

Young People's Education and Skills

Operational Sub-Group

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| Date | 22 nd July 2011 | Venue | London Councils |
| Meeting Chair | Yolande Burgess | | |
| Contact Officer: | Peter O'Brien | | |
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Attendance:

Members:

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| Yolande Burgess (YB) | London Councils: YPES |
| Alan Parnum (AP) | Young People's Learning Agency |
| Ali Kaye (AK) | Work-Based Learning Alliance |
| Alison Moore (AM) | LB Hillingdon (North-west Cluster) |
| Diana Choulerton (DC) | LB Ealing (West Cluster) |
| Trevor Cook (TC) | LB Havering (East Cluster) |
| Jo Baty (JB) | London Borough Of Redbridge (ESF Group) |
| Jon Hegerty (JH) | RB Kensington & Chelsea (Central Cluster) |
| Judith Smyth (JS) | Association of Colleges |
| Julie Ralphs (JRh) | LB Croydon (SWLSEP) |
| Lorraine Downes (LD) | City of Westminster (West Central Cluster) |
| Nick Brenton (NB) | Association of London Directors of Children's Services |
| Ruth Griffiths (RG) | LB Lewisham (South Cluster) |

Officers:

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| Peter O'Brien (POB) | London Councils: YPES |
| Jonathan Rallings (JR) | London Councils: YPES |

Apologies:

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| Helen McNulty (HMcN) | Learning Trust Hackney (LLDD Group) |
| John Galligan (JG) | LB Brent (West Central Cluster) |
| Mary Vine-Morris (MVM) | London Councils: YPES |
| Michelle Cuomo (MC) | Greater London Authority / London LEP |
| Mike Pettifer (MP) | Young People's Learning Agency |
| Eamonn Gilbert (EG) | RB Kingston upon Thames (SWLSEP) |

1. Elect chair

- 1.1 The meeting nominated Yolande Burgess to chair in the absence of Group's Chair and Vice-Chair.

2. Welcome, introductions and apologies

2.1 The Chair and members introduced themselves.

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

3.1 The minutes were agreed, subject to correcting the spelling of Jon Hegerty's name.

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

- Comparative Pan London Success Rates Report will remain outstanding until school and college success rates data are published in a reliable way.
- Round table discussion on Work-Related Learning is scheduled for 12th September 2011.
- Learner Voice JR will provide an update at the next meeting.

4. Strategic partners update

4.1 Association of Colleges (AoC). JS reported on the following areas of the AoC's work that were of greatest concern to the OSG:

- Bursary Fund (discussed substantively under item 5 on the agenda);
- Serious youth violence, where the AoC had produced a checklist on gang culture for its members;
- WorldSkills and its legacy, which opened a discussion on bidding for funds held by the Worldskills London Management Group (LMG).

Action Point (84): JS to send POB the guidance for bidding for funds from the LMG and a list of colleges that are in receipt of funding

Action Point (85): AK to provide a list of independent private providers in receipt of funding

In general discussion, the OSG noted the effect of funding decisions on the FE infrastructure in London and, in particular, the effect of adult funding (both the amount of funds and the regulations surrounding them).

4.2 Work-Based Learning Alliance (WBLA). AK updated the OSG on the following issues that had arisen within the WBLA:

- Generally, the fitness for purpose of Foundation Learning (FL), where clarification issued by the YPLA CEO had offered only marginal relief to providers, but more specifically on the practical difficulties of funding and delivering Access to Apprenticeship course within FL. The meeting noted that DfE was currently consulting on 14-16 Qualifications and recommended that responses should highlight curriculum as well as performance issues.
- The consequences of lagged learner number funding on independent providers, which is being reviewed in conjunction with the Association of Employment and Learning Providers.

- The success in London of exceeding the 16-18 and 19-24 Apprenticeship starts targets for 2010/11 (and almost reaching the 2011/12 target a year early).
- The changes to Connexions as a universal service (discussed substantively under item 7 on the agenda).

4.3 Due to absences, the meeting was unable to receive reports from ASCL and GLA / LEP.

5. 16-19 Bursary: London principles

5.1 JR presented a paper that had been circulated in advance of the meeting, which stimulated a discussion about the approaches being taken across different parts of London. The meeting identified that ensuring the regularity and efficient administration of payments, with fewer resources, is a key issue to address.

Action Point (86): POB to circulate a link to the AoC Administration Guide to [Bursaries Update](#).

5.2 JS and AK reported that provider representatives were gathering information about the impact of bursaries. AP said that whilst the YPLA still reported on the take-up of EMA, it had not yet been decided how to monitor bursaries.

Action Point (87): JS and AK to feedback to the next meeting on the impact of bursaries

Action Point (88): AP to feedback on the YPLA's arrangements for monitoring bursaries

6. ESF Update

6.1 JB reported back from a meeting of the ESF Steering Group that had been held on 20th July 2011 and referred to the report in the paper (Workplan monitoring) that had been circulated in advance. This included an update on the ESF Borough programme and timescales for the NEET programme – details of which were to be included in the next 14-19 update sent to all boroughs.

6.2 Members of the OSG commented on their experiences of the Pre-NEET programme and agreed that a newsletter to contractors would improve communications and delivery of the programme.

6.3 The meeting also asked the ESF Steering Group to report back to the next meeting on the Pan-London apprenticeships contracts.

Action Point (89): JB to email OSG members to obtain their input into a newsletter to Pre-NEET programme contractors.

Action Point (90): JB to ask ESF Steering Group to feedback in October on other programmes.

7. Careers Guidance Transition

71 AK led the discussion by saying that changes in funding, legal responsibilities and organisations (e.g. Connexions) were causing concern, especially among FL providers who were seeing an increase in referrals from Youth Offending Teams and from social services. In the course of discussion, YB referred to research carried out by the University of Derby that was highlighted to 14-19 Leads prior to its publication and to the work of the Improving Choices for Young People (ICYP) Group that had separately discussed the differences

between boroughs approaches to careers information, advice and guidance (IAG). OSG members also commented on the factors that led to these differences and the difficulties in developing a Pan London approach. However, the meeting's consensus was that the position will become clearer and there may be more scope for consistency in London after October / November – by this time the future legislation will be clearer and boroughs will be further into the implementation of their transition plans.

8. Workplan Monitoring

- 8.1 YB spoke on each of the work streams highlighted in the report circulated before the meeting. The meeting asked any of its members interfacing with WorldSkills to suggest that it refocused its marketing to schools so that simple messages about the benefits of involvement could be both properly targeted and communicated.

Action Point (91): JR to feedback on the comments above to the Worldskills LMG

8. Other Business

- 8.1 Demographic Growth Capital Fund – AP reported that around 75% of London's bids – some aimed at LLDD - were successful. Allocations were subject to negotiation and AP will send YB the final position. The meeting congratulated all the successful bids in a challenging process.
- 8.2 Valediction- Yolande announced that this would be Nick Brenton's last meeting. On behalf of the YPES Team at London Councils and of the OSG and its other groups, Yolande thanked Nick for his tremendous support since the inception of the Regional Planning Group and for his continuing efforts over the past four years. The meeting wished Nick well in the future.

9. Next meeting

- 9.1 The meetings scheduled for 2nd September 2011 and 14th October were cancelled.
- 9.2 The next meeting will be held on Friday 23rd September at 10am in London Councils, Room 1.