

Minutes



Leading learning and skills

Date 7 October 2005
Subject Fifty Sixth Council Meeting
Location Capel Manor College
Time 9.00-13.00
LSC office London North
Publication intent Public

Present
Peter Lyne (*Managing Director, Somera*)
Afzal Akram (*MD, Deltaclub Group of Businesses*)
Paul Butler (*MD, PATH National Ltd*)
Surendra Deo (*GP, Bridge House Surgery*)
Alison Dickens (*Director, NLSA*)
Ros Dunn (*Director of Strategy & Corp.Planning, LDA*)
Janette Faherty (*Chief Executive, TNG*)
Lenny Kinnear (*Chief Executive, NL Connexions Partnership*)
Philippa Langton (*ED, LSCLN*)
Joan McVittie (*Headteacher, Leytonstone School*)
David Plank (*Independent Chair, NL Connexions Partnership*)
Robin Somerville (*MD, Long & Somerville Ltd*)
Ian Turner (*MD, Juice Technology*)
Keith Weller (*Independent Consultant*)
Julie Abbott (*Business Development Manager, JCP*)

In attendance Stephen Dowbiggin (*Principal, Capel Manor College*)

LSC staff
Lindsay Bates (*Director of Strategy & Skills*)
Mary Vine-Morris (*Director of Quality & Operations*)
Clare Kearns (*Strategic Policy Adviser*)

Apologies
Apologies have been received from:
Denis Dillon
Ian Ferguson
Carol Gibson
Steve Hart
Grace Igbasi

Item 1. Welcome and introductions

1.1 Welcome to Chris Banks (National Chair) and Paul Butler

1.2 Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as an accurate record.

Item 2. Current Issues and Updates:

2.1 Update on Haringey Sixth Form Centre (LB).

- LB presented paper to Council.
- Questions were asked about governance and whether it was faithful to how the council intended it to be. LB stated that governance is still faithful to the model shown at the last meeting.
- Suggestion that some 'decision points' are made at LSC Council.
- Marketing company has been selected, with the final decision to be made by young people. The intention is to re-brand the 4 feeder schools.
- There is still on-going discussion regarding the nature of student inclusion in the governance of the centre, and also the issue of transitional funding.
- Chairman proposed that Joan McVittie and Lindsay Bates be LSC representation on Haringey governing body. Council voted its agreement.

2.2 Update on London North 3 Year Vision (LB)

- LB presented paper to Council.
- Highlighted the changing focus of LSC, and Local Authorities as providers and employers.
- The detailed points are being worked on and it is hoped to have a paper for Council at the next meeting. Mark Haysom saw the plan, and feels that it fits well with Agenda for Change and Theme 7.
- Some other key issues for North London are jobs gaps; other local growth areas outside of the sub-region; need for a better strategy to get local people into local jobs
- The critical importance of getting the project plan right now (regarding the Olympics, for example) was also highlighted
- Chair raised the issue that there should be a mandate that all contractors have to commit to take on local apprentices/workers etc. However, the difficulty in enforcing this was also flagged up. Asked for this to be taken up at a national level

Action: PAL to invite Mary Conneely (Regional Director for Regeneration) to a future Council Meeting)

2.3 Update on Inspections (Mary Vine-Morris)

- MVM presented a briefing paper to Council
- LSC LN has prepared and worked with colleges as well as possible, and the colleges have responded very positively.
- Hope colleges are successful, both ought to be able to pass, but the paper also has some suggestions that might need to be considered if there is an inadequate result.

- The Intervention Policy currently being re-drafted will increase the Council's powers (compared to the past)
- MVM clarified what forms of support LSC has provided to colleges, specifically the Quality Improvement team and accessing support.
- Council will know the results of the inspections informally on the Friday of the week (subject to moderation); report will be published up to 3 months after inspection.

Item 3. Agenda for Change – Theme 7

- PAL gave the Theme 7 PowerPoint presentation.
- Council was given a copy of the top level structure
- It was highlighted that LSC is keen to work more effectively locally
- Question about how much flexibility there will be in the system locally and regionally. There is recognition that different parts of the country *are* different e.g. ESOL
- Concern that there might be some contradiction at the local level, and whether there has been a sound risk assessment.

Item 4. Chris Banks (National Chair)

- Spoke about Agenda for Change and the role of national and local Councils. Driver behind Theme 7 isn't cost reduction, but increased effectiveness.
- There are 3 things for Council to focus on:
 - a. Being demand-led (balancing the needs of individuals and employers)
 - b. Providing leadership to the delivery system (post 16)
 - c. Getting the most out of the organisation (Agenda for Change is the manifestation of this objective)
- Role of local Councils is to have statutory responsibility for ensuring that individuals and employers get what they need. Single most important role is agreeing the plan.
- Will be devolving some of the powers of National Council to Regional Boards (i.e. local chairs)
- Need to support Sector Skills Councils (and development agencies).
- CB thanked Council for support, and noted that he found the dialogue between LSC SMT and Council very powerful.
- Questions from Council members: CB stated that local Council will remain responsible in governance terms, for operations of LSC LN.
- CB reminded Council that they have the power not to approve the plan, if not appropriate for local need.
- Council thanked CB for visiting and for his input at the meeting.

Item 5. Any Other Business

- North London Strategic Alliance is having a briefing with MPs on the 7th November, PAL and PL will receive invites.
- Suggestion that Council should look at Youth Matters Paper.

Action: Lenny Kinnear to do presentation to Council at next meeting

Stephen Dowbiggin (Principal of Capel Manor College)

- Presentation setting the context for work going on in London, London North and Capel Manor, before taking Council members on a tour of the grounds.
- Council thanked SD for an enjoyable and informative presentation and tour.

Meeting chair	Peter Lyne
Minute taker	Clare Kearns
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