

LIFELONG LEARNING PROGRAMME GRUNDTVIG

Project title: People over 50 on the labour market

2013-1-PL1-GRU06-38713

Report on the 2nd Transnational Partnership Meeting, Leeds, UK

Leeds, 27 – 28 March 2014

Organiser of the meeting:

The MRS Consultancy Ltd

Leeds

The UK

Meeting report

The second meeting of the partnership group was organized by The MRS Consultancy Ltd.

The meeting was arranged 27 – 28 March 2014, in Leeds.

List of project meeting participants:

- Voivodeship Labour Office in Katowice: Magdalena Wrzecion - Vocational counsellor, Małgorzata Gościński - Eures assistant, Agnieszka Rozmus - Labour Market Programme Specialist
- The MRS Consultancy Ltd: Roy Smith – Director, Margaret Smith – Director
- Fundación Universidad Empresa de la Región de Murcia – Foundation University Enterprise of the region of Murcia - FUERM: Maria Consuelo Garcia Sanchez - International Programmes Manager, Carlos Belmonte Fernández-Ballesteros - Director of the Business Research Department
- Itä-Uudenmaan koulutus- ja työpalvelut - Education Services for Adults and Organisations - Edupoli, a learning centre: Taina Paananen - Project manager, Elina Wähämaa - Counsellor in 50plus project

The agenda

Meeting in Leeds, 27 – 28 March 2014

Thursday, 27 th March		
	09.30 – 09.45	Welcome and introductions.
	09.45 – 10.30	Review of notes and action points from 1st meeting and discussion of any items not covered later on agenda, for example, confirmation of Letters of Support from stakeholders.
	10.30 – 11.00	Review of Glossary – purpose, intended audiences and work to date.
	11.00 – 11.15	Coffee break
	11.15 – 12.00	Presentation by The MRS Consultancy Ltd – “Working with the Over 50s in community learning and in the

		workplace.”
	12.00 – 13.00	Presentation – “Work in the Community to support the Over 50s” + Question and Answer session. http://www.leedscitycollege.ac.uk/index.php/about/the-leeds-city-college/
	13.00 – 14.00	Buffet Lunch in the meeting room.
	14.00 – 15.15	Dissemination – review of logo and project website. Potential brochure. Use of social media. Other dissemination opportunities.
	15.15 – 15.30	Coffee break
	15.30 – 16.00	Identification of formal outcomes for the project as required for final report.
	16.00.– 17.00	Partner Discussion. Initial ideas around the construction of Questionnaires to evaluate the motivation of Over 50s and their use. (Potential to continue discussion in Murcia in June to finalise and to agree methodologies for collection of inputs and collation of results.)

Friday, 28th March	09.30 – 09.45	Welcome and summary of previous day.
	09.45 – 11.15	Presentation by the Worker’s Educational Association – leading provider of adult and community learning in the UK. www.wea.org.uk
	11.15 – 11.30	Coffee break
	11.30 – 12.30	Agreement on glossary terms to be defined. Review of dates for next meeting. Review of agreements and actions and issuing of mobility certificates.
		Presentation by Swarthmore Education Centre.

Presentations:

- **Working with the Over 50s in the Community and in the Workplace** – presentation by The MRS Consultancy Ltd

- **Presentation by the WEA.** This presentation contains many links to interesting videos.

<http://yh.wea.org.uk/gallery/wea-videos>

<http://www.westmidlands.wea.org.uk/watch-our-new-promotional-film>

Annexe 1

- **Presentation by Swarthmore Education Centre.**

Annexe 2

- **Presentation by Leeds City College**

Annexe 3



Figure 1 Website home page

The partnership was able to review the website and to contribute to its development.

1. WHAT LEVEL OF KCs

ISABEL STYLE MULTICHOICE TICK BOX

- 8 KCs - ENTREPRENEURSHIP VOL
- COMMUNICATION - OTHER WK 2-3
- SOCIAL SKILLS + CIVIC FIN MAX/COMPETENCE
- DIGITAL SPA
- MATHS VOL
- LEARNING TO LEARN FIN
- COMMUNICATION IN FOREIGN SPA
- CULTURAL AWARE EXPRESSION UK

2. WHAT MOTIVATES THEM TO GO FOR THIS

LIST BARRIERS & MOTIVATIONS (AS ABOVE)

- BAD SCHOOLING
- INTERESTS
- LOW SELF ESTEEM
- EMPLOYMENT
- LACK OF MONEY
- PROGRESS (JOB)
- FAMILY COMMITMENTS
- SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT
- DISABILITY
- FAMILY (UNDERSTAND KIDS EDUCATION)

3. WHAT ARE THEY INTERESTED IN? (Circled)

- 'IT'S NOT FOR ME'
- CULTURE
- 'GIVES ME NOTHING'

Figure 2 Result of the questionnaire brainstorming session

Attached annexe 1



WEA
The UK's largest voluntary provider of adult education

WEA Learning - Life - Life

Local, regional and national

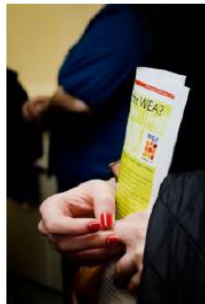
Part-time adult education for everyone

- 74,500 students per year
- 9,500 courses
- 227,235 learning hours
- 3,000 volunteers
- 2,000 tutors
- 60,000+ members
- 143 out of 150 local authority areas (with education responsibility)
- Over 400 local branches



Our vision

“A better world - equal, democratic and just; through adult education the WEA challenges and inspires individuals, communities and society”



Our mission

- Raising educational aspirations
- Bringing great teaching and learning to local communities
- Ensuring there is always an opportunity for adults to return to learning
- Developing educational opportunities for the most disadvantaged
- Involving students and supporters as members to build an education movement for social purpose
- Inspiring students, teachers and members to become active citizens



Our values

- Democratic
- Equal
- Inclusive
- Accessible
- Open



What we offer

We offer a range of short and flexible part-time courses, both through our volunteer-led branches and in partnership with other community organisations. Our courses are tailored to the needs of local people and they fall under one of four themes.

1. **Employability** - WEA employability education develops confidence, understanding and skills to help adults, at all stages of their lives, participate more fully in the world of work.
2. **Health & Wellbeing** - WEA health education combats health inequalities and promotes a social and preventative model of health and well-being.
3. **Community Engagement** - WEA community engagement education combats social exclusion and promotes active citizenship.
4. **Culture** - WEA cultural education broadens horizons through understanding cultures, identities and environments embodying our commitment to social purpose.



What we do

- High quality education to promote critical thinking
- Particular focus on educationally and economically disadvantaged adults
- Programmes responsive to student needs increase confidence, community involvement, employability and skills
- Local community based delivery with additional support
- Strong emphasis on working in partnership

"The courses I have done have encouraged me to start studying for a degree with the OU".

"With the computer skills I have acquired I have been able to accept an offer of employment".

"Tutor constantly invited, and sought, discussion from class members as well as imparting his vast knowledge".

Students' Views

"I became a Union Learning Representative and was more involved in my department and community".

"The tutor made the subject matter come alive".

I was able to improve my physical health enough to commit time to some related volunteering activity alongside the course which enhanced my learning".

"Gave me confidence in a subject area which I previously found a little intimidating".

"Social contact, a reason to leave the house, pleasure at completing and developing projects and skills. Life changing".

Gap between rich and poor

- Britain is becoming a much more unequal country
- Changes in the welfare system (e.g. benefit sanctions and the 'Bedroom Tax' all impact disproportionately upon the poor
- Massive growth in food banks and pay-day loans (short-term loans at huge interest rates).



- Digital media students making a film


Ageing population

- Percentage of young people is declining and the percentage aged over 65 is set to rise rapidly by the middle of the century
- Retirement age has been abolished
- The state pension age is set to rise to 67
- Greater number of older people in the workforce




Older student on a creative writing course


The WEA believes in creative and cultural opportunities for all



The WEA is committed to equality of opportunity and inclusive learning




Links to the past




The WEA's business "...is not to organise classes for whom, in the circumstances of today, it may for one reason or another be easiest to attract. It is to create a demand for education in individuals and bodies who at the moment may be unconscious of its importance to them, but who, if a tolerable society is to be created, must be won to believe in it."

R. H. Tawney
Historian & President
1928-1944

The WEA is committed to equality of opportunity and inclusive learning




Attached annexe 2




Swarthmore Education Centre
Our mission statement is

'to inspire lives through learning, friendship and fun, with respect for human diversity within a commitment to equality of opportunity'.



Swarthmore Education Centre

- * Over 100 years, started 1909
- * approximately 2000 students
- * Courses available within the centre and in the community
- * Have a café & creche




Swarthmore Education Centre

Funding

- Local Council
- Skills Funding Agency
- National Career Service
- Self financed Courses
- Education Leeds – Young People
- Various individual projects

Challenges



Swarthmore Education Centre

Courses include :-

Wide variety of courses available within Arts, Crafts, Health & Well being, Basic Skills and IT including :-

Pottery Jewellery Printing

 Computing Confidence Building Yoga

Counselling Maths English Zumba



Swarthmore Education Centre

Support :-

- * Confidence
- * National Career Service
- * Maths, English Qualifications
- * Computing Qualifications
- * Job Match/UK Online projects



Swarthmore Education Centre

Success Rate 12/13

Accredited 89%
Non Accredited - 92%

- 58% of enrolments have a disability or learning difficulty
- Age Range
40-59 = 40% 60-74 = 17%

Family Courses & Languages



French Pottery Spanish

Arts



Crafts



Health & Well Being Confidence Building

Computing
Basic Skills



Café & Exhibition Space

What Students Say:-

The link below will take you to a video of students telling their stories :-

<http://www.swarthmore.org.uk/students-showcase>

The link below takes you straight to our Website and a copy of our brochure :-

<http://www.swarthmore.org.uk/>

Attached annexe 3



Leeds City College

Leeds City College

Learning for the over 50's

Pauline Rhodes 27/03/2014 leedscitycollege.ac.uk




Leeds City College

City wide provision



leedscitycollege.ac.uk




Leeds City College

Facts and figures

- In academic year 2012/2013 the college had 44,607 students
- 6,130 were aged 50+, 14% of all students
- Of these 4506, 74% were studying for a qualification

leedscitycollege.ac.uk



Leeds City College

What is the offer?

- Skills for Employment and Life
- Job Centre Plus classes
- Community Learning
- Just for fun

leedscitycollege.ac.uk