

Learning and Skills Council, Suffolk
Notice inviting comments on:
PROPOSALS TO DEVELOP THE PROVISION OF POST-16 EDUCATION FOR YOUNG
PEOPLE IN HAVERHILL

In response to the recommendations made in the 2008 School Organisation Review and the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) Supply and Demand Study, the LSC published a notice on the 3rd November 2008 inviting proposals from parties interested in developing the breadth and choice of educational provision available to 16-19 year olds in Haverhill, paying particular focus to participation, quality and value for money.

The Statement of Need along with other supporting documentation that accompanied this notice can be viewed on the LSC website at:
<http://www.lsc.gov.uk/regions/EastofEngland/whatwedo/Haverhill+16-19+Competition.htm>

In summary, the LSC will focus on how well any bid meets the following criteria:

- Ensuring greater breadth and choice of provision in line with review findings.
- Effective collaboration of existing providers, ensuring complementation of local provision and creation of a local coherent system.
- Increased participation and an appropriate range of provision to meet the needs of 16-19 year olds as the requirement for the continued participation in education or training to 18 years is introduced.
- Increasing the proportion of young people who stay in education and training beyond the age of 17 years.
- Represent high quality and value for money
- Delivers the step change required to meet Suffolk's 14-19 target by 2013.

On the 20th March 2009, the official closing date of the competition, one proposal had been received. In accordance with national guidelines, the LSC is now publishing a summary of that proposal and will enter into a six week public consultation period that will end on the 5th June 2009.

Summary of the proposal

The proposal received identifies how five educational organisations will work together collaboratively, to manage and deliver 16-19 provision for all learners in Haverhill, through the creation of the "Two Counties Learning Trust" (TCL). The trust comprises the following organisations:

- Castle Manor Business and Enterprise College
- The Granta Special School
- Linton Village College
- Samuel Ward Arts and Technology College
- West Suffolk College

The Trust proposes the creation of a new multi site offer for young people in Haverhill. Existing facilities would be enhanced by the addition of a new post-16 centre, located in the town, which would provide central services including advice and guidance and specialist facilities for the new diplomas, as well as access to apprenticeships.

The Trust proposes a single admissions process and a co-ordinated curriculum across all partners to enable an increase in courses available at each level, including programmes designed for those with learning difficulties and disabilities. By 2013 the Trust aims to be able to offer all 17 of the new Diplomas. Accountability for the curriculum and the quality of programmes will be the responsibility of the Trust.

A full copy of the proposal is available to download on the LSC website at: <http://www.lsc.gov.uk/regions/EastofEngland/whatwedo/Haverhill+16-19+Competition.htm>

What happens next?

The LSC invites comments on the proposal, which should be sent to the below address, no later than the 5th June 2009.

A stakeholder panel will be appointed to consider the proposal in detail in accordance with national LSC guidance. This panel will meet late June to determine the outcome of the competition, taking into account any comments received during the public consultation period. The outcomes from this meeting will be published week ending 31st July 2009.

If the proposal is accepted by the panel in part or totality, the LSC will then work with the Trust to develop the proposal.

It should be noted that any changes to individual schools arising from these proposals would then be subject to the necessary statutory consultation and the publication of public notices as set out in relation to this process.

All comments should be sent to:
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