

Young People's Education and Skills

Operational Sub-Group

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| Date | 10 th June 2011 | Venue | London Councils |
| Meeting Chair | Mary Vine-Morris | | |
| Contact Officer: | Peter O'Brien | | |
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Attendance:

Members:

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| Alan Parnum (AP) | Young People's Learning Agency |
| Alison Moore (AM) | LB Hillingdon (North-west Cluster) |
| Diana Choulerton (DC) | LB Ealing (West Cluster) |
| Helen McNulty (HMcN) | Learning Trust Hackney (LLDD Group) |
| Helen Richardson (HR) | LB Barking & Dagenham (ICYP & Apprenticeships Groups) |
| John Galligan (JG) | LB Brent (West Central Cluster) |
| Jon Hegerty(JH) | RB Kensington & Chelsea (Central Cluster) |
| Judith Smyth (JS) | Association of Colleges |
| Michelle Cuomo (MC) | Greater London Authority / London Skills & Employment Board |
| Nick Brenton (NB) | Association of London Directors of Children's Services |
| Ruth Griffiths (RG) | LB Lewisham (South Cluster) |
| Yolande Burgess (YB) | London Councils: YPES |

Officers:

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| Peter O'Brien (POB) | London Councils: YPES |
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Guests and Observers:

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| Anna Dent | London Councils: PAPA |
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Apologies:

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| Ali Kaye | Work-Based Learning Alliance |
| Jo Baty | London Borough Of Redbridge (ESF Group) |
| Jonathan Rallings (JR) | London Councils: YPES |
| Mike Pettifer | Young People's Learning Agency |

1. Welcome and introductions

1.1 MVM welcomed Anna Dent to the meeting

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 6th May 2011

2.1 The minutes were agreed, subject to the following amendment: item 6 (Strategy Proposal) add the following sentence "The vision and strategy must reflect the remit and aims of YPES".

2.2 The following matters arising from the last meeting were not on the agenda:

- Success Rates The meeting agreed that the production of statistics on London-wide success rates should wait until reliable data becomes available.
- London EBP Network The meeting agreed to convene a round table discussion to discuss the future of work-related learning in the context of the government's continuing programme of reform; group members particularly cited forthcoming consultations (such as on English & mathematics and on Vocational Qualifications), 14-16 provision in colleges (drawing on the experience of delivering Diplomas) and work experience (including health & safety, but also giving broader consideration into how work experience could remain a valuable component of pre and post-16 programmes of learning for many young people).

Action Point (81): Convene a round table discussion on Work-Related Learning

3. Apprenticeship update

3.1 Anna Dent and Helen Richardson presented an update on the work of the London Local Authority Apprenticeships Group. Their presentation is available on the website and introduced a lively discussion among members during which the following points emerged:

- London was on track to achieving the borough target of 2000 new Apprentices by 2012, with 1800 having started the programme up to the end of March 2011. The age profile (47% aged under 19) and proportion of former NEETs (39%) was better than the national average of Apprenticeship starts since 2009.
- The Apprenticeship Group primarily supports the delivery of this target and is considering whether it should continue beyond 2012 – and if so, how it should be modified. The Apprenticeship Group is also exploring how to support progression to Levels 3 and 4 Apprenticeships.
- The ICYP Group is discussing how Apprenticeship opportunities are promoted; and how pending changes in the IAG system will affect their future promotion.
- Some concern was expressed about the sustainability of both the jobs secured by Apprentices and the viability of stretching Apprenticeship targets in the light of continuing reductions in local authority spending.
- However, many members spoke positively about the enduring effect of several examples of good practice, such as: borough councils increasingly influencing their supply chains (London Councils had held several successful workshops on this theme); the establishment of Apprenticeship Training Agencies (such as in Barking & Dagenham) and the role 14-19 leads can play in facilitating links between the NAS and other colleagues in their councils (for example in Hillingdon).
- MVM offered to facilitate an input to London Government Employers (LGE) if it was identified that HR Department(s) needed further information or guidance to assist in the recruitment of Apprentices.

3.2 MVM thanked Anna for her presentation and asked HR to convey to the Apprenticeship Group the OSG's appreciation of their work and contribution.

4. 16-19 Bursary: London principles

4.1 The YPES response to the consultation on the 16-19 Bursary Fund had been circulated in advance of the meeting and was noted. It was confirmed that local authorities will receive details of their schools' allocations.

- 4.2 MVM had met with AoC and representatives of colleges to propose an overarching framework for the operation of the Bursary Fund across London. This is planned to be implemented if agreed at a meeting of the AoC Principals and has the support of the GLA. The framework will be voluntary and schools and training providers are also encouraged to sign-up to the principles through encouragement from ASCL, WBLA and local authorities.

5. SEND Green Paper

- 5.1 YB provided an oral update on the SEND Green Paper. ALDCS (NB) is to compile the response for London which would be submitted by London Councils and supported by the GLA. The draft response would be circulated to the LLDD Steering and Working Groups, but would not be circulated more widely because of the timescales involved. However, YPES' input would be guided both by the workshops, planned joint event with GLA and the detailed technical discussions at the LLDD regional groups.

Action Point (82): YB to circulate to OSG and LLDD regional group members the response to SEND Green Paper

6. Vision and strategy

- 6.1 In discussing the paper circulated in advance of the meeting, members of the OSG noted the Board's position and recommended that the emphasis should be on refreshing the vision for London, taking into account the changes in the learning landscape conceived by the government's reforms. The meeting also welcomed the close involvement of local authorities and stakeholders, especially the plans for learners' input into the consultation.

7. Learner Voice

- 7.1 MVM provided an update based on JR's paper that had been circulated in advance, saying that young people had wanted to be engaged on specific topics using a young people's blog and social networks such as twitter. These would be introduced in conjunction with students' bodies and in discussion with the GLA, WBLA, AoC and ASCL. The meeting endorsed this view. Local authorities with experience of similar models of engaging with young residents were asked to contact JR.

Action Point (83): OSG members to contact JR with examples of effective practice in engaging with young residents.

8. Workplan Monitoring

- 8.1 MVM introduced the paper. The following items had not been discussed on the agenda:
- Data. MVM reported on changes in the commercial relationship between ALPS-Alkemygold and Learning Plus UK that affected the offer of a comprehensive data dashboard to local authorities. She indicated that it was now clear that the companies had adopted a competitive operating position and individual local authorities would have to determine which company they referred to work with. YPES had agreed with LPUK the provision of a 'Travel to Success' report for London.

YB said that discussions through the Data Advisory Group (DAG) to improve the accessibility of key YPLA data to local authorities were proceeding. In addition, YPES was continuing to develop its website 'Intelligent London'.

AP reported that the first of three new thematic reports had been made available to local authorities by the YPLA. These incorporated a dynamic element that permitted local authorities to customise reports to support their priorities. YPES was producing a

London-wide picture. Colleagues were advised that comments on the reports and their presentation were welcome and best routed through representatives on DAG

- ICYP. The Group was meeting on 10th June. It would be discussing the migration of CHOICE to the new system hosted by UCAS and transition planning for September 2012.
- LLDD. The events on 11th May were well attended, have helped to prioritise the London work and generated a response to the Green Paper.
- WorldSkills London 2011. MVM reported surprisingly low take-up from secondary schools in London. She reminded members that this was a high profile international skills competition and a unique opportunity for young Londoners. MVM agreed to circulate a breakdown of the schools already signed-up to the event and appealed for support in driving up registrations.

7. Other Business

- 7.1 MVM advised that YPLA was to write imminently to local authorities with details of capital funding linked to 16-18 cohort growth. YPES had been asked to provide a cross-London view of proposals and eligible local authorities were being encouraged to work collaboratively to take account of travel-to-learn patterns. There had been general support at the LA Forum for the concept of seeking opportunities through the fund to develop local provision for learners with learning difficulties and disabilities.
- 7.2 On 15th July, the LGA (with DfE and BIS) is organising a summit to explore transition issues and solutions relating to changes in careers guidance. The meeting agreed that the members of the ICYP Group from local authorities should take up the places for London.

8. Next meeting

22nd July at 10 am in London Councils. Neither MVM (Chair) nor JG (Vice-Chair) could attend and first business will be to elect a chair for the meeting.