

By: Rosalind Turner, Managing Director, Children Families and Education

To: School Organisation Advisory Board – 14 July 2010

Subject: SCHOOLS APPLYING FOR FOUNDATION/TRUST STATUS

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: To inform Members of SOAB of the current situation regarding Foundation/Trust proposals

FOR INFORMATION

Background

1. (1) A paper was presented to SOAB on 17 October 2007 informing Members of the Government's encouragement of all schools to consider Foundation/Trust status, and of the 'fast track' procedures to achieve it. These procedures require a governing body to consult 'interested parties' (including the LA) over a minimum of a four week period, before determining themselves.

Determinations

2. (1) Since the last report to the Board there has been one new determination reported to the local authority.

(2) On 12 April 2010, KCC received notification from Swanley Technology College that the Governing Body intends to make a prescribed alteration to Swanley Technology College (Community). The proposed alteration is to change School Category from Community to Foundation, acquire a Foundation established otherwise than under the new School Standards and Framework Act 1998 and acquire a Majority of Foundation Governors from 8 June 2010. The name of the Foundation to be acquired by the Governing Body is The Kemnal Trust. The Local Member Robert Brookbank was informed..

(3) There are now 63 Foundation schools in Kent (13 Primary, 49 Secondary and 1 Special), 92 Aided schools (80 Primary and 12 Secondary), 6 Trust Schools (1 Primary and 5 Secondary) and in addition 10 Academies = a total of 171.

(4) For the sake of simplicity, Aided schools should be considered as having the same status as Foundation/Trust schools.

(5) In implementing the decision of the Governing Body of Swanley Technology College, the Local Authority will proceed with transferring the staff and land/buildings to the Governing Body. The school will continue to be maintained by the Local Authority and to receive a delegated budget.

(6) In respect of the school the Local Authority will continue to have monitoring, evaluation and intervention functions, when necessary.

Consultations

3. Since the last report no new schools have informed us that they have begun consultations

Recommendations

4. Members are asked to note the report.

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Background Documents:

- School Standards and Framework Act; DFES 1998
- Education and Inspection Act; DFES 2006
- Changing Category to Foundation; DCSF 2007
- School Organisation; Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools in England Regulations; DCSF 2007
- Schools Applying for Foundation/Trust Status;
SOAB - 17 October 2007/14 November 2007/
10 January 2008/7 February 2008/2 April 2008/
7 May 2008/17 July 2008/ 5 November 2008 / 10 December
2008/ 8 January 2009/ 12 March 2009/ 23 April 2009/ 16 July
2009/ 4 February 2010.