

NLDC Funding 2009/10 Meeting Minutes

Tuesday 6th October 2009 14:00 at Felaw Maltings

Present: Nicky Bradford Suffolk County Council
Robin Hodgkinson SAVO/Suffolk Learning Consortium
Simon Waldron SAVO/Suffolk Learning Consortium
Bruce McGregor CSV Media

Apologies: Pete Mason LSC
Steve Pike Suffolk County Council

1) Welcome

All were welcomed and apologies were noted.

2) Minutes of the last meeting

These were agreed as a correct record.

3) NLDC Year 2008/09

Nicky reported that the tally as of September 7th was:

Category	Number
Number of voluntary and community sector (VCS) organisations supported through capacity building activities (including organisations sending learners on NLDC activities)	209
Number of learners from VCS organisations accessing training	532
Number of learners undertaking a Skills for Job Activity	930
Total number of learners on NLDC programmes	990
Internal count of number of learning opportunities ie including learners who have gone on to other NLDC learning opportunities	1300+

Therefore targets were exceeded. Robin had written a report on the Consortium projects which included 4 case studies. NLDC funding had contributed to Somerleyton Post Office winning a national post office award. In addition one of Ipswich Community Radio's learners had won a county learning award.

Nicky reported that there would be an ACS Showcase event at Endeavour House in November. Although a video on community learning would be shown, this was more about workforce development. NLDC could however have a stand in the market place and Nicky had enough resources (e.g. photos, posters etc) to mount a display. She requested help with staffing the stall, particularly between 11.00am and 2.00pm.

ACTIONS: NICKY TO E-MAIL THE DATE OF THE SHOWCASE OTHERS TO RESPOND IF THEY COULD HELP STAFF THE STALL.

4) 2009/10 Projects

A number of projects were getting underway. The Yard had recently lost two of their most experienced tutors and therefore had declined their offer of £4,000 funding. It was agreed that the money should be put towards benefitting current providers with more support – this may, for example, be more PTLLS places, but it was agreed that no action would be taken immediately and that providers should be asked about what support they need.

ACTION: ROBIN TO SEND OUT AN E-MAIL LATER IN OCTOBER REMINDING ORGANISATIONS TO RETURN FORMS SOON AFTER NOVEMBER 1ST IN READINESS FOR THE NEXT REPORTING CYCLE, REQUESTING A BRIEF WRITTEN UPDATE ON THEIR PROJECTS AND ASKING IF THEY NEED FURTHER SUPPORT.

Nicky will want as much paperwork as possible by 27th November.

5) Future funding for NLDC and arrangements post March 2010

Robin reported that the PCDL Partnership had set up a sub group to develop a strategy for the Partnership post March 2010. The sub-group which included Hazel McIntosh from the LSC and Suzanne Anderson from Suffolk County Council had met once. They were likely to propose a new, wider partnership called the Informal Adult Learning Partnership which would take in all forms of informal learning and funding including PCDL, NLDC, Family Learning and non-accredited ESOL. This partnership could work alongside the County Council advising the commissioning department, looking at gaps in provision etc. At this early stage the exact relationship between the Partnership and the County Council was yet to be determined, but Robin felt that the Partnership would have an important role in ensuring that funding decisions were transparent.

Simon reported that nationally and regionally there was concern about the local authority role in learning where many local authorities had both a commissioning and provider role. He said that nationally, the Third Sector Learning Alliance was playing a pivotal role in ensuring that Third Sector organisations are at the forefront of learning and that the excellent work of the LSC in promoting the Third Sector was not lost when the new national bodies took up their roles.

Robin stated that the intention was for the sub group to put forward a first draft strategy to be discussed at the next PCDL Partnership meeting in Mid-December.

6) AOB / Information Round

Nothing to report.

7) Date of next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting would be on Wednesday 13th January 2010 at 2.00pm. Robin to check with Pete Mason whether we could use a room at Felaw Maltings.