

# Minutes



Leading learning and skills

**Date** 30 March 2007  
**Subject** Cumbria Council Meeting  
**Location** Venture House, Workington, Cumbria  
**Time** 1400 hours  
**LSC office** Cumbria  
**Publication intent** Internal

**Present** Graham Lamont  
Catherine Dutton  
Christine I'Anson  
Rob Johnston  
Mike Smith  
Mike Thorpe  
John Weir  
Steve Johnston

**In attendance** Graham Wilkinson - Kendal College  
Anne Isherwood - Kendal College

**LSC staff** Ruth Bullen  
Richard Jewkes  
Chris Griffin  
David Johnston  
Bev Watson

**Apologies** Apologies have been received from:  
Graham Baldwin  
Patricia Calway  
Jack Stopforth  
Sian Rees

## **Item 1. Welcome and introductions**

1.1 The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed all present. Apologies for absence were read.

## **Item 2. Minutes of the last meeting**

2.1 The minutes were accepted as a true record of the last meeting.

## **Item 3. Matters arising**

3.1 The Chair has sent a letter of thanks to Elspeth Smith.

- 3.2 The latest organisation chart for Cumbria office has been sent out.
- 3.3 Contributions for CERAP have been invited and received.
- 3.4 Ruth Bullen has drafted a paper setting out the current understanding of Employment and Skills Boards.
- 3.5 Jack Stopforth, Mike Smith, Mike Thorpe and Chris l'Anson all attended The Guildhall event at London.

#### **Item 4. Kendal College Capital Application**

- 4.1 Richard Jewkes – comments made at the previous council meeting were taken on board and are reflected in the revised bid.

- 4.2 David Johnston – PROPERTY ISSUES.

The College currently operates from three separate locations within Kendal, their main campus comprising of approx. 5800 m sq of accommodation at Milnthorpe road constructed approx 36 years ago. In addition to this, the college lease a 373 m sq workshop building at Union Street which is used for woodwork provision and also have inherited user rights to occupy the 1960 m sq historic Allen Building adjacent to Kendal Museum which is used for creative arts provision. The facility is inadequate, wood working is currently located in little more than a shed and hair and beauty departments are located inappropriately.

- 4.3 Graham also informed Council that the planning application was submitted yesterday and that the planners have been very positive throughout the planning stages, with no major issues identified. Full planning consent has not been given yet, but the College has consulted extensively with the local planning board.

- 4.4 David Johnston stated that he is happy to support the application fully.

- 4.5 SUSTAINABILITY

The College are proposing to spend a total of £525,750 on sustainability items that enhance the scheme over and above usual Building Regulation Part L requirements. These items include an enhanced mechanical installation to allow for a heat recovery system/mechanical ventilation, gabion walls filled with locally sourced materials and solar shading.

- 4.6 The College have been working with Friends of the Earth to make the new build as green as possible.

- 4.7 THE EDUCATIONAL CASE.

The College estimate that 266 new learners would be recruited – 195 young people and 71 adults. These learners would come from South Lakeland and Eden. The increase would translate to 213 FTEs based on the College's institutional average guided learning hours (glh) per full-time learner of 623 glh. The funding associated with the growth would be profiled over 2008/09 and 2009/10 assuming that the college can meet its learner number and funding targets on an on-going basis.

- 4.8 20% growth is the optimum level of growth for the College in 16-18 and 19+ FTE.

- 4.9 The College are currently working with all 14-19 partners (including E2E) in South Lakeland on engagement and retention strategies. Around 6.4% enter employment without training and 3.2% are not in education, employment or training – across the 16-18 cohort this equates to around 366 young people in South Lakeland. The total NEET group in Eden is around 50 young people. These will be key target groups for the College.
- 4.10 The College's ability to cater for Learners with Learning Difficulties and/or Disabilities (LLDD) will be strengthened through the growth model suggested. A new independent living skills programme will be re-introduced.
- 4.11 In addition, if the Government's Green Paper proposals for participation in learning to age 19 by 2030 are implemented, the College could grow substantially more than current estimates.
- 4.12 Kendal College's links with industry are well developed in most areas of the College.
- 4.13 **FINANCIAL ISSUES.** Chris Griffin informed the Council that the LSC had assessed the bid for affordability. The College's Application-in-Principal has been reviewed according to the latest Capital Handbook and the LSC's current interpretation of the HM Treasury handbook. The LSC are recommending a grant of 82.25% which equates to a grant of £9.817M. The LSC's aim is to create a college with category A financial health status within 3 years. Consideration will be given to the future phase 2 capital scheme and in particular the college's capacity to borrow at this point.
- 4.14 Growth rates – Graham Wilkinson has been with Kendal College for 7 years and over that period there has been a growth rate of 87% for 16-18 learning.
- 4.15 Contingency fund – Kendal College have a special team of Governors who will be closely monitoring any overspend. A dedicated Project Manager has been appointed by the College and a very experienced estates team who will be working with the architects to ensure the project completes within budgets.
- 4.16 The College thanked the local LSC for their assistance in putting together the plan.
- 4.17 **IEWS OF STAKEHOLDERS**  
Graham Wilkinson from Kendal College informed the Council that a full traffic survey has been commissioned. A bat survey has also been carried out.
- 4.18 Graham Wilkinson said the College was consulting widely with employers on new areas of provision to ensure better employer engagement.
- 4.19 The Council recommended the capital application for Kendal College.**  
Approved unanimously subject to the addendum to table 3 presented during the meeting. Members requested that Chris Griffin and David Johnston put forward a narrative case to accompany the application to the national capital committee.

## **Item 5. Any other business**

5.1 Key achievements document to be submitted to regional office. The council identified the following as key achievements.

- College Collaboration
- National apprenticeship award won by a Cumbrian apprentice
- Establishment of a nuclear academy/national nuclear skills project
- COVES
- Excellent inspection results
- WBL forum
- S4L
- 14-19

## **Item 6. Date of next meetinga**

6.1 The provisional date for the next Cumbria Council meeting is 17 August 2007.

<b>Meeting chair</b>	Graham Lamont
<b>Minute taker</b>	Bev Watson
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