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|  | Daft Minutes - NFEC COUNCIL MEETING nfec_logo_0106FRIDAY 7th June 2013**ECUK OFFICES - LONDON** |

#####  Attendees

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| Ben Jones | Engineering Council |
| Paul Fletcher | Engineering Council |
| Bryony Leonard | Pearson/Edexcel |
| John Lockey | NFEC Director |
| Anil Kumar | Engineering UK |
| Bob Clarke | NFEC Director,  |
| Peter Swindlehurst | UK IPG |
| Mike Bristow | NFEC Consultant |
| Jas Sall | EAL |
| Andrew Hewison | City and Guilds |
| Robert Else | NFEC Regional Co-ordinator/ Central Sussex College |
| Alan Gray | NFEC Director |
| Jon Gill | NFEC Director |
| Warwick Hall | NFEC Director |
| Ian Carnell  | SEMTA |
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| **Apologies** |  |
| Alan Mackrill | IMI Awards |
| Hilary Leevers | Wellcome uk |
| Elizabeth Bonfield | EAL |
| Vicky Elston | Engineering Professors’ Council |
| Richard Brooks | NFEC Director |
| Bob Millington | NFEC Director |
| Steve Jones | NFEC Regional Co-ordinator/ Telford College of Arts and Technology |
| Susan Kay | Engineering Professors’ Council |
| Graham Goodwin | City and Guilds |
| Dr Caroline Sudworth | Engineering Council |
| Rob Gray | IMI Awards |
| John Crew | Edexcel |
| Lee Hopley | EEF |
| Martin Eatough | ECITB |
| Phil Romain | HMI |
| Robert Coombes | NFEC Regional Co-ordinator/ Petroc |
| Matthew Lardi | City and Guilds |
| Rhys Morgan | The Royal Academy of Engineering |
| Richard Green | The Design and Technology Association |
| Trevor Hill | SummitSkills |
| Bob Busby | OFSTED |

1. **Welcome, Apologies and Introduction to the meeting**

Jon Gill, Vice Chair NFEC, took the chair in the absence of Richard Brooks and welcomed all present.

**2.** **Minutes of the previous meeting, Friday 8th February 2013**

The minutes were not available due to computer problems.

**3. Matters arising**

None

**4. Regional Activities**

Bob Millington had submitted apologies.

Robert Else, NFEC Regional Co-ordinator, London and South East Region, reported on the meeting at Carshalton College where 22 delegates had attended. The agenda consisted of BIT funding, traineeships and the delivery of Functional Skills and its integration with the curriculum. Further discussions took place on Study Programmes and student loans for post 18 learners. The next meeting will be at the Greenwich UTC on October 8th 2013.

John Lockey, NFEC Director and NE Regional Co-ordinator reported on the meeting at Caterpillar. BIT funding was also a major concern with the need for extended funding, as was functional skills. As they were at the Caterpillar site there was discussion on lean manufacture and welding skills. The next meetings would be at Hartlepool College followed by British Engines. John was also looking at organising a meeting to meet the needs of those members in the south of the region.

There was some discussion on the government’s requirement for GCSE qualifications against Functional Skills. Bryony Leonard, of Pearson spoke on the advantages of front loading Functional Skills, even for adult learners.

**5. The Richard Review – NFEC’s response**

**6. Letter to Skills Minister re Pre Apprenticeship**

**7. Government policy for 14/16 and 16/18 provision –agreeing a way forward**

The chair felt it was sensible to take these 3 items as they overlapped in content.

The government want to see employer involvement in both apprenticeship and traineeships. NFEC had responded to both the proposals. The answers for the Richard review questions were distilled from member responses to NFEC. One of the major issues in Traineeships is that of meaningful work placements, which despite the government’s confidence has not proved easy in the past. Given also that the new study programmes for full time students also requires work placement it will be even harder. The question was asked as to whether LEPs were to be involved in work placement, although no answer was forth coming. It was asked whether Traineeships would be the same as the pre-apprenticeship concept. Although it was hoped this would be the case, the proposals as they stand would not seem to be the case.

On the Richard Review SEMTA were not happy that they were singled out in Question 5 of the response as producing a plethora of qualifications for apprenticeship. Ian Carnell pointed out that they were only complying with SASE requirements. This was not seen as a reflection on SEMTA as it could have been any SSC. It was disappointing that QCF had not delivered the promise of flexibility and transferability.

The Engineering Council’s response to Richard had been that what is being proposed already exists in engineering and this was supported by Central Sussex who felt their scheme; based on the SEMTA scheme via EAL more than met the requirements.

**9. National Careers Service – Implementation, experiences to date and emerging issues**

Janice Pigott, Prospects Service, Regional Director for London, spoke on the National Careers Service and her role in the delivery of the service. Prospects are the prime contractor for the services as well as deliverer along with 42 sub-contractors. In the year to March 2013 they saw 118,000 customers over 201,000 sessions. Unlike Connexions, they look at trends in the jobs market to identify the job prospects.

At present the service is for 18+ adults, schools and colleges having responsibility for the younger age group although schools and colleges can buy in to the service. This might involve arranging careers fairs; however the offer is dependent on post code. They can also help in arranging links between schools and industry; however there are problems with schools letting students out of school.

### The National Careers Council report on careers provision – “an aspirational nation: creating a culture change in careers provision” states as one of its objectives that the National Careers Service should significantly expand its work with schools, young people and parents. This is one of the 7 recommendations and practical steps, which if implemented could have a considerable impact both on young people’s working lives and the economy.

OFSTED is to produce a thematic report on guidance, to come out in September, this ahead of the re-tendering of the NCS to produce a new service from next April. The specification is due out soon. It is expected to include payment by results and better use of technology.

**10. Update on qualifications recently introduced and other developments.**

**City & Guilds – Andrew Hewison**

New qualifications in Composites at level 3 and 4.

NOS. revisions

Level 1 Electrical Installation and Plumbing 7202

A Smart Screen update to take in digital learning

**EAL – Jas Sall**

NOS reviews – road shows to bring up to date – details on the website

Arrangements with I Mech.E for some courses.

Industry apprentices have been given a national voice through the formation of the first Industry Apprentice Council (IAC).

**Edexcel/ Pearson – Bryony Leonard**

Framework and NOS revisions

BTEC First – NQF

Level 3 for next year

Level 6 Diplomas to meet UK Spec.

Environmental Technology – Level 4

Bringing back the BTEC name.

**11. Announcements**

**Anil Kumar - EngineeringUK**

Big Bang near Me - next one Glasgow Jun 14, 2013

**Ian Carnell – SEMTA**

16 Framework renewals

4 new frameworks – responsibility for rail network engineering.

Level 4 Advanced Manufacturing

Levels 3 & 4 Manufacturing due July

**Next Meeting**

11th October 2013 at the same venue