

# Minutes



Leading learning and skills

**Date** 20<sup>th</sup> February 2007  
**Subject** 33rd Board meeting  
**Location** Foliot House  
**Time** 17:00  
**LSC office** Devon and Cornwall  
**Publication intent** Internal

**Present** John Bull  
Hazel Bennett  
Jonathan Burnett  
John Crownshaw  
Geoff Hale  
Paul Lucken  
Ian Tunbridge  
Malcolm Bell  
Graham Stirling  
Ian Tunbridge

**In attendance** Jenny Rudge  
Jill Harvey (representing Phil Weeks)  
Sarah Beeson (representing Richard Bayly)

**LSC staff** John Chudley  
Cathy Campbell  
Rob Corfield  
Chris Roberts

**Apologies** Apologies have been received from:  
Richard Bayly  
Nick Buckland  
Geoff Rees  
Phil Stamp  
Phil Weeks (represented by Jill Harvey)  
Bob Dow  
Richard Bayly (represented by Sarah Beeson)  
Isobel Down  
Helena Freeman  
John Lander

### **Item 1. Welcome and Introductions**

- 1.1 The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- 1.2 The Chairman welcomed Jill Harvey, representing Phil Weeks on behalf of JobcentrePlus, Sarah Beeson representing Richard Bayly on behalf of GOSW.

### **Item 2. Minutes of Last Meeting**

- 2.1 The Minutes of the last meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2007 were approved and the Chairman was authorised to sign them as a true record.

### **Item 3. Matters Arising**

- 3.1 There were no matters arising

### **Item 4. Devon and Cornwall Annual Plan – Priorities for 2007/2008**

- 4.1 Cathy Campbell introduced this item and explained that this will be the last Local Plan for Devon and Cornwall, future plans will be Regional. The format and content were discussed. The plan contained no figures at present.
- 4.2 Summarised under each Priority are the key areas for local action which reflect, where appropriate, the key actions in the Annual Statement of Priorities.
- 4.3 *Equality and Diversity Impact Measures (EDIMs)*  
Regional measures have been agreed, Devon and Cornwall have to agree local contributions.
- 4.4 The Chairman raised the issue that there is no knowledge of volumes. Funding any resource switch between providers may not be manageable. Will the final numbers be a fate accompli or will the Board have the opportunity to have any influence on the final numbers that appear in the plan.  
John Chudley responded that unfortunately there could be no influence from the Board regarding this. The Regional Board would be approving the plans at their next meeting.
- 4.5 Paul Lucken explained the status in regards to Regional Planning, all areas have completed initial discussions without Allocations.
- 4.6 Jonathan Burnett raised concerns regarding Priority 1 - 14-19 reforms across the Local Authorities. As the Local Authorities will be taking the lead would LSC remain active and assertive in this area?
- 4.7 With the proviso that the numbers be achievable within the funding allocations, and that they will not destabilise any providers in the short term, the Council **Approved** the Local Plan.

John Crownshaw gave his apologies and left the meeting.

## **Item 5. Future requirements of a local “body”**

- 5.1 John Chudley presented the reasoning around the decision not to have council in another form i.e. not to recreate this body.
- 5.2 The Chairman asked what if any mechanism would be put in place to share next years plan with the Council?  
John Chudley responded as the local Non Exec roles will disappear, what interaction there will be with Regional Councils remains to be seen.
- 5.3 Paul Lucken explained the procedure for elections of the Regional Council. The advert for the Regional Chair will be in April Once the Chair is in place the Council members will then be appointed. The plan is to have a functioning Regional Council by the summer.

## **Item 6. Management Report**

Jonathan Burnett left the meeting prior this agenda item.

- 6.1 **Penwith College** is in recovery. Regular meetings with local and regional teams are taking place, consultants have been appointed for management support. Strategic Options Review with Robson Rhodes took place, the report was presented to Governors on the 19<sup>th</sup> February. The outcome of the report is that the College should merge with Truro or Cornwall College. The timetable of events:
- Presentation by the two candidates during week commencing 27<sup>th</sup> February.
  - Final decision by 5<sup>th</sup> March.
    - *Post meeting note – Truro College selected.*
  - Feasibility study will take place during April and May and should be completed by early June.
  - 28 day consultation period during June/July.
  - Subject to timings there may be a requirement for Council to meet to approve the merger.
- 6.2 Paul Lucken discussed the need to ensure procedures are followed correctly to ensure the merger will not become a subject for a Judicial Review.
- 6.3 To establish correct protocols regarding at what point the Council will need to be involved.

**Action: John Chudley**

Jonathan Burnett rejoined the meeting

- 6.4 **East Devon College** has gone into Voluntary Recovery; new principal Maria Edwards quickly identified financial issues and is currently working with LSC to establish Terms of Reference for an Options Review.
- 6.5 Land Based Education Review will be completed by April.

**Item 7. Any Other Business**

- 7.1 **Dartington Tech.** John Chudley outlined the serious financial position of Dartington Tech.
- 7.2 Dartington Tech is proposing a Company Voluntary Arrangement (CVA).
- 7.3 The LSC will be writing formally refusing the proposal. The impact of this will be Dartington Tech will go into Liquidation
- 7.4 Plans will be put in place to transfer the learners to alternative training providers.

**Item 8. Date of Next Meeting**

- 8.1 There is a requirement to hold one final meeting, date to be advised as soon as possible.