

Minutes



Leading learning and skills

Minutes of meeting

Date	5 April 2005
Subject	Council Meeting
Location	Stewart Room, Derbyshire Chamber and Business Link
Time	16:00
LSC office	Derbyshire
Publication intent	Public

Present	Alan Charles June Cooper Michael Hall Simon Hemmings John Kirkland (Chair) Ian Murray Ken Spencer Carol Taylor David Williams
In attendance	Garry Bryant (GOEM) Karen Foulds (Jobcentre Plus) Hugh Hastie (Connexions) David Shaw (Derbyshire County Council LEA)
LSC staff	Peter Brammall Bev Hunt John Ratcliff Philippa Wilson
Apologies	Apologies have been received from: Carol Dibbs Russell Rigby Mohammed Sharief Geoff Stevens Anne Tipple Andrew Flack (Derby City LEA) David Hughes Maureen James Andrew Martin

Item 1. Welcome and introductions

- 1.1 John Kirkland welcomed all attendees to the meeting and apologies were given as above.

- 1.2 John informed the Council that Geoff Stevens, emda Board Member, has been appointed to the Council as a replacement for Pat Morgan-Webb and even though Geoff is unable to attend this meeting John is looking forward to welcoming him to the Council.

Decision: A copy of Geoff Steven's CV will be circulated to Council meeting attendees.

Action: JK

- 1.3 John welcomed David Shaw, Acting Chief Education Officer at Derbyshire County Council LEA, who will attend the Council meetings as an observer to replace Roger Taylor after his recent retirement.
- 1.4 John also welcomed John Ratcliff, Acting Director of Young People's Learning from National Office, who is present to cover agenda item 8.

Item 2. Minutes of last meeting

- 2.1 The minutes were accepted as a true record.

Item 3. Matters arising

Council Sub Groups and Employer Engagement

- 3.1 Simon Hemmings and Karen Foulds expressed an interest to be included in the new Employer Engagement Sub Group.

Derby College

- 3.2 Derby College is presenting the property strategy document to their governors. It is hoped that the document will then be present at the May Council meeting for approval.

Item 4. Executive Director's report

- 4.1 Peter Brammall brought several issues to the attention of the Council:

FE Funding Allocations

- 4.2 This process is almost complete with proposals to be signed off by next week.

Offender Learning & Skills

- 4.3 This is a new responsibility for the LSC and Peter has taken on the regional lead in this area. Initially this will involve a large amount of information gathering but is seen as a big opportunity. Extra resources will be available to help tackle the work.

Derby Skills Festival

- 4.4 The planning for this event has started and we currently trying to raise sufficient funds from various partner organisations to ensure this event takes place.

Chesterfield College

- 4.5 Peter informed the Council of the achievement of Beacon Status for Chesterfield College.

Director of Employer Engagement & Skills

- 4.6 This process is nearing completion with second round interviews being held on 11th April.

ESF Co-financing

- 4.7 Due to a lack of sufficient tenders on a few specifications not all funds have been allocated. These specifications are around unemployed and long-term unemployed projects. Currently the options of utilising these funds are being considered with re-tendering and using the money across the region as possible options.

Decision: It was agreed that further information would be provided on the areas of shortfall.

Action: Peter Brammall

Item 5. Final Area Wide Inspection Plan

- 5.1 Bev Hunt briefed the Council on the Area Wide Inspection Plan. The plan has been agreed and now requires implementing. Structures are being put in to place to carry out the plan. An Area Based Implementation Group is being created to ensure the Post Inspection Action Plan is followed through. We are currently awaiting the date of the next inspection, which will not be within the next 18 months. Bev thanked the Council for their input to the plan. Garry Bryant complimented Bev and her team who contributed to the completion of the document.

Item 6. Connexions progression data

- 6.1 Hugh Hastie gave a presentation on Year 11 Progression Data. The points highlighted were –

- Unknown data is less than 1%.
- There are just over 12 thousand in the cohort.
- NEET figures are reducing due to an input from all partners.
- Year 11 Figures are calculated annually.
- NEET not available includes those in prison etc.

- 6.2 It was raised that new Bolsover NEET figures showed an increase to 18%.

Decision: Hugh Hastie will investigate this figure and report back to the Council.

Action: Hugh Hastie

- 6.3 **Post meeting note** – Hugh Hastie confirmed that this figure related to the current total 16-18 NEET figure for Bolsover, rather than being an update on the Year 11 leavers of 2004 (6.9%). The latest comparable figure for Bolsover District 2004 Y11s who are NEET is (7.5%).

Decision: NEET Group figures are to be collated monthly and distributed to the Council.

Action: Hugh Hastie

Item 7. Outcome of ESF co-financing tendering round

- 7.1 Peter Brammall briefed the Council on the results of the ESF Co-financing tendering rounds.

Decision: It was agreed that the Council would receive quarterly updates to the approved projects list and that projects would be looked at in more detail.

Action: Peter Brammall

Decision: It was also agreed that a similar arrangement would be taken up in regards to the LIDF money.

Action: Peter Brammall

- 7.2 A brief discussion was held regarding how the unallocated money could be utilised and it was suggested that the money could be used to fund research into the impact and outcomes from ESF projects.

Item 8. White paper: 14-19 Education and Skills

- 8.1 John Ratcliff gave an overview to the Council of the 14-19 Education and Skills White Paper. A discussion was held around the White Paper.
- 8.2 It was agreed that there were many good examples of collaboration, providing vocational opportunities to young people across Derbyshire through the 14-19 Pathfinder, Increased Flexibility Pilot and other school/college/employer partnerships such as QuEGs (Queen Elizabeth Grammar School). The key to success will be to embed these initiatives into mainstream planning and delivery, overcoming restrictions around funding and governance. An important factor in this will be the development of a 14-19 learner entitlement, which forms one of the LSC's key priorities for 2005-06.
- Decision:** Alan Charles and David Shaw are going to investigate if anything can be done with schools funds to assist in this area of vocational training.
- Action: Alan Charles/David Shaw**
- 8.3 John Kirkland thanked John Ratcliff for attending the Council meeting.

Item 9. Any other business

'Purdah' period

- 9.1 John Kirkland made Council members aware of the current 'Purdah' period due to the General Election. All Council members should have received an email from Rob Wye outlining what this entails.

Skills feedback

- 9.2 David Williams raised an issue that was brought to his attention through comments made regarding the calibre of Derbyshire students used to staff a call centre within the City Centre. After discussion other Council Members revealed that they have received very different feedback from this company.

Decision: It was agreed that the LSC would follow up these comments.

Action: Peter Brammall

Skills White Paper

Decision: It was agreed that this paper would be discussed at a future Council meeting.

Action: Peter Brammall

Local Enterprise Growth Initiative

- 9.3 Garry Bryant raised the Local Enterprise Growth Initiative and suggested that the LSC should be involved. The initiative is only in consultation stage at present.

Decision: Garry Bryant is to forward the details to Philippa Wilson.

Action: Garry Bryant

Derby College luncheon

- 9.4 David Croll, Derby College Principal, is holding a luncheon to celebrate the opening of their new premises. It is thought that it will be held in the 2nd week of June commencing approximately at 10am. Details will be forwarded once confirmed.

Item 10. Date of next meeting

10.1 The next meeting of the Committee will take place on 17th May commencing at 4pm held in Boardroom 1, Edwards Geldard, Derby.

Publication no.**Meeting chair**

John Kirkland

Minute taker

Philippa Wilson

Document ref.

G:\Council\Minutes\2005\der-councilmeeting-publicminutes-05apr2005-v1-0.doc

Version

1.0

Date of version

12 April 2005

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