

CENTRAL SUSSEX COLLEGE

Report of the Crawley, Horsham & East Grinstead LCB Meeting – 18th June 2008

Matters Arising

- The Board noted the improved success rates for the Crawley campus during the period 2005/06 to 2006/07.
- An overview of the current situation with those young people Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs) was provided to the Board. The education and training provided by the College and support for this group of young people was outlined.
- The Board was also advised that there had been a number of behavioural issues this year that had impacted on other learners.

Strategy

- An update on the latest position in relation to the Crawley Masterplan was provided to the Board.
- The Board received an update on a number of aspects of the Corporations' work, particularly in relation to the changing FE sector environment and the funding mechanism.
- The collaborative work undertaken with the schools was outlined.
- The Board was advised of the additional areas in skills training being provided by the College in response to employer demand.

Curriculum, Quality & Standards

- A brief update on the work being undertaken with the local socially excluded groups was noted.

Community

- The Board noted the establishment of the Area Partnership Board and their role in planning the strategy and curriculum for 14-19 year olds.
- An outline of the partnership work being undertaken with the local schools was provided along with an update on the introduction of the new Vocational Diplomas.
- The Board considered skills training and employer engagement and noted the difficulties in reaching the large number of businesses in the area and turning the contact made into the provision of training by the College.

Consideration of Role

- The Board had a lengthy discussion about its role. The strong support from community members was recognised although the difficulties in finding business and school links through the Board were acknowledged.

- It was recognised that a number of other factors had superceded the Boards' links with schools and businesses and that these organisations had other mechanisms through which to engage with the College.
- Board Members confirmed that whilst they had enjoyed the meetings they had struggled to understand and develop their role as Members of the Board.
- The Board considered that their role had been overtaken by events in the education system and it was difficult to envisage how this LCB would fit comfortably with the new demands and requirements being imposed on the College. The Board therefore concluded that the Crawley, Horsham & East Grinstead LCB should be disbanded.
- Ideas for maintaining links with the Board Members were considered with ideas for further exploration provided.
- Both the Principal and the Chair thanked the Board for their tremendous support and input at the meetings.