

Notes

London Councils Young People's Education and Skills Board

Date	6 March 2012	Venue	London Councils
Meeting Chair	Cllr Steve Reed		
Contact Officer:	Peter O'Brien		
Telephone:	020 7934 9743	Email:	Peter.obrien@londoncouncils.gov.uk

Attendance:

Members:

Cllr Steve Reed (SR)	London Councils Lead Member for Children and Young People (Chair)
Frankie Sulke (FS)	Association of London Directors of Children's Services (ALDCS) (Vice-Chair)
Alan Parnum (AP)	YPLA
Dr Caroline Allen OBE (CA)	Association of Colleges (AoC) / Association of National Specialist Colleges (NATSPEC)
Frank McLoughlin OBE (FM)	AoC (FE College member) (to item 7)
Dr Jane Overbury (JO)	AoC (Sixth Form College member)
Mary Vine-Morris (MVM)	London Councils – YPES Director
Munira Mirza (MM)	Greater London Authority (GLA)
Tim Shields (TS)	Chief Executives' London Committee (CELC)
Vic Fairlie (VF)	London Work Based learning Alliance (LWBLA)
Vic Grimes (VG)	National Apprenticeship Service (NAS)

Officers

Yolande Burgess (YB)	London Councils YPES
Peter O'Brien (POB)	London Councils YPES (Secretary)

Guests and Observers

Judith Smyth (JS)	AoC (representing Kate Anderson)
Nick Lester	London Councils (to item 7)
Paul Chubb (PC)	Careers England (to item 5)
Tim Riley (TR)	Inclusion (to item 5)

Apologies

Jack Morris	London Enterprise Panel (LEP)
Cllr David Simmonds	London Councils Conservative Group Member (Hillingdon)
Cllr Patricia Bamford	London Councils Liberal Democrat Group Member (Kingston)
Jill Lowery	Skills Funding Agency
Pat Reynolds	ALDCS
Peter Lang	Association of School and College Leaders (ASCL)
Kate Anderson	Association of Colleges (AoC)

1. Welcome and introductions

- 1.1 The Chair listed apologies and explained that Cllr Patricia Bamford who was due to attend her first meeting, replacing Cllr Liz Green, representing the Liberal Democrat Group, had unfortunately sent her apologies.
- 1.2 Due to internal secondments, Alan Parnum is acting Director for London & South East YPLA and will temporarily be replacing Mike Pettifer on the Board.
- 1.3 Judith Smyth is representing Kate Anderson for AoC.
- 1.4 Paul Chubb (Careers England) and Tim Riley (Inclusion) are joining the meeting to present on item 5.
- 1.5 The meeting congratulated Frank McLoughlin OBE on his appointment by the Minister of State for Further Education, Skills and Lifelong Learning (Rt Hon John Hayes MP) to chair the independent commission on adult vocational learning.

2 Declarations of Interest

- 2.1 No interests were declared.

3 Minutes of the last meeting (20 September 2010)

- 3.1 The notes of the last meeting were agreed.
- 3.2 An update on actions, matters arising and decisions taken by the Chair (two responses to DfE consultations had been agreed as their closing dates were between meetings) was circulated at the meeting (and has subsequently been added to the YPES web page). MVM added that five London local authorities had been invited to submit action plans for Raising the Participation Age (RPA) phase 4 pilots.

4 Policy Update

- 4.1 The meeting discussed two aspects of a paper that had been circulated before the meeting: **Youth Contract**. Several board members expressed concern about routing of the money through the YPLA and the manner of the commissioning of services in London. In particular, the meeting agreed that commissioning for services delivered on a broad north and south London divide would not allow sufficiently for programmes to be targeted locally. While the meeting acknowledged the need for expediency, it nonetheless believed that the YPLA could have consulted on the proposed design and methodology of the programme.
- 4.2 Members **agreed** that Alan Parnum should investigate urgently whether it would be possible to build additional evaluation criteria into the procurement process to ensure that successful bids provided for greater localised delivery.
- 4.3 **DfE consultation on RPA Regulations**. MVM stated that YPES intends to respond to the consultation which closes on 13th April 2012 and invited member's views. In discussion:
 - FM hoped that the response would emphasise the critical role of local authorities in planning for those young people, particularly those most vulnerable, who will not remain in school;
 - VF said that there was no enthusiasm for fining employers who do not offer training and we should be promoting an encouraging rather than penalising culture; the response should not to pursue this course at this stage
 - FS wanted the response to recognise the increasing number of young people who enter part-time work and the implications for participating in full time education.

Members **agreed**

- That YPES should submit a response to the consultation on RPA regulations, taking the comments made at the meeting into account;
- That the chair should have delegated authority to sign-off YPES' response to the consultation.

Action: AP to investigate urgently building additional evaluation criteria into the procurement process for Youth Contract

Action: The Chair sign off response to the consultation on RPA Regulations by deadline of 13th April

5. Careers Guidance

5.1 YB led discussion on the item by referring to a paper circulated to the Board and introducing Paul Chubb of Careers England and Tim Riley of Inclusion.

5.2 Paul's presentation "How to secure quality in careers education information advice and guidance?" and Tim's presentation "Careers guidance in schools – the emerging picture in London" are both available on the YPES webpage.

5.3 In the ensuing discussion:

- Tim, responding to a question from JO, said that differences between academies and Academy Trusts would be evident in the published research, which was expected at the end of March (subject to the GLA election purdah).
- Paul responding to a point on the independence of face-to-face support that schools should be arranging for those pupils who need it; proposed that local authorities could develop a crucial role in the delivery of these services.
- MM suggested that additional evidence on the range of services which needed to be available in London would be presented during the Mayor's Education Enquiry and the YPES consultation. She suggested that there was the opportunity to look for a regional solution.
- VG said that NAS is concerned about the variability and impartiality of careers education provided to young people and saw a role in improving knowledge on apprenticeships with schools and employers. He also confirmed that NAS had not been involved in the definition of the standards proposed by Careers England, though Paul clarified that AoC and AELP had been closely involved in their design from inception.
- FS commented that careers education information advice and guidance (CEIAG) had been inconsistent for some time and proposed a series of steps to make progress on the points raised by the presentations and discussion. In particular she proposed the need to accelerate the move to a 'destination culture' in London institutions. FS also agreed to follow-up any council that had not responded to the research being conducted by Inclusion.
- MVM believed that the Improving Choices for Young People (ICYCP) Sub-Group was best placed to continue to take the issue forward.

Members agreed

- That the ICYP Sub-Group should, drawing on the experience of appropriate stakeholders and emerging practice in schools, develop a framework for the delivery of high quality careers guidance across London.
- That YPES should work with YPLA Data Service to produce a more forensic analysis of drop-out during the post-16 phase, based on a model being developed in Lewisham that includes information for individual providers.
- To continue to work with the GLA to identify any specific gaps in service
- That any appropriate standards of careers guidance services should apply to young people with Special Educational Needs
- That Tim Riley (Inclusion) should liaise with FS to ensure that Inclusion's research had complete coverage of all London councils.

Action: MVM to task ICYP group to develop a framework for high quality careers guidance

Action: MVM/AP to work with Data Service to produce a pan-London analysis of post-16 drop-out

6. Apprenticeships

- 6.1 VG's presentation covering the latest advertising campaign to businesses and young people is available on the YPES webpage. In introducing the subject for discussion VG acknowledged the role of local authorities, London councils and London government in transforming the take-up of Apprenticeships since 2009.
- 6.2 In the discussion that followed:
- answering CA's question, VG said that further information on participation and success of young people with disabilities would be published shortly;
 - JO welcomed the increased emphasis on Advanced and particularly on Higher Apprenticeships;
 - MM asked about sub-standard provision and VG outlined the NAS' processes for improving or removing such provision;
 - VF advised that WBLA were working to the ambition that: each borough should achieve a 10 per cent Apprenticeship participation rate and that London needs to reach 100,000 Apprentices – of whom 10 per cent should be on Higher Apprenticeships.
- 6.3 The meeting **agreed** to track the direction of travel to the thresholds specified by VF.

7. Participation Report

- 7.1 AP's presentation, in which he commented on the historic position of post-16 participation nationally and the current pattern of provision. AP advised that the draft data shared was in good faith and still a work in progress. He anticipated being able to come back to a future meeting with published information.
- 7.2 The meeting **agreed** that AP and YPES should report on London specific data similar to that contained in his presentation.

Action: AP to report on London specific participation data

8. Vision and Strategy Consultation

- 8.1 MVM provided an update based on the paper that had been circulated to Board members and recommended the appointment of an Academic Partner to provide challenge and support to the process. The Board sought confirmation that the proposed programme of research and consultation does not duplicate the activities proposed by the London Enterprise Panel (LEP).
- 8.2 The meeting **agreed**, subject to confirmation that the proposed programme of activity does not duplicate the work of the LEP, to delegate to the Chair the authority to approve the commissioning of an Academic Partner.

Action: Chair to approve the commissioning of an Academic Partner

9 Work Plan 2012-13

- 9.1 MVM presented a paper proposing objectives and activities for the year ahead following the agreement of the budget by the Leaders' Committee. MVM advised that the Work Plan was subject to detailed scrutiny by the Operational Sub-Group (OSG). The paper proposed considering whether the Board membership should reflect the increased issues concerning progression at 19 by inviting representatives from the Department for Work and Pensions and Higher Education to become members of the Board.

The meeting **agreed**

- The Work Plan, subject to monitoring by the OSG

- That MVM should report back to the next meeting following detailed discussions with the London Enterprise Panel (LEP), Employment & Skills Sub-Group on the opportunities for co-joined activity and future working arrangements with YPES Board.

Action: MVM to report back to next Board meeting on the alignment of the roles and remit of the YPES and LEP, Employment & Skills Sub-Group

10. **AOB**

10.1 There was no other business.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 18th June at 2 pm in London Councils, Room 4.

DRAFT