

## **LSC APPOINTS WIRRAL'S DEAN TO REGIONAL COUNCIL**

The Learning and Skills Council (LSC) in the North West has appointed 14 members to form a new Regional Council, with Wirral based Dean Royles, Executive Director of Workforce and Education in NHS Northwest, securing his place on the panel.

Set up as part of the Further Education and Training Act 2007, the new Regional Council will lead the LSC's regional and local presence; informing decision making, guiding progress and ensuring the successful delivery of the LSC's agenda in the North West. The 13 council members will act as guiding voices, translating national and regional strategy into practice and effectively investing the LSC's budget over the next few years.

The Act was introduced to streamline the LSC's 'non-executive tier' following the replacement of 47 Local Councils with the nine Regional Councils in existence today. This move has resulted in a more simplified, less bureaucratic structure, as well as being aligned to the organisation of the LSC executive team. In this way, the new councils reflect both the local and regional needs of learners and employers.

Appointed members are required to have a combination of business, education, training and community experience in order to contribute to the balance of the board. As a result of a successful recruitment drive earlier this year, the LSC in the North West received a significant number of applications for key positions on the Regional Council, including many leading businessmen and women in the region.

Dean's background more than equips him for the role. As an Executive Director of Workforce and Education in NHS Northwest, Dean has responsibility for providing leadership to the NHS HR Community. He is committed to equal opportunities and diversity and has current responsibility for the diversity agenda for the NHS Northwest. Dean also believes that the delivery of objectives is only achievable through the utilisation of expertise and the experience of staff.

Roger Hoyle, Chair of the North West Regional Council commented, "The appointed council members all demonstrate a strong commitment to learning and skills, and are from a diverse range of sectors and backgrounds. Consisting of representatives from educational establishments, trade unions and from the public and private sector, the new council offers a well balanced perspective of the learning and skills arena." He concludes, "We are all excited and keen to start making a difference, using our combined skills to strengthen the work already underway – ultimately working to transform the ambitions and life chances of millions of people in the North West."