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Acting Executive Head Teacher  
Mr Mark McLaughlin B.A. (Hons)



20<sup>th</sup> May 2016

RT Hon Nicky Morgan MP  
Secretary of State for Education  
Department for Education  
Sanctuary Buildings  
Great Smith Street  
London  
SW1P 3BT

Dear RT Hon Nicky Morgan MP

I have waited until I have had sight of the Charity Commissions report, which I have responded to and copied you in, before contacting you again in regards to my letter of the 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2016. I have enclosed that letter for ease of reference.

I am also enclosing a copy of David Whittington's latest letter to the National Audit Office, which is self-explanatory.

I am afraid I have to express my grave disappointment that the real and evidenced complaints and concerns that were raised with you in my letter concerning Peter Lauener and Lord Nash, have effectively been ignored or quite possibly filtered out.

Usually when a serious complaint is made and evidenced, it is properly and thoroughly investigated and appropriate action taken. What is not usual is for such a complaint to be handed to the person complained about and requiring them to respond, as has happened in this case. Perhaps you could explain what your thinking was and how you thought this might be a sensible way to deal with the complaints and concerns I raised with you? However I am quite willing to believe that you have not had sight of my letters of complaint to you and the Prime Minister, and can quite believe they have been filtered. So please forgive me if I have this wrong but you can appreciate how this could be misinterpreted.

In light of these letters not reaching you as they should and must, I have asked our hugely supportive local MP Kate Hoey, to ensure that you do get sight of them.



You hopefully have had sight, but maybe this has been filtered also, of Peter Lauener's response which can best be described as ill judged, irrational and at worst offensive. I am beginning to believe that Peter Lauener's obsession with me and my family and his determination to destroy such a successful school, has somewhat unhinged him. I have got to ask you, do you believe that he is a fit and proper person to be CEO of the EFA and its Accounting Officer?

He has, as you will probably know, followed up with another letter full of half-truths, false allegations and straight forward fantasies.

It is surely becoming clear to you that there is a serious issue which needs proper investigation.

Peter Lauener and Lord Nash have full access to the powers of the state, which they are regularly abusing with seemingly no oversight. They also have full access to yourself and the Prime Minister, presenting their very biased view of myself and others in the Academy. We have no such access to the powers that have been so abused by Peter Lauener and Lord Nash and our only access to getting our voice heard, above their clamour, is to write to you. I urge you now to take this matter with the utmost seriousness and I suggest the following course of action.

Obviously, Peter Lauener and Lord Nash need to cover up their wrong doings, their abuse of power, by fabricating and making false allegations against us so that you will be persuaded to start the process to remove our funding agreement. Whilst this would give us the first real opportunity to defend ourselves effectively through the courts, it would take many more months of wasted time and effort and waste even more public money than Peter Lauener and Lord Nash have already wasted, in pursuing their campaign against myself and others in the Academy.

They clearly have no regard for the education and wellbeing of the pupils enjoying a first class education in the Academy. Nor for the parents and staff of the school, who are totally unaware of the campaign of bullying and harassment that Peter Lauener and Lord Nash have visited upon their school.

The fact that Peter Lauener has been forced to acknowledge that PWC have never undertaken a forensic investigation into the finances of any primary school, other than Durand, speaks volumes. The fact that he refuses to disclose how much public money has been wasted on this is also telling. Of course the only purpose behind this unreasonable and unjust investigation is for Peter Lauener and Lord Nash to cobble together anything to justify their irrational and unlawful Financial Notice to Improve. This, you will recall, was issued because we wouldn't be bullied and intimidated by Lord Nash and Peter Lauener. It was issued, not because of any financial concerns, but by way of punishment. They have effectively weaponised their extensive powers against a school, which serves those far less advantaged than themselves. I fail to see how this sits with the Prime Minister's most recent

announcement regarding ensuring those less fortunate in our society are offered the best opportunities.

So I offer you this opportunity to find out what is really happening and to avoid the inevitable legal action, this of course is leading to, due to the abusive, bullying behaviour which has been waged by both Peter Lauener and Lord Nash against Durand Academy and its individuals.

I suggest there is an independent person appointed to review all our concerns and to produce a report, which you, the Prime Minister and all concerned, can rely on.

This person or organisation must be free from any relationship with any parties involved and also be, and to be seen to be, truly independent.

All parties to provide all necessary documents, emails, minutes, telephone calls etc. that are requested. All parties must abide by the outcome of this report and of course those that have been shown to have acted wrongly, inappropriately or indeed abusively, would be clearly identified and the relevant bodies that are responsible for their management and oversight should take the appropriate action, to stop this continuous abuse.

I feel now we have got to a point that such an independent enquiry will once and for all resolve the claims and counter claims which are swirling around so that we can protect the school and the children's opportunities in life.

Of course, Peter Lauener and Lord Nash will no doubt vigorously object to such an enquiry for obvious reasons. Myself and my colleagues will welcome a full review with full disclosure with absolutely nothing to hide and much to celebrate.

I would like you to address the questions I raised in my letter to you, especially with regards to the outstanding monies that are owed to us.

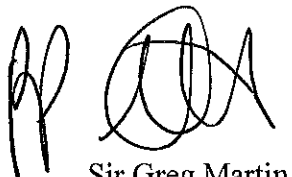
As for the £1.8 million, which the governors of DAT have once again reaffirmed their desire to ring fence in DET, I wish to make it clear that DET trustees have also again reaffirmed that they would transfer all these monies back to DAT on request.

It is DAT's wishes that this money remains ring fenced in DET as has always been agreed, until such time as the secondary project is resolved one way or another.

I do look forward to your swift response particularly to my suggestion for an independent enquiry into all our concerns and secondly, but no less importantly, your confirmation of support for this innovative and unique secondary project by way of £17.4 million grant as promised to be made available when needed.

As stated above, the governors' commitment to £2 million will be made available to this project at this point.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a final vertical stroke, positioned above the name 'Sir Greg Martin'.

Sir Greg Martin

**CC RT David Cameron PM**  
**Kate Hoey, MP**