

Minutes



Leading learning and skills

Date 14 October 2005
Subject London Regional Board
Location Centre Point
Time 08.45-10.30
LSC office London North
Publication intent Internal

Present

Rod Kenyon	(LW)
Afzal Akram	(LN)
Richard Carter	(LS)
Roy Lockett	(LC)
Ken Coello	(LE)
Jacqui Henderson	(RD)
David Hughes	(RD - designate)
Philippa Langton	(LN)
Peter Pledger	(LW)
Jill Lowery	(LC)
Vivien Cutler	(LE)
Jay Mercer	(LS)

In attendance

Doug Norris	(Regional Co-ordinator - note-taker)
Clare Arnold	(LW) - items 1-3 only
Peter Holmes	(LW)
Brian Godbold	(RFD)

Apologies

Peter Lyne
Verity Bullough
Yvonne Thompson

Item 1. Matters arising

None.

Item 2. GLA/LDA

JH updated the group on developments including the meeting with DH and Jim Fitzpatrick. A formal consultation paper will be produced later this year, with a ministerial review in 2006. London may be a precedent for other parts of the country. The outcome of this exercise may be the introduction of new ways of working in learning and skills.

Item 3. WBL issues

CA talked through her paper and explained that the target will be shifting from starts to completions. JM pointed out the links between WBL and wider issues for 14-19.

Comments:

- JH highlighted the role of colleges in E2E and ESF provision for this client group.
- Discrimination by employers may be a contributory factor in the lower levels of BME participation.
- The London WBL cohort is likely to be more difficult because of high staging on rates.
- We may wish to move funding from poor performing colleges into the WBL sector.
- Employers need greater incentives and we must make more use of the existing role models among our learners.
- The LSC will need to make significant changes in order to defend its position against the LDA.
- DH highlighted the barriers that may be preventing the LSC from making progress in this area.

Item 4. Regional Statement of Priorities

PP and PH explained the key points of the current draft RSoP and the business cycle for 06/07. PH asked whether the Olympics should be a separate priority.

Comments:

- It may be a year early for the Olympics to be listed separately.
- Diversity may need to be highlighted separately.
- Demographic trends may indicate a need for more emphasis on the 50+ and those on incapacity benefit etc.
- We may need a statement about focusing resources.
- The Olympics should be an additional priority. There was general agreement with this point.
- We must give careful consideration to engaging with LDA in consultation.
- E&D should be a prominent cross-cutting theme rather than listed separately.

Action:

- **PH to redraft the RSoP in line with members' comments and circulate by email by 17 October.**
- **Comments back to PH by 28 October.**

Item 5. Theme 7

5.1 DH updated the LRB on developments, distributed background papers and talked through the latest draft of the structure. He explained the process for taking forward this matter. It is intended to issue the HR1 on 31st October. All papers distributed are CONFIDENTIAL.

Comments:

- This must be handled with great care/sensitivity.
- Detailed discussion is needed about the handling of Thames Gateway and the Olympics.
- We need to define and then measure the changes brought about by the move to PTs.
- The changes made affect E&D for the LSC particularly in lower grades.
- Care needs to be taken over risk management.
- More information is needed for non-executives to avoid any impression of being marginalised.
- The LSC may lose some of its best people. It needs staff with a proven track record of delivery as well as skills/competencies.
- The role and composition of the LRB needs to be clarified.

5.2 DH gave a summary of developments for Regional Boards, including the possibility of additional powers/responsibilities.

Action:

- **Chairs to contact DH with any further comments.**
- **DH to circulate Regional Board paper to EDs.**
- **DH to organise an event for Council Members.**

Item 6. Any other business

None.

RK reiterated the gratitude of the LRB for all JH's excellent work since the launch of the LSC.

Item 7. Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Board will take place on Friday, 16th December, 09.00-11.00 at Centre Point.

Meeting chair	Rod Kenyon
Minute taker	Doug Norris
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