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Bridging Partnerships between Colleges, Schools and Local Authorities

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Why are we here?

- Pre- 2000
  - Further Education Funding Council
  - Competition
  - Accountable to the market
- The Learning and Skills Act
  - LSC, Planning, PSA, OFSTED,
  - Accountable to the Centre

Devolving Power

- Funding Changes (MoG)
  - Local Authority ‘Commissioning’
- Return of the FEFC
  - Funding not planning
- What have we learnt?
  - Central Planning and Markets
  - Recognising Complexity
  - The importance of ‘place’

Collaboration – a big agenda

- Who plans?
  - Areas, Sectors, Providers
- RCLA
- Curriculum Change
  - FLT, Functional Skills etc..
- Diploma Entitlement

Collaboration – a big ask

- Divided by a common history
- Commercial Pressures
  - Wasteful Collaboration
  - Accountability and delivery
  - Conflicting targets
- The role of management

Reasons and Obligations

- Independent Corporations
  - Publicly Funded
  - Public Sector Values
  - Public Value
- Engagement and Success
- Not all partnerships are good
  - Characteristics of success

Effective Partnerships

- Identify a project leader.
- Agree an action plan, with early deadlines.
- Set firm dates for completing each stage – establish a 'no excuses' culture
- Identify a communications manager and point of contact in each Line of Learning
- Establish high-level employer engagement
- Identify 'champions'

Success by design

- Involve Higher Education
- Build quality assurance into the development process
- Build information, advice and guidance (IAG) into the planning process.
- Start planning and understanding the impact of a ‘demand-led’ service
- “Learn from the past- don’t live in it”

For more information about LSN

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