

BRISTOL

LEARNING CITY

ACTION NOTES FROM
LEARNING CITY PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETING
9 NOVEMBER 2016, 3.30PM – 5.30PM
VENUE – CITY HALL

Attendees, Board members:

Marvin Rees, Mayor of Bristol (in the Chair)
Sarah Baker, Bristol Secondary Head Teachers and Principals Association
Karl Brown, Bristol Junior Chamber
Chris Curling, Society of Merchant Venturers
Cllr Claire Hiscott, Bristol City Council
Alison Comley on behalf of Stephen Hughes, Bristol City Council
Lee Probert, City of Bristol College
John Readman, Bristol City Council
Tim Stringer, Integral Build
Professor Judith Squires, University of Bristol
Phil Winfield, At Bristol

Apologies:

Stephen Hughes, Bristol City Council
John Hirst, Destination Bristol
Neha Mehta, Youth Council Representative
Laurence Pitt, Primary Head Association
Steve West, University of the West of England

Other attendees:

Ian Hird, Bristol City Council
Paul Jacobs, Bristol City Council
Tommy Jarvis, Learning City
Rebecca Phillips, Learning City
Adam Powell, West of England LEP
Sian Rees, Learning City

Full notes of meeting:

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

At the invitation of the Mayor, attendees introduced themselves.

NOTES AND ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING – 28 SEPTEMBER 2016

The notes of the 28 September meeting were confirmed as a correct record.

A summary of actions taken since 28 September, included with the agenda papers, was noted.

Strategic Ambition and Implementation Plan: The Board will be requested to approve the Strategic Ambition and Implementation Plan; the amendments suggested at the last meeting had been incorporated within the updated document, in particular key deliverables.

University of Bristol Local Scholars Scheme: The scheme will be launched formally at an event to be held at St Bede's School on 15 December. In terms of the pilot phase, a strong cohort has been identified across a broad and diverse range of local schools. All Board Members will be invited.

LEARNING CITY UPDATES AND FEEDBACK FROM RECENT EVENTS:

a. Brussels EU visit

Claire Hiscott gave an update on the recent participation of Bristol Learning City in the European week of Regions and Cities held in Brussels.

Bristol Learning City's progress was shared and positively received at the event, as an example of promoting and progressing the learning and skills agenda in a large city environment. Useful and positive links had been made, which could be important in terms of helping to identify future funding opportunities.

Partners welcomed this update. Marvin Rees also indicated the importance of a city international strategy to help maximise benefits for Bristol. A draft strategy is being developed.

b. University of Bristol guest lecture

Judith Squires advised that on the 28th October, Professor Alan Tuckett - Professor of education at Wolverhampton University, and former director of the National Institute for Adult and Continuing Education (NIACE), delivered a lecture entitled "Towards an Inclusive and Engaged Democracy". The lecture was focused on the theme of learning cities and engaging under-represented communities. Judith Squires and Lee Probert both provided a Bristol Learning City response to the lecture.

c. Apple Inc. partnership

Paul Jacobs gave an update on recent Education Leaders Conference sponsored by Apple and the exploration of a partnership being developed. Apple expects its stores and staff to provide opportunities to share available expertise and deliver added value/social benefit. There is potential to explore a range of initiatives, including Apple making in-store "open source" space available and developing a partnership city offer.

CITY OFFICE AND BRISTOL WORKS LAUNCH – EXPERIENCE OF WORK

Marvin Rees and Lee Probert updated the Board, with the following points raised in discussion:

- There has been positive response from organisations willing to develop more meaningful work experience opportunities for young people. Further work is needed to develop a co-ordinated approach in the context of realistic targets. It is important to broker effective working relationships across organisations/institutions/learning providers, and also secure full involvement across the public and voluntary and community sectors.
- A diagram was shared setting out the WORKS delivery model and the governance oversight of this development.
- A WORKS delivery team is in place to develop the Bristol WORKS Hub and Portfolio, with a number of confirmed project advisors, including the Junior Chamber, Bouygues UK, Deloitte, Airbus and Apple.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Strategic Ambition and Implementation Plan

Sian Rees and Rebecca Phillips presented an update on the development of the plan, which reflected input from partners at and since the last meeting of the Board.

Key points highlighted/discussed included:

- The Vision is ambitious; a city where:
 - All individuals and communities are proud to learn throughout their lives.
 - Every organisation has a committed, skilled and diverse workforce.
 - The city's success is shared by all.
- To drive and measure long term change, it was proposed that a set of indicators be agreed in line with the Board aims:
 - Awareness and value e.g. increased attendance from targeted communities and groups.
 - Participation e.g. increased number of good/outstanding learning providers.
 - Achievement and life chances e.g. increased number of local people in work.

- In discussion, it was suggested that Learning City indicators align with the suite of key city targets and measures currently being developed at the request of the Mayor. Parallels were also drawn with the Happy City index method for evaluating the city.
- Moving forwards, three Challenge Groups (Learning in Education; Learning for Work; and the newly established Learning in Communities Challenge Group) will each have clearly defined aims and related indicators/targets.
- There must be a sustained focus moving forwards on reducing the inequality of access to learning opportunities.
- The Board was asked to approve the plan, recognising that further development will take place.

At the conclusion of the discussion, taking into account the above, the Board agreed to approve the updated Learning City Strategic Ambition and Implementation Plan.

FOCUSED DISCUSSION - LEARNING IN COMMUNITIES

Determining scope/role and considering wider possibilities

The Board discussed the potential scope and role of the Learning in Communities Challenge Group.

Phil Winfield, Sarah Baker and Sian Rees outlined the following potential areas which could be included as a focus for this Challenge Group:

- **Developing transferable skills for all**
This approach relates to transferring skills gained through complementary educational experiences, recognising the value that children and young people gain from non-formal learning experiences. Examples given included the Kings College, London led project where classrooms were held in a museum for one month; and the Get on Track Dame Kelly Holmes Trust project where involvement in sport is used as a vehicle to address barriers to employment.
- **Encouraging learning environments and communities**
This approach seeks to create a culture where learning is valued by all through learning experiences within communities. This can cover a wide range of varied opportunities, such as learning to cook, using public spaces as a place to learn e.g. Painting parking spaces with stories/questions/quizzes, or intergenerational learning e.g. the "enrichment" hour experiences gained by students at Redland Green School.
- **Learning for the city wellbeing**
This approach aims to promote general wellbeing in the community by encouraging engagement in learning to reduce social isolation; develop pathways to employment or develop positive mental health. The practical examples shared all require investment in

learning; with the aim of reducing long term spend in health, social care and the justice system.

In discussion, it was suggested that the following should also be taken into account in developing the scope of the Learning in Communities Challenge Group:

- Consider generating ideas for the scope from within communities themselves, including communities of interest.
- Complement and avoid duplication with other work taking place, e.g. the work of the Bristol Youth Offending Board and the Bristol Women's Commission.
- Given the limited resources, it will be important to focus on the most important targets.
- The views of the other two Challenge Groups should also be sought to consider how the group can potentially assist in delivering their priorities.

OTHER BUSINESS

a. Developing a Resource Plan

John Readman updated the Board on the development of a Resource Plan to support the ongoing development and delivery of Bristol as a Learning City. The contribution of the City Council was noted, to include a project manager, communications support and a financial contribution towards the cost of the Learning City lead. Partners were asked to consider additional contributions, which might include seconded posts, shared leads and/or financial contributions from organisations.

In discussion, some partners indicated that their organisations may be able to make a contribution e.g. through secondments or financial contribution, as long as the requirements closely link to the outcomes which support the objectives of their organisations. The Strategic Ambition and Implementation Plan set out the key objectives. In relation to taking forward both Learning City and the WORKS Hub, it was suggested that a charitable entity should be considered at a future meeting.

b. Membership Nominations

It was noted that since the last meeting of the Board, Kate Brindley, CEO Arnolfini (appointed to the Board at that meeting) had now secured another job and therefore will not be able to take up the position on the Board.

Following proposals to the Board, the following nominations were considered and approved:

Helen Davies, Interim CEO, Arnolfini

Dr Simon Newitt, CEO, Off the Record

The Board also agreed to a substitution for the West of England LEP until the appointment of a permanent CEO is made:

Adam Powell, Education Director, West of England LEP will attend as a substitute

The Board also noted suggested factors which can usefully be taken into account when recruiting business representatives to the Board.

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Marvin Rees thanked Board members for their attendance and contributions. Noting that this is the last meeting for Sian Rees and Rebecca Phillips, the Board expressed their thanks and appreciation for the work and very significant contribution they had both made to the creation, establishment and implementation of Bristol Learning City.

The meeting finished at 5.30 p.m.

Action Summary

Agenda Item	Actions from meeting	Who	When
Learning City Updates	Explore the possibility of developing a city offer in partnership with Apple	Paul Jacobs	23/12/2016
Learning City Updates	Contacts from business, for experience of work, as a result of the City Office event, to be shared with the Bristol WORKS delivery team	Sian Rees to follow up	26/11/2016
Strategic Ambition and Implementation Plan	Learning City Performance indicators to align with broader city targets currently being developed.		
	Identify opportunities to align the Happy City performance indicators to with those for Learning City	Sian Rees Rebecca Phillips	16/12/2016
	Each of the three Challenge Groups to develop clearly defined aims, indicators and targets based on the expected outcomes in the Implementation Plan	Challenge Groups Chairs	16/12/2016
Learning in Communities Challenge Group	In light of comments, further work to take place to develop the scope and focus for this Challenge Group.	Rebecca Phillips	16/12/2016 Update to be given at next Board meeting

Developing a Resource Plan	The Resource Plan was noted along with the BCC contribution. John Readman to discuss further with partners; the outcome from these discussions to inform the Resource Plan moving forwards.	John Readman	23/12/2016 Update to be given at next Board meeting
Board Membership Nominations	New Board members to be welcomed and offered an induction prior to the next Learning City Partnership Board	Rebecca Phillips	16/12/2016