

Value for Money Statement

Academy trust name: Wythenshawe Catholic Academy Trust.

Academy trust company number: 08440868

Year ended: 31 August 2013.

I accept that as accounting officer of the Wythenshawe Catholic Academy Trust I am responsible and accountable for ensuring that the academy trust delivers good value in the use of public resources. I am aware of the guide to academy value for money statements published by the Education Funding Agency and understand that value for money refers to the educational and wider societal outcomes achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

I set out below how I have ensured that the academy trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money during the academic year.

The MAT has minimised the number of Quality Assurance advisers employed in the monitoring process. These use the same Quality Assurance Report format which, in turn, are considered by both the Local Governing Bodies (LGBs) and the Executive Committee.

Pupil Premium funding is applied as effectively as possible. All interventions, such as one-to-one support, are recorded against each pupil so that attainment and improvement can be readily monitored.

Collaboration has already started with two chaplains employed to work across the MAT. Work has started to create a shared ICT management system to replace the different arrangements employed across the MAT. This should prove more economical and effective with improved knowledge, control, economies and continuity for all users.

The MAT has employed a suitably qualified finance consultant as its internal auditor to ensure that systems are properly scrutinised and that there is objectivity and transparency in the assessment of VFM. The same consultant works in each of the academies so that work is co-ordinated and similarly reported and that commonalities and priorities can be easily be identified and communicated to the audit committee. Purchasing is one of the first areas that has been reported on.

Spending limits are outlined in the MAT's financial procedures and have been reviewed by the Executive Committee. These will be reviewed in light of recommendations by the internal auditor and the EFA. Work on price testing, by one of the academies, has started and will soon be shared with the others. This

will look at regular, low level purchasing that is beneath the competitive process threshold.

Larger purchases will be reviewed once the academies have had opportunity to compare and contrast their current arrangements. This will be undertaken during meetings by the academies' finance officers. These have already started but that have, so far, been concentrated on systems to meet statutory obligations. This process will be informed by the use of benchmarking information.

Signed: 

Name: D. HEMINGTON

Academy Trust Accounting Officer

Date: 02.12.13