

Governor Services statement

25 October 2018

Governor Services not 'axed' by MCG

MCG is aware that incorrect statements are being made about the provision of Governor Services for Medway schools.

This service transferred from Medway Council to MCG in October 2017. At the end of this summer term, MCG were faced with sensitive employment issues, resulting in staff who had previously provided this service leaving the employment of MCG, including the dismissal of a senior member of the team for misconduct.

Given the importance we place on the provision of governor services, MCG was faced — at very short notice — with taking immediate action to ensure the service continued. We are aware that the transitional arrangements that were put in place were not as seamless as we would have liked. MCG consulted with senior officers at Medway Council throughout the transition process and continue to do so.

MCG has formed a partnership with an education provider that is currently delivering excellent Governor Services through a well-established and respected Governor Services team that is already supporting over 400 schools in Kent and Medway.

There was no gap in provision and the service has certainly not been 'axed' — as has been suggested in some circles. MCG continues to work with the education department at Medway Council to ensure that a robust and cost-effective service is maintained for our governing bodies moving forward, including supporting the delivery of statutory functions for maintained schools.

Traded services to schools have traditionally been delivered by a mixture of in-house and third-party provision, and there is nothing unusual about the current arrangements for governor services. It should be noted that MCG is also having to compete with a company set-up by former Medway Council employees, who are actively trying to recruit Medway's governing bodies to their own private business.