

# Notification of Call-in

Please submit this form to [governanceteam@essex.gov.uk](mailto:governanceteam@essex.gov.uk).

<b>Decision title and reference number</b> Review of Essex Education Services (FP/102/03/18)	
<b>Cabinet Member responsible</b> Cllr Ray Gooding	<b>Date decision published</b> 23rd May 2018
<b>Last day of call in period</b> 25 <sup>th</sup> May 2018	<b>Last day of 10-day period to resolve the call-in</b>
<b>Reasons for Making the Call in</b>  The reason for calling in this decision by Cabinet is simple:  Selling EES (Essex Education Services) to a private company will, in my view, undermine democratic accountability over the education service in Essex and will not be in the public, that is, children's and families', interest.  My reasons for believing this are as follows:  1. Currently primary, secondary and special schools, including CofE (Church of England) VA (voluntary aided) and VC (voluntary controlled) schools, can become academies under current statutory arrangements and be directly accountable to their board of directors and ultimately to the Department of Education. Some powers, however, remain under the control of ECC (Essex County Council), particularly those which are related to pupils who have SEND (special educational needs and disabilities). 2. Many Essex secondary schools and a proportion of primary and special schools have already become academies through the democratic process, whereby governing bodies can opt out of ECC control; 3. Schools which fail their Ofsted inspection can be forced down the academy route and be taken over by existing multi-academy chains or similar arrangements. 4. From my educational background and experience, schools which remain part of ECC have made a decision to remain part of ECC through democratic processes, namely through decisions made at full governing body meetings annually. They have made this choice for positive reasons as they see the benefits, particularly linked to financial services, human resources, safeguarding, training and the general professional support and advice they currently receive from being part of the LA (local authority). 5. Selling EES and placing it into the hands of a private company would deny the democratic rights of individual governing bodies of every school which decided (through due process) to remain part of the LA. This would, in my view, significantly undermine democratic accountability.	

<b>Signed:</b> Cllr John Baker  With the support of: Cllr Mike Mackrory Cllr Jude Deakin Cllr Stephen Robinson	<b>Dated:</b> 25/05/18
<b>For completion by appropriate Democratic Services Officer</b>	Graham Hughes, Senior Democratic Services Officer
<b>Date call in Notice Received</b> 25 May 2018	<b>Date of informal meeting</b> TBC
<b>Does the call in relate to a Schools issue?</b> Yes	<b>If yes, date when Parent Governor Reps and Diocesan Reps invited to the meeting</b> TBC
<b>Date of PAF Committee Meeting (if applicable)</b>	<b>Date call in withdrawn / resolved</b>