

Minutes of the London Strategic Migration Partnership Board meeting

25 March 2010

CR2 , City Hall

Present

Board members

RB	Richard Barnes	Deputy Mayor of London (chair)
HH	Hugh Harris	London First
KP	Kathy Prior	Job Centre Plus
DK	Davinder Kumar	MRAP
SA	Simin Azimi	MRAP
AB	Arun Batra	LDA
VL	Val Lowman	Lend Lease Europe & BeOnsite Bovis Lend Lease LT
AP	Cll Anjana Patel	London Councils
NB	Natasha Brown	GOL
SC	Steve Crow	LSC
JP	James Merrick-Potter	UKBA
JA	Jennette Arnold	MPA
SG	Shirani Gunawardena	MPA
JL	James Lee	on behalf of Donna Covey, Refugee Council
MH	Michael Heanue,	London LSC

Apologies:

LH	Laurie Heselden	SERTUC (South East Regional TUC)
CH	Chris Hayes	GOL
YT	Yeukai Taruvunga	MRAP
NA	Noeleen Adams	Third Sector Alliance
PL	Philippa Langton	LSC
	Chris Spencer	Association of Directors of Children's Services
LD	Lindsey Davies	NHS London
SF	Sharon Flannery	UKBA
DC	Donna Covey	Refugee Council
BP	Belinda Porich	London Regional Committee, National Housing Federation

GLA:

WL	Wayne Lawley	Deputy Mayor's Office
RS	Roudy Shafie	Senior Policy Officer, Immigration and Asylum
TD	Terry Day	Manager, Diversity and Social Policy
DW	Dick Williams	Senior Policy Officer, Immigration and Asylum
AM	Amna Mahmoud	Project & Policy Officer, Diversity and Social Policy

Agenda

Theme of the meeting

Employment, Skills & Enterprise

1. **Welcome and apologies for absence**
2. **Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising**
3. **Chair's update**
 - a. Progress on link bodies
 - b. Commissioning of evidence base for Integration Strategy for London
 - c. Integrating Cities Conference 22 February
 - d. Meeting with John Vine, Chief Inspector of the UBKA
4. **Skills Funding Agency: roles and priorities**
Steve Crow
5. **Integrated Employment and Skills Service pilot**
Kathy Prior
6. **Coordinating employment, skills and integration efforts**
7. **New information from members**
8. **AOB**

Date of the next meeting 17 June 2010, 10:00 am -12:00 pm, Committee Room 3

Minutes

Agenda items' discussion

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

RB welcomed Jennette Arnold who will represent the MPA and chair the Community Safety Link Body.

2. Minutes of the last meeting & matters arising

The minutes were accepted as an accurate record.

3. Chair's update

Chair reported on the progress on the LSMP link bodies, the commissioning of an evidence base for the Mayors' Integration Strategy for London, the hosting of the IV Integrating Cities conference and his meeting with John Vine, Chief Inspector of the UBKA on 19th January.

RB suggested that John Vine could be invited to an MRAP meeting.

Action 1: John Vine to be invited to attend an LSMP meeting.

4. Skills Funding Agency: roles and priorities

Steve Crow, Director of Learner Services, Regional Employment & Skills presented the new Skills Funding Agency, which replaces the LSC as of 1 April.

The board agreed that the Skills Investment Strategy was the key document, and that this was now being developed by the regional development agencies (LDA), with LSEB needs ensuring that the London Skills Investment Strategy reflects the LSEB strategy before it agreed with BIS.

RB suggested that London and the partnership need to identify how to feed in and shape the outcomes, as there is an opportunity to influence.

AB added there is a need to influence BIS policy and noted that the LDA reports back to BIS. He cited that as an opportunity for the LSMP to influence BIS to reflect our agenda, including ESOL.

RB noted that the LSMP had grasped that LAs also need to articulate the needs of their boroughs through the LDA and LSEB which can influence the SFA.

5. Employment and Skills Service pilot (presentation attached).

Kathy Prior presented the evaluation of the Integrated Employment and Skills Service pilot. Members raised concerns about the advisors' expertise on migration and whether next step advisors meant that there would be no referral to voluntary sector organisations and asked about how this works for professionals e.g. medical doctors, and whether asked whether there are offers for those who do not claim benefit.

SC responded that they have a wide range of contractors with specialised knowledge alongside other ways to meet the needs of the customers.

KP responded that they signpost customers. She added that JCP have links to voluntary sector's networks, some of who come to give advice at JCP offices. JCP also provide a range of non-contracted services to different customers to meet their needs, as well as outreach services to community centres, housing associations' tenants and libraries etc.

6. Coordinating employment, skills and integration efforts

Members who are engaged with other forums agreed to promote the LSMP agenda, as well as identify challenges of integration by highlighting specific barrier and how to address them with MRAP helping to link to specific networks.

SG shared the MPA experience of their engagement strategy, which is based on operation need e.g. Bangladesh, Turkish etc. and the community police initiative e.g. Somali officers etc.

JL said that Refugee Council & JCP are working together and a joint document would be published.

7. AOB

SA reported back from the Community Development & Participation Link Body's meeting, that members felt the strategy made an emphasis on the role of MRCOs in facilitating integration and not highlighted enough the role of the mainstream establishments. She pointed out that there is a need for more resources to enable effective delivery of the actions. She also added that the Link Body would produce a detailed workplan and costing.

SA pointed out the role of London Funders in supporting the integration of refugee & migrant communities and suggested that they join the LSMP Board.

Action 2: RB agreed that officers would follow up the invitation of London Funders to Join the LSMP Board

Action 3: RB requested that Officers to circulate the Community Development & Participation Link BodyToR to Board members.

Date of next meeting:

17 June 2010, 10:00 am -12:00 pm, Committee Room 4

Future meetings

14 September 2010, 10 am -12 pm, Committee Room 2