

Minutes of the meeting of the Project Implementation Group of the NGfL and SRB projects held on Thursday 30th November 2000 at the PDC International House.

PRESENT:

John Hogarth	Lambeth EBP
Phil Redman	Lambeth Education
Tom Crowley	RM plc
Mauricio Sanchez	RM plc
Jeremy Smith	RM plc
Peter Robinson	Lambeth Education
Jenny Davies	Turney School
Florence Wilson	St Judes Primary School
Michael Place	Charles Edward Brooke School
Mayla Hardaker	Lambeth EAZ
Chris Barnes	Lambeth Education
Diana Shepherd	Loughborough Juniors School
Chris Davies	Lambeth Education
Richard Charlton	Lambeth IT (Minutes)

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

John Stringer	RM plc
Tim Downie	Paradigm ICT
Julian Bailey	Microsoft UK
Richard Selwyn	BECTa
Tim Downie	Paradigm ICT

1. MEMBERSHIP

PRo confirmed that he would be taking up a new post at Bromley LEA as of the beginning of January 2001.

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

No matters arising all items covered in the main agenda.

3. NGfL DELIVERY PROGRESS REPORT

PRo distributed feedback questionnaires from phase 3 schools and other documents, identifying a significant number of problems in ordering, implementation and installation of the agreed NGfL ICT systems from RM plc.

TC assured the group that the processes had been thoroughly investigated and that RM plc were constructing a series of measures to address the outstanding problems and any further work yet to be completed.

Heads expressed concern over the inadequate levels of RM plc support services when they encountered problems and the use of the Helpdesk (no return calls, length of time spent on the phone, recommendations given)

ILS DELIVERY PROGRESS REPORT

JH reconfirmed similar delays and concerns experienced by schools and the authority regarding the installation of ILS systems in schools by RM plc.

Also that it was likely that some schools would be asked to consider postponing their proposed ILS implementation, dependant on funding bodies approval.

It was also noted that the recommended NGfL/ILS combined connect networks were very problematic and needed significant technical support.

It was agreed for the NGfL and ILS projects that:

- PRo and RM plc to write letter to schools to confirm proposed actions to correct outstanding NGfL/ILS ICT implementation issues. PRo/RM
- RM plc would confirm the order entry process with PRo and JH to identify any outstanding problems with existing orders. PRo/JH/RM
- A representative group of heads and Lambeth LEA staff would meet with RM plc in January 2001, to identify specific schools, potential outstanding work at these sites and to confirm an agreed programme to complete problems identified. LEA/Schools/RM
- RM plc to visit all schools as identified above, with problems to confirm what work at phase 3 schools, was still outstanding and agree how best to solve the problems to the schools satisfaction RM
- RM plc to use suitably experienced engineers to visit Lambeth schools in the future. RM

4. LONDON GRID FOR LEARNING

London Learning – Broadband consortium of 33 London boroughs – PR member of content group, PRo member of executive group.

PR indicated that the DfEE was expecting LEAs to implement the connection of 20% of schools within first year to the LGfL.

5. CLASSROOM CONSULTANTS REPORT

Report deferred to next meeting.

6. EDUCATION EXTRA INITIATIVE – LAMBETH CR.ED

PR reported that the meeting with Paradigm had to be rescheduled, PR to confirm new time and date.

PR

It was agreed that a report from Paradigm on the use of the CR.ED site by schools was needed to evaluate the worth of project and whether to consider further funding in this aspect of the project in the future.

PR/PRo/TD

7. TECHNICAL SUPPORT FOR SCHOOLS/MANAGED SERVICES

PRo indicated that so far feedback from schools participating in the pilot was encouraging.

It was agreed that formal evaluation of the pilot should be undertaken before any recommendations were provided to further Lambeth schools to participate in future schemes.

PRo

8. INTERNET/INTRANET STRATEGY

RC confirmed that Lambeth IT and RM plc had discussed the proposals to reconfigure schools routers to dual dial RM plc as the ISP and Lambeth to link to the council intranet. RM plc thought that this proposal as a pilot was not recommended and could result in support problems. However they did make some recommendations for a VPN and/or other internet links to the council intranet via RM plc.

It was agreed that RC would organise a further meeting with Education and Lambeth IT to consider further options and report back to the next meeting

RC

9. SCHOOLS ELECTRONIC MAIL

It was noted that there were still schools waiting for their domain names to be changes to the new standardised naming convention by RM plc. PRo to follow up with schools and RM plc and report to next meeting.

PRo

10. LAMBETH S.W.O.P

PR confirmed that further schools were now developing sites and that NetSetGo were to speak at the ICT conference on the progress of the project to all schools.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

9:30am Thursday 15th February 2001 at International House, Professional Development Centre, Canterbury Crescent, Brixton SW9 7QE

and

9:30am Thursday 23rd March 2001 at International House, Professional Development Centre, Canterbury Crescent, Brixton SW9 7QE