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Date: 22nd of May, 2017

Dear Rob,

Thank you for your letter of 11 May regarding the future of the Chiltern Edge Community School in Sonning Common, Berkshire.

As I explained in our telephone conversation on 16th May, in the case of schools judged inadequate by Ofsted, the issuing of academy orders is a statutory duty on the Secretary of State and in the powers delegated to me by her I issued an academy order to the school on 3rd May.

If academy conversion is deemed appropriate it is the role of the RSC to evaluate potential academy sponsors for the school. Upon the selection of a suitable sponsor and my final approval, the department, the sponsor and the LA would work together on the processes leading to the school's academy conversion (setting up the legal frameworks for the signing of the funding agreement between the Secretary of State and the academy sponsor). I acknowledge that the school serves two LAs and I understand that Oxfordshire LA is closely liaising with Reading LA.

Kind regards,

Martin Post

Regional Schools Commissioner
North-West London and South Central Region
Academies Regional Development Group