

SGS/78/OH/SF

27 November 2007

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL**CITY OF WAKEFIELD METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
FAMILY SERVICES****GOVERNING BODY OF WAKEFIELD ADULT AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION
SERVICE: RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

Minutes of proceedings at a meeting of the Governing Body of Wakefield Adult and Community Education Service: Resources Committee held at Manygates Education Centre on Tuesday, 27 November 2007 at 5.00 pm.

PRESENT

Cllr Ms M Cummings (Chair), Ms S Dodderidge, Cllr Mrs O Rowley and Mr P Taberner.

IN ATTENDANCE

Miss S Firth (Clerk to the Meeting)
Mr P Turgoose (Invitee)

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

COMMUNITY STRATEGY

Mr Turgoose gave a presentation on the Community Strategy and the Local Area Agreement. The Principal reminded Governors of the purpose of Mr Turgoose's presentation and how WACES could be part of the strategy and the agreement.

Mr Turgoose explained that the aim of the strategy was to develop knowledge communities as a culture of low aspirations was holding back improvements in the district. He explained the priorities of the plan, started in April 2006 and reported that good progress had been made on some priorities. He discussed the new government legislation on Local Area Agreements and explained that there would be 35 targets. Governors noted that consultation would now take place to decide which targets were set, but that there was a tight deadline. Governors noted that there were 17, additional mandatory targets concerned with education for young people. Cllr Rowley expressed her concerns over community education and how it falls between formal education and the 3 areas in the Wakefield District Partnership, when it should be the basis of it, as it underpins much of the work on social exchange in communities.

The Chair questioned how Governors could influence what the targets were and Mr Turgoose confirmed that he was seeking local member involvement. Governors discussed how they could involve people and the Principal confirmed that she would obtain a list of Family Services representatives on the project group.

Mr Turgoose then left the meeting.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr T Izon.

Governors' Consent to Absences**Resolved 1**

That Governors consent to the absence of Cllr T Izon.

MINUTES**Resolved 2**

That the minutes of the Resources Committee meeting held on 22 May 2007, being correct, be signed.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**Raising Awareness of and Publicising the Adult Education Service**

The Principal confirmed that the Art Department of Wakefield College had contacted her regarding a design for the Service's logo but that since a logo is contrary to Council policy, the service was unable to progress the matter.

Budget Update

Mr Taberner commented that the 3 whiteboards had not yet been installed and the Principal agreed to look into this.

Course Fees 2007/2008

The Principal confirmed that the family learning sessions remained free.

Wakefield Learning Network

The Principal confirmed that the final meeting would take place once the audit had been carried out.

BUDGETS AND PLANNING

The Principal explained the current budget and funding streams. She then explained the future direction of Adult Education and the budget implications, including possible reduced funding for Community Education. Governors noted that the Council budget would be tight.

Governors noted that the Principal was undertaking an exercise to ascertain what income each centre generates, along with LSC funding and the costs involved, in order for a more complete picture to be given.

COURSE FEES 2008-2009

The Principal explained that this would be the preliminary discussion before the item went to the full Governing Body for approval. Governors discussed the impact of crèche fees and how usage of the crèche had fallen considerably with the introduction of fees, and noted that removing the fees would be welcome in many areas. The Principal explained that she would be recommending that course fee rates stay the same for 2008/2009. Governors discussed this and decided that it was better for the fees to be increased slightly rather than a large increase in future years.

Resolved 2

That the Principal revise the proposed fees for 2008/2009 and bring the item back to the committee for decision.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no other items of business to discuss.

IDENTIFICATION OF CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Resolved 3

That the minutes are not available for public inspection due to the financial content.

CHAIR