

Minutes

Meeting of the Oldham Learning Board

Monday 18 October 2021

Via Microsoft Teams

at 2.00pm

Present:	James Kempton	Director and Chair	Richard Lynch	Director
	Jane Acklam	Director and Vice-Chair	Councillor Shaid Mushtaq	Director
	Helen Arya	Director	Anne Redmond	Director
	Mary Garvey	Director	Helen Rowland	Director
	Rob Higgins	Director	Nicola Underdown	Director DfE
	Gerard Jones	Director	Ian Walsh	Director
	Gillian Kay	Director		

Also Present:	Lucy Wood	Chief Executive Officer – Oldham Learning
	Helen Hampson	Senior School Improvement Officer
	Carol Hyde	Clerk to the Oldham Learning Board
	Jackie Deffley	DfE

Absent:	Sally Robson	Programme Manager, Oldham Opportunity Area
	Julie Stevens	School Improvement Advisor
	Tia Henderson	Oldham Youth Mayor
	Emma Mayle	DfE

1 Welcome and apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Sally Robson, Tia Henderson, Emma Mayle and Julie Stevens.

The Chair informed Directors that as some Directors were unable to remain for the full duration of the meeting, he would bring forward agenda items 5, 6 and 8. The Chair indicated that when agenda item 8 is to be discussed Oldham Learning (OL) staff will leave the meeting.

5 CEO Report (for information)

The Chair asked Lucy Wood (LW), CEO of Oldham Learning to present her CEO report to Directors. LW shared her screen and put into context how Oldham Learning are supporting the delivery of the Covid19 recovery.

LW commented that OL are working with stakeholders, LA, OA, Teaching School Hub, Oldham Research School and Ed Tech Demonstrator to facilitate the delivery of various programmes. LW mentioned that the priorities remain the same as when OL was created.

A copy of the Outcome Framework supporting disadvantaged pupils had been circulated prior to the meeting as reference to this item.

LW confirmed that OL is supporting all LA maintained schools and that the Outcome Framework variable quality of schooling is lower than where OL wants it to be. LW took directors through the way OL is working and the changes that need to be made to move forward.

Outcomes

LW informed Directors that the OL Newsletter is being reworked with the support of Learn Sheffield and LW explained that the newsletter will be placed on the OL website instead of being sent via email to Headteachers/Principals. LW clarified the current OL staffing structure to Directors.

LW outlined the Primary Offer which included the SIP programme and confirmed that School Improvement Partner (SIP) visits will continue, and this has been driven by schools.

OL is working on a digital audit tool which works as a dashboard picture and shows where schools need support. LW explained further that OL want to broker school to school support when working well using the communication channel in districts and with Headteachers supporting those in their district.

LW mentioned that the Secondary Schools have established existing networks, and these are continuing to meet on a regular basis across a variety of subjects e.g., MFL, Science, English, History, Geography etc. OL is also developing those individuals who are the Leads in each of the subjects in their subject knowledge.

LW commented that there is a digital offer/space provided to schools, a space where they can see everything in one place. This will enable the digital space to share quality assured resources across all schools.

A Director asked what support is there for secondary schools. LW stated as already mentioned the subject networks are well established and further support has been provided for the Year 7 teachers supporting Phonics.

A Director asked how accurate the data will be when collated. LW stated that this commenced with primary schools and then taken to Headteachers for their comment/feedback. LW mentioned that OL will not ask for predictive data. Secondary Headteachers will be consulted at the OASHP meeting on 11 November 2021 which LW will be attending.

RESOLVED: that the information be received and noted.

ACTION: CEO

6 Budget Report

The Chair requested that the Budget Report be withdrawn and returned to Directors by half term.

A Director asked about the MA in T&L being completed by some teacher and the NPQ offer which is free. A discussion took place regarding which would be the best training to attend.

ACTION: CEO

(Oldham Learning Staff left the meeting at this point.)

8 Confidential Item – OL Staffing

This item was deemed to be confidential and would not be included in the papers or documents to be made available for public inspection.

(Oldham Learning staff rejoined to the meeting).

2 Declaration of Business, Pecuniary or Personal Interests

2.1 Board Members were asked to complete and sign the documents for the register declaring any business, pecuniary and personal interests relating to companies (goods and services) or personal relationships with pupils, volunteers and members of staff associated with the school where a matter may be discussed at the meeting.

Directors were asked to complete the Declaration of Business, Pecuniary or Personal Interest form by Friday 29 October 2021 and return it to: info@oldhamlearning.co.uk

ACTION: All Directors

2.2 Minutes

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meetings held on:

- i. 8 June 2021
- ii. 1 July 2021

be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair subject to the amendment at 4.1.

3 Agree Any Other Urgent Business

There were no items of other urgent business to discuss.

4 Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting that were not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

4.1 Minutes 1 July 2021

Arising from minute 6 (Budget Report), The figure should have read 80.76% of the budget has been paid out.

4.2 Arising from minute 6 (Budget Report), a Director sought clarification on funding for the Disadvantaged Children project as this had caused anxiety for those involved. The Director further commented that he had been informed that this had not gone through due process and been approved by the OL Board. LW responded saying the Project is going ahead and that there must be equity of access to all schools, and ensuring the same access to funding.

4.3 Arising from minute 6 (Budget Report), a Director asked that as Scheme of Delegation be created so that the responsibilities of the CEO are outlined.

7 **School Improvement Journey - Primary**

The Chair asked Mrs Helen Hampson to take Directors through the School Improvement journey.

Mrs Hampson shared her screen with Directors and explained the background and process for designing the model and that the School Improvement Partners (SIP) had met for a Keep In Touch meeting on 6 October 2021 at the Oldham Event Centre. Those participating on behalf of the local authority were Tony Shepherd, Head of Schools and Richard Lynch, Director of Education, Skills and Early Years as well as Sally Robson on behalf of the Oldham Opportunity Area.

Mrs Hampson commented that OL will not be asking for predictions for this year as there needs to be a clear rationale what is wanted, why is it wanted and who will it be shared with?

Mrs Hampson further explained that the OL offer to schools this year needs to be a compelling offer and that it offers value for money as well as increases efficiency.

Mrs Hampson mentioned that every local authority-maintained school will have a School Improvement Partner (SIP) visit by the end of the Autumn term 2021. Academies are being approached, but it is unclear about how they wish to proceed.

A Director asked if the district model SIP will look at the audit and identify where further support is needed.

A Director mentioned that there are no subject networks for humanities or creative arts currently available.

The Chair expressed his and the boards thanks to Mrs Hampson for the presentation.

RESOLVED: that the information be received and noted.

9 **Any Other Business**

There was no other urgent business to discuss.

10 **Date and Time of Next Meetings**

10.1 Directors agreed to discuss the up-and-coming meeting structure, as when originally set up it was on the working days of Patsy Kane as LW works Tuesday – Thursday.

Directors agreed to discuss this via email.

RESOLVED: that the next meetings of the governing body should be held on:

Monday 22 November 2021 at 9.30am – 12.30pm
Monday 13 December 2021 2.00pm – 3.00pm

ACTION: CEO/All Directors

9 **Confidentiality**

There was one item of confidential business.

(There being no further business, board members and trustees were thanked for their attendance and the meeting was declared closed at 4.02pm).

Signed: _____
Chair

Date: _____