

Appendix G: Feedback from staff consultation events

- Is there really an “east west” split in terms of deprivation? There are deprived estates in the west of the borough.
- Within this MAE offers something really important to people with learning disabilities, it is somewhere they like to come and they are integrated with the overall college. It is a proper learning environment but also informal enough for them to feel safe. Could anyone else really do this?
- Whatley Avenue performs an important function as a hub for tutors where they can get practical tasks like photocopying done, where they can get practical and prompt help with issues like IT, and where they can offer each other peer support. This could be lost if in the future there was a more dispersed model.
- We should not be too prescriptive about the curriculum mix.
- Be careful about fragmenting adult learning between providers. For example need for exam centres.
- How would commissioning actually work? How many people and where would they sit in the council organisationally? How does the funding work? Would there be any effort to join up the provider learning offers so that prospective learners can go just to one place to find out what is on offer?
- WA as a site has a precious ethos around scale, informality but still being a place of learning, with a variety of type of learners there.
- Merton College campus feels by contrast busy, volatile, with a younger age group. Many learners just won't cope with it. Accept STC want to do their best here, but it's hard to do.
- This is especially important for the LDD group
- Capacity. There isn't really this surplus capacity at STC if you consider time of day as mornings are much more popular.
- ESOL issues. STC already has a backlog. You need to provide a central focus point for them to come to and get advice and guidance before they start their learning.
- Can we justify the backlog maintenance costs?
- They feel misleading information was put out there especially about the mix of learners from across the borough and not acknowledging the progress they have made about quality and about reaching the whole borough.
- They also feel the council has not been honest about its real reason for undertaking this options appraisal and for its preferred option.
- Timescale for implementation. Clear view that you can't do it all by summer 2015, if you take into account issuing prospectus, getting agreements in place with SFA, managing the HR processes, giving staff notice in March/April so they can find jobs for the academic year starting in September 2015.
- Some technical HR points about how redundancy is calculated and what period it's based on due to fluctuating hours through academic year.
- Can specialist facilities like pottery be re-sited? Answer: yes but takes time to plan
- Don't really understand the financial analysis and how it supports the option chosen. Eg why can't MAE get its support services from elsewhere as would be cheaper than council providing. Is there a real saving here? How about the costs of implementation?
- Wanting to understand how commissioning would actually work
- Some issues about the consultation process, eg open text boxes, accessible versions, etc.

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