

Minutes



Leading learning and skills

Date 30 November 2005
Subject Council Away Day
Location DO/G16, The Devonshire Royal Campus, Buxton
Time 12:00
LSC office Derbyshire
Publication intent Public

Present Alan Charles
June Cooper
John Kirkland (Chair)
Margaret Lynch
Ian Murray
Mohammed Sharief
Kenneth Spencer
Geoff Stevens
Anne Tipple
David Williams
Chris Wynn

In attendance David Davies - University of Derby, Buxton
John Gibb - Connexions
David Shaw - Derbyshire County LA

LSC staff Peter Brammall
Bev Hunt
Andrew Martin
Kevin McCann
Karen Woodward

Apologies Apologies have been received from:
Carol Dibbs
Michael Hall
Simon Hemmings
Carol Taylor

Keith Burn - Jobcentre Plus
Andrew Flack - Derby City LA
Hugh Hastie - Connexions
John Perry - GOEM

Item 1. Welcome and introductions

- 1.1 John Kirkland welcomed all attendees to the meeting and apologies were given as above.
- 1.2 John welcomed David Davies, Executive Dean of the University of Derby Buxton, as an observer to the meeting and thanked him for his hospitality.
- 1.3 John also welcomed Margaret Lynch, Senior Regional Officer for the East Midlands Area for UNISON, and Chris Wynn, Cabinet Member for Children's and Education Services for Derby City Council, as the recently recruited new Council Members attending their first Council meeting.
- 1.4 John informed the Council that Simon Hemmings tenure comes to an end on 30th November and he thanked Simon for his service and input to the Council during his time as a Council Member. It was also confirmed that Simon would continue to sit on the Employer Engagement Sub Committee as an observer.

Item 2. Minutes of last meeting

- 2.1 The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as a true record.

Item 3. Matters arising

Matters arising – Connexions progression data (3.1)

- 3.1 Ian Murray agreed at the meeting held on 8th September to give a presentation to the Council on the programme that Chesterfield College and the Derbyshire Network have developed to address the high NEET figure in Bolsover.

Decision: This action is carried forward as it was agreed that this presentation would take place in 2006.

Action: Ian Murray

Matters arising – White paper: 14-19 Education and Skills (3.2)

- 3.2 At an earlier Council meeting Alan Charles and David Shaw agreed to review and report on the extent to which schools funds are being used to assist in the delivery of vocational training.

Decision: It was agreed that this issue would be discussed outside the meeting to clarify exactly what information was required to allow Alan to collate and circulate to Council members.

Action: Bev Hunt/Alan Charles

Matters arising – Management information pack (5.4)

- 3.3 Alan Charles agreed at the meeting held on 19th October to discuss with David Shaw the issuing regarding the releasing of 'A' level point scores.
- 3.4 David Shaw informed the Council that this issue is being raised with Head Teachers to get their consent to allow the LA to share these figures with the LSC when they are released to them.

Decision: It was agreed that this action will be carried forward until the issue is resolved.

Action: David Shaw

Decision: It was also agreed that the same action should be completed by Derby City LA.

Action: Chris Wynn/Andrew Flack

Matters arising – Management information pack (5.7)

- 3.5 The timings for information to be published to the Council were agreed at the meeting on 19th October.

Decision: 'A' level management information is not available yet and it was agreed that this item will be on the agenda for the Council meeting held in February 2006.

Action: Bev Hunt

Matters arising – Management information pack (5.11)

- 3.6 It was agreed at the meeting held on 19th October that an Employer Engagement Sub Committee meeting would be arranged.

Decision: An Employer Engagement Sub Committee meeting took place on 21st November, therefore this action is completed.

Matters arising – Management information pack (5.11)

- 3.7 It was agreed at the meeting held on 19th October that Elaine McCulloch would produce a brief paper for the Employer Engagement Sub Committee meeting.

Decision: This has been noted and is on the agenda for the next Employer Engagement Sub Committee meeting.

Matters arising – FE and sixth form management information (6.4)

- 3.8 It was agreed at the meeting held on 19th October that a copy of the matrix which profiles provision from low to high priority would be brought to the Council once there had been agreement across the region about its use.

- 3.9 Discussions are underway with FE colleges and it was agreed that once the process is completed the matrix and outcome of these discussions will be brought to the Council.

Decision: This action is to be carried forward.

Action: Bev Hunt

Matters arising – FE and sixth form management information (6.9)

- 3.10 It was agreed at the meeting held on 19th October that franchising information would be circulated to all Council Members.

Decision: This activity is a regional exercise and the data is not ready yet, therefore this action is to be carried forward.

Action: Bev Hunt

Matters arising – Outcome of ESF Co-financing re-tendering round (7.3)

- 3.11 It was agreed at the meeting held on 19th October that the Council receive information regarding the ESF contracts that are currently in progress including a summary of projects together with defaults and issues.

Decision: This request has been logged and is currently being worked on, therefore it was agreed that this action will be the main agenda item at the next Council meeting.

Action: Peter Brammall

Matters arising – Update on the Union Learning Representative Programme (9.4)

3.12 It was agreed at the meeting held on 19th October that Peter Brammall would investigate the regional bids to the national budget bidding round and report back to the Council.

Decision: Peter has approached National Office and is awaiting a response, therefore this action is carried forward.

Action: Peter Brammall

Matters arising – Any other business (10.1)

3.13 At the meeting held on 19th October the Council was informed that LSC - Derbyshire was going to be recommended to the panel to be awarded liP status. John Kirkland confirmed that the recommendation was approved by the liP panel and Derbyshire have been awarded liP.

Item 4. Executive Director's report

4.1 Peter Brammall brought the Council's attention to some specific items in his report:

4.2 There have been three key publications

LSC's 2nd Annual Statement of Priorities

4.3 This document has been published and will form the basis of the regional statement of priorities. A draft of the regional statement of priorities will be presented to the Regional Board on 5th December, once approved it will be formally introduced as the updated priorities framework for the East Midlands.

Priorities for Success & Review of FE – Foster Report

4.4 These documents feed into the agenda for change discussion later on the agenda. They are national drivers which govern how the LSC invests money in provision.

Theme 7

4.5 Peter wanted to make the Council aware of the effects this was having on Derbyshire LSC, in terms of time spent leading on development work in the region and nationally, along with the impact on staff morale and the risk of losing good people during this period of uncertainty. This is already starting to happen and is causing some operational difficulties.

Mark Haysom visit

4.6 This was a very positive visit, with staff being able to question Mark on Theme 7 issues. Mark also had a tour of the Joseph Wright Centre and a meeting with the Head from Aldercar School and the Principal of South East

Derbyshire College to discuss the pitfalls and successes of 14-19 collaboration.

Northamptonshire Council meeting

- 4.7 Peter Brammall, John Kirkland and Philippa Wilson attended a Northamptonshire Council meeting. The Chairs and Executive Directors are being encouraged to attend Council meetings around the region, to facilitate the spread of good practice and help develop an understanding of common issues across the region.

NEET figures

- 4.8 The annual target for NEET is 8% not 8.5% as shown in the report. It is thought that both the City and County should come in under that figure. There is still a high number of young people in NEET and Connexions want to drive these residual hard core figures down.

Decision: Peter Brammall suggested a joint review of NEET at a future meeting, looking at barriers to engagement including any implications for training provision. This could build on the work outlined by Ian Murray earlier.

Action: Peter Brammall/John Gibb

Item 5. Agenda for change themes

Funding and data

- 5.1 Andrew Martin, Regional Finance Director, gave a presentation on funding and data to the Council. A discussion regarding the agenda for change and funding and data followed the presentation, which outlined the key issues to be considered as part of the forthcoming planning dialogue with providers during the spring. John Kirkland thanked Andrew for attending the Council meeting.

Skills and employers

- 5.2 Karen Woodward, Regional Skills Director, gave a presentation on skills and employers to the Council. A discussion regarding the creation, expansion and function of Skills Academies and CoVE's followed the presentation along with an outline of the employer training pilot 'Train to Gain', to be launched across the region from next April. John Kirkland thanked Karen for attending the Council meeting

Quality, Business excellence, Reputation and LSC re-structuring

- 5.3 Due to a shortage in time Peter Brammall focused upon Theme 7 and the LSC re-structuring. Peter briefed the Council on the proposed new structure and the formalisation of the Regional Board.
- 5.4 The driver behind the restructure is the creation of high-level capacity locally through Partnership and Economic Development Teams covering Derby and Derbyshire County. These teams will be aligned with Local Authorities to allow true integration and partnership working via Local Area Agreements and the new Integrated Children's Services arrangements; they will also be the key relationship managers for providers.

5.5 The investment in these local teams is facilitated by the efficiencies arising from the creation of a regional support centre, which will house 'back office' functions and expertise support to the local teams. These proposals are currently out for consultation and a further update will be given once this concludes at the end of January.

Decision: It was agreed that Quality, Business excellence and Reputation would be carried forward to the next Council meeting in January 2006.

Action: Peter Brammall

Item 6. Any other business

6.1 None.

Item 7. Date of next meeting

7.1 The next meeting of the Council will take place on 17th January 2006 commencing at 4 pm in the Boardroom at LSC – Derbyshire.

Publication no.

Meeting chair

John Kirkland

Minute taker

Philippa Wilson

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