**UPDATE – 20th June 2016**

Thank you for your interest in our exercise to collect and collate the financial reporting data of academy trusts.

We are currently in the process of formalising a procurement strategy to commission a partner to aggregate, validate and adjust the accounts returns from the academy trusts for the financial year ending August 2016. The proposal is for a curtailed short term contract for one year with the option to extend for an additional year.

During the term of this initial contract, the EFA will develop the full scope of its new reporting framework to accommodate the expected increase in the number of academies by 2020. The EFA will then seek to procure a long-term service provider or consortia to provide specialist professional services for supporting data collection and data management expertise to

1. enable the statutory reporting requirements to be completed in a timely, accurate and cost effective manner.
2. automate the way we collect data in order to improve data quality, submission time and enhance user experience.

The contract term and potential value will be validated and tested through market engagement, building on the information we gathered during our previous conversations and interactions with interested parties.

We will contact you again as soon as we are able to provide more details on how we plan to proceed.