



ACADEMIC STANDARDS AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 28th SEPTEMBER 2006

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Hugh Harris, Linda Jordan (Chair), Jermaine St. Rose, Martin Tolhurst

ALSO PRESENT

Denise Brown-Sackey, Philip Badman, Geoff Crook, Graham Drummond (Clerk), Pat Edwards, Liz Laycock, Chris Leadbeater, Robert Murphy, Sarbdip Noonan

APOLOGIES

Peter Pendle, Quintin Peppiatt

The meeting was quorate throughout.

06/21 MINUTES OF MEETINGS

Minutes of the meeting held on 8th June 2006

The minutes were received.

06/22 MATTERS ARISING

The Committee noted that:

- Feedback from parents evenings will come to the next meeting.

06/23 STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

23.1 Provisional GCE A level Results

A report was received. The Committee noted that:

- The College's results are 17% above the national average when compared to similar FE Colleges.
- The number of students entered for A Level examinations has continued to rise for the last four years.
- The number of As and Bs achieved increased from 27% to 30%.
- Considering the College's open access policy and the comprehensive nature of the intake these are an outstanding set of results.
- A value added analysis will be carried out using the Greenhead model.

23.2 Provisional GCE AS Level Results 2006

A report was received. The Committee noted that:

- The results are outstanding.

23.3 Provisional GCSE Results 2006

A report was received. The Committee noted that:

- The College offers GCSEs to students if they are needed e.g. Maths and English re-takes.
- The results are outstanding.

06/24 QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

24.1 College Performance

A report was received. The Committee noted that:

- The overall college success rate for 2004/05 was 76%, which is 8% above benchmark.
- Retention and achievement for long level 2 qualifications is a concern. Also:-
 - Long level 2 qualifications for 19+ learners are 19% below the national rate.
 - There are too many courses with 0% achievement.The reasons for this are being investigated.
- The report uses data, which has been interpreted by the LSC. The data cannot be updated.
- The data within the report has critical implications for the College considering that:
 - Ofsted inspectors will be making their annual assessment visit to the College in November;
 - The LSC are currently negotiating with the DFES about the implementation of a strategic commissioning policy where areas of poor provision will be opened up for competition.

It was **AGREED** that

- Any more information about college performance will be provided at the next meeting.
- Members of the committee will be kept informed if there are any developments before the next meeting.
- The implications of the Value Added Section will be reported to the next meeting.

24.2 Learning System Review 2005/06

A report was received. The Committee noted that:

- Student feedback is being used successfully to improve the quality of courses.
- The review provided evidence that course teams were addressing teaching and learning issues.
- The College is currently conducting an internal audit of its Head of Learning Areas.

06/25 WORK BASED LEARNING REINSPECTION PREPARATION

A report was received. The Committee noted that:

- An inspection taskforce has been established and the level of management intervention has increased in order to prepare all areas of the Work Based Learning Faculty for re-inspection.
- The achievement of an apprenticeship takes four years. This is one of the reasons achievement has been poor.
- Achievement has improved considerably but is still below national benchmarks.
- If the inspection grade profile of work based learning does not improve subsequent to the re-inspection in November, then its activities could be opened up to immediate competition if the LSC was to adopt its strategic commissioning policy.
- The size of the LSC contract to deliver work based learning has increased.

- The size of companies that the College tends to deal with is small which can make assessment and delivery problematic.
- Key skills achievement has been poor.

06/26 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was **AGREED** that

- A presentation on the specifications of the new specialist diploma should be made to the full Board.

06/27 NEWCAD PRESENTATION

Denise Brown-Sackey gave a presentation on NewCAD. The notes for the presentation are separate to these minutes.

06/28 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the next meeting would be held at 6.00 pm on Thursday 18th January 2007.

Signed as a correct record

Linda Jordan Chair of the Committee