

Attendees: Chair: Shaun McCarthy (Action Sustainability), Dale Turner (Skanska), Graham Edgell (Morgan Sindall), Dan Evans (Speedy Services), Aaron Reid (Balfour Beatty), Marcus Bennett (CITB), Keith Chanter (EMCOR), Martin Gettings (Canary Wharf Group), Julia Barrett (Willmott Dixon), Victoria Hughes (VINCI Facilities), Ian Heptonstall (Action Sustainability), Hilary Hurrey (Action Sustainability)

Apologies: Carol Williams (Laing O'Rourke)

1. Review of actions

There won't be a decision on the FIR funding until later in the year. CITB have an evaluation meeting on 15th June, and they have to follow a procurement process on this. The School will need to bid for this in conjunction with CECA.

2. Vision & Values

Ian talked through the process and progress for revisiting the Vision, Values and Goal for the School, supported by Vicky. The purpose statements had not been finished yet, but the aim was to have these completed by the next Board meeting for review. Comments are below:

Vision, Value, Goal

- Should the goal contain a long-term goal?
- Should not have to explain the Vision, Values and Goal – should be self-explanatory and make sense to a beginner. The new version does.
- School is viewed as a start to the industry ambition of reaching a much wider audience (1million plus)
- The mention of a reach of 50K by 2025 is a real focus on step change.

Purpose statements

- The idea behind the purpose statements is for use internally by the team to help articulate the benefits of the School to the various groups accessing/ using the School.
- Need to revisit the term social value – it means different things to contractors and the supply chain.
- Include more generic statements which talk about environment and sustainability may be clearer?
- Make reference to outcomes.

Agreed:

- The Board agree with the revised Vision, Values and Goal for the School.
- There will be more clarity around the term social value in the purpose statements.
- The task group will look to have one purpose statement which can be communicated externally.

Actions

- Ian and Vicky will feed back the comments to the task group and will have completed statements by the next Board meeting.

3. Impact survey

The group discussed some of the key findings from the Impact survey. Comments on each section are listed below.

Audience:

- Could Partners who host the Schools eLearning on their own LMS be told it is contractual to provide the data on learning? Essentially the School's resources are being used by more people in partner organisations. We just don't know the numbers to count towards the School figures.
- CITB have a focus on SME and micro businesses. The Schools funded projects are all currently overachieving on the SME targets.
- Partners have a responsibility to encourage their supply chains to engage with the School. There is a procurement leverage of over 175 Partners now. School team need to focus on this.

Learning priorities:

- Members had not put social value down as one of their learning priorities however many are already doing much in the community and with their employees and the School survey mentioned those with SV.
- The Social Value group are writing guidance around social value for SME's, which has had input from engaged SME members organisations.

Ability of School to drive change:

- There is a shortage of benchmarks in other industries to compare our work with. Gut feeling is to continue doing what we are doing.
- There does seem to be less impact around business performance. This could be because sustainability is becoming business as usual for many.
- Would providing anonymised league tables around Partner engagement (value) in the School drive collaboration? Would this create a peer pressure? The School team would need to consider how this information was presented in a positive way.
- The figures around air quality can be said to have a direct correlation to the formation of the Air Quality group. The specialised groups within the School do influence change.
- It would be expected that asking the same group of people who have been engaged in the School since the beginning how much impact the School is having will diminish. This is a sign of success. For a business who has recently engaged in the School it would be assumed that this would have a higher impact.
- The challenge is to engage and help the SMEs with impact. Hopefully the introduction of tools such as the Carbon Calculator will help those businesses with their challenges around energy and carbon.
- The School team to take advice on whether Energy use and Carbon should be seen as different topics.

Length of time on training activities

- It is a different audience going to lunch & learns than workshops.
- Individuals are time poor and making over two hours for training is not feasible in the current climate. The School need to be mindful of this.
- There is a generational change to how people interact and learn. This is a 'Tik Tok' generation now and the School needs to become more digitised in its learning offering.
- The sustainability shorts are very popular and there needs to be investment to ensure that all topics are covered.

Actions

- ✓ Hilary to look at how many Partners use the eLearning files in their own LMS and who provides the School with data.
- ✓ Hilary to find out which Partners already mandate or encourage their supply chains to become a member (or achieve a level etc) and report back at the next meeting.
- ✓ The Impact survey should include some questioning around the correlation between length of time engaged in the School and the tracking of improvements around the various impacts.
- ✓ School to consider how we meet the demand for shorter learning and use of different platforms.

4. Worshipful Company Scholarships

Martin presented the background to the Worshipful Company Scholarships and explained how the Climate Action Group could receive two (as a start) scholars who would be able to help with the work the group were doing. This would be administered via the Worshipful Company who would provide the academia and research. The idea is that the School would provide the data sets. There would be a small financial contribution from the School and an application process. This would be through the Partner organisations, but it could also be considered to ask some SME's.

Agreed:

- The Board agreed that the School should go ahead with this proposal.

Actions:

- Martin, Shaun and James will progress within the Climate Action Group.

5. Willmott Dixon: Technical e-learning for the industry

Ian presented the context behind the request from Willmott Dixon around supporting the production of technical eLearning.

Comments:

- By being involved, in particular with eLearning for Designers, this would allow for further diversification of the audience. Engaging with designers in particular is of interest.
- It should be clear from the start that the eLearning will not solve all problems.
- It would need to be clear how the School being involved with the production of this eLearning would fit into the value and vision. The scope of technical learning is very wide, and this could be a very big job. Could this distract from what the School wants to focus on?
- The learning should not be so generic that it does not help anyone. There needs to be understanding around the detail.
- Need to be careful around technical advice and any liability to the School.
- What is meant by e-learning. This should be clarified further.

Agreed:

- There needs to be further consideration of this item. The next stage is to look at the scope, ambition and initial focus to provide more detail. This will allow for a more informed discussion.

Actions

- Ian will provide further detail based on the above at the next Board meeting.

6. Wellbeing Workplace Questionnaire: funding

Shaun talked through what the Wellbeing workplace questionnaire was and the question around the funding of it.

An important issue with the questionnaire that needs proper consideration is around use of the data and the employer's liability. If someone answers anonymously that they are not fit to be working the company has a duty of care around that person.

Agreed:

- Partners should not be asked for funding as there are other priorities that the School needs to address.
- There is a possibility that this could be aligned with the CLC Wellbeing group and the Lighthouse Club CITB funded work. The School should not need to be involved.

Actions:

- ✓ Shaun will feedback to the group the Boards comments.
- ✓ Shaun to speak with Marcus about how this work can be aligned with other CITB funding and projects.

7. Operational update

Ian talked through the agenda for the 10-year anniversary summit and the expectations of the Board members on the day.

Hilary gave a brief summary of the performance figures in the first month of the new FY. So far, the School has increases across the Board when looking YOY. There is a slight dip on number of learners however this is due to the fact that there were two large launches in April 2021.

Actions:

- ✓ Marcus is following up with CITB internally (Tim Balcon and other members of the exec team) to see if they want to be part of the agenda.

8. AOB

Vicky asked for all Board members to review the risk register following the review that was undertaken and presented at the AGM. Is there anything that has been missed?

Next Board meeting:

Wednesday 13th July, 10am – 1pm: Virtual via Zoom