

Notes

London 14-19 Regional Planning Group – Operational Sub-group

Date	5 March 2010	Venue	London Development Agency
Meeting Chair	Mary Vine-Morris		
Contact Officer:	Anna-Maria Volpicelli		
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Attendees:

Alan Parnum	YPLA	Trevor Sandford	DCSF 14-19 Adviser
Wendy Forrest	LB Tower Hamlets	Anna-Maria Volpicelli	RPG
Mary Vine-Morris	RPG	Peter O'Brien	RPG
Chris Smith	GOL	Apologies	
Rachel Dunford	LDA	David Fowler	LSEB
Helen McNulty	LB Hackney	Caroline Dawes	London Councils
Nick Brenton	ALDCS	Clive Senior	GOL
Steve Cameron	LB Newham	Colin Jones	LDA
Sue Snowdon	LB Redbridge	Doug Norris	LSC/YPLA
Mike Pettifer	YPLA	Helen Richardson	LB Barking and Dagenham
Jonathan Rallings	London Councils	Yolande Burgess	RPG

Item 1. Notes of last meeting and action points

1.1 Notes; 2.1.1: RD advised that LDA would be matching ESF £15m with £15m of funding.

1.2 Action points:

- AP12: TS confirmed that he had not approached London Challenge as Leaders Committee has agreed to fund London Plus UK for 2010/11 through the RPG. MVM and Yolande Burgess have met with Bob Greenwood and now discussions need to take place between LC, YPLA and LPUK. London Challenge may have some additional funding. MVM added that the data group will be involved in refining the data dashboard.
- AP15: Tabled Appendix B with totals corrected.
- AP16: MVM seeking advise from ASCL – Malcolm Trobe
- AP 17: CS to advise
- AP 20: Discussed at this meeting.
- AP 22: 14-19 Leads Conference, TS/MVM suggested agenda to include:-
 - a) RPA – delivery pilots
 - b) Managing LA capacity to deliver
 - c) Gateway 4 – LA delivering entitlement

- d) FfE (pilot of SSF)
- e) Transitional year – evaluation, moving into next year (data packs etc.), reviewing plans and emerging clusters.

- 1.3 MP indicated that emerging ‘clusters’ could be useful for YPLA to plan support and resources. HMcN said that these need to be looked at on local, interborough and regional level and suggested asking the Leads conference to give their opinion on the value of formalising sub-regional working. It was pointed out that the National Strategy team has a completely different version of London clusters. MP said the map circulated had been compiled from different sources and should be fairly reflective of how boroughs are working together on an informal basis.
- 1.4 Notes of last meeting were **AGREED** as an accurate record subject to revision of 2.1.1.

Item 2. ESF Co-commissioning.

- 2.1 Rachel Dunford (RD) updated the group with background of principles agreed by LDA/YPLA/SFA, YPLA/SFA targeting ‘those at risk of becoming NEET’, LDA targeting ‘those that are NEET’.
- 2.2 LDA were proposing to pilot/trial co-commissioning approach with proportion of joint funding but amount yet to be determined. Sensible to start with Apprenticeships as this is a ‘definite’ outcome.
- 2.3 LDA are keen to publish all priorities together so providers have a single tendering round to apply to but with the intention that LDA and SFA manage their own projects.
- 2.4 The LDAs’ intention to give providers a longer contractual requirement for monitoring (12 months) is to enable them to factor in and provide additional support to the individual learner thus increasing higher levels of successful employment outcomes. RD suggested that a longer term contract would be more appealing to providers, acting as an incentive to achieve higher outcomes.
- 2.5 RD confirmed that the LDA position on 12 month tracking was non-negotiable and that should mutual agreement not be reached, the fall back position is to manage the tendering and contracting on their own.
- 2.6 MVM stated that RPG wanted one tendering round with one set of outcomes; clearly led by RPG priorities. As SFA are proposing only 6 month monitoring, this matter has become a sticking point. MVM said that experience of LSC colleagues is that providers seem unable to provide adequate levels of support post training, going on to suggest the option of splitting the tender into two parts, one training, the other post-training mentoring support.
- 2.7 MVM advised that full co-commissioning is still being pursued. MP, MVM and RD agreed to continue discussions following end of meeting.

ACTION 23: RD to share 12 month monitoring outcomes presentation with OSG members.

Item 3. LA Self Assessment Template

- 3.1 Proposing the template as a checklist for LA's to assess readiness for transfer, MVM said the intention was that this would be a useful tool in identifying areas LA's might require further support in. She clarified that there was no specific requirement for it to be completed and returned to the RPG
- 3.2 MP said that if LA's did return a completed template, it would very much help YPLA to plan and direct resources. It was AGREED that the correct term should be 'tool' and not 'template'. It would also make a good 'practical' checklist.
- 3.3 HMcN said that LA colleagues are apprehensive of LLDD as their knowledge is widely varied. It was agreed that this area could be strengthened with specific questions, HMcN agreed to review. Once finalised it was agreed that JR would load to London Councils website.

ACTION 24: HMcN to review the questions specifically on LLDD.

Item 4. RPG Evaluation

- 4.1 MVM asked the group for thoughts and views;
- Evaluation seemed to be trying to do two different things, review transitional year and RPG but really should focus on first in order to gain knowledge from people's experience and shape future working.
 - There is still some confusion about RPG's role and mention of RAG might help people to recognise it more.
 - Should include:
 - ◆ Learning lessons from transitional year
 - ◆ An appraisal of the structures in place (from the perspective of 14-19 teams, DCSs, RAG members etc.)
 - ◆ Clarity of the RPG role
- 4.2 Agreed that the result of the evaluation (the completed report) should be available by the summer through website.

ACTION 25: MVM to re-frame it and re-circulate to group for comments/input to ensure it is more productive.

Item 5. Strategy Consultation

- 5.1 NB provided the Group with feedback from the last meeting of the RPG. The consultation would now take place, post-election, in June and the document would:
- Be shorter, express a clear vision and what the RPG intends to do in the form of a 'manifesto' and facilitate discussion among various audiences;
 - Focus directly on raising the participation age and its specialist themes from a local authority perspective (i.e. drawing on the links between councils' responsibilities);
 - Provide a framework for local and regional commissioning;

- Build on the previous document, the emerging priorities and the consultation on the strategy that would assist commissioning.

5.2 It was noted that we need to address LAs a lot more in terms of specialist audiences,; seeking engagement with colleagues outside of the usual areas such as regeneration.

5.3 This will set the agenda for 14-19 planning which will be needed for the autumn.

ACTION 26: POB to draft the consultation document taking into account the feedback provided by the RPG according to the following timetable:

- By 31st March - draft sent to the working group
- By 30th April – feedback from working group
- By mid-May – amended draft to be circulated to RPG members
- June – sign off for consultation by RPG

Item 6. LLDD

6.1 HMcN voiced concern that not all boroughs appeared to be represented at the REACT Vulnerable Groups training programme and re-iterated the importance of ensuring that LAs were in a confident position to undertake this work. It is intended to give an LLDD update at the LA 14-19 Leads conference 19 March.

6.2 The SEN responsibilities paper is open to different interpretation; it was noted that DCSF and LGA will provide a more definitive guidance document.

6.3 Following Transition Bids workshop on 25 March, HMcN and YB will be working to put together a bid for LLDD funding which potentially could mean a further £2k per borough.

6.4 A meeting with Chris Kiernan, DCS, LB of Waltham Forest in his capacity as Chair of the Stakeholders Group (LLDD) has been arranged for HMcN and MVM, with Penny Allen of the YPLA Vulnerable Learners team, on 11 March to discuss plans going forward and pan-London priorities.

6.5 As a result of the REACT training session, there has been a lot more work between LA Youth Offending Teams and 14-19 Leads. 14-19 Leads have been advised of their Borough TSP Lead.

ACTION 27: AMV to resource list of LA YOT Lead for boroughs and forward to 14-19 LA Leads.

Item 7. AOB

7.1 Data – NB: David Ewens of DMAG has agreed to attend 25 March Data Group meeting as they are to be contracted to undertake modelling on post-16 across London. GOL are also supporting modelling with DMAG on behalf of Partnerships for Schools – there is an obvious tie in with BSF and regional commissioning.

7.2 Training – AP: there are 8 dates for YPLA MI training, each of these for up to 12 people. These will be circulated to LA 14-19 LA Leads.

ACTION 28: AP to circulate YPLA MI Training dates

7.3 AP went on to confirm that there are now two Provider Gateway users registered for each borough and it is hoped to have full suite of information available by end of May.

7.4 In response to a matter raised, MVM confirmed that the 14-19 Leads would be updated on the budgets for regional projects. Leaders had agreed that each borough would contribute £25k to cover youth entrepreneurship, London Plus UK and Choice. Youth entrepreneurship was being tendered and arrangements were being made for London Plus UK and Choice to continue post-April 2010.

ACTION 29: MVM to inform 14-19 leads, to invite participation in specification writing and to advise in particular that youth entrepreneurship is to be tendered from 1st April.

7.5 With the date of the next meeting falling in the first week after the Easter Bank Holiday Monday and due to apologies received to date, it was agreed to cancel the 9th April meeting.

Date of the next meeting: Friday 7 May, 10-12, London Councils