

To: John Hayes *Redacted section 40
- Personal information*

From: [REDACTED]

Date: 29 June 2012

BIS

Department for Business
Innovation & Skills

Subject: Merger between Southwark College and Lewisham College

Purpose:

To inform the Minister that Lewisham College Corporation has confirmed its decision to merge with Southwark College Corporation with effect from 1 August 2012.

Recommendation:

The Minister notes the latest position.

Timing: Routine.

Summary:

1. The Corporation of Lewisham College formally resolved on 26 June 2012 to accept the property, rights and liabilities of Southwark College Corporation with effect from the 1 August 2012.

2. This merger proposal has straddled the arrangements under the previous legislation and the new arrangements within the Education Act 2011. The Minister gave his initial comments on the proposal in December 2011 and, following discussions [REDACTED] the Minister confirmed in January 2012 that he was content that the Skills Funding Agency should proceed with the merger consultation. The outcome of the consultation, a strong majority in favour of the merger, was notified to the Minister in March 2012. Since then the two corporations have progressed the merger proposal including discussions with the Skills Funding Agency on financial issues.

3. [REDACTED]

*Redacted: out of scope of this request
- not related to merger or name change.*

4. The next formal step, under the new regulations, is for Southwark College Corporation to confirm its draft resolution to dissolve at its meeting on 5 July 2012. The Skills Funding Agency, the EFA, the London Borough of Southwark and the two Principals from Lewisham and Southwark Colleges will also be meeting on 5 July to discuss and resolve outstanding details.

5.

[REDACTED]

Redacted: Out of scope for this request - not related to merger or name change.

6.

[REDACTED]

Copied to: SoS' Office; David Willetts' Office; Perm Sec's Office; Special Advisers; Rachel Sandby-Thomas; Susan Pember, Bobbie McClelland, [REDACTED], Ruth Curry, [REDACTED], [REDACTED], Chris Thompson, [REDACTED]

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Advice received from:

Finance	SpAds	Press	Legal	Analysts
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Cleared by: Susan Pember