

Statutory Draft Proposal

DRAFT PROPOSAL UNDER SECTION 51 (1) (C) OF THE FURTHER AND HIGHER EDUCATION ACT 1992 (THE ACT) FOR THE DISSOLUTION OF THE FURTHER EDUCATION CORPORATION OF THURROCK & BASILDON COLLEGE UNDER SECTION 27 OF THE ACT

NAME OF THE FURTHER EDUCATION CORPORATION AND INSTITUTION: Thurrock & Basildon College

ADDRESS: Woodview Campus
Grays
Essex
RM16 2YR

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE EDUCATION PROVIDED AND THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS AT THE INSTITUTION:

Thurrock & Basildon College has campuses located in the local authority areas of Thurrock Council and Essex County Council in the area of Essex Learning and Skills Council (LSC). The college's two main sites are located in Basildon approximately 0.4 mile from the town centre and Grays approximately 2 miles from the town centre. The college has learning centres in Eastgate Shopping Centre (Basildon), Lakeside Retail Park (Thurrock) and Canvey Island. During 2007/08 the college had 2,114 learners aged 16-18 of which 79% were full time and 2,874 learners aged 19 or over of which 91% were part time, a total of 4,988. The College offers full and part time vocational courses and training across all subject sector areas. The college has two Centres of Vocational Excellence (CoVE's) in Logistics & Transport and in Electrical Installation and Electrical & Electronic Engineering (in partnership with Chelmsford College). The College is a partner of the NoVA Consortium delivering Apprenticeships and the Thames Gateway Train to Gain Consortium.

REASON FOR PROPOSING DISSOLUTION OF THE CORPORATION:

The governing body of Thurrock & Basildon College is proposing to merge with South East Essex College of Arts and Technology. This would be achieved by the dissolution of the existing further education corporation of Thurrock & Basildon College and the transfer of its property, rights and liabilities to the further education corporation of South East Essex College of Arts and Technology.

The governing body of South East Essex College of Arts and Technology is separately proposing to the Secretary of State that the name of that College be changed to reflect the changed nature of the institution. The new name proposed is South Essex College of Further and Higher Education.

The principle benefits advanced by the governors of the colleges in support of the proposal are:

- To grow learner numbers and participation reducing outward migration in Basildon and Thurrock, improving retention and reducing low skill levels.
- To raise the standard of provision and achievement

- To provide learners and employers with more choice and opportunities by increasing provision and developing progression routes across all subject sector areas. This will also include increasing Apprenticeships and Train to Gain.
- To respond to and be driven by the needs of local and regional economy providing a unified voice to employers
- To further develop links with Higher Education and increase pathways and progression into Higher Education.
- To support the development of National Skills Academies in retail, creative and cultural skills, financial services and manufacturing and support the development of an initiative for a new skills academy around logistics.
- To further develop strong partnership with other post 16 providers in the Thames Gateway area and bring a unified voice to sub regional 14-19 planning
- To improve Information, advice and guidance services
- To achieve a scale of operation which will give the merged college long term resilience and the capacity to develop the curriculum and invest for the future.

The Learning and Skills Council will consider the proposal in light of the Department for Innovation, University and Skills (DIUS) Criteria shown below

- the proposal is likely to address the needs of learners and employers
- the proposal is likely to increase opportunities for the learner to exercise choice and encourage diversity in the education and training available.
- the proposal is likely to increase local participation rates and result in improved quality and success
- the proposal is likely to develop innovation and improve access to learning for the community
- the proposal ensures the embedding of all aspects of equality and diversity
- the proposal is likely to promote effective community cohesion through community presence and reputation within governance structures; and
- the proposal

DATE PROPOSED FOR THE DISSOLUTION OF THE CORPORATION:

1st January 2010

EDUCATIONAL PROVISION TO BE MADE FOR THOSE STUDENTS WHO HAVE NOT COMPLETED THEIR COURSES ON THAT DATE:

Provision will be made for those students at Thurrock and Basildon College who have not completed their courses by the date of the dissolution to complete their courses at the joint institution.