



Nexus MAT Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday 26 March 2025
5.00 pm – 7.30 pm – Nexus HQ

| Present: | Role: | Initials: |
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| Sue Shelley | Director & Vice Chair of Trust Board of Directors | SS |
| Gillian Askew | Director | GA |
| Colin Bradley | Director | CB |
| Phil Bradley | Director | PB |
| Naomi Cooper | Director | NC |
| Mark Greenwood | Director | MG |
| Tina Havenhand | Director | TH |
| Victoria Morris | Director | VM |
| Rachel Potts | Director/Member & Chair of Trust Board of Directors | RP |
| Ray Palmer | Director | RPa |
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| Also Present: | | |
| Warren Carratt | Chief Executive Officer | CEO |
| Joel Hardwick | Assistant CEO – Corporate Affairs | JH |
| Rebecca Horne | Governance Clerk | Clerk |
| Karen Smith | Chief Finance Officer | CFO |
| Jacky Tattershall | Assistant CEO – Quality Assurance & Improvement | JT |
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| Apologies: | | |
| None | | |
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| 1. WELCOME & APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE | ACTIONS |
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| <p>1.1 Welcome & receive apologies for absence</p> <p>None.</p> | |
| <p>1.2 To accept apologies for absence</p> <p>None.</p> | |
| 2. ITEMS FOR AOB | |
| <p>2.1 To approve the confidential minutes from the January 2025 meeting</p> <p>The minutes were approved as a true and accurate record.</p> <p>The CEO presented to the Board two capital project business cases for extensions at Willows School and Kelford School, which had been recently circulated on Governor Hub. It was noted that if Directors were unable to reach a decision during this meeting due to the late notice of the papers, an extraordinary meeting would be convened.</p> <p>The CEO explained that his recommendation is to proceed with both projects. He clarified that the matter was brought to the Board due to the significant costs associated with the projects, which sits above his delegated thresholds</p> <p>Both projects were outlined as per the reports.</p> <p>TH – KS, am I correct in understanding that there is a £1.3 million Capital Reserve carried forward in our accounts? CFO – We are forecasting a carry forward of £1.3 million by the end of the year. It's possible that we may need to make some additional revenue contributions to capital, but we currently have a very positive in-year surplus on the revenue side.</p> <p>TH highlighted that this could affect the carry forward position, and the use of general funds to finance the capital may be necessary.</p> <p>TH emphasised that she understood the situation and acknowledged the need to proceed. However, she also highlighted that this poses a significant risk for the Trust by reducing the capital reserve.</p> <p>The CEO acknowledged TH's point and emphasised that he understands the concerns raised, and that he expected funding contributions from local authority commissioners to mitigate the risks, but accepted these agreements hadn't yet been finalised.</p> <p>SS – Where would the three classrooms be located on the Kelford site? CEO – We would be looking at the outdoor space where the green house is, as that is where the existing footings and connecting infrastructure are from a previously removed classroom. This area is not currently well-utilised.</p> | |

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| <p>VM – Is it similar to the modular classrooms at Hilltop School? CEO – No, Hilltop is much smaller, it is similar to those at Coppice School, Pennine View, and the Post-16 modular at Abbey School.</p> <p>After a detailed discussion, the Directors unanimously agreed that both projects should proceed.</p> | |
| <p>3. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS</p> | |
| <p>3.1 Individual Directors to declare any personal, business/governance interests on any item on the agenda</p> <p>None declared.</p> | |
| <p>4. NEXUS MAT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES</p> | |
| <p>4.1 To approve the minutes of the following meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trust Board Meeting held on Wednesday 26 February 2025. <p>The minutes were approved as a true and accurate record.</p> | |
| <p>4.2 To approve the confidential minutes from the February 2025 meeting</p> <p>The minutes were approved as a true and accurate record.</p> | |
| <p>4.3 Review of Action Tracker</p> <p>Action Tracker was reviewed and updated as appropriate.</p> | |
| <p>4.4 Matters arising from the Minutes</p> <p>No matters were raised.</p> | |
| <p>5. DUE DILIGENCE REPORT - NHHELC</p> | |
| <p>The CEO provided an overview of the Notts Hospital Home Education Learning Centre, noting that the due diligence process has been largely positive, with no significant risks identified for the Trust. The setup is similar to that of Becton Hospital School.</p> <p>The centre is currently in the process of relocating to a new site within Nottingham City Centre, and support from the central Trust team has been provided to facilitate this transition. This move is viewed as a positive development for the Trust.</p> <p>SS – How will they manage their accounts? I’m unsure what this means? CFO – This will completely change upon academisation. We will establish a more standard funding agreement based on the number of pupils.</p> <p>The CEO highlighted that, in terms of budget, there is no evidence of Nottingham City Council being difficult. The issue is more a lack of clarity. This is not significantly different from the situation with Becton School before its academisation.</p> | |

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| <p>CB – What is the current legal status? Is it a maintained school? Is it single academy Trust? CEO – It is a maintained PRU.</p> <p>CB – Why in your opinion, is the Local Authority wanting it transferred? CEO – I don't think the Local Authority are seeking for it to be academised.</p> <p>CB – Is there a way to explore what the new funding arrangement would look like before we make a decision, or do we have to decide first? CEO – I would not feel comfortable committing time and energy to developing a funding agreement unless we were at least, in principle, committed to taking the school on following its move. However, Directors could agree to academisation on the proviso that more detailed budget information be reported before conversion is completed.</p> <p>CB – Does the Local Authority have to provide the money, and what happens if they want to change the service provider? CEO – Yes, the LA would have to continue to fund the school as is. If they wanted to recommission any aspects of the current offer, staff would be required to TUPE to a new provider, meaning the school/Trust would not have any associated redundancy costs. The provision is statutory, so it cannot just cease.</p> <p>After further in-depth discussions the Directors unanimously agreed to proceed with no provisions made.</p> | |
| <p>6. BENTS GREEN FORECASTS AND INCLUSION IN BFR</p> | |
| <p>Minuted separately as Confidential Appendix 1.</p> | |
| <p>7. EBOR ACADEMY TRUST</p> | |
| <p>Minuted separately as Confidential Appendix 2.</p> | |
| <p>8. CEO/CFO MID-YEAR REVIEWS FEEDBACK</p> | |
| <p>Minuted separately as Confidential Appendix 3.</p> | |
| <p>9. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS</p> | |
| <p>The CEO reported that 3 Ofsted visits have taken place recently and provided feedback on those visits to the Directors.</p> | |
| <p>10. REVIEW OF RISK</p> | |
| <p>To consider any new risks identified during the meeting for referral to Trust Committees.</p> <p>None.</p> | |
| <p>11. CONFIDENTIALITY</p> | |

Item 6 minuted separately as Confidential Appendix 1.

Item 7 minuted separately as Confidential Appendix 2.

Item 8 minuted separately as Confidential Appendix 3.

12. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

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| Wednesday 30 April 2025 | 17:00-19:30 | Nexus HQ |
| Wednesday 21 May 2025 | 17:00-19:30 | Teams |
| Wednesday 25 June 2025 | 17:00-19:30 | Nexus HQ |
| Wednesday 23 July 2025 | 17:00-19:30 | Nexus HQ |

Minutes approved.

| CHAIR | SIGNATURE | DATE |
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