

Have your say on Colleges' merger plans

Date of issue	6 April 09
Publication number	Braintree 1/09
Embargo until	For immediate release

Another step in the proposed merger of Braintree College with Colchester Institute begins next week with an invitation to Braintree and Colchester residents to have their say on the changing face of learning in north Essex.

A six week period of formal consultation on the proposed merger begins on Tuesday 14 April 2009. The merger proposal could bring Braintree College together with Colchester Institute; the largest vocational college in Essex, to create a varied and stronger curriculum, enhanced facilities and a broader range of training opportunities for learners, employers and the wider community.

The consultation is open to Colchester and Braintree residents, students and interested parties who may travel to learn or work at either of the Colleges from outside the area, and who may want to express a view on the proposed merger.

The consultation process is managed by Learning and Skills Council Essex, (LSC Essex) which is responsible for ensuring the availability and funding of high-quality, post-16 education and training.

The merger's aim is to enhance long-term Further Education provision and training opportunities in the Braintree area, serving the needs of learners and employers and assuring the College remains at the heart of its community.

A Consultation document on the proposed merger is available free on request from LSC Essex.

Your views should be sent in writing only to: Terry Collin, Partnership Director, LSC Essex, Redwing House, Hedgerows Business Park, Colchester Road, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 5PB by 5pm, Tuesday 26 May 2009.

The final decision on the merger will rest with the Secretary of State for the Department of Innovation, Universities and Skills.

Further information is available at

www.lsc.gov.uk/regions/eastofengland/whatwedo

ENDS

LSC

The LSC exists to make England better skilled and more competitive. We are responsible for ensuring the availability of high-quality education and training for everyone. We have a single goal: to improve the skills of England's young people and adults to world class standards. Our vision is that young people and adults in England have knowledge and skills matching the best in the world and are part of a truly competitive workforce. We work nationally, regionally and locally to deliver this ambition on behalf of learners and employers.

News released on **6 April 09** embargoed until **For
immediate release**

Public Document