

HOUSE OF COMMONS LONDON SW1A 0AA

Dr Carolyn Wilkins Chief Executive Oldham Council Level 3, Civic Centre West Street OLDHAM OL1 1UG

Our Ref: KHM/PARK02002/02161145

24 May 2016

Dear Dr Wilkins

Thank you for your recent letter, received 26th April regarding a resolution made at full Council on School Places in March. I apologise for the short delay in responding, which is due to the sheer volume of correspondence I have received in recent weeks.

I appreciate you taking the time to make me aware of this resolution and you will be aware from my comments in Parliament that I share the Council's concern regarding free schools and the inability of local authorities to create additional capacity in the right locations, as well as having grave concerns about forced academisation. I will continue to work to raise these concerns in Parliament and note that you have also written to the Secretary of State for Education on this issue.

As ever, if there's anything further I can do to help, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

DEBBIE ABRAHAMS MP

Oldham East and Saddleworth

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Debbie Abrahams MP is proud to represent the people of Alexandra, Lees, Saddleworth, Shaw & Crompton, St Mary's, St James' and Waterhead

Website: www.debbieabrahams.org.uk Twitter: @debbie_abrahams