

ACCOUNTABILITY THROUGH DEMOCRATICALLY ELECTED LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Submission from SE Cornwall Constituency Labour Party to the Education Policy Commission 2019

We recognise that at The Labour Party Conference in 2018, the Shadow Secretary of State for Education, Angela Rayner set out Labour's intention to end the academies and free schools programme and bring all publicly funded schools back into the mainstream public sector, ensuring that they are democratically accountable to the communities that they serve.

However, while it is important that we empower all stakeholders of The National Education Service to influence change and ensure that the education system meets their needs it is important that we recognise that the only effective means of formal accountability is through democratically elected local authorities. In order to ensure that all schools are accountable to the communities in which they are based it is essential that they are returned to local authority control as soon as possible and within the first term of a Labour Government.

Recognising that many academies have got into financial difficulties as a result of mismanagement of funds and excessive payments of senior staff it is essential that a system is put in place to ensure the financial accountability of all schools and the reduction in pay differentials between the highest and the lowest paid members of staff.

South East Cornwall Labour, June 2019