**Minutes of New College Leicester Trustees meeting on 8 September 2022.**

**Present**

Jane Brown – Principal/Trustee

Angus Fraser - Trustee

Richard Seaman – Trustee/Company Secretary

Sue Billington – Trustee

Ian Chakravorty - Trustee

Elly Cutkelvin – Trustee

Dipak Patel – Trustee Chair – Via audio link

1. **Apologies for Absence**

None

Sue Billington was voted in as Chair for this meeting as Dipak Patel was not physically present.

1. **Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising**

Minutes of 17 March 2022 were agreed as a true record. **Approved.**

Actions to update Companies House records had been completed.

1. **Company Secretary Report**

The accounts were reviewed and approved for submission to Companies House.

1. **Governing Body Update**

No update as next GB meeting was not due until 6 October 2022.

1. **Strategy Discussion**

Pre-reading material had been distributed and all confirmed they had read this. Sue Billington was asked to lead the discussion by giving an objective view on the 7 long list MATs that she visited along with Wayne Allsopp.

She confirmed that the grading criteria was ‘just that’. It was a set of scores that had been applied equally to the 7 MATs to determine a priority. The evidence base criteria for judging would be more specific when investigating the short-listed MATs as a more in-depth analysis would be carried out.

A summary of each visit was presented to the Board and questions were taken. All Trustees confirmed they agreed with the priority order and the top three MATs were confirmed as the ones preferred for further investigation. These were: Nova Education Trust, Archway Learning Trust, and Lionheart Academy Trust. It was agreed not to involve the Regional School Commissioner at this stage as this was still an exploratory exercise. It was also agreed that as Ofsted was due around November 2022 that this exercise would be paused until after the inspection.

The next steps were agreed:

1. Sue Billington and Jane Brown would define the next steps and submit a plan to the Trust Board for approval.
2. To speak with Sue Welford in confidence. Get the matrix of questions regarding MAT selection from the LA.
3. Devise a list of questions for the next stage of due diligence with the 3 short-listed MATs.
4. The three selected MATs would be further investigated to include due diligence and visits to specific schools. This would be in the immediate or longer-term dependent on the Ofsted outcome.
5. **Future Meeting Dates**

The next Trust Board meeting was scheduled for 12 January 2023.

1. **AOB**

None.