

DERBYSHIRE LEARNING AND SKILLS COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEMBERS MEETING

HELD ON 6 MAY 2003

AT

ST JOHN AMBULANCE TRAINING CENTRE, CHESTERFIELD

Present:

Alan Charles
Olivia Dean
Hardyal Dhindsa
Glenys Goucher
David Hughes
John Kirkland (Chair)
Stephen Lismore
Pat Morgan-Webb
Ken Spencer
Carol Taylor
Roger Taylor
David Williams

In Attendance:

Terry Laws
Christine Wright
Debra Blackshaw (Minutes)

Observers:

Andrew Flack
Brian Gray
Hugh Hastie
Bob Kendall
Theresa McDermott
Jan Sensier

ITEM

ACTION

1. **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Tom Blyth, Carol Dibbs, Michael Hall, Simon Hemmings and Chris Wynn.

2. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record.

3. **Matters Arising**

University of Derby Capital Bid

The capital bid from University of Derby has now been approved.

Local Initiative Fund

DLSC has recently received guidance on the Local Intervention and Development Fund that replaces the LIF and the Standards Fund. Priorities that were set for LIF by the Council at its meeting in December 2002 are still relevant. A paper will be presented to the Council to clarify

TL

the priorities and fund available in July.

Local Plan

At the last meeting SH questioned the number of Learner Reps quoted in the Local Plan. DH has asked for clarification and from a target of 174 learner reps, 63 are now on board and DLSC is on track to meet this target. A copy of the report explaining the figures will be sent to SH.

DB

Bitesize

There has been an internal secondment to run Bitesize for this year. Progress is on course and targets for this year are:

	Target	Actual to date
Providers	40	51
Bitesize Intros	500	360
Learners	4000	

JK expressed disappointment that no courses were run in Belper last year and asked TL to find out if Derby County Football Club and Derbyshire County Cricket Club have been asked to take part.

4. **Council Appointments Process**

The process for re-appointment or appointment of new members will be as follows:

- Advertising for new Council Members will take place next week (w/c 12 May 2003).
- JK, Roy Roberts (Independent Assessor) and one other Council Member (Michael Hall) will sift applications early June and interviews will take place in July.
- Recommendations will go to the National Appointments Committee for their meeting in August or September.
- Members will be informed of the outcome as soon as we are advised after September.

5. **Health and Safety Report**

Members received a copy of the six monthly Health and Safety Report. CW informed members that the arrangements for Learner H&S has changed. It is now the responsibility of the provider to ensure that a proper H&S assessment is carried out, although DLSC will monitor this via the Provider Performance Review and external inspection. JK asked CW to check whether the term "major" used in the report was the same definition used by the Health and Safety Executive.

CW

Council Members asked if it was possible to benchmark DLSC and other LLSCs. CW will look into this.

CW

6. **Valuable Skills**

Members received the progress report on Valuable Skills. After a slow start the Employer Training Pilot is now making good progress.

KS asked if this pilot was bringing new employers into training and not just the same employers using this pilot for training that would have been done anyway. DH informed members that at the start of the pilot the target was for employers who have, in the past, not used any formal training. Although this had proved very difficult, employers are now using providers not only for the training supported by Valuable Skills but also for training outside the scope. GG informed members that at the last Employer Group meeting she had received positive feedback from two employers.

7. **Work Based Learning**

CW presented a report on WBL up to period 7. Whilst participation of 19 – 24 year olds was slightly down on the previous year, participation of 16 – 19 year olds was up.

New contracts will not be issued to 3 or 4 providers whose performance was particularly poor and work is underway to find alternative provision for the learners.

Members asked about the sharing of good practice between training providers and CW informed them that the Derbyshire Network was the forum in which this happened.

Members asked for a detailed breakdown of the performance information. CW to work with the Provision Strategy Sub Committee to look at the best way to present the data we have.

8. **Maximise**

Maximise is the initiative aimed at helping young people in employment but not receiving any structured training. DLSC bid for and won £2M for this initiative which started in January 2003. Delivery is through the Connexions Service and Carolyn Salt is the project manager. Carolyn presented Maximise to the recent Employer Group meetings and so far feedback has been good.

GG asked whether the target of 50% of young people moving into structured learning by 2005 was realistic and if

DLSC know how many of these young people had learning difficulties? TL explained that this project was operating on new territory and promised to report on progress on these issues.

TL

9. **Timings of Sub Committee Meetings**

DH proposed that the Full Council would meet every two months and sub committees would meet on alternative months with the Chair of each sub-committee deciding when this meeting would take place. TL will attend the Individual and Employer Sub Committees and CW will attend the Provision and Audit Sub Committees. As the dates of the Audit Committee meetings are dictated to by other factors, the dates already set will stand. New dates for the next 12 months will be circulated as soon as possible.

Members commented that they would like a more structured agenda for full Council meetings and KS offered to work with DH to consult members on the type and range of meetings and reports they want.

KS/DH

10. **Strategic Area Reviews**

DLSC are currently developing the approach that will be used and this will include using the current Area Based Advisory Groups. A report will be presented to the Council in July.

TL

11. **Any Other Business**

Agreement has been reached with Southern Derbyshire Chamber that its Southern Derbyshire Learning Foundation will come under control of DLSC as part of the TEC legacy. JK and DW will become Trustees and therefore be able to direct use of the funds of around £350K.

DH outlined a proposal to transfer to the funds to the Derbyshire Community Foundation. By doing this, the Foundation would lever in £1M from a benefactor to the benefit of the County. DH informed the meeting that there was some urgency over this issue as the benefactor would only donate the £1M if the £350K was transferred before the end of June 2003. Members requested that a paper outlining the proposal be circulated and a decision reached by correspondence.

GG expressed support for the initiative. DH to circulate a paper outlining the proposal in order for a decision to be made before the next meeting.

DH

CT distributed copies of new local basic skills media

campaigns for 2003/04. Copies can be obtained from ROWA or DLSC.

12. **Derby College Capital Bid and Chesterfield College Capital Bid**

JK declared an interest and left the meeting.
OD and DW declared interests.

DH outlined both the Derby College Capital Bid which will be presented in full to Council Members within the next two months.

Derby College wish to relocate their A level provision as well as some level 1 and 2 provision delivered at Prince Charles Campus to a City Centre site. Part of the funding for this will come from the sale of part of the Pride Parkway Campus. Derby College may ask the LSC for 35% of the cost but 50% support may be a possibility due to the proposal being as a result of the Area Inspection.

Chesterfield College wish to sell the Clowne Campus and develop a new level 1, 2 and 3 campus at a different site in Clowne at a cost of approximately £7M. The majority of this money will come from the sale of the Clowne site.

Members proposed a one-off Capital Bid Committee meeting to discuss both proposals and to give their recommendations to the full Council. DH to arrange.

DH

13. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next full meeting will be held on 2 July at DLSC office, commencing at 4 pm.