

**CANOLFAN CYMRAEG I OEDOLION GOGLEDD CYMRU
WELSH FOR ADULTS CENTRE NORTH WALES**

Grŵp Strategol / Strategy Group

A meeting of the Group was held on Wednesday, October 24 at 10.30 a.m. at Coleg Llysfasi, Ruthin.

Present: Fred Cunningham (Coleg Llysfasi - Chairman); Eiliw Ellis-Davies (ATOM PR); Rhian McCarthy (Coleg Llandrillo Cymru); Haydn Hughes (Welsh for Adults Centre); Elwyn Hughes (Bangor University); Gwenan Owain (Coleg Llysfasi); Richard Lewis (Welsh College of Horticulture); David Jones (Deeside College); Ioan Talfryn (Popeth Cymraeg); Verona Pritchard Jones (Popeth Cymraeg); Jina Gwyrfai (Welsh for Adults Centre); Huw Evans (Coleg Llandrillo Cymru); Janice Lewis (Coleg Menai); Dafydd Rhys (Coleg Harlech WEA); Paul Croke (Yale College); Jim O'Rourke (Nant Gwrtheyrn); Pam Evans-Hughes (Welsh for Adults Centre); Ifor Gruffydd (Welsh for Adults Centre); Iwan Davies (Secretary)

Apologies: Meri Huws (Bangor University); Trefor Fôn Owen (Coleg Harlech WEA)

| | Action |
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| <p>1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION</p> <p>Fred Cunningham, Coleg Llysfasi, who was chairing in Meri Huws' absence, welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p> | |
| <p>2. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12 JULY 2007</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 12 July 2007 were confirmed as correct.</p> | |
| <p>3. MATTERS ARISING</p> <p>There were no matters arising.</p> | |
| <p>(a) ACTION PLAN</p> <p>A discussion was held on the action plan and IG explained that <i>if any of the providers had any comments or points then they should contact IG at the Centre and they would be dealt with specifically</i>. IG reported that DCELLS had rejected the 6 centres' action plans because they were not SMART enough. Thus the Centre will resubmit its plan by Christmas. HE</p> | Providers |

noted that it would be an idea to have a milestone document which would review the strategic and operational developments for each quarter.

IG

4. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

IG presented a report noting :

- The centre has received about £30k which represents an additional allocation from the Welsh Assembly Government for rurality and it will be shared out amongst providers as appropriate. DJ and RL reported that Deeside College and the Welsh Horticultural College had received fewer units this year but that they were in contact with Ann Jenkins, Welsh Assembly Government. As a result it is quite probable that these two providers will be unable to register students after this term. ***IG will discuss the situation with the Welsh Assembly Government.***
- DCELLS were happy with the model of provision for the north of the former county of Clwyd. A draft model has now been drawn up and we are awaiting a response from one of the relevant providers before submitting it to Ann Jenkins, Welsh Assembly Government for consideration.
- The Centre has received a grant of £10,575 from the Welsh Language Board and £6000 will be used in cooperation with Menter Iaith Conwy to research into the attitudes of Welsh speakers towards learners; £4000 has been allocated to carry out an exercise to research learners' interests and £575 has been allocated for mapping Welsh language social provision and informal learning activities held across the region. An application has also been submitted to the Welsh Language Board for 2008/09 and this will be awarded before Christmas.
- A meeting was held with the Language officers of the providers to discuss the Welsh Assembly Government's aim to mainstream the Welsh language within our institutions. A discussion ensued on specific planning models and Coleg Menai agreed to share good practice with the rest of the providers.
- The Centre will target workplaces with the aim of creating a package which will be used to plan language training. The Centre intends to share this provision in the workplace and propose options on how to accomplish this at the next meeting.
- DCELLS has commissioned the Old Bell 3 company to conduct an evaluation of the Welsh for Adults area. ***The providers should receive a brief of this evaluation.***
- It was reported that the Centre was planning a research project over a period of 6 years and that providers will be given feedback from the research outcomes. It is hoped that the findings can be applied as appropriate to the provision in north Wales.
- Because of the need to obtain a clear definition of 'dwys/darnynol' (intensive/non-intensive), ***IG will be presenting a paper at the meeting of the next***

IG

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IG

Providers' Panel and will be reporting back to the Strategic Group.

- The Centre has consulted with a legal expert about the Employment Equality (Age) Regulations, and will be circulating information to everyone once it has obtained a clear and robust opinion on the matter.

5. QUALITY MANAGEMENT

HH presented a report and noted that the observation procedure will be starting with Coleg Llysfasi, Coleg Llandrillo Cymru, Yale College and NEWI in November 2007. ***The Centre will need tutors' timetables as soon as possible in order to organise this observation.*** By next year the other providers will also be observed. The providers are drawing up individual learning plans. There will be professional development plans for part time tutors with a number working for more than one provider and it is hoped that the Centre will play a central coordinating role. A number of other centres have moved forward with their developments. The providers should promote the examinations and the Centre will be able to offer assistance.

Darparwyr

6. TRAINING

LLUK is preparing new standards for the new qualification, the qualification will be introduced in three parts and it is hoped that the qualification will start in September 2008. DCELLS is putting pressure on the centres which have not been validated by LLUK, and the Centre is not at all happy with the situation. All the other Centres have agreed to introduce the course in January 2008. APEL can be used for the new qualification and the number permitted to enrol on the qualification will be 10. The Providers' Panel decided that there was no point in offering the course unless there was a qualification at the end of the course. The unanimous opinion of the Strategic Group was that we should not offer the course in January 2008 and that we should wait until the complete course has been validated.

7. 2007/08 PROVISION

The development officers have been in discussions with providers about workplace provision and are preparing a report on the situation for the national working party. It appears that the number of enrolments by providers is quite good, the development officers will be working with providers on weak points where courses are not being offered. Data will be collected quarterly by providers. They will promote WJEC examinations among providers. Welsh for the Family provision project which will encourage parents to speak Welsh with their children. Schools are very supportive of the scheme. If providers have any units left over then they are urged to contact the

Centre.

8. MARKETING

(a) PRESENTATION ON BEAUFORT RESEARCH MARKET RESEARCH

IG/ID

The decision was made to postpone the presentation on Beaufort Research market research and include it on the agenda of the next meeting.

(b) CENTRE'S MARKETING PRIORITIES

A report was given by Elliw Ellis-Davies, ATOM PR, on the Centre's Marketing Plan. The Centre will be reviewing the marketing plan in collaboration with ATOM PR with a view to ensuring a clear and purposeful marketing/communication procedure, which adds to the marketing activities of individual providers. In the next meeting we will receive an overview of the situation. If providers have any comments or ideas for ATOM PR they are welcome to forward them to the Centre.

9. COMMON FEE POLICY

Deeside College and the Horticultural College expressed concern that they had received a smaller allocation this year from the Welsh Assembly Government. They are holding discussions with Ann Jenkins, Welsh Assembly Government but have not yet received a response. It was felt that probably the Colleges would be unable to register students after this term because of a lack of funding.

10. A.O.B.

There was no other business

11. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, January 16th 2008 at 10.30 a.m., Deeside College, Connah's Quay