This matter is being dealt with by:
Marion Clay
Reference: Cllr P Owen/CR
T 0115 9772502
E supporttoschools@nottscc.gov.uk
W nottinghamshire.gov.uk

Nottinghamshire County Council

Private and Confidential
To be opened by addressee only

John Edwards
Regional Schools Commissioner
East Midlands and Humber Region
Academies Regional Delivery Group
Department for Education
6th Floor, 2 St Paul's Place
Sheffield
S1 2FJ

Dear John   23 July 2019

On the 15 July 2019, the Children and Young People's Committee in Nottinghamshire approved the County's updated Schools Causing Concern Policy. This Policy has been updated in line with the new statutory guidance for local authorities and RSCs on schools causing concern which became effective in November 2018.

As Chairman of the Committee, I wish to express my concern about any reductions in the powers of intervention of the RSC in relation to schools causing concern, particularly schools which are 'coasting'. Whilst I understand the rationale for this given the pending changes to DfE targets, it is nonetheless the case that there are too many publicly funded schools who are not securing the necessary progress of their pupils.

Rather than diminishing powers of intervention, it is clearly essential that all publicly funded schools are robustly monitored to secure the best possible outcomes for every child.

As ever, I would appreciate that you ensure that my views are appropriately shared, particularly during any policy discussion. It is increasingly clear to me that in rightly devolving responsibility for the running of schools and the outcomes to many multi academy trusts, there is clearly insufficient monitoring by the DfE.

Yours sincerely

Cllr Philip Owen
Chairman
Children and Young People's Committee