

## BRIDLINGTON LEARNING AND SKILLS FORUM

### MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 21 SEPTEMBER 2016 AT 9.30AM AT BRIDLINGTON BUSINESS CENTRE

- Present:** Liz Philpot – East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Bridlington Renaissance  
Mike Heslop-Mullens – Bridlington Town Council  
Adrian Brown – Pure Training Solutions  
Chris Matson – Job Centre Plus  
Andy Levitt - Headlands School  
Sophia White – Christ Church Community Services  
Sue Revell – Shaw Trust  
Sara Fletcher – East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Education and Skills Partnership  
Jean Thornton – East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Children’s Centre  
Vicky Neilan – East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Bridlington Renaissance
- Apologies:** Julia Thompson - WEA  
Claire Tomlinson – East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Children’s Centre

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

Minutes approved as true record.

2. **CLLD Local Development Strategy Update**

The Local Development Strategy was submitted on 31 August. Comments received prior to this were incorporated into the document. Positive feedback has been received from those who have read it and all agree that the figures included make a compelling case.

There has been a recent announcement that the treasury will underwrite funds which may be lost for those European projects signed up before the Autumn statement.

Approval of the Yorkshire Coast LDS is expected by the end of October. All LDS’s are currently undergoing strategic fit at local level assessments and the ESIF committee meet this month to prepare recommendations to take to the National Panel on 17 October where the final decision will be made. The LDS indicates a £12million programme which is the highest available, there is the possibility that it may be accepted in part or offered with conditions. This decision will be shared as soon as we receive it.

If successful, we will have 3 months to prepare the second stage application. It is at this stage we will need more details on potential projects. There is a meeting with officers from Scarborough Borough Council to look at finalising the development stage claim and practicalities for how we move forward to the second stage. We will also set a provisional date for a Local Action Group meeting in November.

3. **Bridlington Employability Charter**

Scarborough Borough Council has an economic development strategy linked to skills and employment and Withernsea have just developed a skills and employability plan. Bridlington could do with looking at developing something similar prior to the CLLD programme.

The regeneration team will pull together a template in time for the next Learning and Skills Forum where everyone can be asked to contribute.

#### 4. **Partner Updates**

Job Centre Plus – The figures for August show 528 people claiming JSA and 109 claiming Universal Credit, these are some of the lowest summer figures for some time. Figures for those claiming ESA do not come through in the same way but it is thought there are around 2500 claimants. The benefit cap will go down from £500 to £384 per week in the Autumn which may see an increase in people accessing employment. There some exemptions such as those with a disability.

Shaw Trust – Although there has been no official confirmation it is expected that the new Work and Health Programme will start in the Autumn so a further update will be available at the next meeting in November. They are currently making lots of referrals to the Active Humber programme

Education and Skills Partnership – They are currently developing a new website, Bridging the Gap, using funding from the Humber LEP. This will be similar to the Log On Move on website but will be aimed at provision for the 19+ age group. They are also developing an East Riding Engineering and Digital Week for November. This will be a 3 day programme aimed at students in Years 10 and 11, it is hoped it will be repeated annually. Details will be sent out to the Learning and Skills Forum and Business Forum contacts.

Pure Training Solutions – Are continuing to deliver a wide range of course and training.

Bridlington Town Council – Are keen to help and support and are pleased to see agencies working together.

Christ Church Community Services – Have secured HLC funding to run courses. Also have some funding for those suffering with mental health issues, similar to what Active Humber do. The centre also offers counselling, drug and alcohol support and Doorstep every day but Tuesday. A range of services are now offered from the Hub too – once a leaflet is developed it will be shared with the group.

Sophia now has a direct line for agencies but not members of the public to contact her on – 01262 401404.

Bridlington Children's Centre – Sue Walton is creating a jobs board at the centre and there is a young parents group which focuses on raising aspirations. The centre is very keen to link in with CLLD and already have good links with Christ Church.

Headlands School – The careers portals go live next week, help has been recruited from the sixth form to keep them up to date. When they are not in operation various screensavers, events, job adverts, will be displayed. Andy is happy to display information on behalf of other services if they want to send details to him at [Andy.Levitt@headlandsschool.co.uk](mailto:Andy.Levitt@headlandsschool.co.uk) The school are also a mock interview day for 6<sup>th</sup> December and would like to welcome new employers to take part. They also had a mention in the parliamentary education review.

## 5. **Any Other Business**

Discussion led to the suggestion that Tesco should be approached to see if they can offer any support for the healthy eating project. Vicky will contact the community champion and look into the Bags of Help scheme.

There is a new food bank operating from the Late Night Pharmacy in Bridlington but details are needed on how to access this. Vicky will contact Richard Newby and send an update out to the group. It was suggested that Local Links could look at a mapping exercise for services such as foodbanks in the local area.

The Children's Centre struggle with finding carpets for vulnerable families and asked for ideas on where these may be sourced from. It was suggested that local carpet shops may donate roll ends but this created an issue of storage. It was decided to ask John Dixon at Christ Church Community Services if his new storage unit could be used.

ERYC are working in partnership with Scarborough Borough Council again on an application to the Great Places Scheme for the Yorkshire Coast. This scheme provides grants of between £500 thousand and £1.5 million. With very broad guidance. It is looking for 12 pilot areas where strengthening the arts, culture and heritage could lead to social and economic benefits. There is a big focus on partnership working. The expression of interest needs to be submitted by 6 October and is limited to 500 words and the aim is to apply for £1.5million as the potential programme will cover from Whitby down to Withernsea. There does need to be a 10% cash match but this could potentially lever out CLLD funds and perhaps offer 100% grants.

If CLLD is successful we need to look at possible new partner engagement starting with engaging Bridlington School. Suggestions for any other potential new partners are welcomed.

## 5. **Date for next meetings**

Wednesday 30 November 9.30am