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Kevin Crompton  
Chief Executive  
Town Hall  
Luton LU1 2BQ

30<sup>th</sup> May 2007

Dear Kevin

#### Luton Wave 3 BSF and the Barnfield Academies

Following the request made to Kathy Chapman (Project Director) at the BSF Project Board I write to confirm the proposed approach with regard to the Sample Schemes and Academies.

Partnerships for Schools supports the proposal that the BSF Sample Schemes for Wave 3 will be Challney Girls (PFI) and Lea Manor (design and build). It also supports the Academies designs being developed to RIBA design stage D by Luton Borough Council, in liaison with the Sponsor's representatives. The designs will then be novated to the BSF Preferred Bidder, who will then develop them further and commence construction as soon as possible following financial close and creation of the Local Education Partnership (LEP).

Before this approach can be formally sanctioned, however, the Authority should demonstrate, via the Outline Business Case (OBC) for Wave 3, that sufficient dedicated resources will be allocated to the development of the Academies' designs. This is to ensure that this process can be delivered as described, and will not adversely affect the procurement of the BSF sample schemes and ultimately the timescales associated with the creation of the LEP.

Partnerships for Schools' support for this revised approach is also conditional upon the Authority demonstrating that the inclusion of Challney Girls as a sample will not adversely affect the procurement timetable. I have recently been informed, however, that there is a need for statutory consultation in relation to the proposed increased pupil numbers at this school. You will be aware that it is currently proposed that the OBC will be considered by the Treasury Project Review Group (PRG) at its 18 September 2007 meeting. The statutory consultation process must have been completed by the time the OBC is considered by PRG, as this process requires that all statutory approvals be in place before the OBC will be formally approved in turn. Given, therefore, the importance of this matter, can you please confirm at the earliest