

Minutes



Leading learning and skills

Date 10 July 2007
Subject Council Meeting (03/07)
Location Audio Visual Room, Canius House
Time 18:00
LSC office London South
Publication intent Internal

Present Caroline Allen OBE, Vic Grimes, Dame Lorna Boreland Kelly, Kevin Finnigan, John Ball, Julita Pearson, Malcolm Brabon, Lola Barrett

Apologies Apologies were received from:
Professor David Miles, Roger Mills, Rita Bailey, Robert Dilley, Chris Nicol OBE, Linda Taylor, Peter Wylie

Item 1. Welcome, apologies and introduction

The Chair welcomed council members and officers to the meeting. Apologies were given for those who were unable to attend. A paper containing an amendment to agenda Item 13. Richmond 16-19 Competition was circulated by Mary Francis.

1.1 Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the last meeting were agreed as an accurate and correct record.

1.2 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

1.3 Action Points

There were no outstanding actions.

1.4 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Item 2. Regional Audit Committee

- 2.1 The Chair reminded everyone that Roger Mills updated Council at their March Meeting. A full set of minutes of the last Regional Audit Committee were available in the July Council packs.

Item 3. Skills Alliance

- 3.1 The Chair explained that there was no update for this item. The next Skills Alliance meeting will take place in September 2007. Council Sub Groups would also be discussed during the meeting under an agenda item.

Item 4. IAG Strategic Board

- 4.1 The Chair explained that there was no update for this item. The next IAG Strategic Board would take place in September 2007.

Item 5. Area Director's Report

- 5.1 The Chair introduced this item and explained that the Area Director's paper had been written prior to recent announcements about the changes to government machinery. The Chair briefly highlighted these key changes and confirmed that the LSC had set up three internal task groups to consider and plan transition arrangements. Members were also informed that the FE Bill had been delayed which meant that Local Councils are still required to process important business. The Chair reiterated the importance, authority and responsibility that Local Council still has in their decision making role. In addition she highlighted the value of Council in supporting the Area Director, staff and providers during this time of significant change.
- 5.2 Lola Barratt said that the London Mayor was considering changes to London's sub-regional boundaries which would have further implications for the LSC and sub-regional agencies. Vic Grimes said he was aware of this development and that the Greater London Authority had a model in mind which was out for consultation.
- 5.3 Vic presented his Area Directors report and Council noted good progress across a range of activities.

Item 6. SHM – Employer Responsiveness

- 6.1 Peter Davies from the LSC's Regional Office gave a presentation on the 'Employer Responsiveness' project. He emphasised this as being a topical issue around provision and particularly interesting in response to the Leitch Report. Peter informed Council that a consultancy firm, SHM were tasked to undertake this project. His presentation discussed the balance of funding within London South, outlining the phases of the project and the participating colleges.
- 6.2 A brief discussion followed and Council noted progress.

Item 7. Future of Council Sub-Groups

7.1 The FE Bill to dissolve local Councils is currently going through Parliament. Vic presented his paper to Council highlighting the issues around keeping Council's sub groups and supporting recommendations on how to do so.

Decision: Council noted and approved the proposals in the paper.

Item 8. Merton 16-19 Commissioning Strategy

8.1 Don King, Partnership Director for Merton presented his paper identifying the level and type of unmet 16-18 need for provision and suggested strategy for commissioning the extra provision. Council was asked to support the recommendations made in the paper.

Decision: Council approved the following recommendations:

- **Not to hold a 16-18 Competition;**
- **LSC London South to develop new provision through negotiated commissioning and if appropriate through open and competitive tendering; and**
- **LSC London South's Executive determines its response to any proposals for new schools sixth forms on the basis of how effective they will increase participation, improve quality and level 2/level 3 achievement.**

Item 9. Croydon College Capital Project

9.1 Vic Grimes gave an update on Croydon College's Capital project. Following the presentation made by Croydon College at the last Council Meeting in March, Council had concerns about some aspects of the development. Whilst the first two concerns had been addressed, the College could not provide clear information on the realisable asset value of the Barclay Road site because of continuing planning blight.

Decision: Council agreed that the only way forward was to continue capital work already underway and to withdraw the revised Application in Principal and to bring forward a detailed proposal against the original AIP.

Item 10. Orpington College Capital Application in Principal

10.1 The notes of the meeting held with Orpington College following agreement of delegated authority to the Area Director, Chair, Vice Chair were circulated in Council Packs. The meeting took into consideration the feedback received from Council Members. National Capital Committee approved the application in principal. Vic thanked Roger Mills for his help and support with Orpington College.

Item 11. Single Equality Scheme

- 11.1 Mary Francis presented her paper and drew Council's attention to the scheme and the implications for the staff at the Learning & Skills Council. Council was informed that an E-Learning package had been set up to inform and train staff and that a 'Master Class' would be scheduled also. Jon Sacker has been appointed as the regional lead contact and will be taking this forward. Council were asked to note the strands.
- 11.2 Council noted the paper and strands of the publication.
- 11.3 The Chair took the opportunity to urge all present to raise awareness of this publication and to complete the tick box section. The publication can be accessed via the SLLP website (www.sllp.org.uk) or via www.livelearnwork.org.

Item 12. Final Planning and Allocations (FE, ACL, WBL & Schools)

- 12.1 Laurence Downes presented his paper reporting the overview of the 2007/08 planning and funding process, outcomes and what London South plans to deliver.
- 12.2 Council noted the paper as an information item.

Item 13. ESF/EQUAL 06/07 Performance and 07/08 plans

- 13.1 Vic presented paper to Council as a quick summary.
- 13.2 Council members were told they would receive invitations and further details to the showcase event taking place at the TUC in September.

Item 14. Any Other Business

- 14.1 Next Council Meeting - The next council meeting is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 9th October.
- 14.2 Accommodation – Lola Barrett asked about accommodation and whether London South is still relocating. Vic confirmed that in light of the recent changes to government departments, London South would not be relocating to new premises

Meeting Close: 19:35pm

Meeting chair	Caroline Allen
Minute taker	Christina Evangeli
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