

# A College for the Future in the Upper Lea Valley

Summary of a Consultation Document for a Merger between Enfield College and the College of North East London



**Enfield College**  
73 Hertford Road  
Enfield  
EN3 5HA  
Tel: 020 8443 3434  
Fax: 020 8804 7028  
[www.enfield.ac.uk](http://www.enfield.ac.uk)

**The College of North East London**  
High Road  
Tottenham, London  
N15 4RU  
Tel: 020 8802 3111  
Fax: 020 8442 3091  
[www.conel.ac.uk](http://www.conel.ac.uk)

Enfield  
College

**conel**  
The College of North East London

# Foreword

from Steve Wright, Chairman of Governors,  
Enfield College and Keith Brown, Chairman of  
Governors, College of North East London (CONEL)

Imagine a vibrant college for the future in the Upper Lea Valley. Imagine a college which meets the needs of learners, employers and the community through its innovative and comprehensive mix of education and training, with clear pathways and progression routes, delivered through high quality teaching and learning in first-rate learning environments.

This is our view of the potential of a merged college bringing together the strengths and potential for development of Enfield College and CONEL and adding value through increased choice and opportunities for learners, improved services and upgraded facilities.

Enfield College and CONEL recognise each other as the best partner and a merged college, operational from August 2009, as the best option for learners, employers and the local community. We hope you support our vision and welcome your views.



Steve Wright



Keith Brown

# Introduction

This booklet summarises the contents of the Consultation Document which is being published by the Learning and Skills Council (LSC).

The document sets out the background and rationale for a proposal from the College of North East London (CONEL) and Enfield College that they should merge to form a single college which would be called The College of Haringey, Enfield and North East London.

The full Consultation Document can be downloaded from

**[www.lsc.gov.uk/regions/london/news/reorganisationproposals](http://www.lsc.gov.uk/regions/london/news/reorganisationproposals)**

Any merger proposal will require the formal approval of the LSC before it can be sent to the Secretary of State for Innovation, Universities and Skills for a decision.

The LSC London Regional Council will consider the results of this consultation, due diligence studies, and the full merger proposal from the colleges at a meeting of the Regional Council in May 2009. The criteria against which it will judge the proposal are set out in the full consultation document. The LSC will then decide whether to forward a merger proposal to the Secretary of State for determination.

There is a statutory requirement that proposals are subject to a consultation period of at least one month. A list of organisations being consulted is included in the full Consultation Document.

Your comments on the merger proposal and any information contained in the document are welcomed.

The final date for receipt of comments is 19 January 2009.



# Summary

Enfield College and CONEL believe that a merger to form a single college will provide more choice and bring benefits to learners, to business, to the community, and to the future prosperity of the local area.

## Better for learners

The merged college will focus on delivering quality education and training for the Upper Lea Valley – the area of eastern Enfield and Haringey between the M25 and Stamford Hill. Opportunities and outcomes for learners of all ages from 14 will be enhanced and participation rates increased through:

- A broad curriculum, with a strong emphasis on vocational, life and employment skills, which meets the needs of learners and employers and complements that offered by other providers in the area
- The development of new provision through collaboration and innovative partnership initiatives with local schools and other education and training initiatives
- A strategy to improve learner performance and achieve excellent success rates
- The exploitation of technology to offer more interactive and flexible learning opportunities
- The flexibility to expand services in response to need, such as employability, services to employers, 14-19 provision with full progression routes, provision for 16-18 year olds not in education, employment or training (NEETs) and higher education (HE)
- Improvements to buildings and facilities at both the existing college sites and the development of new facilities at Ponders End

It is the Governors' intention that with its high reputation, upgraded facilities and exciting vocational offer, the merged college will enable learners in the area to make smooth progress to further learning, employment or HE.

## Better for business

The merged college will develop a close relationship with local businesses, providing a range of services, including bespoke education and training provision. CONEL leads the North London Train to Gain Consortium and has already received certification under the new Training Quality Standard. The merged college will build on these successes and expand services, particularly into eastern Enfield. Local employers will be able to look forward to working with the college to develop the local workforce and to recruiting suitably qualified new employees who are used to striving for excellence.

## Better for the community

The strengthened provision and expanded new services offered by the merged college will better meet the needs of the community in the Upper Lea Valley. The whole community will be able to benefit from the current strengths and successes of both Enfield College and CONEL. One such area of success is the preparation of learners for life and work, including courses in literacy and numeracy, which will be the merged college's largest curriculum area, reflecting the needs of the local community in the more deprived eastern sides of Enfield and Haringey. Local peoples' abilities and ambitions will be nurtured and more people from the local community will be able to progress in employment and learning. The merged college will offer existing partners in community organisations, local authorities and other educational providers the opportunity to develop their relationships with increased benefit for the whole community.

## Better for choice

Learners and employers in the area already have a wide choice of local providers, varying in size and specialism, including other further education (FE) colleges, schools and private training organisations. The merged college will enhance choice for learners and employers by providing new vocational opportunities, additional progression routes up to HE level and an increased capacity to respond to employers' needs.

## Better for the future

The financial strength of the merged college will allow it to invest in improvements to its estate, continue the development of the joint Enfield College and CONEL property strategy, and seek LSC and lending support for new proposals. Opportunities to develop HE in the Upper Lea Valley, establish diverse income streams and secure further investment in high quality provision will be enhanced. With the capacity to respond to change, the college will be well placed to meet the future challenges of its national, regional and local context. It will be able to:

- react more flexibly and innovatively to changes in educational policy nationally, to the changing role of FE colleges and changing funding priorities
- respond to changes in the social and economic conditions in the Upper Lea Valley, the growth in population and the decline in traditional employment from manufacturing
- equip local people with skills to compete successfully for jobs and work with local employers on staff training

A successful College of Haringey, Enfield and North East London situated in the Upper Lea Valley will have a positive impact on the strategic and economic development of the area and help to realise the legacy of the 2012 Olympics.

