

Consortium Board: Notes of Meeting

Date: 4th November 2014 (1400-1530) **Venue:** SOAS, University of London

Present: Dr Barrie Hopson (Chair of Board), David Andrews (CEIAG Consultant), Duncan Baldwin (ASCL), Anthony Barnes (CDI: careers educator substitute for Sue Barr), Louis Coiffait (NAHT substitute for Sion Humphreys), Jan Ellis (CDI: careers adviser), Ben Hughes (HELOA substitute for Nathalie Mortimer), Virginia Isaac (Careers England Quality Task Group), and Paul Chubb (QiCS Director – see note 11/14 below - and Organising Secretary for the Consortium Board).

In attendance: Karleen Dowden (QiCS NV Team)

Apologies: Sue Barr (CDI: careers educator), Sion Humphreys (NAHT), Stella Turner (AELP), Joy Mercer (AoC) and Nathalie Mortimer (HELOA).

NOTES OF MEETING

8/14 Welcomes & Introductory notes: Barrie Hopson thanked Careers England for booking the venue and opened the meeting. He welcomed Anthony Barnes, Louis Coiffait, Ben Hughes and Jan Ellis.

9/14 Notes of the Previous Meeting (15.5.14)

The Board formally accepted the notes of the May meeting. The matters arising were:

- 9/13: SH & KD had both issued updates on QiCS to NAHT/ASCL members. It was agreed that no further promotion was required at this time, but NAHT/ASCL would readily circulate news updates from PAC {Action: PAC}
- 15/13: The Board noted that Sue Barr had offered to approach the EBP network to sound out a potential replacement for Angela Wright; AB agreed to seek an update from SB and to advise PAC of any progress. [Action: AB/SB/PAC]
- 2/14 & 7.2.14 Note: The Board welcomed the initiation of the QiCS Twitter account: @QualityCareersS and the amalgamated revised section on the Careers England website bringing QiCS matters and Careers Guidance in Schools & Colleges together (the Board thanked CE once more for hosting this pro bono). The Board also welcomed PAC's advice that he would shortly be reviewing and updating this newly combined section of the website which he continues to maintain [Action: PAC]

- 3/14: The Board noted that the May 2014 revision to the Guide to the Standard had been updated by PAC/AB. The Board was disappointed to hear of Heather Miller moving on within DBIS and looked forward to hearing positive news of her successor {Action: PAC}
- 4/14: The Board welcomed confirmation that all 6 CQIRs had been successfully completed.
- 6/14: The Board welcomed confirmation that AB had shadowed Roger Allen on the Stoke on Trent NV Panel and was ready to take on the role of second NV Panel Adviser.

10/14 POLICY CONTEXT

- (i) The Board considered a report from Paul on the policy context. This included receiving a copy of the review by David Ritchie (CE Affiliate member) of Ofsted reports on inspections since September 2014 which demonstrated the 'patchy' way in which Inspectors were addressing how schools were implementing their duty to secure access to independent careers guidance. The Board resolved that PAC should respond on behalf of the Consortium Board to the current Ofsted consultation on '**better inspections for all**', making this point and offering to assist inspectors to recognise what good CEG looks like. The Board also wished PAC to include its concerns that Destination Measures are a poor proxy for good quality CEG. {Action: PAC}
- (ii) The Board commented upon the value of contact with the Independent Schools Inspectorate too; DA advised that Liz Reece (independent Careers Adviser and CE Affiliate) was in contact with ISI, and he offered to raise this with her; PAC commented that he had just received an e mail from Liz about this very matter and CEIAG QAs/QiCS, hence PAC also would speak with Liz about this further. {Action: DA/PAC}
- (iii) The Board welcomed the submission it had been copied into by Careers England to the House of Commons Education Select Committee follow-up inquiry into CG in schools, and looked forward to hearing more on the progress by the Select Committee with this review. {Action: PAC}
- (iv) The Board was delighted to receive the Sutton Trust independent research into the benefits of schools achieving a CEIAG Quality Award and student achievement/positive progression. PAC agreed to provide further information on this after further discussion with Professor Tristram Hooley at ICEGS/University of Derby. {Action: PAC}
- (v) The Board also noted the concerns raised in the latest Social Mobility Commission report (State of the Nation) re: access to careers guidance; and welcomed the Edge Foundation report on its survey of parental views on the importance of face-to-face professional CG.
- (vi) AB advised the Board of two further reports/studies which he felt the Board should be made aware of: CIPD survey and Institute of Fiscal Studies

report. He agreed to pass details to PAC who in turn would circulate these to the Board. {Action: AB/PAC – see footnote¹ below, action complete}

11/14 QiCS UPDATE INCLUDING BUDGETARY MATTERS

- (i) The Board received a further paper from Paul setting out further progress with the Standard. The Board discussed the likely number of NVPs/National revalidation Panels and CQIRs to be undertaken in 2015-2017.
- (ii) The Board noted that 8 CEIAG Quality Awards were now nationally validated: (6 were validated in 2013, two so far in 2014 – the Board was delighted that Tristram Hunt MP, Shadow Education Secretary would present the 2014 certificates at the CE/Westminster Briefing CEG Summit tomorrow, 5.11) and that the 6 validated in 2013 have now also been subject to positive CQIRs this year. The 4 remaining are all in contact with PAC and he expects one to come for an NVP in early 2015. The other 3 are known to be in need of gathering evidence of the impact of their Awards and PAC will seek to clarify potential timescales with these. {Action: PAC}
- (iii) The Board noted, therefore, that 2015 should see most if not all of the 4 remaining Awards coming for national validation, which might then mean that in the space of three calendar years all 12 have come to the Board for national validation. Thus there will probably be 4 NV Panels in 2015 and in addition there will be 8 CQIRs in 2015 – 6 second CQIRs and 2 first CQIRs.
- (iv) With the life-span of national validation being 3 years, there will be 6 revalidation panels in 2016 and 2 in 2017. There will also be CQIRs in 2016 and 2017 (at least for the 2 QAs which were validated in 2014).
- (v) The Board then resolved that, since the Standard was now no longer a 'project' but had become a part of the fabric of the country's CEIAG landscape, it was the time to adjust nomenclature, hence QiCS would not have a 'Project Leader' but a 'Director'; thereby making it better when the Director makes national contacts/submissions on behalf of the Board. {Action: PAC to make the appropriate changes to materials/website et al}

¹ The Institute for Fiscal Studies reports are at:

<http://www.ifs.org.uk/publications/7420>

<http://www.ifs.org.uk/publications/7419>

The CIPD survey that showed that respondents were critical of careers advice in schools going back over many years:

http://www.cipd.co.uk/binaries/employee-outlook_2014-autumn.pdf

See p6: Notably, the two most commonly cited factors that respondents gave for not meeting their career expectations were poor quality careers advice and guidance at school (30%)

(vi) The Board reaffirmed that future financing for these NVPs/NRPs/CQIRs would involve the following:

- NV Panels in 2014/15 would remain at a fee of £1500 payable by the CEIAG QA provider
- NV Panels and Revalidation Panels from 1.1.2016 would be set at a fee of £2000 payable by the CEIAG QA provider
- CQIRs would continue to be set at a fee of £250 p.a. payable by the CEIAG QA provider
- NV Panel Adviser day rates would remain at £380 per day plus approved expenses for NV Panels/Revalidation Panels and a fixed fee of £100 per CQIR
- QiCS Director fees would be set at £200 per NV Panel/Revalidation Panel plus approved expenses and a fixed fee of £50 per CQIR
- Expenses would be offered to Board members for Boards/Panels where no other source of meeting costs was available (the Board reiterated its thanks to members' organisations for bearing such costs so readily).

(vii) The Board reiterated its thanks to the CE Treasurer and PAC for the pro bono careful management of the QiCS accounts and noted that the next set of management accounts up to 30th April 2015 would come to the Board at its May 2015 meeting. {Action: PAC/CE Treasurer}

12/14 KEEPING THE NATIONAL VALIDATION CRITERIA UP TO DATE

- (i) The Board received a further paper from Paul on the context in which CEIAG QAs and thus QiCS operates in schools and colleges.
- (ii) The Board resolved that PAC and the NV Team (due to meet after this Board meeting) should review the Guide to the Standard and all 16 NVCs. Their review would be informed by the Board's views on NVCs 1.1, 1.3 and 1.4 in particular (*which PAC duly noted, but which are not recorded here as they remain 'work in progress' and will be made public once approved by the Board.*)
- (iii) The Board resolved that the approval process will be completed by electronic exchanges between PAC and the other members of the Board. The revision to the Guide will be presented to all CEIAG QA providers at a mini conference to be organised by PAC in the early Spring of 2015.)

13/14 REVIEW OF DECISIONS TAKEN AND SETTING THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETINGS

Barrie and Paul reviewed decisions taken throughout this 8th meeting of the Board, which the full CB confirmed and are now duly noted in these notes.

Noting that the Board had previously resolved to plan now for only two Board meetings per annum, other than by exception, and that these would be in the Spring and the Autumn, the Board resolved that:

The next two meetings would be held at the ASCL Offices, Leicester from 1145-1315 on 14th May 2015 and 3rd November 2015.

Meeting closed.

Notes prepared by Paul A. Chubb, 17th November 2014
