



## East England and North East London - Our contribution to raising school standards for 2015-16

The East of England and North East London is a large, diverse region, covering schools in areas of urban deprivation, small rural schools and coastal areas. The role of the Regional Schools Commissioner - advised by the Headteacher Board (HTB) - is to ensure there are a sufficient number of high quality academy trusts to support schools to improve; to challenge underperformance and facilitate

rapid improvement; to establish excellent new provision by supporting high quality applications to open new free schools; and to encourage and develop collaboration and the sharing of best practice as a step to a self-improving schools led system leading to higher standards across the region

Challenge underperformance	Build strong sponsors	Open high quality new provision	Facilitate collaboration
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We will balance support with challenge where academies are underperforming.</li> <li>• We will visit academies to understand obstacles to improvement before deciding how to intervene.</li> <li>• We will use local intelligence and relations with trusts to identify performance issues early.</li> <li>• We will use formal intervention in a small number of cases where academies have underperformed for a period of time or where we are not convinced by trusts improvement plans.</li> <li>• When required we will transfer academies to other trusts.</li> <li>• We will ensure that maintained schools judged inadequate by Ofsted become sponsored academies with strong.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We will use the meetings to identify those with potential to grow or and those who need support.</li> <li>• We will use our trust evaluation tool to identify areas for development and offer support, for example mentoring, CEO leadership training.</li> <li>• We will target Sponsor Capacity Funding to help develop trusts.</li> <li>• We will identify more sponsors, including from outside of the education sector, and encourage those in areas of higher educational performance to work where there are fewer sponsors.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We will support the government ambition to open 500 new free schools during this parliament.</li> <li>• We will encourage existing high quality trusts to apply to open free schools.</li> <li>• We will establish a Free Schools Advisory Board to provide support and advice to those interested in opening free schools.</li> <li>• We will identify the areas of basic need in the region to ensure new provision is opened where it is most needed.</li> <li>• HTB members will play an active role in the interview process for free schools.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We will hold events to get system leaders to meet, share knowledge and best practice and form new networks.</li> <li>• We will run 3 regional sub-groups with representation from LAs, trusts, Diocese, Teaching School Alliances to help schools to improve and direct interventions.</li> <li>• We will invite Teaching School Council representatives to HTB meetings to ensure effective communication.</li> <li>• We will work with Teaching School Alliances and the National College to ensure school to school support goes to institutions most in need.</li> </ul>

We will improve communications and transparency via newsletters, an annual report, a sponsor directory, social media, and events.

Please do get in touch with any suggestions or queries you may have. We welcome comments from anyone who can help with any of our work: please email [RSC.EASTNELONDON@education.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:RSC.EASTNELONDON@education.gsi.gov.uk)