



**Rt Hon Anne Milton MP**  
Minister of State for Apprenticeships and Skills  
Sanctuary Buildings Great Smith Street Westminster London SW1P 3BT

Mr Christopher Heaton-Harris MP  
House of Commons  
London  
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*Dear Chris*

*4th June 2017*

Following early reporting of a second consecutive Ofsted Inadequate grade for Moulton College, I wanted to write to you to summarise activity at the college and explain what will be happening next. A second consecutive Ofsted Inadequate grade would be a matter of serious concern, only one other FE college in England is in the same situation.

The college has been in formal intervention since January 2017 for Inadequate Financial Health and in March 2018 the college received its first Inadequate Ofsted grade.

A Structure and Prospects Appraisal (SPA) led by the FE Commissioner completing in July last year recommended that the college should merge with Abingdon & Witney College. That merger broke down as a result of the disclosure that Moulton College is guarantor for a significant bond related to delivery of provision in Saudi Arabia. Abingdon & Witney College would not take on the risk of the bond and did not therefore proceed with the merger.

Following the most recent Ofsted assessment and in line with published guidance, the FE Commissioner will be conducting a full intervention assessment at the college in June or July. This will result in a published report with recommendations to the college board. These recommendations may include the need to review the structural options for the college as part of an FE Commissioner review.

The ESFA and FE Commissioner will work together closely on all ongoing intervention activities.

*Rt Hon Anne Milton*

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