

Minutes



Leading learning and skills

Date 21 November 2006
Subject London West Learning & Skills Council
Location Central House, 3 Lampton Road, Hounslow
Time 14:00
LSC office London West
Publication intent Internal

Present
Rod Kenyon - Chair London West LSC
Clare Arnold - Area Director - London West LSC
Brian Noble - Network Manager, Business Link for London
Sue Ferns - Head of Research & Specialist Services, Prospect
Andrea Berkley - Former Headteacher, Preston Manor High School
Rachel Davies - Principal, Uxbridge College
Jeremy Crook - Director, Black Training and Enterprise Group
Vijay Amin - Managing Director, ABi Associates Limited
Angela Chiswell - Head of Connexions & Out of School Learning London Borough of Brent.

In attendance
LSC staff
Gail Jones
Ellen Quaye - Partnership Director for Hillingdon & Hounslow LWLSC
Lindsay Bates - Partnership Director - Ealing, Hammersmith & Fulham - LWLSC
Pravin Parmar - Senior Property Advisor

Apologies
Apologies have been received from:
Geoff Crispin - Vice Chancellor, Thames Valley University
John Hensley - Councillor London Borough of Hillingdon
Saeed Gillani - Principal Accountant, Gee Kay Farrah
Frank Wingate - Chief Executive, West London Business
Paul Raina - Managing Director, Training and Assessment Services Limited
Javed Khan - Director of Learning Services, London Borough of Harrow

Item 1. Opening Remarks from the Chair

1.1 RK welcomed all attendees to the meeting and apologies were noted.

Item 2. Approval of Minutes & Matters Arising from meeting held 19th September

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.

2.1 No date had yet been agreed for J. Henderson's attendance.

Item 3. Update on Harrow Collegiate

CA stated that a consultant had been appointed and would make recommendations before the end of January 2006.

A revised proposal will be presented to the January Council Meeting.

Item 4. Annual Plan Update 2006-07

Priority 5

5.1 The Metropolitan Police have indicated an interest in developing an apprenticeship for Community Support Officers.

Work will be undertaken with Skills for Justice (the relevant SSC), LWLSC and Quantica on the potential apprenticeship. Currently there are 29 Level 2 Apprentices with the Metropolitan Police in Administration and Customer Services.

Priority 6

Update on recent inspections – Overall, West Middlesex College (specialising in Aspergers Syndrome) was judged to have inadequate provision. However it was recognised that policies were in place to improve the provision. A post inspection action plan will be agreed with both national and regional LSC staff and a re-inspection will be carried out within the year.

The EHWLC inspection has gone well but the grades are not yet confirmed.

Stanmore grades from their inspection in September 2006 have been confirmed as follows:

Effectiveness of Provision	3
Capacity to Improve	2
Achievements and Standards	2
Quality of Provision	2
Leadership and Management	3

Discussion also took place about the statistics on WBL Ethnic Minorities breakdown.

EQ commented that cultural preferences influenced access because the vocational route is not seen as being on a par with academic education. VA Endorsed EQ's statement in that, apprenticeships are not seen as a proper route by parents for their children.

Considerable discussion took place, but it was thought that more detail was needed in order to inform the discussion.

Action: LWLSC and Connexions will produce statistics for 05/06 Ethnicity breakdown and the uptake of provision types by BMES together.

Item 6. Further Education and Training Bill 2006.

The Further Education and Training Bill 2006 has now been published. CA explained that there will only be 9 regional LSC's, with local councils being disbanded but scope for partnership working would remain.

The London Skills and Employment Board has now been established under the chairmanship of the Mayor of London. Its membership will be predominantly employers and the Regional Director in the LSC will also be a member. In London there will be an LSC Regional Council.

Notwithstanding these change the LWLSC Council has an important role until the enactment of the FE Bill in respect of the Annual Plan and other duties such as the approval of Capital Projects.

CA reported that London West had a significant number of vacancies and will be interviewing for new managers. The interim solutions, in terms of relieving pressure are:

- Help from HR
- Risk Assessment – Key functions for LWLSC
- Joint Reviews
- Capital Application Support from Regional and National LSC staff

Item 7. AOB: Featherstone High School Capital Application

Featherstone High School (currently 11- 16) has been identified as a "Presumption" school by the Department for Education and Skills. The school is able to apply for capital funding for sixth form provision as a result of the presumption under the 16-19 Capital Regulations. The Council was invited to note the Proposal which would be presented to the LSC National Capital Committee in December. Considerable discussion took place about the potential issues raised by the application. It was noted that a significant amount of capital had been invested in the

development of post 16 provision in 2002/2003 at the Southall site of Ealing, Hammersmith and West London College on the basis of a partnership with 3 schools (of which Featherstone was one). There was no provision for the local LSC to assess the effect of the Featherstone proposal on the Southall site or to take into account the actual requirements for post 16 provision in Southall.

The Council agreed to note and endorse the above comments.

Item 8. The next meeting of the Committee will take place on 30th January.

Meeting chair	Rod Kenyon
Minute taker	Gail Jones
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