



The Rt Hon Baroness Jacqui Smith

Minister for Skills

Sanctuary Buildings 20 Great Smith Street Westminster London SW1P 3BT

Tim Jackson
Weston College of Further and Higher Education
Knightstone Campus
Knightstone Road
Weston-super-Mare
BS23 2AL

2nd April 2025

Dear Mr Jackson,

I am writing following the intervention assessment of Weston College of Further and Higher Education by the Further Education (FE) Commissioner on 5 June 2024.

I have accepted the recommendations of the FE Commissioner which include:

- The college must put in place a formal scheme of delegation which clearly sets out the level of full board or committee approval required for key decisions, including the remuneration of senior staff.
- The college must bring processes in line with the relevant published guidance, specifically on issues relating to governance and board structures, annual financial statements, and remuneration of senior post holders.
- There should be a skills audit of the current board of governors with a view to ensuring an appropriate breadth of management experience. There should be a qualified accountant on the audit committee at all times.
- The college should review its policies to ensure it maintains a recently updated personal relationships policy which sets out safeguards, including reporting, on potential conflicts of interest.
- The board of governors should commission an internal audit to provide full reassurance that no element of the previous principal's remuneration was paid or reported through the separate legal entity of the West of England Institute of Technology.

I urge the college to ensure these recommendations are now fully implemented.

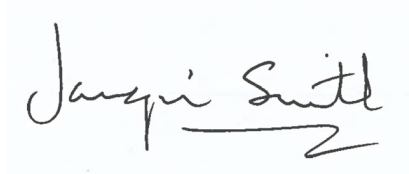
A copy of the assessment is provided with this letter. The assessment and my letter will be published on GOV.UK and can be found via the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/further-education-commissioner-intervention-reports>. Once confirmed, the intended publication date will be shared with you. The college must also publish the summary report on its website within 14 days of it being issued.

I have written separately to the following MP, whose constituency is served by Weston College, to inform them of the FE Commissioner's findings:

- Dan Aldridge MP – Weston-super-Mare

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jacqui Smith". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

The Rt Hon Baroness Jacqui Smith