- Carol Dewhurst OBE
- Steve Hodsman
- Jonny Uttley
- Mark Wilson

Guests

- None

Apologies

- Rowena Hackwood

DfE senior civil servants

- Matthew Edwards, Deputy Director for Yorkshire and Humber
- Charlotte Marr, Deputy Director for Yorkshire and Humber

General discussion points

- No discussion points were raised

North Yorkshire and North Humberside

Converter academy orders

Project: An application from Applefields School, York, to convert and become an academy and join Pathfinder Multi Academy Trust.

Representations received:

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

AB discussion:

- Applefields School is a 221 place 11-19 special school in York, catering for pupils with a wide range of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND); this includes those pupils with autism, those with severe learning disabilities, those with profound and multiple learning disabilities and those with social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) needs. All pupils have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).
- Officials' assessment of the trust using the Commissioning High Quality Trusts Framework was considered alongside Applefields School's strategic needs. In making the recommendation, consideration was given to the existing relationship with the trust and the strengths that the school and trust can bring to each other.
- The board members considered the details of the project and support the recommendation to approve. The project makes geographical sense, and the proposal would bring benefits to both parties.

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Feedback decision to the school/trust

Trust changes

Project: A proposal for South Craven School, North Yorkshire, to transfer from South Craven Academy Trust to The Pennine Trust.

Representations received:

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

AB discussion:

- South Craven School (SCS) is the only school in the South Craven Academy Trust which was established in 2011. The school is situated between Skipton and Keighley in North Yorkshire. It is an 11-18 secondary which was judged as good by Ofsted in February 2023 and is consistently over capacity.
- Officials' assessment of the trust using the Commissioning High Quality Trusts Framework was considered alongside South Craven School's strategic needs. In

making the recommendation, it was considered that both the school and the trust would benefit from working together.

- The board members considered the details of the project and support the recommendation to approve. The project makes geographical sense, and both parties would be stronger as a result of approval. Board Members also recommended a School Resource Management Advisor (SRMA) deployment to the trust post transfer.

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Feedback decision to the school/trust

West Yorkshire and Doncaster

Converter academy orders

Project: An application from Hunslet Carr Primary School, Leeds, to convert and become an academy and join Cockburn Multi Academy Trust.

Representations received:

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

AB discussion:

- Hunslet Carr Primary School (HCPS) 3-11 community school located in Hunslet, Leeds with 406 pupils on roll and a capacity of 420. The school was last inspected in November 2021 and is currently rated as Good.
- Officials' assessment of the trust using the Commissioning High Quality Trusts Framework was considered alongside Hunslet Carr Primary School's strategic needs. In making the recommendation, consideration was given to the fact HCPS and the trust have visions and values that are closely aligned, they have some similarities in terms of the demographics of cohorts and the project makes geographical sense.
- Regional Director would like to see more detail of the Trust's Primary School Improvement Strategy.
- This item was considered along the proposal for Cockburn Multi Academy Trust to sponsor Ingram Road Primary School, Leeds

RD decision: Defer

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Feedback decision to the school/trust detailing further information required

Project: An application from Spring Grove Junior, Infant and Nursery School, Kirklees, to convert and become an academy and form a new trust called Heritage Multi Academy Trust.

Representations received:

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

AB discussion:

- Spring Grove Junior, Infant and Nursery School is a 210 capacity school located in Kirklees with 229 pupils on roll. The school was last inspected in March 2015 and is currently rated as Outstanding. The school was previously designated a National Support School and in 2022 was appointed as a Behaviour Hub.
- This item was considered along with 3 other schools (Moorlands Primary School, Reinwood Community Junior School and Reinwood Infant and Nursery School) and 2 Single Academy Trusts (Salendine Nook High School Academy and Lindley Junior School) forming a new Multi Academy Trust in Kirklees.
- Officials' assessment of the trust using the Commissioning High Quality Trusts Framework was considered alongside Spring Grove Junior, Infant and Nursery School's strategic needs. In making the recommendation, consideration was given to the existing strengths of and proximity of the schools in the proposal.
- The board members considered the details of the project and support the recommendation to approve. The project makes geographical sense, and board members were assured by the clear plan for the formation of the Multi Academy Trust which gave board members assurance.
- Schools Funding and Strategic Oversight (SFSO) colleagues would like to see 3-year consolidated forecast to be provided prior to formation of the new Multi Academy Trust.

RD decision: Approve with conditions

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Feedback decision to school/trust setting out the conditions

Project: An application from Moorlands Primary School, Kirklees, to convert and become an academy and form a new trust called Heritage Multi Academy Trust.

Representations received:

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

AB discussion:

- Moorlands Primary School is a 630 capacity school located in Kirklees with 627 pupils on roll. The school was last inspected in February 2024 and is currently rated

as Good.

- This item was considered along with 3 other schools converting (Spring Grove Junior, Infant and Nursery School, Reinwood Community Junior School and Reinwood Infant and Nursery School) and 2 Single Academy Trusts (Salendine Nook High School Academy and Lindley Junior School) forming a new Multi Academy Trust in Kirklees.
- Officials' assessment of the trust using the Commissioning High Quality Trusts Framework was considered alongside Moorlands Primary School strategic needs. In making the recommendation, consideration was given to the existing strengths of and proximity of the schools.
- The board members considered the details of the project and support the recommendation to approve. The project makes geographical sense, and there is a clear plan for the formation of the Multi Academy Trust which gave Board Members assurance.
- Schools Funding and Strategic Oversight (SFSO) colleagues would like to see 3-year consolidated forecast to be provided prior to formation of the new Multi Academy Trust.

RD decision: Approve with conditions

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Feedback decision to school/trust setting out the conditions

Project: An application from Reinwood Community Junior School, Kirklees, to convert and become an academy and form a new trust called Heritage Multi Academy Trust.

Representations received:

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

AB discussion:

- Reinwood Community Junior School is a 360 capacity school located in Kirklees with 356 pupils on roll. The school was last inspected in April 2022 and is currently rated as Good.
- This item was considered along with 3 other schools (Spring Grove Junior, Infant and Nursery School, Moorlands Primary School and Reinwood Infant and Nursery School) and 2 Single Academy Trusts (Salendine Nook High School Academy and Lindley Junior School) forming a new Multi Academy Trust in Kirklees.
- Officials' assessment of the trust using the Commissioning High Quality Trusts Framework was considered alongside Reinwood Community Junior School, strategic needs. In making the recommendation, consideration was given to the existing strengths of and proximity of the schools.
- The board members considered the details of the project and support the

recommendation to approve. The project makes geographical sense, and there is a clear plan for the formation of the Multi Academy Trust which gave Board Members assurance.

- Schools Funding and Strategic Oversight (SFSO) colleagues would like to see 3-year consolidated forecast to be provided prior to formation of the new Multi Academy Trust.

RD decision: Approve with conditions

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Feedback decision to school/trust setting out the conditions

Project: An application from Reinwood Infant and Nursery School, Kirklees, to convert and become an academy and form a new trust called Heritage Multi Academy Trust.

Representations received:

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

AB discussion:

- Reinwood Community Junior School is a 348 capacity school located in Kirklees with 311 pupils on roll. The school was last inspected in December 2021 and is currently rated as Good.
- This item was considered along with 3 other schools (Spring Grove Junior, Infant and Nursery School, Moorlands Primary School and Reinwood Community Junior School) and 2 Single Academy Trusts (Salendine Nook High School Academy and Lindley Junior School) forming a new Multi Academy Trust in Kirklees.
- Officials' assessment of the trust using the Commissioning High Quality Trusts Framework was considered alongside Reinwood Infant and Nursery School, strategic needs. In making the recommendation, consideration was given to the existing strengths of and proximity of the schools.
- The board members considered the details of the project and support the recommendation to approve. The project makes geographical sense, and there is a clear plan for the formation of the Multi Academy Trust which gave Board Members assurance.
- Schools Funding and Strategic Oversight (SFSO) colleagues would like to see 3-year consolidated forecast to be provided prior to formation of the new Multi Academy Trust.

RD decision: Approve with conditions

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Feedback decision to school/trust setting out the conditions

Sponsored academy orders

Project: A proposal for Cockburn Multi Academy Trust to sponsor Ingram Road Primary School, Leeds.

Representations received:

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

AB discussion:

- Ingram Road Primary School is a 364 capacity school located in Leeds with 350 pupils on roll. The school was last inspected in March 2024 and placed into Special Measures.
- Officials' assessment of the trust using the Commissioning High Quality Trusts Framework was considered alongside Ingram Road Primary School's strategic needs. In making the recommendation, consideration was given to the existing long standing relationship between the school and proposed sponsoring trust, the similarities in the demographics of cohorts and of the close geographical proximity.
- Board Members would like to see more detail of the Trust's Primary School Improvement Strategy.
- This item was considered along with the application from Hunslet Carr Primary School, Leeds, to convert and become an academy and join Cockburn Multi Academy Trust..

RD decision: Defer

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Feedback decision to the school/trust detailing further information required

Trust changes

Project: A proposal for Airedale Academy, Wakefield, to transfer from Northern Ambition Academies Trust to Castleford Academy Trust.

Representations received:

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

AB discussion:

- Airedale Academy is a 1039 capacity school located in Wakefield with 1250 pupils on roll. The school was last inspected in January 2024 and rated Good.
- This item was considered along with 3 other schools (Airedale Junior School, Airedale Infant School and Oyster Park Primary School) all transferring from Northern Ambition Academies Trust to join Castleford Academy Trust (CAT). Approval would result in the closure of Northern Ambition Trust.

- Officials' assessment of the trust using the Commissioning High Quality Trusts Framework was considered alongside Airedale Academy's strategic needs. In making the recommendation, consideration was given to the existing relationship between the school and proposed sponsoring trust, CAT's track record of school improvement, the close geographical proximity and CAT's understanding of the local area and community.
- The board members considered the details of the project and support the recommendation to approve.

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Feedback decision to the school/trust

Project: A proposal for Airedale Junior School, Wakefield, to transfer from Northern Ambition Academies Trust to Castleford Academy Trust.

Representations received:

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

AB discussion:

- Airedale Junior School is a 448 capacity school located in Wakefield with 386 pupils on roll. The school was last inspected in April 2023 and rated Good.
- This item was considered along with 3 other schools (Airedale Academy, Airedale Infant School and Oyster Park Primary School) all transferring from Northern Ambition Academies Trust to join Castleford Academy Trust (CAT). Approval would result in the closure of Northern Ambition Trust.
- Officials' assessment of the trust using the Commissioning High Quality Trusts Framework was considered alongside Airedale Junior School's strategic needs. In making the recommendation, consideration was given to the existing relationship between the school and proposed sponsoring trust, CAT's track record of school improvement, the close geographical proximity and CAT's understanding of the local area and community.
- The board members considered the details of the project and support the recommendation to approve.

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Feedback decision to the school/trust

Project: A proposal for Airedale Infant School, Wakefield, to transfer from Northern Ambition Academies Trust to Castleford Academy Trust.

Representations received:

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

AB discussion:

- Airedale Infant School is a 180 capacity school located in Wakefield with 227 pupils on roll. The school was last inspected in April 2023 and rated Good.
- This item was considered along with 3 other schools (Airedale Academy, Airedale Junior School, and Oyster Park Primary School) all transferring from Northern Ambition Academies Trust to join Castleford Academy Trust (CAT). Approval would result in the closure of Northern Ambition Trust.
- Officials' assessment of the trust using the Commissioning High Quality Trusts Framework was considered alongside Airedale Infant School's strategic needs. In making the recommendation, consideration was given to the existing relationship between the school and proposed sponsoring trust, CAT's track record of school improvement, the close geographical proximity and CAT's understanding of the local area and community.
- The board members considered the details of the project and support the recommendation to approve.

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Feedback decision to the school/trust

Project: A proposal for Oyster Park Primary School, Wakefield, to transfer from Northern Ambition Academies Trust to Castleford Academy Trust.

Representations received:

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

AB discussion:

- Oyster Park Primary School is a 420-capacity school located in Wakefield with 368pupils on roll. The school was last inspected in October 2023 and rated Requires Improvement.
- This item was considered along with 3 other schools (Airedale Academy, Airedale Junior School and Airedale Infant School) all transferring from Northern Ambition Academies Trust to join Castleford Academy Trust (CAT). Approval would result in the closure of Northern Ambition Trust.
- Officials' assessment of the trust using the Commissioning High Quality Trusts

Framework was considered alongside Oyster Park Primary School's strategic needs. In making the recommendation, consideration was given to the existing relationship between the school and proposed sponsoring trust, CAT's track record of school improvement, the close geographical proximity and CAT's understanding of the local area and community.

- The board members considered the details of the project and support the recommendation to approve.

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Feedback decision to the school/trust

Project: A proposal for Salendine Nook High School Academy, Kirklees, to transfer from Salendine Nook Academy Trust and form Heritage Multi Academy Trust

Representations received:

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

AB discussion:

- Salendine Nook High School Academy, is a 1436 capacity school located in Kirklees with 1413 pupils on roll. The school was last inspected in December 2019 and is currently rated as Good.
- This item was considered along with 4 other schools (Spring Grove Junior, Infant and Nursery School Moorlands Primary School, Reinwood Community Junior School and Reinwood Infant and Nursery School) and 1 Single Academy Trust (Lindley Junior School) forming a new Multi Academy Trust in Kirklees.
- Officials' assessment of the trust using the Commissioning High Quality Trusts Framework was considered alongside Salendine Nook High School Academy, strategic needs. In making the recommendation, consideration was given to the existing strengths and proximity of the schools.
- The board members considered the details of the project and support the recommendation to approve. The project makes geographical sense, and there is a clear plan for the formation of the Multi Academy Trust which gave Board Members assurance.
- Schools Funding and Strategic Oversight (SFSO) colleagues would like to see 3 year consolidated forecast to be provided prior to formation of the new Multi Academy Trust.

RD decision: Approve with conditions

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Feedback decision to school/trust setting out the conditions

Project: A proposal for Lindley Junior School, Kirklees, to transfer from Lindley Junior School (Single Academy Trust and form Heritage Multi Academy Trust.

Representations received:

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

AB discussion:

- Lindley Junior School is a 478 capacity school located in Kirklees with 497 pupils on roll. The school was last inspected in March 2023 and is currently rated as Good.
- Officials' assessment of the trust using the Commissioning High Quality Trusts Framework was considered alongside Lindley Junior School, strategic needs. In making the recommendation, consideration was given to the existing strengths and proximity of the schools.
- The board members considered the details of the project and support the recommendation to approve. The project makes geographical sense, and there is a clear plan for the formation of the Multi Academy Trust which gave Board Members assurance.
- The board members considered the details of the project and support the recommendation to approve. The project makes geographical sense, and it was clear the formation of the Multi Academy Trust had been given significant thought.
- Schools Funding and Strategic Oversight (SFSO) colleagues would like to see 3 year consolidated forecast to be provided prior to formation of the new Multi Academy Trust.

RD decision: Approve with conditions

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Feedback decision to school/trust setting out the conditions

Academy opening approved in principle

List of academies approved to open the following month.

Project: Hackness Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School, Elevate Multi Academy Trust, North Yorkshire Council

Points raised in discussion: Proposed opening date 01/11/2024

Conflicts: Alison Wilson

Further action required: No action required

Project: Rossington Toredale Infant School, Leger Education Trust, Doncaster Council

Points raised in discussion: Proposed opening date 01/11/2024

Conflicts: None

Further action required: No action required

Project: Welburn Community Primary School, Pathfinder Multi Academy Trust, North Yorkshire Council

Points raised in discussion: Proposed opening date 01/11/2024

Conflicts: None

Further action required: No action required

Project: Wykeham Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School, Elevate Multi Academy Trust, North Yorkshire Council

Points raised in discussion: Proposed opening date 01/11/2024

Conflicts: None

Further action required: No action required

Decisions taken between AB meetings

List of decisions taken outside of AB meetings.

Significant changes to an open academy

Project: Healing Academy, Harbour Learning Trust, North East Lincolnshire. To establish a 12 place SEND Specialist Resource Provision (SRP).

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Feedback decision to the school/trust

Project: Abbeyfield Primary Academy, Five Rivers Multi Academy Trust, Sheffield. To establish a 12 place SEN Unit.

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Feedback decision to the school/trust

Project: Maltby Lilly Hall Academy, Maltby Learning Trust, Rotherham. Lower the age range to 2-11 from 3-11 and satellite expansion to a nearby site already owned by the trust taking over the existing nursery provision.

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Feedback decision to the school/trust

Project: To discuss Brooke Primary Academy, Venn Academy Trust, Doncaster. Lower the age range to 2-11 from 3-11.

Decision Type: Significant Change

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Feedback decision to the school/trust and any other stakeholders such as the local authority, diocese (where applicable), etc

Cases referred to ministers for a decision

No cases were referred to ministers for a decision this month.

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

None of the projects that were listed on the published draft agenda were removed before the meeting.

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