

EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF TRUSTEES OF BOLTON IMPACT TRUST

MEETING HELD VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM

MONDAY 16 MAY 2022 AT 4.00 PM

Present: K Davies (KD) – Chair of Trustees, J Bennett (JB), T Grimshaw (TG), Paul Hodgkinson (PH) - Executive Head Teacher, P Norton (PN) and M Sidebottom (MS)

In Attendance: D Smith (DS) - Finance Director, V Gavin (VG) - Business Development Manager, R Leonard (RL) – Vice-Principal and E Stoddard (ES) – Clerk to the Trust

KEITH DAVIES IN THE CHAIR

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Chair welcomed Trustees to the meeting.

Apologies for absence had been received from S Hincks (SH) and D McKeon (DMc).

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

No declarations of pecuniary interest were made.

3. PARK SCHOOL RESTRUCTURE

Detailed information regarding the Park School Restructure and the informal and formal consultation had been uploaded to the Gateway prior to the meeting.

PH provided the background details of the proposals. The total target saving requirement was £290,000, £175,000 of which needed to be from the current staffing establishment. The Trust had met on 18 March 2022 to approve the Park School savings programme and since then the informal and formal consultation periods had taken place. PH stated that staff, Trade Unions and the Local Authority had engaged well with the consultation process. Staff had raised some questions as part of the consultation and a list of the questions had been provided for Trustees' reference. PH advised that there would be no changes to the proposals as a result of the informal consultation process. One question had been raised regarding the vacancies at Youth Challenge (English teachers, Vocational Skills Mentor and one Learning Mentor) but no expressions of interest had been received for any of these posts.

The formal consultation process had ended on 13 May. Two further questions had been raised at this point about whether the future curriculum would be broad enough to meet pupil needs and whether Trade Unions could observe the interview process. PH advised that the curriculum had been agreed with the commissioners and this was a temporary curriculum until pupils returned to their mainstream settings. Longer stay pupils would have the opportunity to study a broader range of qualifications. PH advised that HR had not recommended that Trade Unions observe interviews.

PH asked that Trustees approve the mandate to move to the implementation stage. A meeting would be held with staff on Wednesday and interviews for teacher posts would be held next week followed by interviews for non-teaching positions.

PH advised Trustees that as well as providing the required savings, the restructure would also provide opportunities moving forward. Park School moving out of Roscow Fold would mean that Youth Challenge Primary could join The Forwards Centre at this base with a view to creating The Forwards Centre Outreach provision. Trustees were informed that the Youth Challenge Primary Lead was due to retire in summer. PH proposed that this post not be filled to generate further savings.

21 Key Stage 3 pupils could be accommodated at the Smithills site once Youth Challenge Primary had vacated. There would also be potential to increase Key Stage 4 pupil numbers. The Chair concurred that this was a positive move for developing the business and added that he was pleased with how staff, the LA and Trade Unions had engaged throughout the process.

KD proposed that the Board endorse the proposals made at today's meeting.

Agreed: That all proposals made at today's meeting be endorsed and the mandate to move to the implementation stage be approved

4. **CONSENT TO ABSENCE**

Agreed: To consent to the absence of S Hincks and D McKeon

5. **CONFIDENTIALITY**

Agreed: That none of the items of discussion at this meeting be designated as confidential in accordance with the Academy's Memorandum and Articles of Association:

With no further business the meeting closed at 4.15 pm

Signed as a correct record: _____

Date: _____

(Chair of Trust Board)