

# Working with the RSC

Keith Abbott

Director, Education Planning & Access



# New Ways of Working - Who and what is the RSC ?

- National Schools Commissioner – Sir David Carter
- 8 Regional Schools Commissioners posts, created in September 2014
- Regional schools commissioners (RSCs) act on behalf of the Secretary of State for Education and are accountable to the National Schools Commissioner.
- Dominic Herrington is the RSC for South-East England and South London.
- He covers **22** Local Authority areas – Bexley, Brighton and Hove, Bromley, Croydon, East Sussex, Greenwich, Hampshire, Isle of Wight, **Kent**, Kingston upon Thames, Lambeth, Lewisham, Medway, Merton, Portsmouth, Richmond upon Thames, Southampton, Southwark, Surrey, Sutton, Wandsworth, West Sussex

# Key RSC responsibilities

Initially responsible only for approving new academies and intervening in underperforming academies.

Remit has expanded considerably over time to now include:

- seeking the conversion of underperforming maintained schools
- deciding which academy trust will sponsor an underperforming maintained school
- deciding on applications from local-authority-maintained schools to convert to academy status
- taking action where academies and free schools are underperforming
- intervening in academies where governance is inadequate
- encouraging and deciding on applications from sponsors to operate in a region
- taking action to improve poorly performing sponsors
- advising on proposals for new free schools
- advising on whether to cancel, defer or enter into funding agreements with free school projects

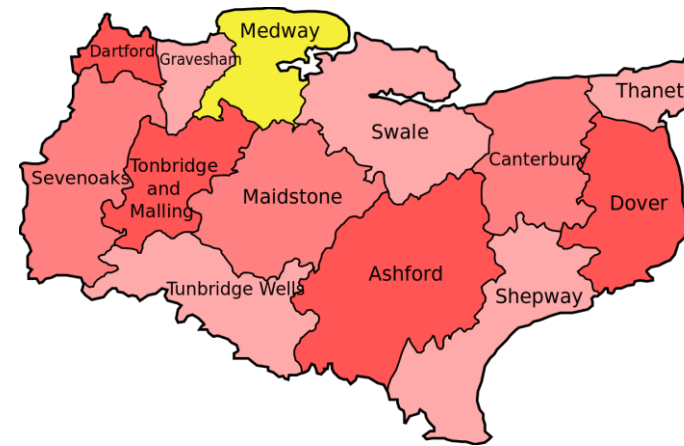
# National picture

The position as at January 2018

- 7,472 state-funded schools are academies (35% of all schools)
- 47% of all pupils attend an academy school
- 72% of secondary schools are academies, compared with 27% of primary schools (77% and 34% in Kent)
- The proportion of schools that are academies varies widely across England e.g. 93% in Bromley to 6% in Lewisham, Lancashire and North Tyneside
- Rates of academy conversion from maintained schools tend to be lowest in the north of England and in London

# Working with the RSC

- It is hard to isolate much of our work with the RSC.
- Legislation over the past 8 years has created a complex and continually evolving landscape
- Our work with the RSC inevitably overlaps with work we do with the ESFA, the DfE and Academy Trusts as well as all LA Maintained Schools.
- There are also the longer standing partnerships with stakeholders such as the three Dioceses in the county and District Councils as well as newer partners such as KAH and teaching schools
- Key challenge for KCC is that it retains statutory duties for LA Maintained schools and Academies but many of the levers are now held by DfE – particularly true in respect of the delivery of new school places.



## Areas of KCC work with the RSC

- Academy conversions of all types
- Academy re-brokerage
- Coasting Schools (Incl LA Maintained)
- School/Academy Standards
- Sponsors

- Free Schools/Wave Process
- Presumption/Competition
- Place Planning
- School/Trust specific issues

- MATs and MAT performance
- Strategic School Impact Fund

## Areas of KCC work with the ESFA

- Free Schools/Wave Process
- Presumption/Competition
- Place Planning
- School/Trust specific issues
- Academy revenue funding
- LA/Academy formula budgets
- Basic Need and Basic Need Funding
- Post 16 funding and place planning
- PSBP1 and PSBP2

# Vacancies – March 2018

	Parent						LA						Co-Opted						Staff						Partnership						Foundation					
	No. of Posts	No. of Posts Held	Diff	2018 % Vacant Posts (Mar)	2018 % Vacant Posts (Jan)	Diff % Vacant post	No. of Posts	No. of Posts Held	Diff	2018 % Vacant Posts (Mar)	2018 % Vacant Posts (Jan)	Diff % Vacant post	No. of Posts	No. of Posts Held	Diff	2018 % Vacant Posts (Mar)	2018 % Vacant Posts (Jan)	Diff % Vacant post	No. of Posts	No. of Posts Held	Diff	2018 % Vacant Posts (Mar)	2018 % Vacant Posts (Jan)	Diff % Vacant post	No. of Posts	No. of Posts Held	Diff	2018 % Vacant Posts (Mar)	2018 % Vacant Posts (Jan)	Diff % Vacant post	No. of Posts	No. of Posts Held	Diff	2018 % Vacant Posts (Mar)	2018 % Vacant Posts (Jan)	Diff % Vacant post
<b>Kent</b>	<b>1133</b>	<b>905</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>1662</b>	<b>1414</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>572</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>772</b>	<b>635</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>1%</b>
<b>East</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>-2%</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>-2%</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>1%</b>
Canterbury	111	97	14	13%	14%	-1%	30	20	10	33%	30%	3%	129	112	17	13%	12%	1%	49	37	12	24%	26%	-2%	12	8	4	33%	33%	0%	80	70	10	13%	12%	1%
Swale	95	67	28	29%	26%	3%	31	18	13	42%	34%	8%	115	94	21	18%	17%	1%	56	40	16	29%	31%	-2%	1	0	1	100%	100%	0%	73	63	10	14%	14%	0%
Thanet	93	73	20	22%	21%	0%	27	16	11	41%	44%	-4%	102	84	18	18%	25%	-7%	50	39	11	22%	24%	-2%	1	0	1	100%	100%	0%	51	43	8	16%	15%	1%
<b>North</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>-1%</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>0%</b>
Dartford	61	47	14	23%	28%	-5%	22	11	11	50%	55%	-5%	79	66	13	16%	15%	1%	34	26	8	24%	15%	8%	5	2	3	60%	25%	35%	36	31	5	14%	15%	-1%
Gravesham	67	48	19	28%	26%	2%	22	11	11	50%	52%	-2%	103	83	20	19%	18%	2%	36	25	11	31%	30%	1%	4	1	3	75%	50%	25%	48	38	10	21%	20%	0%
Sevenoaks	104	83	21	20%	18%	2%	37	20	17	46%	43%	3%	140	114	26	19%	20%	-1%	48	38	10	21%	17%	3%	3	2	1	33%	33%	0%	88	73	15	17%	16%	1%
<b>South</b>	<b>256</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>427</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>1%</b>
Ashford	95	74	21	22%	23%	-1%	34	20	14	41%	32%	9%	152	130	22	14%	13%	1%	50	37	13	26%	24%	2%	8	5	3	38%	33%	4%	67	50	17	25%	26%	-1%
Dover	94	73	21	22%	22%	0%	33	20	13	39%	39%	0%	165	144	21	13%	12%	0%	50	39	11	22%	12%	10%	2	1	1	50%	0%	50%	70	57	13	19%	17%	1%
Shepway	67	56	11	16%	14%	2%	23	18	5	22%	25%	-3%	110	96	14	13%	9%	3%	31	25	6	19%	23%	-3%	5	4	1	20%	20%	0%	64	53	11	17%	16%	1%
<b>West</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>567</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>1%</b>
Maidstone	120	91	29	24%	21%	3%	44	30	14	32%	23%	9%	217	187	30	14%	11%	3%	58	41	17	29%	24%	6%	12	10	2	17%	18%	-2%	53	40	13	25%	20%	4%
Tonbridge and Malling	140	122	18	13%	16%	-3%	45	36	9	20%	20%	0%	217	185	32	15%	17%	-2%	68	55	13	19%	21%	-1%	14	11	3	21%	29%	-7%	60	49	11	18%	18%	0%
Tunbridge Wells	86	74	12	14%	14%	0%	30	22	8	27%	20%	7%	133	119	14	11%	10%	1%	42	34	8	19%	20%	-1%	3	1	2	67%	17%	50%	82	68	14	17%	17%	0%

# Vacancies – March 2018

Total Governor posts in Kent – 4587

Total Vacancies in Kent – 910 (Governors in post – 3,677)

Parent Governors – 228

Local Authority Governors – 136

Co-opted Governors – 248

Staff Governors – 136

Partnership Governors – 25

Foundation Governors – 137

Gives a 20% overall Governor vacancy rate across the County. This figure may in reality be slightly lower due to the Local Authority Governors that are pending being appointed onto their GB following the Governor Approval Process.