

Minutes of meeting held at YHA Cardiff on 21 October 2019 10.30am

Present:

Steve Drowley (Chair), Jo Sims, Donna Lemin, Grant Poiner, Gill Price, Rachel Burton, Cathie Robins-Talbot, Catrin James, Emma Chivers, Hayden Llewellyn.

In attendance:

Liz Rose (ETS Adviser)

Apologies:

David Algie, Dafydd Baker, Paul O'Neil, Ged Kerslake, David Algie, Martin King-Sheard, Josh Klein, Mike Greenaway, Tim Opie.

1. WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS

SD welcomed everyone to the meeting which was his first as Chair after being appointed in August.

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved with the amendment to move DA from apologies to present.

3. MATTERS ARISING (which are not included on the Agenda)

3.1 Actions – all achieved except Welsh translation of NOS.

3.2 Roundtable meeting on recruitment & retention – this meeting hosted by ETS was held in July, attended by 22 individuals. Issues identified included: researching the workforce; qualifications; and continuing professional development. Notes of the meeting had also gone to the IYW Board along with papers prepared by Gareth Newton, both proved useful in shaping the YW Strategy Implementation document. G Price suggested that discussions on issues around part-time students were not sufficiently reflected and G Poiner suggested that reps from IYWB and EWC could usefully have been included - SD pointed out the David Williams is on EWC Board. In light of discussion around youth work becoming more complex and that employers should be expecting workers to hold professional qualifications for this work (rather than L3 ones), LR suggested that JNC reissue information on the key duties of workers expected at the different qualification levels.

4. WELSH GOVERNMENT DEVELOPMENTS - IYW Board / National Youth Work Strategy Implementation / Quality Mark Tender / LA Audit / Other

4.1 **Interim YW Board** – DL provided an update on the work of the IYWB and said that 4 workstreams would be set up relating to the key aims of the YW Strategy. In addition, 3 cross-cutting groups for marketing, Welsh language, and digital. Members of the IYWB are leading the workstreams and JS is the lead for Aim 3 relating to workforce development. There is no set pattern for the workstreams and ideas were discussed on how to make use of existing groups/structures while balancing the need for wider participation, transparency and quick progress. DL reported that an additional official, Joel Hodgson, would be providing support to the workstreams and that some limited financial support would be available to cover costs. It was agreed that ETS could form the basis of the group with wider representation sought.

Action - YW Strategy Implementation workforce development work stream, suggested steering group of JS, SD, LR, GN (as consultant), PYO rep, CWVYS rep, TAG rep, EWC rep - meeting to be arranged.

- 4.2 **Estyn** – Estyn will be inspecting training providers from early 2020. Members were unanimous in agreement that Estyn’s remit should be extended to reinstate inspections of youth work specifically in alignment with the YW Strategy (rather than wider youth support services). However, the level of youth work expertise among HMI was questioned because of the requirement for a teaching qualification.
Action - SD to arrange a meeting with Lin Howells HMI to discuss the forthcoming Estyn inspections of training
- 4.3 **Quality Mark Tender** – DL left the room for this discussion. The tender for the next phase of the Quality Mark is now on Sell2Wales. £225k is available over three years and the closing date is 13 Nov. After much discussion it was agreed in principle that ETS should work with EWC on a joint bid.
Action - SD to liaise with HL in the first instance regarding submitting a bid. JS to report this decision to PYO Chair, CJ to report to Paul Glaze.
- 4.4 **LA Audit** – Data for this year has been collected and the report should be available shortly. Changes to the design of the form will be made in future. The need to disaggregate L2-L7 qualifications was noted and to extend data collection to cover the voluntary sector.

5. JNC UPDATE

- 5.1 Nothing to report.
Action: LR to check with DA if any JNC meetings have been held.

6. ETS WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2019/20

- 6.1 **Chair’s Report** - SD reported that his activities since his appointment at 1 Sept included: induction meeting with LR; attending the EWC-organised lecture with Andy Hargreaves; meeting with Interim Board members and Welsh Govt re the implementation arrangements for the YW Strategy; a presentation on ETS to the CWWYS workforce development group; meeting TO; and a handover meeting with GN.
Action: SD/LR to draft letter of thanks on behalf of ETS members to GN for his work over past 7 years as Chair
Action: LR to write to ETS members seeking expressions of interest for the post of ETS Vice-Chair
- 6.2 **Youth Support Worker Endorsement Guidelines** –LR provided an update on the work to redevelop the Level 2 and Level 3 qualifications following consultation with the sector. As the suite was generally seen as fit for purpose, the changes have mostly been minor to the core units with the addition of a number of option units to make them more current. The new suite will be available from April 2020.
Agored and ALW are working on the development of Entry Level 1 qualifications and a discussion took place on the need for different versions – for meeting the needs of young people and for providing a taster of youth work to adults.
RB reported that ALW is now having to charge for their courses. For the Level 3 course there will be a registration fee of £50 for FE students but complications around double-funding of HE students (where the course may be embedded in an access programme) means that the cost will be £195 for this term only. The true cost of the course is £350.
- 6.3 **HE Guidelines to Professional Endorsement Refresh / Endorsement Costs** – The final published version of NOS with a summary map is still needed in order to finalise the Guidelines. DL reported that the Welsh language version should be available shortly.

7. ENDORSEMENT ACTIVITY

- 7.1 **Glyndŵr – PgDip** – LR & JS provided an update on the endorsement visit. The key condition of the appointment of an additional JNC staff member was being met and the new person should be in post in December. G Price stressed the importance of meeting staffing requirements.

- 7.2 **BA programme** – Nothing to report.
- 7.3 **Cardiff Metropolitan** – Nothing to report.
- 7.3 **USW BA** – Programme is due for re-endorsement in 2020.
- 7.4 **Trinity Saint David** – UWTSO has now indicated that they will not withdraw the BA programme. Therefore a panel visit for the BA and PgDip programmes will be held in 2020. EC offered to act as panel chair.
- 7.5 **OU – BA:** Nothing to report.
- 7.6 **Agored Cymru & ABC Awards** – Nothing to report, ongoing data collection.

8. EDUCATION WORKFORCE COUNCIL: Code Of Conduct Update; Education Recruitment Forum

8.1 HL provided an update:

- The latest figures on registrants as at end of Sept 2019 was circulated, HL welcomed comments. The sector is asked to look at the figures and point out omissions to address concerns that some organisations may not be complying with legal requirements.
- The letter to Welsh Govt relating to the Schedule of qualifications is being finalised with help from LR. The issue of provisional registration for HE youth work students needs to be considered.
- Annual statistics digest on registrants across the 7 sector groups has been published and further work is needed to populate information missing from some indicators.
- The Code of Conduct was sent out to registrants. Posters also sent to employers to raise awareness on the importance of the Code as it is used for fitness to practise hearings. Some fitness to practise cases are ongoing and some ETS members are on panels which is useful for raising awareness across the sector. An annual report on case studies is available.
- A part-time employer based route to a teaching qualification via the OU has been accredited.
- As previously reported, EWC will be promoting careers of the sectors. Formal procurement took place and a contractor appointed, with developments now starting. There will be a national steering group and TO is on this.
- Pilot events for the Personal Learning Passport have taken place with local authorities but now something similar is needed for the voluntary sector.

Actions: HL to draft lines for DL for Welsh Govt newsletter re EWC requirements; HL to follow up opportunities for piloting the PLP within the vol sector and HEIs.

9. JOINT ETS / SECTOR SKILLS SPECIALIST BODY UPDATE / WELSH GOVT PRIORITIES RE NOS & APPRENTICESHIPS

- 9.1 The updated NOS were published and circulated but these have not been published as previous versions with the introductory section containing purpose, values and a summary map missing. DL reported that the Welsh translation of NOS should be available by end October.
- 9.2 Joint ETS meeting to take place on 24 Oct.

10. SECTOR FEEDBACK

- 10.1 **CWVYS** – regional meetings have been arranged and dates added to ETS calendar. Venues are rotated and invitations are extended to PYOs.
- 10.2 **Colegau Cymru** – RB reported that the Minister for Education and Keith Towler will be visiting Adult Learning Wales to look at the YSW training with CMU.
- 10.3 **Local authority** – reported that two youth homelessness events would be held this week. The structure of PYO meetings has changed to four per year and a residential in November with the Minister attending.
- 10.4 **TAG Cymru** – group was pleased about UWTSO decision to keep BA programme. GP attends UK TAG meeting as Wales rep. There are interesting discussions on political contexts and there seems to be a more hopeful outlook for youth work in England.

- 10.5 **FAB Wales** – DB had sent apologies.
- 10.6 **Play Wales** – MG and MKS had sent apologies.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

12. CONFIRMATION OF FUTURE MEETING DATES

Weds 12 Feb 2020

Weds 13 May 2020

Weds 21 Oct 2020

Action: LR circulate actions and dates of next meetings and add to ETS web calendar