



**MINUTES OF THE DIRECTORS' MEETING OF:
INSPIRE ACADEMY TRUST
HELD ON MONDAY 12 DECEMBER 2016 at 6pm
Location: St Mary's Boardroom, IAT, Southampton City College,
St Mary's Street, Southampton.**

DIRECTORS: Mr Hanif Brora (Chair)*, Mr Kevin George*,
Ms Sue Leamore*, Ms Sarah Stannard (CEO)*

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms Lily Garth, Clerk and Company Secretary
Mr Richard White, Headteacher of IoW School*
Mr Daniel Parker, Finance Officer*
Mr Richard Bryant, VP Finance and Resources, City College
Mr Chris Mantel, RSM (External Auditor)

** Indicates presence at today's meeting.* The meeting was quorate throughout.

Minute		Action for:
1.	<p>APOLOGIES, DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND CHAIR'S INTRODUCTION</p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from Richard Bryant, Lily Garth and Chris Mantel.</p> <p>There were no new declarations of interest. There is a long-standing declaration of the connected relationship between the majority of Trust Directors and the Sponsor College.</p>	
2.	<p>MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON: 07 July 2016</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting of 07 July 2016 were approved and signed by the Chair.</p>	
3.	<p>MATTERS ARISING AND ANY URGENT BUSINESS</p> <p>The following MA were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Policies on today's agenda• Delegated authority not used/required for application.	

4. **REPORT OF THE FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE**

The Directors **noted** the report of today's Finance and Audit Committee meeting.

5. **ISLE OF WIGHT STUDIO SCHOOL REPORT**

Discussion included:

- Student attendance was running at around the national average at 95.5%.
- The School had been fully staffed during the Autumn. However, the Deputy Head was leaving at the end of this Term.
- 2015/16 success rates were lower than predicted and were of concern to the School Governors and IAT Trustees.
- Impact of results on future recruitment - and cross-referencing with financial planning and the costs of quality of provision
- View was the need to focus on positive destinations of all students and the very positive feedback from parents and employers
- Ofsted visit due this year
- The Local Governing Body had scheduled an extra meeting to discuss why this had happened and how to avoid it in future. Governors believed that the right things were being done to improve success and the students' experience. Priorities were to recruit a new Deputy Head and to maintain positive momentum.

6. **MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS**

Following the Finance and Audit Committee's consideration of this item, the Directors **noted** the latest management accounts. No additional comments were added.

7. **ANNUAL REPORTING 2015-2016**

Following the consideration and recommendation of the IAT's Finance and Audit Committee, the Directors **noted** the Audit Findings and **APPROVED** the Trustees' /Directors Report and Financial Statements, Representation Letter and Value for Money Statement.

The Directors also recommended to the IAT Members the reappointment of RSM as the IAT External Auditors.

8. **REVISED BUDGET FORECAST**

Following the consideration and recommendation of the IAT's Finance and Audit Committee, the Directors **APPROVED** the revised budget forecast for 2016/17.

9. FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

Following the consideration and recommendation of the IAT's Finance and Audit Committee, the Directors **APPROVED** the amendment to the monitoring review section of the Financial Regulations at 0.5% of income (not 1%).

10. TRUST/SCHOOL POLICIES

After consideration, and following the recommendation of the Isle of Wight School Governing Body, the Directors **APPROVED** as presented:

- The Health and Safety Policy
- The Safeguarding Policy
- The Equality and Diversity Policies.

11. TRUST SELF-ASSESSMENT

Discussion of Trust self-assessment, included:

- the Autumn Term letters from Peter Lauener and from Lord Nash
- the recent Isle of Wight School Local Governing Body self-assessment (via the National Governors Association Criteria)
- charitable and directorship duties.

The Directors agreed a positive self-assessment outcome and were content that the Trust met the stated practice requirements.

12. APPOINTMENT OF A CHAIR OF THE DIRECTORS

The Directors **APPROVED** the (re)appointment of Hanif Brora as the continuing Chair of the Directors subject to Article specifics. The post of Vice Chair currently lay vacant.

13. STRATEGY AND FUTURE OF THE TRUST

The Directors discussed, **noted** and endorsed the report - supporting the actions in seeking to move the School to another Trust with the ultimate aim of closing the IAT.

14. BUSINESS OF THE NEXT MEETING

The draft Business of the March 2017 meeting was discussed and **noted**.

The meeting ended at 6.55pm