

## Consortium Board: Notes of Meeting

**Date:** 17<sup>th</sup> May 2016 (1115-1300) **Venue:** ASCL, Leicester

**Present:** Dr. Barrie Hopson (Chair of Board), David Andrews (Independent CEIAG consultant), Janet Colledge (CDI: careers educator), Jan Ellis (CDI: careers adviser), Kevin Gilmartin (ASCL), Catherine Sezen (AoC), Steve Stewart (Careers England: Executive Director), Stella Turner (AELP) and Paul Chubb (QiCS Director and Organising Secretary for the Consortium Board: *notes refer to "PAC" in actions*).

**Apologies:** Duncan Baldwin (ASCL), Sion Humphreys (NAHT) and Rachel Lister (HELOA).

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### NOTES OF MEETING

**13/15 Welcomes & Introductory notes:** Barrie Hopson thanked ASCL for providing the venue and opened the meeting. He formally congratulated Paul on his award of the MBE in the Queen's New Year's Honours List 'for services to career education and guidance' (noting that Paul had been to receive the Award from Prince William on Friday 13/5/16). Barrie then warmly welcomed Janet to her first meeting replacing Sue Barr and Steve to his first meeting officially replacing Virginia Isaac.

### 14/15 Notes of the Previous Meeting (3.11.15)

The Board formally accepted the notes of the November 2015 meeting. The matters arising were:

- 8/15, 2/15 ( 9/14 and 15/13): PAC confirmed that he had formally invited Jamela Khan to serve on the Board as an invitee from the national EBP network as a potential replacement for Angela Wright; PAC reported that despite reminders no formal acceptance had been received. The Board resolved to take no further action.
- 10/15: PAC confirmed the webinar for Board members on serving on National Validation Panels had taken place on 27.1.16 courtesy of CDI (The Board recorded its thanks). Colleagues involved had gone on to serve on panels and said it had been helpful to prepare.
- 11/15: PAC confirmed that a review of David Andrews' May 2015 paper on future scenarios would be placed on the November 2016 agenda for further review.

- 11/15: PAC advised that CE/CDI were organising a meeting with Assessment Services (matrix Standard) re DfE future strategies to which he was invited to represent the Consortium (date proposed: 26/7 in London).
- PAC confirmed that all other actions required following the November 2015 meeting had been completed.

## **15/15 QiCS NATIONAL VALIDATION, CQIRs, AND TAKE-UP OF CEIAG QAs PROGRESS REPORT**

(i) The Board considered a report from Paul on progress. This included the Board confirming its pleasure at the revalidation of 6 Awards for a second three year term.

(ii) The Board expressed its stronger hope that the remaining Award yet to secure national validation (The Humber LEP CEIAG Gold Award) would, in the summer 2016, have sufficient evidence to seek national validation too. The news coming from the Humber area was that the first schools to be accredited would shortly be announced.

(iii) The Board welcomed confirmation that further annual CQIRs had also been successfully concluded with national validated Awards.

(iv) The Board welcomed the news that DfE officials were contacting PAC with some frequency for updates on QiCS matters.

(v) The Board reviewed the outcome of the January 2016 update of the June 2015 survey of numbers of holders of/working towards QAs. The Board noted that the success of the QA movement was borne out by the 31.6% take up of Awards by England's secondary schools (1028 schools holding/working towards a nationally validated Award). The Board reaffirmed its warm welcome of DfE's revised statutory guidance recommending schools to achieve a nationally validated CEIAG QA which had evidently led to a growth in interest from schools since the revision was publicised. The Board welcomed the news from JE that the CDI was offering to organise events on strengthening CEG in the so-called 'cold spot' areas identified by DfE/CEC [*Secretarial note: JE is in discussion with PAC on potential involvement to promote QiCS if these should take place*].

(vi) The Board reviewed data from PAC including a regional breakdown of take up of Awards, and proceeded to authorise PAC to update the survey in JULY 2016 and to ask Award providers several additional questions: (a) do they have capacity to grow if DfE should strengthen its Statutory Guidance re awards? (e.g. if DfE were to 'require' could the 12 Award providers respond to a rapid increase in demand?) (b) to disaggregate schools by state-funded c.f. Independent (c) to disaggregate SFCs from FECs (d) to provide qualitative views on WBL & FEC take up or otherwise.

(vii) The Board noted the change of ownership in the recent past of the Inspiring IAG Award and the forthcoming change for Career Mark.

(viii) The Board noted the news of the strategic partnership between Career Mark and the Inspiring Futures Foundation.

#### **16/15 The NVCs for QiCS & THE GUIDE TO THE STANDARD**

- (i) The Board received a further paper from Paul setting out suggestions to update the GUIDE and to adjust some terminology in the NVCs.
- (ii) The Board resolved to add references to the Independent Schools Inspectorate (DA offered to provide PAC with extracts from the ISI documentation and PAC would forward this on to all Board members and CEIAG QA providers). *{secretarial note: these are now produced for ease as an Appendix to these notes}*
- (iii) The Board resolved to amend the wording of NVC 1.3 to reflect the CDI revised Framework wording and current practice.
- (iv) The Board resolved that PAC would invite Anthony Barnes of the NV team to assist him in reviewing the Guide as a result of these discussions (PAC then to circulate a draft to the Board for comment before sign off).
- (v) In view of the growing interest from the Independent sector, the Board resolved to invite the Headmasters & Headmistresses Conference (HMC) for the Independent Schools' sector to nominate a representative to serve on the Consortium Board (action: PAC).

#### **17/15 CONSIDERATION OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE CONSORTIUM**

- (i) The Board received a formal report from PAC and the Careers England treasurer (Steve Nicholson, accountant).
- (ii) The Board noted that the Constitution for the Consortium requires an annual report on the management accounts for QiCS. This set of accounts confirmed income and expenditure levels which assured the Board of the viability of QiCS at its current rates of fees and costs. The Board accepted these accounts as simple statements of trading.
- (iii) The Board requested PAC to consult SN on the merits of potentially producing a simple balance sheet.

#### **18/15 QiCS IN THE CONTEXT OF THE POTENTIAL NEW STRATEGY FROM DfE**

- (i) The Board received a formal report from PAC on his review meetings with Sir John Holman on the Gatsby Benchmarks & QiCS, and with Lord Lucas on potential to include QiCS and CEIAG QAs in the 'Good Schools Guide'.
- (ii) The Board warmly welcomed the paper jointly written by David Andrews and PAC on the history of CEIAG QAs and QiCS which arose due to the discussions with Sir John.

- (iii) The Board shared latest intelligence on the emerging revised strategy from DfE on careers education and guidance.
- (iv) The Board welcomed receipt of a personal paper by David Andrews which was expected to be published soon by ICEGS (University of Derby) on some options for DfE to consider in determining its new strategy. The Board resolved that once it is published a link to it would be added on the QiC website.

## **19/15 REVIEW OF DECISIONS TAKEN AND CONFIRMING THE DATES OF THE NEXT MEETING**

Barrie and Paul reviewed decisions taken throughout this 11th meeting of the Board, which the full CB confirmed and are now duly noted in these notes.

## **20/15 CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS**

Barrie invited Paul to leave the meeting; he advised the Board once more of the financial statements as approved above (note 17/15) and the small but healthy surplus achieved; he then proposed that the Board should consider options for some financial recognition of Paul's pro-bono work for the Consortium in championing the Standard and keeping the Board apprised. The Board resolved to offer Paul an 'honorarium' of £1000 for the financial year 1.4.15-31.3.16. Paul was invited to return and confirmed his appreciative acceptance.

**The Board duly confirmed that the next meeting would be held at the ASCL Offices, Leicester from 1115-1300 on WEDNESDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> NOVEMBER 2016 {Secretarial note: ASCL has kindly confirmed the use of its Leicester offices on this date}**

Meeting closed.

Notes prepared by Paul A. Chubb

26th May 2016

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**APPENDIX**  
**Independent Schools Inspectorate**  
**Regulatory Requirements: Careers (2015)**

41. Advice must be provided for pupils receiving secondary education to help pupils choose GCSE and post-16 courses. From January 2015, specific requirements are included in the regulations for the first time. These require impartiality, provision which enables pupils to make informed choices about a broad range of careers options, and advice which generally helps to encourage pupils to fulfil their potential.

42. The requirement relating to careers guidance applies to pupils receiving secondary education. It will therefore be relevant pupils in years 7 and 8, whether they are in a senior school or at a prep school.

43. Careers guidance must be presented in an impartial way. This is defined as showing no bias or favouritism towards a particular education or work option.

44. The guidance must enable pupils to make informed choices about a broad range of options. This will include timely advice to help pupils choose GCSE and post-16 courses.

45. The guidance must help to encourage pupils to fulfil their potential. To this end, good careers education should enable pupils to 'know themselves' and how their strengths, weaknesses and interests relate to the world of work; learn about different careers and opportunities; obtain individual guidance; have some work experience; and gain information about training, education and occupations beyond school. Schools should consciously work to prevent all forms of stereotyping in the advice and guidance they provide to ensure that girls and boys from all backgrounds and diversity groups consider the widest possible range of careers, including those which are often portrayed as primarily for one or other of the sexes.

46. The statutory guidance for the state sector which gives a detailed explanation of parallel duties for state schools may be a useful resource for independent schools: ***Careers guidance and inspiration in schools March 2015.***