

Minutes



Leading learning and skills

Date	8 November 2005
Subject	Council
Location	Manchester Enterprises
Time	16.00hrs
LSC office	Greater Manchester
Publication intent	Internal

Present	David A Page MBE (Interim Chair) Sarah Firth Richard Guy Richard Hurst Abdul Jabbar John Korzeniewski Councillor John Merry Mike O'Hare David Tomlinson Chris Woodcock
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In attendance	Nigel Burke Lindsey Harman Councillor Richard Leese Fiona Mellet Hannah Roberts
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LSC staff	Tim Atkinson Jane Bracewell Chris Cherry Alison Cresswell Julia Dowd John Rawsthorne Nicola Scott
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Apologies	Apologies have been received from: Maggi Harris David McCall Ray Short Mollie Temple
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Item 1. Welcome and introductions

- 1.1 Chair welcomed AC to her first meeting of Council, chair informed the Council that AC had recently been appointed a local director, along with NS, whom he congratulated.
- 1.2 RG commenced the meeting by presenting to the Council on the workings of Manchester Enterprises, a copy of the presentation has been attached for information.

Item 2. Minutes of last meeting

- 2.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 06 September were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Item 3. Matters arising

- 3.1 Council to receive quarterly reports on key measures of performance and impact, to be added to the November agenda – cleared, see paper 40/2005
- 3.2 Council requested an update on the MANCAT capital bid at the next meeting – TA now planning Building Schools for the Future with the City Council and meeting with the four college principals at district locations.
- 3.3 Follow up issues regarding the ALPs error as raised at the last meeting – Matters followed up by Holy Cross College with Dr Kevin Conway of Alkemygold Ltd. Figures for Holy Cross College have been amended to record higher overall ALPs score. MOH reported that he was happy with the outcome.
- 3.4 JB informed the Council that the Secretary of State had confirmed the merger of Stockport College of Further and Higher Education and North Area College – this would take effect from 01 January 2006.
- 3.5 The Council enquired about the establishment of the Equality and Diversity Committee, JK informed the Council that the Development Committee would meet on 15 November and that this would be discussed there.

Action: JK to feedback at the next meeting

Item 4. Learning and Skills Council/ Manchester Enterprises – The Roberts Report

- 4.1 JD presented to the Council on the above report. This report had been produced by Julian Roberts, who is a senior civil servant; both Manchester Enterprises (ME) and the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) were satisfied with the outcomes. JD informed Council members that the presentation would be made available to all Council members who wished to receive a copy along with a copy of the full report.

Action: JD

- 4.2 RG declared an interest as Chief Executive for Manchester Enterprises.
- 4.3 RG stated that ME accepted the recommendations, and that the proposals would be taken to the ME board and brought back to the LSC at a later date.

4.4 Council expressed concern that the changes may be confusing to external parties. It was explained that recommendations in the report should make the work of ME clearer to external parties.

Decision: Council accepted the report and requested an update at a future meeting.

Item 5. Briefing on agenda for change Theme 7

5.1 JK informed the Council that everything being presented to Council had been seen by staff. He explained that national office structures were also available and could be provided if requested.

Action: JK/JD to provide if requested

5.2 JK explained that the presentation given to Council in the summer at South Trafford College was superseded by the national changes.

5.3 JK presented to Council on the north west structures and the locations of offices. He explained that the regional office would be based in Manchester. He commented on concern over health and safety at Arndale House, however, Mark Haysom had agreed that the regional office should be based there as the lease would not be renewed until 2008.

5.4 JK explained that the LSC was in 90 days consultation having issued the HR1, he said that changes to the structures were expected dependant on what would be agreed nationally.

5.5 Council expressed concern over support for the local councils and their meetings. It was explained to the council that the regional office would provide governance support for all of the north west councils and that there would be local support for the administrative duties, however, DP informed the council that if they had strong concerns he would pass these onto Chris Banks.

Action: Members to let DP know of any concerns

5.6 Council was informed that chairs would be involved in the recruitment process for directors and that vacancies would be advertised internally firstly and then taken externally once the internal method was exhausted.

5.7 JK informed the Council that much of the change would take place at national office and that the regional office function should provide clear support for the local councils.

5.8 It was explained to the Council that LSC employees were protected by the civil service protocol.

5.9 Council requested to know of general feelings from staff.

Action: Update to be given at a future meeting.

Item 6. Measuring Performance and Impact : Key Measures Reports for October 2005

6.1 JR presented paper 40/2005 which provided the council with a summary of key performance measures in order to monitor performance and impact.

6.2 Council thanked JR for the report.

Item 7. Funding 2006/08 : Priorities for Success

- 7.1 JK presented paper 41/2005 which included a paper copy of the Priorities for Success 2006-08, which had been published in the previous week. It provided details of priorities for the Learning and Skills Council funding for the next two years, as well as beginning the process for 2006/07 funding allocation process.
- 7.2 JK explained that whilst money would be growing in future years, so would demands, he asked Council to be aware that this would leave the local LSC with difficult decisions to make in the future. He explained that there would be a need to work closer with partners to ensure that there would not be any duplication of work.

Item 8. Minutes of the Audit Committee held on 15 September 2005.

- 8.1 Council received paper 42/2005 which provided the Council with a copy of the minutes of the Audit Committee.

Item 9. Minutes of the Young People's Learning Committee held on 09 September 2005

- 9.1 JB presented the minutes of the Young People's Learning Committee; she explained that the meeting focused on the Rochdale consultation.
- 9.2 JB explained that there would be four public meetings to allow residents to comment on the proposed changes, she also reported that stakeholders had agreed the change, although had not indicated which of the three options.
- 9.3 CC informed the Council that a formal paper would be produced for the next meeting.

Action: CR to note for the agenda.

Item 10. Minutes of the Adult Learning Committee held on 27 October 2005

- 10.1 Council received paper 44/2005

Item 11. Any other business

- 11.1 Chair thanked MT and CW for their hard work and effort on behalf of the Council and reminded members that a meal would be held on 18 November at Le Petit Blanc, Manchester. CW thanked the Council for their best wishes.
- 11.2 Chair thanked RG for hosting the meeting at Manchester Enterprises.

Item 12. Date of next meeting

- 12.1 The next meeting will be an away day on 13 and 14 January, to be held at the Marriott Hotel, Worsley, the away day would be concluded by 12.00hrs on 14 January and would include an overnight stay.

Meeting chair	David A Page MBE
Minute taker	Christine Rudge
Date created	16 November 2005
Document ref.	G:\Council\Meetings\051108\man-council-minutes-08nov2005.doc