

**30 July, 2009.**

**LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL**

**Minute Nos: 177 – 180**

At a Meeting of the **LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE** of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Conference Room, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Thursday, 30 July, 2009 at 4.45 p.m.

**Present:** Cllr. T. Devichand (Chairman)

**Cllrs.**

S. M. Donoghue	A. C. Thomas
B. C. M. Reynolds	G. H. Wooldridge

**177. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. M. L. Davies, T. Rh. Ifan (Cllr. A. C. Thomas deputising), T. J. Jones (Cllr. S. M. Donoghue deputising), A. G. Morgan and C. A. Rees.

**178. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were made.

**179. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT, 1960**

**RESOLVED** that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the following matter be considered in private and that the power of exclusion of the public under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act, 1960) be exercised.

**180. TRANSFORMING EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROVISION FOR WALES**

Pursuant to Minute No. 592, (30 April, 2009), Members considered a draft Partnership Agreement dated 23 July, 2009, prepared by Eversheds on behalf of Neath Port Talbot College. Members were informed that the rationale in formulating the agreement was based on a proposal to bring together a number of good and outstanding work – based learning providers to form an outstanding work – based learning network in the Swansea Bay area. Good and outstanding provision was evidenced in the current round of Performance Provider Reviews. The following training providers would come together under the one umbrella to formulate the Partnership Agreement.

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- Neath Port Talbot College
- Learn-Kit Ltd
- Jobforce Wales
- Llanelli Rural Council
- ACO Training Ltd
- Swansea Itec Ltd
- Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

The thrust of the agreement was to operate under a single contract legally novated to Neath Port Talbot College for a two year pilot period from August 2009, in preparation for the ‘Transforming of Education and Training Provision for Wales’ programme which would take effect in 2011, and which would result in the number of training provider contracts being dramatically streamlined. The Partnership Agreement would facilitate the smooth transition of the respective parties in meeting the challenge of the new training and education requirements post 2011. Furthermore it would give the parties the time and opportunity to work closely together for two complete contract years, prior to the formation of a single tender for the next round of contracting. It would also provide protection for all of the work-based learning providers during the two year period. In 2011, the work-based learning partnership would submit one tender for the delivery of work-based learning for the geographical area covered.

The Clerk led Members through the draft agreement and a number of issues were flagged up for further consideration namely:

- insurance cover arrangements;
- the chairing of partnership board meetings – this should be shared and not held indefinitely by the lead partnership body;
- clarification was required on the retention of learners within the partnership, if for example the Council chose to withdraw from the agreement;
- there appeared to be a potential conflict of interest regarding internal dispute resolution where there was a possibility of a dispute raised against Neath Port Talbot College. It could not act independently and objectively in such a scenario; and
- clarification was needed on the clause addressing ‘The Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulation 2006 and how this might apply.

After a lengthy discussion, it was

**RESOLVED** that subject to the above comments being referred back for further consideration by the Partnership Board, and clarification being received, the Partnership Agreement be signed by the Chairman of Council in order to confirm the Council’s involvement in the pilot arrangements.

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 The Meeting concluded at 5.25 p.m.  
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The afore-mentioned Minutes were declared to be a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman presiding thereat and were, on 8 September, 2009, adopted by the Council.