

Minutes of the ALPSE Council Meeting -18/11/2008 Central Sussex College, Crawley

Present

Network	Organisation
Hampshire & Isle of Wight	
Bob Hiskey (Chair)	ALPHI
Alison Sumpter	Aspire Learning
Rachael Fidler	HTP
Kent & Medway	
Mike Henderson	KATO
Lindsay Jardine	KATO
Thames Valley	
Tammera Eastling	Thames Valley Regional Network
Jane Wick	Thames Valley Regional Network
Surrey	
Hisham Zubeidi	ALPS Ltd
Pat Pryke	ALPS Ltd
Sussex	
Paul Kendall	SCTP Ltd
ALP	
Stephen Ram Kissun	ALP SE Regional Network Manager
Guest Speakers	
Rachel McKellar	LSC Partnership Director/WBL Lead

Apologies: Sheila Talbot, Marie Harris, Paul Warner, Chris Swingler David Thomas and Jamie Stevenson

Welcome & Introduction –

- The Chair welcomed all Council Members and to the meeting and particularly a warm welcome to Alison Sumpter/ Aspire Learning, the local Network Manager for Hampshire & Isle of Wight Network.
- The minutes of the last meeting 17 July 2008 was tabled and accepted. A correction to last minutes, MH did send apologies to last meeting.

Action Point 1: Regional Manager to contact Jackie Parry re Report and to ascertain if available for Council use?

The Commissioned Report undertaken by Jackie Parry, brief feedback given to Chair, Rachael Fidler, however the report is not yet available. It has been suggested that JP attends the next meeting, Regional Manager confirmed that JP has been given dates of all subsequent meetings and offered an invitation to attend, pending JP diary commitments.

NAVMS Briefings

- A series of training sessions has been organized for training providers aimed at operational staff held at LSC local office in Woking, Surrey.

The Chair welcomed Rachel McKellar to Council Meeting –

- Some Council Members expressed concerns about provides from outside the region seeking sub contractual roles as it was felt the region has over contracted and expressed concerns about delivery on outcomes. Currently 51% is delivered by WBL Providers in the networks, 49% from the College Network (does not include WBL/Consortia arrangements) LSC is looking to the networks to deliver more.
 - 274 providers direct contracts

- 340 consortia delivering contracts
- Only 40 providers holding T2G contracts are delivering near to 100% of provision
- *Tony Allen*, Train to Gain (T2G) Partnership Director is currently reviewing annual arrangements, new Invitation to Tender (ITT) process for new provision and qualifications
- RM indicated that currently LSC SE region sit at 8th position in comparison to other LSC regions
- MH raised two concerns about T2G Compacts/L4 qualifications
- Some SSCs do not have a Compact in place e.g. Skills for Care and have no plans to offer Compacts in the next six months
- SSC Compacts restrict the list of qualifications to be delivered, e.g. SEMTA/BIT awards.
- The Chair advised that these need to be taken up with respective ALP Skills Champions and or through sub regional Network Chair for further discussion
- Capacity Funding Bid, will be managed via Aspire Learning/Alison Sumpter
- A Sub Group meeting involving some Council Members, need to build on Capacity Building Bid, i.e. specific developments of ALPSE, e.g. Development of a regional website, and formation of 'Sub Group Specialism per region.
- The inaugural website meeting has taken place and is moving forward.
- Each Sub Region to lead on specific groups involving Council Members or to suggest representatives to act as Sub Group Chairs, i.e.
 - **Public Sector** – Sussex/TVRN chaired by Paul Mitchell (*proposed by Paul Kendall*)
 - **Apprenticeships/NAS/NAVMS** – Hampshire & IoW
 - **14-19 Agenda** – Surrey
 - **T2G** – Kent/ chaired by Jamie Stevenson (*proposed by Mike Henderson*)
 - **E2E** – TVRN
- The appointment of sub group chairs is open for discussion with the Chair.
- At the next meeting to agree 'Terms & References' for sub group functions and communications, need to find right person prepared to offer time and commitment , enthusiasm. *Aspire Learning* will provide secretariat support. All Members need to take a role to maintain momentum/continuity between Region and Sub Region.

Action Point 2:

Can all Council Members send to Alison Sumpter/Aspire Learning suggested names and contact details.

Regional Performance

- RM shared with Council Members current performance regional statistics:
 - 25+ is good double on 2006/07 performance
 - 16-18 – issues, in contrast to last year performance, SE region is down 50% on profile compared with last year which is causing more concerns and challenges, concerns about data issue.
 - 80% of providers have submitted profiles although there is still 13% provided have not submitted any data, primarily the large providers.
- PFR is not available, data issues
- NEET figures are low – LSC will be scrutinizing very careful all profiles submitted by Providers. Payments will be made on Actual Delivery

SE Region Target

Apprenticeships	No
16-18	10,400
19-24	15,500
25+	3,700

Note: DIUS will be scrutinizing the 19-24/25+ re values, displacement and impact of T2G on 25+

- Perception about employer preference to the Apprenticeship brand in contrast to the T2G, concerns about the downturn and unpredictable labour market and potential Apprenticeship redundancies.
- IAG will be crucial, more so with LAs' and their focus on Apprenticeships.
- Vacancy Apprenticeship Matching Service (VAMS) – Briefing sessions, the feedback from providers, very good, next stage – planned training in December, it's important for providers to book onto to these training sessions
- Request to LSC for list of new providers in SE Region who are operating in the region delivering Apprenticeships so that sub regional networks can engage, it is anticipated that VAMS will be able to provide this profile about providers.
- E2E queries need to be directed to *David Waggett*, LSC Director of Young People's Learning (14-19), re funding formula.
- RM shared with Council Members a draft outline of LSC SE '*The SE Plan*' - hard copies given to Council Members.
- Based on Government Strategy, Apprenticeship – World Class, 14-19 Reforms – Next Step, Apprenticeship entitlement for young people from 2013 and raising participation in training and education until 18 yrs by 2015

The Challenge: 16-18 i.e. starts trajectory

Financial Year	Starts
2008/09 (p8)	9,830
2009	10,400
2011	12,000
2020	26,752

- Focus on Employers particularly the Public Sector, New Frameworks in sectors e.g. Finance, opportunities in Hospitality, tourism creative and cultural sectors
- T2G flexibilities C/F economic down turn and impact on SMEs
- Learners – NEET, inadequate IAG, perception from community, parents and schools, VAMS, vocational pathways to support education and learning
- Providers – 16-18 volume growth, expansion of learning and progression to T2G
- Challenges retention, building capacity, new markets and employer engagement

4 Key Priorities

Priority 1 – *Strengthened Apprenticeships, Delivering the Apprenticeship entitlement by 2011*

Priority 2 – *Boost Employer demand, expansion of Apprenticeships in SE region*

Priority 3 – *manage infrastructure and increase provider capacity to learner/employer demands*

Priority 4 - *Improved communications positioning focused marketing activity World Class Skills acquisition of skills and employment*

- Capacity Funding for WBL Providers to improve flexibilities similar to T2G; revised document due to be published before Christmas with set of key questions
- If any Council Members wants to expand and or provide other ideas please contact RM via email
- RM confirmed positive discussions with Skills South East re NAS
- E2E query £131/week – Learner Response Funding? Vice Chair suggested an invitation to David Waggett to attend E2E sub group meeting to address these issues

Any Other Business –

- ALPHI will be hosting a Breakfast Briefing - On Apprenticeship with a local Chamber of Commerce. Potentially useful for local networks, re discussion around '*Modern Apprenticeship Agreements*' the safeguards to employer, provider, and learner
- Lindsay Jardine indicated Kent County Council has a similar document in place; LJ would check about releasing document and send a copy to AS for consideration.

Close

Date of next Council Meeting - Tuesday 13 January 2009 @ 10.30 am – 13.30

(The Venue: [Central Sussex College, Crawley - TBC](#))