

BRIDLINGTON LEARNING AND SKILLS FORUM

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 17 JULY 2019 AT 9.30AM AT BRIDLINGTON BUSINESS CENTRE

- Present:** Andrea Nicholls -Aspire Igen
Simon Thomas – Job Centre Plus
Angela Mulligan– Activfirst
Melanie Brown – East Riding College
Janice Nolan – Hull University
Carl Southcoat– East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Education, Employment and Skills
Jodie Newell – East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Children’s Centre
Alison Ransome -East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Children’s Centre
Ann Colling – East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Children’s Centre
Vicky Bolton – East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Local Growth Team
- Apologies:** Jools Thompson – Workers Education Alliance (WEA)
Adrian Brown – Pure Training Solutions
Jane Elsworth Barker- Aspire Igen
Helga Cline – Aspire Igen
Janette Beswick – Aspire Igen
Sophia White-Christ Church Community Services
Fiona Turner – ERVAS
Janice Chattaway – CITB
Rachel Earnshaw – Education Development Trust
Ruth Burling – Refugee Council
Tim Norman – Bridlington Town Council
Sara Fletcher – East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Education and Skills Partnership
Nicola Parker – East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Leisure Services

1. Minutes of last meeting/matters arising

Minutes approved as true record.

2. Hull University Certificate Programme – Janice Nolan

Janice is from the Faculty of Health Sciences at Hull University. She was invited along to the forum to detail possible routes for progression onto education and training for beneficiaries.

The certificate programme is a stand-alone programme but can also be used as a way into under graduate study. 357 people have done the course this year. There are no entry requirements and many of the students are aged 26 years plus. The certificate opens the door to careers in healthcare, midwifery, working in operating departments and nursing on wards etc.

The certificate is made up of 6 modules – each worth 10 credits. It is taught as part time flexible learning across 47 weeks of the year – there is no summer break. The assessment is a range of exams, essays and a 20 minute presentation. The cost for the full programme of 10 modules is £4625 – each individual module costs £770. Student loans are available but only for the full programme – anyone undertaking one or several modules cannot apply for a loan for this study. A student loan may sound like a scary option but it is important to remember that they aren’t required to be paid back until the individual earns over £25,000 per year. If an individual does not reach this earning capacity the loan is cleared after 30 years.

The application process includes a very informal interview. There are two core modules, Study

Skills and Introduction to Health and Social Care. There have been several new modules introduced recently including Introduction to Social Work and Perioperative Practice.

An alternative way to study was launched last night – a once a week evening class from 6-9pm on a Tuesday evening. Not all sessions are classroom based – some modules can be completed online. The first cohort will start in September.

The university are keen to encourage older students onto the certificate – they can offer support academically but they cannot teach life experience. For those students who wish to continue on to further study straight after completing the certificate, the mark is fast tracked in order for further study to be started the following academic year.

The university also encourages students to do some form of volunteering alongside their study but there is no mandatory requirement for this.

For more information please contact Janice - j.nolan@hull.ac.uk

3. **Suggestions for Networking at the September Meeting**

Vicky suggested to the group that they used the September meeting to do some speed networking where each person spent a couple of minutes talking to someone and learning more about what each organisation can offer. The thinking behind this was that people only concentrate on updating the core learning part of their organisation at each meeting when, actually, there were probably lots more opportunities to work together and make links on a wider remit.

The group were all happy to amend the agenda for the September meeting and incorporate this. Vicky asked that everyone responded to the invitation and confirmed attendance so the session could be planned.

The group also suggested that future meetings changed venues with different services offering their venues free of charge. It was agreed to plan bi-monthly meetings for 2020 and invite partners to host.

4. **Partner Updates**

Parents into Work – Jodie and Alison

The project is starting to get some referrals and the next course starts in September. They have plans to promote the opportunity at several events over the summer months.

Alison attended an event at Bay Primary earlier in the week and signed a couple of parents up. It is hoped that this event will be repeated at the end of the school day after the summer break and more parents can be approached.

For more information please contact alison.ransome@eastriding.gov.uk or jodie.newell@eastriding.gov.uk

Children's Centre – Ann

The children's centre is running a small programme of activities over the summer months. The What's On guide is just being finalised and will be sent out to the group soon.

For more information please contact ann.colling@eastriding.gov.uk

Brid Works – Carl Southcoat

Brid Works have started doing some employer engagement work and found a high level of interest in supporting work experience and volunteer placements. Through this engagement they have recently supported someone into employment who has been out of work for 27 years.

There are running the second cohort of the mental toughness training and another is planned for September. This was originally just offered to Brid Works clients but can now accept referrals from other CLLD funded projects. Carl was asked if it was possible to run the course for staff on the forum and he was happy to go back and find out if this was a possibility.

The project is also running a series of 4 week workshops looking to develop online job search and application skills. There has also been 14 employer based interviews this month with a good number of people going into work.

For more information please contact carl.southcoat@eastriding.gov.uk

Lone Parent Mentor – Andrea Nicholls

Andrea is getting a moderate number of referrals, mostly from the job centre. She has made contact with the Health Trainer Manager re using the office space but it is looking unlikely that this will be a feasible option as there is quite a high costs involved.

Andrea is currently working with around 15 clients but feels she could accommodate a couple more.

For more information please contact andrea.nicholls@aspire-igen.com

The Hub – Angela Mulligan

The new film and craft clubs are going really well. There have been a lot of employment outcomes recently – including several who gained employment at the holiday parks but have gone on to secure permanent employment elsewhere.

For more information please contact angela.mulligan@activfirst.co.uk

Job Centre – Simon Thomas

Holiday park recruitment is about closed for this season.

Wetherspoons are expecting to open at the end of August, they still need more staff so are interviewing at the job centre again on 29 July. This will be followed by an induction with the successful applicants at the job centre on 30 July.

For more information please contact SIMON.M.THOMAS@DWP.GOV.UK

East Riding College – Melanie Brown

The students all finished for the year on 2 July. Since then the college has been hosting taster sessions with the schools.

The college is merging with the Tech Partnership – this is the umbrella organisation for Scarborough Tec, Grimsby Institute and now East Riding College. It is expected that this move will be complete by either 2020 or 2021. It is a positive move and it is not expected that there

will be many changes – it just allows the college to provide / offer a better, wider service.

There will also be a big film celebration event at the Bridlington site on the first Friday in September where there will be an outdoor showing of Shrek and The Greatest Showman.

For more information please contact melanie.brown@eastridingcollege.ac.uk

5. **Any Other Business**

The Directory of Provision is almost complete and will be distributed in the coming weeks.

The Bridlington Echo article has now incurred a significant cost. In order to try and avoid this, the article will be released as a general press release this month. If it is not picked up, East Riding will pay for an article in the September edition of the Echo to coincide with seasonal employment coming to an end.

6. **Dates for 2019**

The next Learning and Skills Forum which will be open for all to attend will take place on 11th September at the RNLI Building on South Marine Drive.

9.30am Wednesday 11 September

9.30am Wednesday 16 October

9.30am Wednesday 20 November