

## BRIDLINGTON LEARNING AND SKILLS FORUM

### MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 21 FEBRUARY 2018 AT 9.30AM AT BRIDLINGTON BUSINESS CENTRE

- Present:** Mike Heslop-Mullens – Bridlington Town Council  
Rob Warner – Activfirst  
Kerrie Jacquest – Careers and Enterprise Company  
Jools Thomspn – Workers Education Alliance (WEA)  
Tomasz Glinski – Refugee Council  
Melanie Brown – East Riding College  
Sophia White – Christ Church Community Services  
Caroline Arnold – East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Adult Learning  
Tarina Sherwood – East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Early Years  
Jan Simpson, East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Project Coordinator  
Chris Adams – East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Education and Skills Partnership  
Alison Gray – East Riding College  
Andy Levitt - Headlands School  
Fiona Turner – ERVAS  
Ann Colling – East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Children’s Centre  
Vicky Bolton – East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Local Growth Team  
Jean Jones – East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Local Growth Team
- Apologies:** Chris Matson – Job Centre Plus  
Lee Wilkinson – East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Early Years  
Anne Wright – East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Children’s Centre

#### 1. **Minutes of last meeting/matters arising**

AG requested a typo be corrected on page 3 of the previous minutes. Otherwise minutes approved as true record.

#### 2. **Early Years Update – Tarina Sherwood**

TS explained that her role is to support all the early years childcare settings in the East Riding. She offers advice and guidance and support to get through Ofsted inspections. She has also recently started to work towards recruiting new childminders following the increase in eligible childcare hours from 15 to 30. Places were limited before the increase and providers are struggling to provide the new offer and are having to be more creative in order to meet demand. There are many parents who are not taking up the full offer who could decide to at any point.

East Riding is running child minding courses for £50 with a free first session. All child minders need to be registered with Ofsted. TS can support individuals once they have completed the course but there are challenges. Set up costs including DBS checks, insurances, work required within the home etc, often add up to around £500. The government does offer a £500 start-up grant but only once someone is registered. If the individual lives in rented accommodation, written permission is needed from the landlord. There is also a lot of ongoing paperwork involved once the business has been set up.

The offer in Bridlington faces another issue with the high dependency on seasonal and shift work.

TS also said current providers who wish to expand are struggling to find premises with both a carpark and a garden in the town.

AG asked if ERYC are currently funding childcare training.

Yes the comprehensive training programme is free at the moment. Mel Brown and Tarina have met to discuss how they can work together.

For questions please contact Tarina – [tarina.sherwood@eastriding.gov.uk](mailto:tarina.sherwood@eastriding.gov.uk)

### 3. **Careers Enterprise Company Updates**

Kerrie Jacquest explained that the Careers Enterprise Company was set up after the Department for Education decided that there was a gap in advice to schools. Humberside LEP bid for funding to employ a Careers and Enterprise Coach (Kerrie) to cover Hull and the East Riding. Part of this role involves partnering schools up with a local organisation. Headlands has been partnered with NHS England and Bridlington has been partnered with ERYC Inward Investment Team.

KJ is looking for more partners and exploring more ways of how schools and industry can learn from each other.

Another project KJ is working on involves working with young people with SEN in Years 10-13 and providing them with a bespoke training placement. Currently they have 70 young people carrying out a one day a week placement. One of the challenges has been getting businesses on-board to support the placements. This is a one year pilot but the hope is to be able to continue into future years as demand is high from schools in the area.

MB asked if there is scope to extend this into the college.

Not as part of the pilot but if funding is found to continue this would be welcomed.

### 4. **CLLD Update**

Recruitment has taken place for the compliance side of the CLLD team. Rob Warner, currently from Activfirst, will join the team from 1 March at the Programme Coordinator with overall responsibility for ensuring the programme runs to the rules and regulations. Leon Mulley will join the team mid-March as Partnership Officer and will be involved in compliance checking projects and communication. Jean Jones is already in post as Programme Officer and will be helping facilitate the Executive Group and Performance Management Groups as well as assisting with claims.

There are a further 3 posts highlighted on the structure chart for CLLD; a business advisor for the ERDF projects, a training advisor for the ESF projects and another assistant for the compliance team. It is anticipated that the ERDF post will be recruited to in the near future.

The programme is still not in a position where it can contract with projects. This cannot be done until both Project Initiation Visits (PIVs) have taken place with the managing authorities, DWP and DCLG and feedback reports have been returned. The DCLG PIV

took place on 7 February but a date is still awaited for the DWP PIV. Programme staff are working to ensure that they have everything in place to be able to be able to contract as soon as the reports come back.

Interest in the programme has been overwhelming so far. A total of 40 expressions of interest have been received during the first two rounds with more in the pipeline. All are at different stages of development, several have an agreement in principle whereas others need more development work before they are ready for approval. All still require compliance checking which will be carried out once Rob and Leon are in post.

There is a further round for expressions of interest with a closing date of 9 April. The process to take an expression of interest for approval is around 3 months.

## 5. **Partner Updates**

### **Activfirst**

Rob leaves the company next week with Angela Mulligan taking his place.

### **ERYC Adult Learning**

Caroline Arnold has taken over from Helena Moss as the Area Manager for the North. They are focusing on entry level qualifications in IT and family learning. They are also working with partners on a free employability course.

### **ERVAS**

Are in the process of tendering for the new Voluntary and Community Sector contract with ERYC, they expect to know more by 16 March. They have a volunteer centre operating in Bridlington with a support officer available on a fortnightly basis at the library.

### **ERYC Early Years Service**

Jan is newly appointed as a project coordinator for the early years and youth service and is wanting to get to know the area better.

### **Christ Church Community Services**

Has secured funding for the same courses with a focus on IT and cooking. Are also working with Syrian Refugee families through cooking as a way on integrating them into the community.

Sophia is also undertaking a Humber Passport course through HLC which will be accredited in April.

### **Education and Skills Partnership**

Are working with a pilot group of schools including East Riding College and Hessle High, on a Humber Passport. A draft will be included with the minutes and any comments please feedback direct to Chris.

There will be a 14-19 Conference at Tickton Grange on 28 February and a CPD event at Lazaats on 21 March.

### **WEA**

WEA is the country's largest voluntary sector provider of adult learning. They have recently undergone a hefty reorganisation and are currently assessing their programme offer. They will be offering taster sessions under a range of themes such as schools and

parenting, developing professional teaching skills and employment. They then aim to progress learners on to courses provided by partners such as the college and ERYC. Contact Jools Thompson for more information.

### **Headlands School**

Have a varied schedule of different careers entering the school to talk to the students including a Caribbean chef next week. A group of Year 11 students are going on a visit to Hull University next week.

Andy will be out of the office next month following an operation with no specifically covering his role. He will still be accessing emails as and when able.

### **East Riding College**

Are a partner in the Health Academy which encourages young people to consider a health career particularly in the local area. They are looking to set up a clinical skills room at the college.

Sixth form students have recently been to Hull University. They are also working with 60 students from Years 9, 10 and 11 on an engineering project. A lot of the current workforce is older which will lead to a huge skills gap once they start to retire.

They have a distance learning offer which introduces blended learning for English and Maths – you can work towards a Functional Skills Level 2 from home.

They have in excess of 40 apprenticeship places available and are holding boot camps for 16-24 year olds to try and gender interest.

### **Refugee Council**

Based in London with a hub in Hull. Tomasz works on the Syrian project and supports Syrian families in the East Riding. The Refugee Council provides each family with a worker who offers one year's support in terms of housing, health care and access to English learning support. Tomasz's role is community development in terms of integrating the refugees into the local area and building support networks for help post the years support.

Tomasz has organised a weekly drop in session at Emmanuel Church and every quarter holds a big workshop, the next one takes place in Bridlington on 30 April. Refugee week is also in June and there is a lunch cooked by the refugees available on 18 June at Christ Church. Also during refugee week there will be a bike ride with partners invited finishing at Sewerby Hall.

## **7. Dates for 2018**

It was agreed to cancel the meeting in March and meet again in April.

18 April 9.30am

16 May 9.30am

20 June 9.30am

18 July 9.30am

19 September 9.30am

17 October 9.30am

21 November 9.30am

## **8. Any other business**

No other business was raised.