

Title:	Learning Partnership Update
Author(s):	Chris Thomson, Chair, Brighton & Hove Learning Partnership
Purpose/Key Messages:	To inform BHSP of the ongoing development of the Learning Partnership
Significance to BHSP	The Learning Partnership is one of the family of partnerships. It leads on learning and education. This is an area that can be improved and the Learning Partnership will help to lead this improvement
What is BHSP being asked to do?	To comment on the terms of reference and to contribute to the Learning Partnership work plan
Next steps and report back mechanism	Further reports on the Learning Partnership will be made available to the BHSP in due course

1. Background

In my presentation to the LSP on 20 September 2011 I explained the consultative process by which key stakeholders were being engaged in creating a workable structure for the City's Learning Partnership. This paper updates the LSP on progress since that point.

2. Progress

The structure of the Learning Partnership has been agreed in the form I outlined in September. This has enabled us to constitute the Partnership's Strategic Board which has now met on three occasions. The first two meetings were run by an external facilitator enabling us all as new Board members to begin to explore fundamental issues: our purpose, our vision and so on. At our next meeting in July we anticipate agreeing our work plan for the academic year 2012-13.

Matters that merit highlighting within this general survey are:

- The inclusion of representatives from the University of Brighton and the University of Sussex on the Strategic Board.
- In addition to both universities, the membership of the Strategic Board is drawn from the Learning Partnership's Operational Boards (Primary, 11-19 and Adult Learning Group), Schools' Community Clusters, the CVSF, School and College Governors and the Local Authority.
- Agreement by the Strategic Board of draft terms of reference for the Brighton & Hove Learning Partnership and for Brighton & Hove Learning Partnership Strategic Board. These will now be consulted on more widely both within and outside the Learning Partnership.
- The Learning Partnership is increasingly attracting the interest of other organisations. Over the past three months, I have discussed its work with MPs, with Baroness Jones (House of Lords Opposition Spokesperson for Education) and with a representative of the educational charity 'Speakers' Corner Trust'.

Thanks to the energy and commitment of the Strategic Board membership, progress in developing the Learning Partnership has been very good indeed and although these qualities will certainly be tested as we engage with the City's educational issues, there is every reason to be optimistic that together we can rise to the challenges to come.

3. Your views are welcomed!

If you would like to comment on our terms of reference, they are attached to this email and you can send your comments to me at c.thomson@bhasvic.ac.uk.

In drawing up our work plan for 2012-13, we shall of course draw on the City's Sustainable Community Strategy. If you wish to contribute suggestions for the work plan, please email them to me at c.thomson@bhasvic.ac.uk.