



**Rt Hon Michael Gove MP**  
Secretary of State

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28 October 2010

Thank you again for meeting me on the 15<sup>th</sup> October to share your thoughts on the future of the School Support Staff Negotiating Body (SSSNB).

I have considered very carefully all of the views that were put to me by you and the lead representatives of the SSSNB Trade Union and Employer organisations at our meetings, and the additional matters that the support staff Trade Unions submitted to me in writing following those meetings. I have taken those views into account fully in my further discussions within Government on this matter, and I am now able to confirm that those discussions have concluded that the SSSNB does not fit well with the Government's priorities for greater deregulation of the pay and conditions arrangements for the school workforce. I therefore intend to introduce legislation to abolish the SSSNB at the earliest opportunity, using the first session Education Bill as the legislative vehicle.

In the light of this, I have decided to exercise my power under section 229(7) of the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 to withdraw, with immediate effect, all of the following matters that were referred to the SSSNB for consideration by the former Secretary of State on 29 July 2009:

- The production of a core contract of employment to cover remuneration, duties and working time;
- The design of national job role profiles to cover core school support staff roles;
- The development and production of a method for converting those job role profiles into a salary structure; and
- A strategy that will effectively implement the national pay and conditions'

framework in all schools maintained by local authorities in England including a methodology to manage both transition and steady state.

I appreciate this will be disappointing news for you and the SSSNB member organisations, particularly given the time and effort that has been committed to the SSSNB's programme of work. I have asked my officials to meet with you and the SSSNB member organisations in the near future, to discuss in more detail the transitional arrangements that will be put in place leading to the legislative provisions taking effect, including the implications for your role as the Independent Chair.

With grateful thanks for your kind work,

Yours,



MICHAEL GOVE