

**DERBYSHIRE LEARNING AND SKILLS COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL MEMBERS MEETING**

held on 1 November 2001

at Risley Country House Hotel, Risley, Derbyshire

**Present:**

Alan Charles  
Olivia Dean  
Michael Hall  
Stephen Lismore  
Brian Powell  
Pat Morgan-Webb  
Kenneth Spencer  
Roger Taylor  
David Williams (Chair)

**In Attendance:**

Terry Laws  
Christine Wright  
Debra Blackshaw

**Observers:**

Gary Bryant  
John Gibb

**Apologies:**

Tom Blyth  
Harydal Dhindsa  
Glenys Goucher  
Simon Hemmings  
John Kirkland

Item		ACTION
11/01/1	<b>Apologies</b>  As listed above	
11/01/2	<b>Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising</b>  Rural Costs - Group of Executive Directorss with areas of sparse population will be meeting later this month to look at the issues. DH will report back in January.  Bite Size - This will now take place in May 2002 around Adult learners week.	
11/01/3	<b>Household Survey</b>  TL give a presentation on the recent survey of 5,500 people across Derbyshire (copies of slides are attached and have been emailed to Council Members). TL stressed that this was an example of data that could be extracted from the data set and much more detail on, for example gender, age, geographical areas, could be extracted. He confirmed that the information would be in the public domain although special software is needed to access it for ad hoc enquiries. It will also be accessible via the Regional Observatory. He confirmed that data linking NVQ achievements to salaries is available. He agreed to supply the questionnaire used to Council Members. He agreed that an executive summary will be made available and that we need to ensure the data helps inform our and partners decisions.	

Item		ACTION
11/01/4	<p><b>FE Sub Group</b></p> <p>The Council considered the minutes for the FE sub group meeting on 15 October. DH confirmed that the approvals had been in principle only and final recommendation would be made by the full Council.</p> <p>There was some discussion about the potential conflict of interest pertaining to the nature of the business of JK. Many of the decisions of the sub group will be on capital projects which JK's company may bid for. DH agreed to talk to him about his role as Chair of this sub group in this context.</p> <p>It was further agreed that Declarations of Interest would now be a standing agenda item for all Council meetings and Sub Groups.</p>	<p>DH</p> <p>DH</p>
11/01/5	<p><b>Sub Regional Partnerships</b></p> <p>DH summarised the current position regarding sub regional partnerships in Derbyshire. These are being established by EMDA as a channel through which significant funding will eventually flow. None of the Derbyshire bids have been accepted to date. The position may be summarised as follows:</p> <p>"Amber Light" ie encouraged to develop further.  Derbyshire Dales/High Peak  Coalfields  National Forest</p> <p>"Red Light" ie fundamental rethink needed.  Derby City  Derbyshire Market Towns</p> <p>There was general concern at this lack of progress, and the effect this is likely to have on funding in the County. RT expressed regret that having done a similar exercise in setting up LSC boundaries the same arrangements would not apply to sub regional partnerships.</p>	
11/01/6	<p><b>Merger</b></p> <p>DH updated the Council Members on the merger of Mackworth, Wilmorton and Broomfield Colleges; this now has the full approval of the Secretary of State. OD added that a shadow board has been established and that the method of selecting a new Principal has also been agreed. The new College, named Derby College, will commence on 1 January 2002.</p>	
11/01/7	<p><b>Derby Strategic Plan</b></p> <p>TL presented a paper outlining progress since the last meeting. There was general agreement that the event launching the Strategic Priorities document was very successful. The Council will receive a further update at its December meeting and will consider the draft plan in January.</p>	

Item		ACTION
11/01/8	<p><b>West Park and Bolsover Update</b></p> <p>DH informed the Council that the consultancies were still in progress and the Council would have presentations by the Consultants at meetings in December and January.</p> <p>TL confirmed that the Consultants had been appointed as a result of a tendering exercise and that they were working under a fixed fee contract.</p>	
11/01/9	<p><b>Visit of Bryan Sanderson – 28 November 2001</b></p> <p>Bryan Sanderson, National Chair of the Learning and Skills Council will be visiting the East Midlands Region on 28 November. A dinner engagement has been arranged by Notts LSC and all Council Members are invited. On 29 November Mr Sanderson will be visiting Notts LSC staff, present the liP award to Bowmer and Kirkland Ltd and then visiting Derby Tertiary College: Wilmorton.</p> <p>PMW raised the question of the remarks made by John Harwood concerning the quality of FE provision, and his subsequent written statements on this subject. The Council agreed that this intervention is unlikely to prove helpful either in our relationships with local colleges or in our broader objective of encouraging more people into learning. It was agreed that DH would draft a letter for JK's signature summarising this view.</p>	DH
11/01/10	<p><b>Employer Strategic Task Group</b></p> <p>The above group has been set up for a limited time to act as a sounding board for staff setting out our strategy for engaging with employers. The following Council Members will sit on the group.</p> <p>Brian Powell (Chair)  John Kirkland  David Williams  Glenys Goucher  Kenneth Spencer</p> <p>A meeting to arranged in the near future.</p>	
11/01/12	<p><b>Finance Report</b></p> <p>An initial finance report was presented to the Council Members. CW asked for constructive comments on the structure of future reports and Members asked for volume and staffing information to be added to the report. This will be added as soon as the Management Information system has been developed. CW reported that DLSC were currently negotiating clawback from Work Based Learning Providers. Members requested a monthly report and asked that the information be presented by month followed by cumulative. Members also requested specific information against variances.</p> <p>CW reported that the current oversupply of staffing is expected to be resolved by the end of March 2002.</p>	

**Item****ACTION****11/01/13 Any Other Business**

Rolls Royce – DH updated the Council on the situation at Rolls Royce. 3,000 jobs are threatened in Derby including 1,000 sub-contractors. Further jobs are threatened at Hucknall, Nottinghamshire. Derbyshire LSC has agreed to lead on a bid for Rapid Response Funding to support those likely to lose their jobs. The redundancies will not take place until March 2002 at the earliest.

Refugees – TL reported that a further 450 asylum seekers are expected to arrive in Derby this winter and that we are making special efforts to ensure that adequate provision of English language training is made available.

Back to the Floor – A progress report was tabled and members were asked to note the date of this event, evening of 4<sup>th</sup> December 2001 at the Renaissance Hotel (Swallow) South Normanton.

ILA - MH asked how DLSC intended to react to the recent announcement of cancellation of Individual Learning Accounts. DH replied that we are considering making money available through the LIF to enable individuals to access small amounts of money to enable them to undergo learning. More details on this will be brought to a future council meeting.

**11/01/14 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will take place at 4.00 pm on Thursday 6 December at the Adult & Community Education Centre, St Helen's House, Derby.