

Minutes

Meeting of the Oldham Learning Board

Friday 22 January 2021

Via Microsoft Teams

at 10.00am

Present:	James Kempton	Director and Chair
	Jane Acklam	Director and Vice-Chair
	Helen Arya	Director
	Mary Garvey	Director
	Rob Higgins	Director
	Gerard Jones	Director
	Richard Lynch	Director
	Gillian Kay	Director
	Councillor Shaid Mushtaq	Director
	Anne Redmond	Director
	Helen Rowland	Director
	Nicola Underdown	Director
	Ian Walsh	Director
Also Present:	Patsy Kane	Chief Executive Officer – Oldham Learning
	Clare Cheetham	Deputy Chief Executive Officer – Oldham Learning
	Catherine Murphy	Programme Manager, Oldham Opportunity Area
	Carol Hyde	Clerk to the Oldham Learning Board
Absent:	Rebeckah Dixon	DfE

1 **Welcome, Apologies and Introductions**

The Chair informed those present that there has been a change in the Regional Schools Commissioners office representative. The new representative is Rebeckah Dixon and she has sent her apologies for today's 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.

No further declarations were made.

2.2 Minutes

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 8 December 2020 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

2.3 Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

3 Agree Any Other Urgent Business

The Chair and Directors agreed that there was enough time and available information to discuss the following items during this meeting at 'Any Other Urgent Business'.

- Update on meeting with the Secretary of State.
- Digital Devices

4 CEO Appointment Update

The Chair referred to the appointments of Patsy Kane as CEO and Clare Cheetham as Deputy CEO.

The Chair indicated to the Recruitment and Selection panel that he and the CEO would be in contact soon to further discuss the next steps and framework structure model.

ACTION: Chair/CEO

5 Follow up work Stephen Betts – SI transitional model

The CEO commented that she and the Deputy CEO had met with Stephen Betts this week.

The CEO had contributed to a seminar with other Opportunity Area (OA) leaders to share Oldham's good practice around commissioning research into digital learning and the response. Other OAs were keen to have follow up meetings.

Stephen Betts had commented that it is best to 'keep it simple'.

Directors broke into two discussions groups for 20 minutes.

Both groups returned to the meeting and provided the following feedback:

Discussion Group A

In favour of committees - a good focus.

Leadership.

Previous SIP committee – no oversight except from original committee. Good elements previously. Identify schools, flexible and agile to put support in schools quickly.

Shared trust and sharing data.

Where do Ofsted graded Good and Outstanding schools fit into the picture? Not everything is focused on S2S support schools.

Discussion Group B

In favour of committees.

Role of Oldham Learning Board.

Delegated powers – not having to return to the board for approval and implementing S2S support in a timely manner.

Happy not to have a task and finish group in terms of governance.

Professional conversations – focus on supporting schools and conversations, recognition, lot of demands in school.

Detailed quality of remote learning a priority and expectations on school this year on what they are providing.

How parents are responding to supporting their child in home learning.

Question setting up group, what does quality remote learning look like?

The Chair thanked all present for their deliberations and feedback and requested that the CEO work up more detailed proposals based on the feedback for the March meeting.

RESOLVED: that the CEO work up more detailed proposals for the March meeting.

ACTION: CEO

6 Leadership and Subject Networks Proposals - CPD Overview

CC brought to Directors attention the CPD Overview and CPD Proposals documents that had been circulated with the agenda and commented that she was looking for a decision and would answer any questions.

The CEO commented that Oldham Learning are encouraging all schools to use subject associations and it's good to hear how helpful they are.

GK commented we do the same, almost all curriculum subjects have affiliated associations for leaders to access.

CC commented that she is looking for someone to support Geography. A director suggested that the Geography Association be approached.

ACTION: Deputy CEO

10 Any Other Business

The following items of Any Other Urgent Business were agreed for discussion and tabled at agenda item 3.

10.1 Update on the meeting with the Secretary of State

The Chair thanked those Directors who had attended the meeting with the Secretary of State and for their assistance in preparing for the meeting. The Chair explained that after the meeting he had written to the Secretary of State.

Nicola Underdown informed everyone, that the meeting with Secretary of State had been extremely useful in opening links with other policy groups in the DfE and it is hoped that there will be a response to the Chairs letter very soon.

10.2 **Digital Devices**

The CEO informed those present that an Oldham Primary School had been allocated 18 new devices by the DfE, which is fabulous news.

The CEO commented on the Digital Leader and Champions training currently being undertaken as well as recognizing that there is some fantastic good practice which needs to be shared. The CEO also stated that she felt that the awarding of the extra devices from the DfE needed to be recorded.

NU commented that other Opportunity Areas are keen to learn more about the digital learning approach in Oldham, and the DfE are actively pursuing it with the curriculum policy teams in the Department as a demonstration of good practice.

11 **Date and Time of Next Meeting**

RESOLVED: that the next meeting of the Oldham Learning Board should be held on:

Tuesday 2 March 2021 at 1.00pm

ACTION: CEO/Clerk/Learning Board Members

12 **Confidentiality**

There were no items of confidentiality.

(There being no further business, directors were thanked for their attendance and the meeting was declared closed at 11.00am).

Signed: _____
Chair

Date: _____