

Minutes



Leading learning and skills

Date 13 September 2005
Subject Council Meeting
Location Canius House
Time 18:00
LSC office London South
Publication intent Public

Present

Council Members:
Richard Carter (Chair)
Caroline Allen (Vice Chair)
Jay Mercer (LSLSC ED)
Lola Barrett
Kevin Finnigan
Julita Pearson
Rita Bailey
Dame Lorna Boreland-Kelly
John Ball
Robert Dilley
Mel Barrett

Observers:
Malcolm Brabon
Chris Nicol
Ayub Khan for Linda Taylor

LSC staff

Vic Grimes (Director of Strategic Development)
Mary Francis (Director of Operations)
Simon Churchill (Head of Resource Management)
Liam McIlvenny (Head of Corporate Development / Officer to Council)

Apologies

Apologies have been received from:
Roger Mills
David Miles
Peter Wylie
Mark Lunn
Richard Wragg (Observer)
Jo Kokkides (Clerk to the Council)

Item 1. Welcome and Introductions, Minutes of last meeting, Matters Arising, Action Points and Declarations of Interest

Chair welcomed Council, Observers and officers to the meeting and gave apologies for those unable to attend.

1.1 The minutes of the previous meetings (Council Development Day and ordinary Council Meeting) on 12th July 2005 were approved as a correct record.

1.2 There were no matters arising from either meeting.

1.3 **Action Points:**
(Action point 34) – some council member's details were outstanding.
Action: GW to chase.
(Action point 36) – Agreed that the special meeting will take place at 4.30 pm on 15 November 2005. Kevin Finnigan and Dame Lorna Boreland-Kelly apologised as they would be unable to attend and asked that the meeting should proceed in their absence.

1.4 **Declarations of Interest:**
Kevin Finnigan declared an interest in item 13 and 17.
Ayub Khan declared an interest in item 17.

Item 2. Management Accounts

2.1 Simon Churchill updated the council indicating that there was overall 1.7% over spend. Of this £1.1 million is a nationally controlled budget and £400,000 controlled on a local basis. Dame Lorna Boreland-Kelly was concerned that some overspend is due to National Office and felt that it would be unfair if LSLSC was judged on a matter that was outside of its control.

2.2 The Chair was reassured that a £60,000 overspend on salaries would be eradicated through the ESF recharging process.

2.3 An 88% LID underspend was highlighted and would be addressed elsewhere within the meeting.

Item 3. Audit Committee

3.1 In the absence of Roger Mills, Dame Lorna Boreland-Kelly fed back on Audit committee outlining that the budget overspend/responsibility issue (see 2.1 above) had been discussed as had the Capital Allocations process. The LID position had also been

discussed and it had been noted that progress on LID/ESF were to form agenda items for this council meeting.

- 3.2 Chair asked for Audit Committee papers to be attached (if approved and available) to the Council Minutes. **Action:** GW

Item 4. Skills Alliance

- 4.1 John Ball updated the Council congratulating Cindy Bartello and Lara Majek on the work to date in particular with the early work to establish Borough based Employer Skills Forums. Tenders had been received from each Borough. The SLLP Business Development Units would also submit a bid for their own activity which would be dovetailed with the Borough Forums.

- 4.2 There is currently an initiative underway with CIPD promoting connections with business.

Item 5. Equality and Diversity Task Group

- 5.1 Caroline Allen reported that there had not been a meeting since the last Council. The next one will be on 1st November at 2pm.

Item 6. IAG

- 6.1 Richard Carter said that there had been no meeting since the last Council Meeting. The next meeting is on 29th September 2005 at Canius House at 2pm.

Item 7. FE Forum Meeting

- 7.1 The FE Forum met on 7th September with 7 college governor chairs attending. Good discussion of three major items: Agenda for Change, 14-19 Strategy and the Skills Alliance.

Item 8. Borough Report on London Borough of Bromley

- 8.1 Vic Grimes gave a presentation on the profile of Bromley. Council members welcomed the report and felt it was very representative of the position in the borough.

Item 9. Executive Director's Report

- 9.1 ED responded to various questions from members on his report.

- 9.2 As regards paragraph 2.3.3, ED responded that there were still some members due to respond as to their areas of particular interest. The chair concurred that a lot of thought had been given to this activity

which he believed would be beneficial for council member development and for LSC partnership working in London South.

- 9.3 ED outlined that Long Term sickness absence skewed the average for LSLSC (paragraph 2.4.2.1) and that the HR Business Partner was working with middle and senior managers to ensure that the matter was under continuous action and review.
- 9.4 Member concern was expressed with regard to paragraph 2.1.2. capital applications. Whilst accepting that this was the current formula arrangement there was the worry that if colleges are prudent they will lose out on the arrangements whilst the less assiduous flourish.
- 9.5 Council members welcomed the decision and recommendations in respect of the Virgo Fidelis Convent School to franchise post 16 learning to Thomas More School.

Item 10. South London and Olympics

- 10.1 Jay Mercer introduced Ian Parkes who made a presentation on the 2012 Olympics and Paralympics in London. He outlined the role and links with South London Partnership and key milestones.
- 10.2 ED was able to assure council members of the links with the rest of the London region in what we are attempting to achieve, in particular the role of the South London Partnership which covers our 6 boroughs plus London Borough of Wandsworth.
- 10.3 Council members had a substantial discussion on this matter and their comments were:
- 10.3.1 Belief that the LSC, LDA and such bodies can make a difference in ensuring that businesses are fit for purpose and that careers are linked to this objective.
- 10.3.2 That the 7 years build up are vital and that good planning and partnership activity are essential to achieve a great games and a worth while legacy.
- 10.3.3 Need to enthuse and integrate partners throughout London South to feed into the Olympics initiatives.
- 10.3.4 Does the Council need to review 'vocational areas' that could become more enticing as a result of the Olympics?
- 10.3.5 The LDA is looking at how its structure operates so that economic benefits are recognised and recouped.

- 10.3.6 Need to ensure that London's diversity is a huge advantage in its own right and capitalised on in every relevant way.
- 10.3.7 Mel Barrett said that the LDA recognises the need to work in partnership.
- 10.4 Ayub Khan circulated a paper entitled: 2012 Olympic Games in London, Pan London Connexions Partnership Strategy and proposal for an Olympic Employment and Skills Offer. Council members may wish to comment on these papers directly to Linda Taylor and/or Ayub Khan and their email addresses are as follows:
- lindataylor@connexions-southlondon.org.uk
ayubkhan@connexions-southlondon.org.uk
- 10.6 Kevin Finnigan proposed that the Council endorse the approach taken by LSLSC. John Ball and Dame Lorna Boreland-Kelly seconded, and it was endorsed by the Council.

Item 11. Equality & Diversity Strategy

- 11.1 Mary Francis outlined the National Strategy together with London South actions and activities. Council members were very pleased with the paper and gave thanks and congratulations to the Staff involved in its production.
- 11.2 EDIM paper to be more widely circulated. Mary to speak to Malcom Brabon. **Action MF**
- 11.3 Rita Bailey proposed that the Council endorse the London South Equality and Diversity Plan 2005-2007; Dame Lorna Boreland-Kelly seconded and the Council endorsed the paper.

Item 12. Post 16 Franchise Provision in Richmond

- 12.1 A strong proposal had been made and endorsement was sought subject to further consultation. A final paper would be presented in January. **Action VG**
- 12.2 Robert Dilley proposed that the Council endorse the franchise provision at Shene School in Richmond subject to the outcomes of formal consultation in Autumn 2005. Dame Lorna Boreland-Kelly seconded and the Council endorsed the paper.

Item 13. Sub-Regional 14-19 Planning Forum

- 13.1 Vic Grimes sought agreement to the proposed approach to the composition and Terms of Reference of a sub regional 14-19 Planning Forum.
- 13.2 Ayub Kkan stated that Connexions is not mentioned. It was agreed this omission would be rectified. **Action:** VG
- 13.3 The paper was endorsed by Council.
- 13.4 Council members discussed representation on the forum . It was agreed that Julita Pearson and Lola Barrett should be the members. Both accepted the proposal to represent the Council on the 14-19 Planning Forum.

Item 14. Agenda for Change

- 14.1 Vic Grimes presented the basis of the LSC Agenda for Change Prospectus reflected in his paper. It was noted that it had been positively discussed at the Council Development Day on 12 July.
- 14.2 The Prospectus covered 6 streams. There is also a 7th stream with organisation implications for the delivery of the proposals. A briefing meeting on these matters is scheduled for Thursday 15th September for EDs in Coventry and a follow up meeting for all staff on Friday 16th September at 10:00 in Canius House.
- 14.3 Chair indicated that the extent of possible change is radical. Neither Chair nor ED are aware of the details at this point in time. There is a London Regional Chairs meeting with Mark Haysom on Friday morning. The Chair will visit London South after this meeting.
- 14.4 Council agreed the following action plan:
1. On the afternoon of Friday 16th September – an email will be sent from the Chair to inform Council Members of the position as known.
2. An Extra-ordinary meeting of Council in 2/3 weeks time to discuss the Agenda for Change outcomes with Tuesday 4th October at 6:00pm agreed as a provisional date. The Council was strongly of the opinion that it needed to demonstrate support to the ED and Staff at this moment.
- 14.5 The paper from Vic Grimes was endorsed by the Council.

Item 15. Update on the role of Children's Services and Children's Trust

- 15.1 At the request of Council Members the paper is to be brought back to the next ordinary Council Meeting for wider discussion.

15.2 Ayub Khan circulated a further paper entitled Green Paper- Youth Matters produced by the Connexions Service.

Item 16. Role of London Development Agency

16.1 A presentation outlining the work and activities of the LDA was given by Mel Barrett. This was both helpful and constructive and was welcomed by Council Members.

Item 17. ESF Update

17.1 The update was noted by the Council.

17.2 Members wished to put on record how well the process had been conducted.

Item 18. LID Update

18.1 The paper was noted by the Council and a further update would be provided at the next ordinary Council meeting in November.

Item 19. Workbased Learning and E2E Allocations

19.1 The paper was noted by the Council.

Item 20. Youth Matters (Green Paper)

20.1 The paper was noted by the Council.

Item 21. National Capital Strategy Consultation

21.1 The paper was noted by the Council.

Item 22. Any other urgent business

There was no further urgent business.

Publication no.

Meeting chair Richard Carter

Minute taker Liam McIlvenny

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