

CORPORATION OF KIDDERMINSTER COLLEGE

Minutes of the Governors/SMT Strategic Forum Meeting
held on Thursday 26th May 2011 in Room 149 at 17.30 hours

- SF 59 Present** David Cory
Paul Crowley
Andy Dobson
Sonia Farnaby
Jonathan Grice
Harry Grove
Derek Harrison
Tim Mason
Anna Place
Adrian Ward
Carol Warren
- SF 60 Quorum** 4
- SF 61 In Attendance** Angharad Hale, Clerk to the Corporation
- SF 62 Apologies** Karen Stevens
- SF 63 Declaration of Members' Conflict of Interests**
No declarations made

SF 64 Benchmarking Data

Details having been circulated, Derek Harrison noted that figures relate to Financial Year 2009-2010. As a small college, Kidderminster would not normally be compared to the 3 larger local colleges used in the data. The following was highlighted;

Kidderminster College's staff costs are higher in proportion than other colleges, however as a small general FE college there are less opportunities for reducing staffing levels as a number of functions e.g. Finance, HR need to be in place regardless of college size and we run a number of single course groups. It was noted that the Organisational Review will impact on non-teaching staff and that the relative size of administration costs to income ratio could be different following the review. Many areas within the college are already reasonably lean in terms of staffing.

Kidderminster College income from research grants and other contracts is high compared to other colleges, particularly as a small college. This may be a potential area of strength.

Similarly, our income from partnerships with schools is high in comparison to other colleges and reflects the work done with the ContinU consortium.

SF 65 Feedback from Principal's meeting with Birmingham Metropolitan College

The Principal reported on his meeting with Christine Braddock, Principal of Birmingham Metropolitan College and Ioan Morgan.

It was reported that Birmingham Metropolitan College have approached Kidderminster College because they have identified this college as one which might offer a good strategic fit in terms of their development with partners. They have said explicitly that they are not interested in merger and that their aim is to identify potential 'win win' scenarios. They have indicated that they have funds available and are interested in partnerships in which they might be able to invest. A number of areas in which there might be some potential for collaborative activity had been discussed.

SF 66 SWOT analysis – Kidderminster College

Following group discussion, it was agreed that the following themes had emerged as areas of opportunity; progression routes, on-line learning / qualifications, partnership exploration, H.E. (including possibly the international market). A Davis indicated that he would be willing to support the college in re-thinking some of its business planning processes in preparation for future strategic plans.

SF 67 Any Other Business

None raised.

SF 68 Date of Next Meeting

Subject to calendar of meetings for 2011-12

The meeting closed at 19.00 hours

Chair_____Date_____