

CENTRAL SUSSEX COLLEGE

Report of the Haywards Heath LCB Meeting – 3rd May 2006

Matters Arising

- The Board was advised that a presentation on marketing would be provided at their June meeting. A short term marketing group was to be established and any outcomes or recommendations from this group will be reported to the Board.

Risk Management

- The Health & Safety Report for the campus was noted

Staff Matters

- Concerns around the marketing issues of the campus as a sixth form centre were raised. A Staff Forum was due to be held on 16th May and staff would be reassured that their concerns were being addressed.

Student Matters

- The Board confirmed their interest in receiving a copy of the college newspaper when available.

Finance

- The Board considered the management accounts for the campus. The reasons behind the negative income figures were noted along with some compensating items in the wider college accounts.
- The difficulty in monitoring figures for the campus in isolation from the overall college financial performance was highlighted. The Board acknowledged that they performed only a monitoring function but considered it of value to consider the campus accounts within the overall context of the college performance. The provision of a further column providing information on the overall college performance against reforecast will be pursued.

Curriculum, Quality & Standards

- The encouraging increase in applications to the campus for September was well received and the Board considered the breakdown of applications from partner schools.
- The potential perception problems associated with the building project during the period of build were considered.
- The Board considered the attendance and retention figures and congratulated staff at the campus for the excellent results achieved.
- The importance of good attendance was explored. Along with the need to attend to learn and achieve, the benefits of providing a structure of self discipline for students and the image of the college were also acknowledged.
- The value of local benchmarking data was highlighted and the Principal agreed to raise this with FESussex.
- The Board received a summary of the White Paper – Further Education: Raising Skills, Improving Life Chances.
- An update on the A4B assessment process was provided.
- A copy of the presentation on Employer Engagement was provided to the Board to assist in gaining a broader insight into the work undertaken by the College.

Community

- The Board was advised of the establishment of the Area Partnership Board for Area C and an outline of its responsibilities and powers.
- The Board noted that the curriculum plan would drive all strategy.

Strategy

- The model of the proposed building project for the campus was provided at the meeting and details of the meetings with the LSC were noted.
- The reduction in maintenance and utility bills and more efficient space utilisation for the new building were considered.
- A number of confidential/sensitive issues relating to the building project were discussed.

Staffing

- The Staff Update Report was noted.
- The Board was advised that a Staff Forum had been arranged for mid May to explore the possibility of staff moving on to the AoC pay scales and conditions and acknowledged that this was very much in the exploratory stages.

Any Other Business

- The value of a link arrangement scheme for LCB Members was discussed. A minimum requirement for the scheme was for some involvement with the self assessment process so the links could be established with a specific quality monitoring process in mind. The Board agreed that a Link Scheme for Board Members would require further consideration. It was noted that the Corporation was to consider a Link Scheme (for Corporation Members) at their next meeting.
- A proposal to consider hosting a music and drama festival following the completion of the English & Performing Arts Building (if approved) was put forward. The proposal was considered of value, both in terms of publicity and in providing links with the local schools.