

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

**Grŵp Strategol / Strategy Group**

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A meeting of the Group took place on Friday, 25 Mai at 10.30am at University of Wales, Bangor, School for Lifelong Learning, St Asaph Business Park.

Present: David B. Jones (Deeside College – Chairman); Haydn Hughes (Welsh for Adults Centre); Jina Gwyrfai (Welsh for Adults Centre); Pam Evans-Hughes (Welsh for Adults Centre); Gwenan Owain (Coleg Llysfasi); Fred Cunningham (Coleg Llysfasi); Dr Thomas Moore (NEWI); Verona Pritchard Jones (Popeth Cymraeg); Jim O'Rourke (Nant Gwrtheyrn); Ioan Talafryn (Popeth Cymraeg); Dr Haydn E. Edwards (Coleg Menai); Huw Evans (Coleg Llandrillo Cymru); Janice Lewis (Coleg Menai); Rhian McCarthy (Coleg Llandrillo Cymru); Trefor Fôn Owen (Coleg Harlech WEA); Steve Smith (Yale College); H. Bryn Williams (Coleg Meirion Dwyfor); Ifor Gruffydd (Welsh for Adults Centre); Iwan Davies (Secretary)

Apologies: Meri Huws (University of Wales, Bangor); Elwyn Hughes (University of Wales, Bangor); Richard Lewis (Welsh College of Horticulture); Professor Michael Scott (NEWI); Dr Ian Rees (Coleg Meirion Dwyfor)

	<b>Action</b>
<p><b>1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION</b></p> <p>All were welcomed to the meeting by David B. Jones who took the Chair in the absence of Meri Huws.</p>	
<p><b>2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 28 NOVEMBER 2006</b></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 28 March 2007 were confirmed as correct.</p>	
<p><b>3. MATTERS ARISING</b></p> <p>There were no matters arising from the previous meeting.</p>	
<p><b>4. DIRECTOR'S REPORT</b></p> <p>A report from IG was submitted, in which it was stated: a) That the Centre was considerably concerned at the effect which the lack of financial information from AADGOS was having</p>	

on the ability of the Centre to confirm financial allocations and WCEUs for all providers; on the ability to give contracts, and on the ability of all providers to plan provision by September/October. The University has written to request urgent replies on the following matters:

- Historical information on each provider as comparator and in the ability to allocate fairly
- The effect of the new funding method on the proposed level of funding for allocation
- Certain CE funding is being held back for pay settlements  
Furthermore, we are still awaiting conditions for funding growth of 10%.

***It will be necessary to e-mail providers with a copy of this letter.***

**IG**

b) A meeting took place between Coleg Llandrillo Cymru, Deeside College, Popeth Cymraeg, and University of Wales Bangor, with Ann Jenkins, AADGOS, on 25 April, in order to discuss the unique contracting situation of the area of N. Denbighshire and Flintshire, and the way forward. The meeting concluded that it would be impossible to maintain the current arrangement in the long term, but that it would be possible to do so temporarily, pending the creation of a new, acceptable model between the partners.

c) Reports were presented by the officers on the work of the five working parties in Wales:

- Research – IG noted that this Working Party was just beginning on the work and that initial discussions had concentrated on formulating a research Strategy and determining research priorities.
- Workplace - JG had attended a meeting of the Workplace Working Party which had been arranged by the Gwent leading centre. The purpose of the meeting was to share experiences and discuss how to distribute the workplace market. It will be necessary to tender for the work on a national basis, and there will be an all-Wales strategy.
- Family – This Working Party had been organised by the Glamorgan leading Centre. This is a new project, which primarily aims a course for parents of children of reception and reception age. The Centre will be targeting primary schools, in the hope that parents will enrol o other courses at the end of the course.
- Intense curriculum – Representatives from the 6 Centres had come together to discuss the matter, and all were unanimous at the end of the meeting that one national course should be developed, to be offered for the piecemeal and intense stream. A report on the meeting, together with recommendations, will be submitted to AADGOS.

d) The Centre's Data Manager will be liaising with all providers over the next few days, to arrange meetings in order to discuss data requirements, and to advise and assist on matters the collection and retention of necessary data, and their transfer to

the Centre.

## 5. STRATEGIC PLAN

A report was given by IG, concentrating on the main points of the strategic plan. The strategy was accepted, with the following revisions:

- Under 1.5, it was stated that more full-time and part-time tutors' posts were necessary across the region. This is one of the requirements of AADGOS. **The Centre will consult with the providers during the year in this regard.** IG
- A study of the possibility of introducing electronic enrolment. **It was proposed to pilot a system with one provider.** IG
- Monitoring progress. It was resolved to request quarterly reports rather than individual ones, with definite dates set.
- It is possible that funds will be attracted from WEFO; J O'R stated that Nant Gwrtheyrn was examining the possibilities, and anxious to co-operate with the Centre. HE felt strongly about national guidance on this, and that this would be of interest to all providers. **IG to raise this with Ann Jenkins, NLW.** IG
- The ESOL Welsh pilot scheme is starting for immigrants. Some of the providers are concerned about how this will adversely affect their own plans. **IG will need to discuss with the providers.** IG
- Welsh-medium agenda. It was noted that the implementation of language schemes was the responsibility of the providers, but that the Centre was required to co-ordinate the WfA provision as part of its function. **IG to convene a Task Group to examine this.** IG

## 6. CONTRACTS

Coleg Menai and the Centre have been co-operating in order to create a draft contract which would form the basis for an agreement with each provider. It is envisaged that the Centre will be in a position to consult on the contract by mid June.

## 7. QUALITY CONTROL

A report by HH was tabled, noting the following main details:

- QC representatives from all providers will be members of the QC Sub-panel.
- A representative from Estyn will attend the QC Sub-panel as necessary, but will not be a permanent member.
- Detailed guidance was received from Coleg Llandrillo Cymru, concerning practical support from other providers.
- In 2 years, a professional development plan will be available for part-time staff.
- It is proposed that the Quality Sub-panel should become a full panel and report to the Strategy Group.

- ***It was agreed that HH should meet each provider for ½ a day, in order to discuss their plans for quality before designing a final regional scheme.***
- HH will further discuss the observation scheme with Coleg Menai, in an attempt to resolve any difficulties.

HH

## 8. TRAINING

A report was submitted by HH, noting the following main matters:

- A follow-up course will be held for De-suggestopedia , but funded by WAG.
- The national award will commence in January 2008 rather than in October 2007, since it is necessary to make additions in accordance with the new requirements of LLUK. LLUK and Cardiff University will consider the content of the generic WfA module which could be offered as part of the PGCE course.
- The award will be initially offered to inexperienced tutors.
- A report was submitted on the research being undertaken in Basque Country, and it was noted that a comprehensive report will be published, together with a series of lectures in the National Eisteddfod.
- It seems that all training activities which appear in the training scheme will take place, since WAG wished to fund the award and the De-suggestopedia centrally. ***It was agreed to defer the review of staff training rates until the next meeting.***

IG

## 9. AOB

SS stated that some classes had a low enrolment rate, and that the closure of classes was a great shame. IG noted that the Centre would note this matter when marketing, and when discussing the future location of courses at different levels.

## 10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> July 2007, Boardroom, Yale College, Grove Park Road, Wrexham at 3.00pm.