

Minutes



Leading learning and skills

Date 12 November 2007
Subject COUNCIL MEETING
Location Granby Suite, Leicester College
Time 16:30
LSC office Leicestershire
Publication intent Internal

Present Rosemary Beard - Observer
Eric Carveth - Observer
Jim Connelly - Observer
Maggie Galliers
Ann Height
Chris Hall
Tricia Pedlar - Observer
Maureen Milgram-Forrest

In attendance Alison Rees
LSC staff Henry Inman
Mary Rogers
Carolyn Savage

Apologies Apologies have been received from:
Sheila Locke
Mark Mabey
Les Price
Dave Tantum
Mir Juma
Gareth Williams

Item 1. Welcome and introductions

1.1 Maureen opened the meeting at 16.30 and welcomed colleagues.

Item 2. Minutes of last meeting

2.1 The minutes from the 17th July were agreed as an accurate record.

Item 3. Matters arising

3.1 There were no matters arising.

Item 4. Capital

4.1 This agenda item has been delayed and Mary Rogers gave a brief update to the members. The application in principle (AIP) was approved in July 2006. Presently an assessment is underway regarding the difference between the AIP and the application in detail. The application in detail and assessment will be circulated in due course for comment. The next Regional Board meeting is scheduled for the 6th December.

With regard to other Capital issues every College will have Capital issues to be looked at. There is currently a lot of activity at various stages of delivery.

Item 5. LSC Update – Machinery of Government Changes

With regard to Machinery of Government Changes a letter from Bill Rammell and Jim Knight is anticipated in November, which will outline principles. There is really nothing further to add at this stage.

Item 6. Future Local Input

6.1 Mary tabled the Paper to Council on the subject of Delegations to Local Councils and Regional Boards, issued in September 2007. The document recommends some functions currently carried out by local councils be delegated to Regional Boards with effect from 1st November 2007.

6.2 Maureen updated from the Regional Board meeting held on the 8th November. The new interim board consists of 5 local chairs and observers from GOEM, EMDA and DWP plus Area Directors. Local Councils are asked to remain in the capacity of advice and guidance for the interim Regional Board. By April it is anticipated that the new Regional Board will be in a position to attract nominations and make appointments to the New Regional Council, but the process could mean delays to as late as June or July.

Maureen asked the members present if they would be willing to continue to act as advisors and give guidance in some form to the Regional Board and Area Team, perhaps via email, on Capital and Infrastructure issues. Several of the absentees have already given that assurance.

Decision: Unanimously agreed

Item 7. Area Director's Report

7.1 Mary tabled the Area Director's report November 2007. Key Points:-

- Structure - recruitment to two posts, one vacancy remains due to current administration budgetary restrictions.
- ESF recharges, exercises to remedy the situation are underway
- JARS are underway. County have had positive feedback, City begins shortly
- September Guarantee – working closely with Connexions the “Big Match” event evidenced excellent partnership working. No learners were allowed to leave the event without at the least an action plan. Undoubtedly this event has had an impact on the September Guarantee; the figures look good for October. Well done and thank you to Connexions and local authority partners.
- liP – recognition has been successful and is ongoing. With regard to 13-19 the LSC is pleased with the recruitment of Brigitte Boyce, experienced in this area and joined us from a summer role in Northants.
- City Strategy – Progressing well. Henry is chasing The Board and line management to this team and others!
- High Cross – lots of activity and development days taking place. Significant numbers are coming through with lots of challenging detailed work ahead to ensure the engagement of disadvantaged communities. Henry is working towards fast-tracking the Guaranteed Interview System with Job Centre Plus.
- Train to Gain – is moving forwards well, but still lots to do. There are issues with settlement for next year. Well done to Leicester College and South Leicester College who exceeded their targets. Joint sharing of good practice meetings will take place with supporting College chairs.
- Operational Groups – Henry updated on Construction and Retail. Leicester and Stephenson College’s CoVEs are taking lead roles along with South Leicestershire on business.

Item 8. Chair’s Report

8.1 Maureen highlighted from the Chair’s report and congratulated Chris Hall and Hallmark for their East Midlands Training award. Congratulations also to Henry who pushed for more nominations. His energy most appreciated. Leicester did extremely well in the awards securing one national, three regional awards and lots of special mentions.

- Highfields Community Centre – The LSC has acted as mediator to bring together the two opposing groups. Progress has been slow, but is now part of an Access Centre pilot project for Adult Education. The centre now has staff that have been accepted and Maureen has passed over her role on the board to Henry. Going forward there is a will to transfer assets and there will be some form of lease arrangement to give them autonomy.

Item 9. Any Other Business

9.1 There was no other business. Maureen closed the meeting at 17.00 and opened the celebration buffet thanking all council members and observers for their hard work and effort in supporting the Leicestershire Area Team.

Meeting chair	Maureen Milgram-Forrest
Minute taker	Alison Rees
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