

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
19 MARCH 2019
REGIONAL SCHOOLS COMMISSIONER
REPORT OF HEAD OF LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To speak to the Regional Schools Commissioner covering the Nottingham City area about their role in contributing to achieving the City's ambition that all schools will be good or outstanding.

2 Action required

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to take this opportunity to understand more about the role of Regional Schools Commissioner and explore how this role can contribute to school improvement in Nottingham.

3 Background information

- 3.1 Regional Schools Commissioners were introduced in response to the need to ensure appropriate oversight of academies. They act on behalf of the Secretary of State and are accountable to the National Schools Commissioner. The main responsibilities of Regional Schools Commissioners include:

- taking action where academies and free schools are underperforming
- intervening in academies where governance is inadequate
- deciding on applications from local authority maintained schools to covert to academy status
- improving underperforming maintained schools by providing them with support from a strong sponsor
- encouraging and deciding on applications from sponsors to operate in a region
- taking action to improve poorly performing sponsors
- advising on proposals for new free schools
- advising on whether to cancel, defer or enter into funding agreements with free school projects
- deciding on applications to make significant changes to academies and free schools.

- 3.2 There are 8 Regional Schools Commissioners that operate across 8 regions in England. Each Commissioner is supported by a head teacher board which is made up of academy head teachers and other sector leaders who advise and challenge the Commissioner on the decisions they make.

3.3 The Regional Schools Commissioner covering the Nottingham City area is John Edwards. He has been invited to this meeting to discuss his role.

4 List of attached information

4.1 None.

5 Background papers, other than published works or those disclosing exempt or confidential information

5.1 None.

6 Published documents referred to in compiling this report

6.1 None.

7 Wards affected

7.1 All

8 Contact information

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