

Minutes



Leading learning and skills

Date 25 July 2006
Subject Council Meeting Ref: 04/06
Location Audio Visual Room, London South
Time 18:00
LSC office London South
Publication intent Internal

Present Caroline Allen (Chair)
Roger Mills (Vice Chair)
Mark Lunn
Lola Barrett
Julit Pearson
Peter Wylie
Dame Lorna Boreland-Kelly

In attendance Maurice Robinson (for Item 2), Debi Christie (for Item 10)

LSC staff Vic Grimes (Area Director)
Rachel Hodson (Partnership Director - Sutton)
Don King (Partnership Director - Merton)
Liam McIlvenny (Head of Corporate Development)

Apologies Apologies have been received from:
Malcolm Brabon
Rita Bailey
Kevin Finnigan
Chris Nichols
Linda Taylor
John Ball

Item 1. Welcome, apologies and introductions

Chair welcomed Council and officers to the meeting. Chair noted that there were no Council Observers present at this meeting. Christina Evangeli, was introduced to members as the new minute taker. Rachel Hodson and Don King were also introduced as the new Partnership Directors for Sutton and Merton. Apologies were given for the other Partnership Directors who were unable to attend due to annual leave/other commitments.

1.1 Minutes of the last meeting were approved as a true and accurate record.

1.2 Matters Arising

Item 4 – 4.3:- Vic Grimes had a productive meeting with both John Ball and David Main to discuss LID and Skills alliance.

Item 12 – 12.3:- Vic Grimes met separately with principals and the non executives of Richmond Adult Community College and Richmond Upon-Thames College. These meetings highlighted challenges ahead related to the 3 site model. London South LSC will need agree on a position. It is likely that there will be two individual capital projects.

1.3 Action Points

Action numbers 71, 72, 73, 74 and 75 were noted as having been actioned and completed.

1.4 Declarations of Interest

Item 13 – Capital Update – Coulsdon – Peter Wylie declared an interest in this item and it was agreed that he would withdraw during discussion on this matter.

Item 2. Management Accounts

2.1 Maurice Robinson attended the meeting and updated Council on the 05-06 final position. He informed council that there was a 2.2% overspend on £4.2million of the budget. Budget adjustments were not taken into account our closure. If they had been included, the end of year budget performance would have been 0.39% of the target.

2.2 Education Business Links, Local Intervention Development fund, Information Advice and Guidance all performed within budget.

2.3 Council was advised that the information 06/07 budget was indicative.

Item 3. Regional Audit Committee

3.1 The Regional Audit Committee will take place on 26th July. London Region has placed ESF in the red category in the Regional Risk Register. This is compounded by the threat of losing skilled staff.

Item 4. Skills Alliance

4.1 Last set of minutes discussed. No issues raised.

4.2 Vic Grimes stated that an informative presentation was given by the Chairman of Prevista.

4.3 The Croydon Gateway was discussed at the Skills Alliance meeting and focussed on the need to look at local providers, helping with development and working in partnership.

4.4 The Skills Alliance was keen to plan an event in autumn.

4.5 A paper is being prepared on the future of the Skills Alliance.

4.6 The Chair expressed her appreciation to Cindy Bartello. This area will now be taken over by Garth Taylor, Partnership Director for Croydon.

Item 5. Equality and Diversity Task Group

5.1 The minutes of this meeting were circulated by e-mail as they were not available for distribution within Council packs. Some Council members did not receive them.

Action: Christina Evangelini to re-circulate the minutes to all members

5.2 Those interested in seeing Equality & Diversity Plan or exploring any of the items further should contact Valerie Hancock.

Item 6. IAG Strategy Board

6.1 Further information and updates required on the under performance by the IAG provider

Action: Vic Grimes to investigate.

Item 7. FE Forum Meeting

7.1 The next meeting has been scheduled for 11th October.

Action: Chair to issue letter of invitation.

Item 8. Area Director's Report

8.1 Vic Grimes elaborated on the Area Directors report. He referred to the organisation chart and informed members that the reality of appointments is better than that documented. London South has filled 84% of vacancies. Stakeholder letters detailing the current changes will be sent out this week.

8.2 Concerns were raised by Dame Lorna as to whether it was feasible to relocate office premises prior borough boundaries being clarified. It was suggested that it may be better to wait until all changes (Theme 7 and Mayoral proposals) have been clarified.

Item 9. Governance Arrangements

9.1 Recommendation item 6 : - Vic Grimes, Area Director is noted as full member of the Council for London South LSC

Recommendation item 7: - Roger Mills was proposed, seconded and appointed by members as Vice Chair to the Council of London South LSC

Recommendation item 8: - Concern was raised by Council members over the length of term in office. Liam McIlvenny referred to the constitution and confirmed that the total term of appointment is a maximum of 10 years.

Action: Liam McIlvenny to put in place arrangements to extend period in office of Council Members as appropriate.

9.2 Council members discussed the proposed allocation of Council members to the six boroughs. The following was agreed: that the proposed teams for Bromley and Croydon should be amended with Julita Pearson taking the lead for Bromley and Rita Bailey the lead for Croydon. That the proposed teams

for Merton and Croydon be amended with David Miles taking the lead for Merton and Roger Mills taking the lead for Sutton. The amendments are reflected in the revised table below.

Boroughs	Partnership Directors	Members of the Council
Bromley	Laurence Downes	1 Julita Pearson 2 Rita Bailey
Croydon	Garth Taylor	1 Rita Bailey 2 Julita Pearson
Merton	Don King	1 David Miles 2 Roger Mills
Sutton	Rachel Hodson	1 Roger Mills 2 David Miles
Richmond	Mary Francis	1 Robert Dilley 2 Mark Lunn
Kingston	Mary Francis	1 Mark Lunn 2 Robert Dilley

Action: Chair to feedback thematic groups/borough ambassador leads to London Regional Board.

Action: Chair to contact LDA regarding representation at future council meetings.

9.3 Council members discussed the allocation of Council members within the emerging themes. The following was agreed: that the themes of Skills/Employers should be re-named Skills/Employment and should include the sub-themes of Crystal Palace, Olympics and Entrepreneurship.

The theme 14-19 should be merged with Engaging Young People to form the new theme Engaging Young People /14-19. A new theme designated Capital and Infra-structure should be created. A new theme designated Equality and Diversity should be created. The revisions are incorporated in the table below.

Themes	Proposed Members of the Council
Adult Learning	1 Peter Wylie 2 Lola Barrett
Skills and Employment (Sub-themed with Crystal Palace, Olympics, Entrepreneurship)	1 John Ball 2 Mark Lunn 3 Dame Lorna
Voluntary Sector	1 Lola Barrett 2 Peter Wylie
Regional	1 Caroline Allen 2 Rita Bailey
LLDD	1 Caroline Allen 2 Kevin Finnigan
Engaging Young People /14-19	1 Kevin Finnigan 2 Mark Lunn
Capital and Infra-Structure	1 Roger Mills 2 Caroline Allen
Equality and Diversity	1 Caroline Allen 2 TBA

Item 10. LIDF/Allocation

10.1 Council members praised the quality of the paper.

Decision: Council approved the LID plan in full.

Item 11. 14-19 Development

11.1 Don King updated Council on current work in Bromley and Croydon. He highlighted that there was an increase in schools investing in Career Education and Guidance. He also highlighted that all boroughs have adopted the 14-19 London vision and that Croydon had reduced the level of NEET group.

Item 12. Spring Review – Local and Regional Update

12.1 Biggest challenge is FE success rates, Skills for Life and mix of provision.

12.2 Concern was raised over potential weakness in the ESF staffing structure due to the number of vacancies.

12.3 Council Members would like regular reports on match funding at future Council meetings.

Item 13. Capital Update - Coulsdon College

13.1 Peter Wylie as Director of Education for Croydon declared an interest in this item and withdrew from the meeting.

13.2 It was highlighted that proposed student figures need to be reviewed in relation to demographic trends.

Action: Vic Grimes to prepare a detailed paper addressing issues raised in paper and also by Council members at next council meeting.

13.3 Given the timescale in respect to the National Capital Committee, the Council was asked to consider giving delegated authority to the Chair and the Area Director to act on the matter between now and the next Council meeting. Dame Lorna recommended that the Vic Chair be involved in the process to demonstrate absolute transparency in the decision making process.

Decision: To delegate authority to the Chair and Vice Chair of the Council and the Area Director to make recommendation as appropriate to the National Capital Committee ensuring that the detailed application document is circulated in advance to all members of the Council.

Item 14. Any Other Business

14.1 No other business was raised.

Date of next Council meeting: Tuesday 12th September 2006

Meeting chair	Caroline Allen
Minute taker	Christina Evangeli
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