

Minutes



Leading learning and skills

Minutes of meeting

Date	26 July 2005
Subject	Local Council Meeting
Location	Stainton Room
Time	08:30
LSC office	Tees Valley
Publication intent	Internal

Present	Mrs P T Eccles Mr J Arthur Mr K Cranney Mr J Fitzpatrick Mrs A Haskins Mr J Hughes Mr I Williams Ms P Whaley
In attendance	Mr S Davidson, Jobcentre Plus Mrs L Monaghan, Business Link Tees Valley Mr J Swinburn, Government Office for the North East
LSC staff	Mr J Rowan, Director of Learning and Skills Mr D Sanders, Director of Planning and Resources Mrs D Springett, Council Secretary
Apologies	Apologies have been received from: Mr T Dabbs Mr J Hogg Mr J Keith Mr R Mallon Ms H Pickering Mr M Pearson Mr M Taylor, Business Link Tees Valley Mr D Irwin, Connexions Tees Valley Ms G Dobson, Head of Finance and Governance Mr T Jones, Head of Planning and Performance Mr A Wallace, Head of Policy and Research

Item 1. Welcome and introductions

Item 1. The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Item 2. Declaration of Interests

Item 2. There were no declarations of interest.

NOTED

Item 3. Minutes of last meeting

Item 3. The minutes of the local council meeting held on 24 May 2005 were accepted as a true record.

NOTED

Item 4. Matters arising

Item 4. **14-19 White Paper** This item was covered under the agenda of this meeting.

Item 5. 14-19 Options

Item 5. Mr Sanders reported that following the 23 June 2005 Policy and Sounding Board Working Group meeting work has commenced on pulling together the information on 14-19 provision in each of the boroughs. Council Members will be kept informed and it is expected that something substantial will be available at the end of September 2005. It is proposed that there will be a pictorial view on what each borough has for 14-19 for academic, specialist schools and special education, the different levels and progression pathways available.

Decision: It was agreed that the detail of information would be taken to the Policy and Sounding Board Working Group before being presented at a local council meeting.

Action: Executive Team/Policy and Sounding Board Working Group

(Mr Swinburn arrived at 09.53)

Item 6. Regional Economic Strategy

Item 6. Mr Sanders gave an overview of the draft Regional Economic Strategy "Leading the Way" and informed the local council about issues around the consultation process. He also covered the key issues for the LSC response. Members were advised that there would be a Regional LSC responses to the strategy and that LSC Tees Valley also had a route to respond through Tees Valley Partnership.

Decision: It was agreed that a copy of the presentation would be circulated to members together with a summary of the draft Regional Economic Strategy and the answer what the 60% of output difference actually referred.

Action: David Sanders

Item 7. Working Group Updates

Item 7. **Audit Committee** Members were informed that recovery of outstanding 2001-02 work had been resolved.

7.1.1 A suggestion was made that the Inspection and Quality Working Group should merge with the Audit Committee as their remit was closely linked.

Decision: It was agreed that the Inspection and Quality Working Group was merge with the Audit Committee and that dates of future meetings would be circulated to Ms Whaley and Messrs Williams and Keith. It was agreed Mr Arthur would chair the group, with Ms Whaley acting as Deputy Chair.

Action: Council Secretary

Item 8. **Policy and Sounding Board Working Group** This had been covered under item 5 of the agenda. However, members were informed that the group would be looking at Adult Learning at its next meeting. The group were asked to look at adult learning affected by the move of funding from adult to youth and to bring back some analysis to a future local council meeting.

Decision: Policy and Sounding Board Working Group to analyse the move of funding from adult to youth learning.

Action: Policy and Sounding Board Working Group

Item 9. **Employer Sector Chairs Group** Members were informed that a presentation on Pathways to Work had been given by Jobcentre Plus and had been very informative.

7.3.1 The Terms of Reference were clarified and the group discussed the membership and sectors that needed consideration.

7.3.2 Attendance had been poor and the chair of the group advised he would be writing to members to ask for greater contributions.

Item 8. Chair's Report

Item 10. **National Chairs Day 7 June 2005** The chair had asked for members attention to be drawn to the crucial point from the panel sessions in that there was a need for local LSCs to work closely with colleges and other providers on delivery, with an expectation that the local LSC would provide strong local leadership.

Item 9. Executive Director's Report

Item 11. Members were advised that the arrow at 1.3.2 should indicate on target rather than behind target.

Item 12. **Annual Plan Update**

9.2.1 **Apprenticeships** It was noted that there was some learning in Further Education that could be dropped across to Work Based Learning funding opportunities, however there were no frameworks available. It is hoped that the next co-financing round will focus on these gaps. The annual plan targets was for 10 new frameworks.

- 9.2.2 **Joint activity with Jobcentre Plus** Activity with Jobcentre Plus is not progressing as fast as expected, however progress is being made. There were issues around resources, both staffing and financial. Informed structures are being put in place in Jobcentre Plus for the Pathways to Work.
- 9.3 **Investors in People** An update on Investors in People had been omitted. Targets for last operational year had been met and that targets for this year are currently being met. Business Link Tees Valley reported that they have agreed profiles for private sector.
- 9.4 **Public Service Agreement Target** Attention was drawn to the Targets and Achievements table and item 4 (First Time Apprenticeships). The target needs to be achieved by July 2005 and Mr Rowan stated that it would be exceeded by approximately 200. Next year's target will be against framework completions, 70% within 3 years.
- 9.5 **European Social Fund** The fourth tendering round will take place early August 2005, hopefully 8 August 2005. Feedback is being given to unsuccessful applicants in the last round. The application form has been amended and that details of common mistakes will be circulated with application packs for the next round.
- 9.6 it was agreed the new reporting format would be adopted.

Item 10. Finance and Budgets

Item 13. There were no queries regarding the Finance and Budgets report.

Item 11. Any other business

Item 14. **Funding Allocations** A letter from Don Lillistone, Principal of St Mary's College has been published in the TES (Times Educational Supplement) regarding the funding for college. The Executive Director informed members that a reply letter has been sent and hopefully will be published. A copy of the article and response are available from the Council Secretary.

11.1.1 It was suggested that the proposed November 2005 Council Member event could be used to clarify Council Members' position in responding to government decisions etc.

Item 15. **Youth Matters – Green Paper for Young People** The Green Paper – Youth Matters has been published and that an executive summary would be circulated with the minutes of this meeting.

Decision: Executive Summary to be circulated with minutes.

Action: Executive Director

11.3 There was no further business and the meeting closed at 10.25 am.

NOTED

Item 12. Schedule of future meetings

Item 16. The schedule of meetings had been circulated with the meeting papers and members were asked to note the additional meetings etc.

Item 13. Date of next meeting

Item 17. The next meeting of the local council will take place on Tuesday 20 September 2005, 08.30 – 12.00 in the Stainton Room, LSC Tees Valley, 2 Queens Square, Middlesbrough.

Meeting chair	Patricia Whaley
Minute taker	Deborah Springett
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