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Policy paper

Reviewing post-16 education and training institutions: details of the area reviews

Published 8 September 2015

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About the reviews

The government's policy statement [Reviewing Post-16 Education and Training Institutions](#) set out our approach to facilitating a restructuring of the further education sector through a series of area based reviews of provision.

We have already announced that the first area review will focus on Birmingham and Solihull. We are today announcing that further area reviews will commence in Greater Manchester and in Sheffield City Region. This statement sets out the scope of the first 3 reviews.

Further area reviews will be announced shortly.

Each review will start by assessing the economic and educational needs of the area, and the implications for post-16 education and training provision, including school sixth forms, sixth form colleges, further education colleges and independent providers.

The reviews will then focus on the current structure of further education and sixth form colleges, although there will be opportunities for other institutions (including schools and independent providers) to opt in to this stage of the analysis. Regional School Commissioners will consider the implications of the first stage of the analysis for school sixth form provision.

The reviews will be led by steering groups consisting of chairs of governors, Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) and local authorities, FE and Sixth Form College Commissioners and Regional Schools Commissioners.

This approach is designed achieve a transition towards fewer, larger, more resilient and efficient providers, and more effective collaboration across institution types. A critical aspect will be to create greater specialisation, with the establishment of institutions that are genuine centres of expertise, able to support sustained progression in professional and technical disciplines, alongside excellence in other fundamental areas – such as English and

maths.

This will ensure that we have the right capacity to provide good education and training for our young people across England, and will include the creation of a new network of prestigious Institutes of Technology, and National Colleges to deliver high standard provision at levels 3, 4 and 5.

Further information on each review is provided below. Please send any questions to area.reviews@education.gsi.gov.uk.

Birmingham and Solihull

Birmingham and Solihull colleges in scope of the review:

FE colleges

- Birmingham Metropolitan College
- Bournville College
- Solihull College
- South and City College Birmingham

Sixth form colleges

- Cadbury Sixth Form College
- Joseph Chamberlain College
- The Sixth Form College Solihull

First meeting of the local steering group: Friday 18 September

Chair of the local steering group: Dr David Collins, FE Commissioner

Area review team lead: Lynne Tabone

Greater Manchester

Colleges in scope of the review:

FE colleges

- Bolton College
- Bury College
- Hopwood Hall College
- Salford City College
- Stockport College
- Tameside College
- The Manchester College
- The Oldham College
- Trafford College
- Wigan and Leigh College

Sixth form colleges

- Aquinas College
- Ashton-Under-Lyne Sixth Form College

- Cheadle and Marple Sixth Form College
- Holy Cross College
- Xaverian College
- Loreto College
- Oldham Sixth Form College
- St John Rigby RC Sixth Form College
- Rochdale Sixth Form College
- Winstanley Sixth Form College
- Bolton Sixth Form College

First meeting of the local steering group: Monday 21 September

Chair of the local steering group: Theresa Grant, Chief Executive of Trafford City Council

Area review team lead: John Barber

Sheffield City Region

Colleges in scope of the review:

FE colleges

- Barnsley College
- Chesterfield College
- Dearne Valley College
- Doncaster College
- North Nottinghamshire College
- Rotherham College

- Northern College
- Sheffield College

Sixth form colleges

- Thomas Rotherham College
- Longley Park

First meeting of the local steering group: Monday 28 September

Chair of the local steering group: Dr David Collins, FE Commissioner

Area review team lead: John Barber

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