

Welcome to this e-newsletter aimed at practitioners interested in what's next in System Leadership, sharing regular updates from our projects and news from other practitioners. Do get in touch if you'd like to share details of your own projects that are making a difference, and let us know what you'd like to see in future editions.

To sign up to join our community of interest, to get in touch or to contribute [click here](#).

New thinking



What we're learning about Next Practice in System Leadership

Our field trial site practitioners have been working with Coach in a Box - a coaching system that aims to support their leadership skills. This engagement has produced some fascinating insights into the challenges and opportunities of System Leadership. Read more [here](#).

Meet the Field Trial Sites



Knowsley's Learning Centres have been in the news recently - read the article from The Independent [here](#) and see Knowsley on the BBC Website [here](#).

You can meet Damian Allen, Director of Children's Services in Knowsley, [here](#).

Other practitioners working in System Leadership



The Weston Education Partnership in North Somerset has developed a Student Parliament, which enables students to participate in federation leadership and working group meetings, and is a powerful force for change. You can read more about the Parliament [here](#), and visit the Partnership's website [here](#).



We've been in touch with Alison Elliott, Chair of the Association of Forest Principals and Heads in the Forest of Dean. She is sharing with and learning from our field trial sites, on the subject of Quality Assurance. You can meet Alison [here](#).

Each issue, we share case studies from other practitioners working on System Leadership projects. If you have a project that you would like us to feature, please [e-mail](#) us.

System Leadership online

There is a new activity in The Innovation Unit Online Community in talk2learn - where knowledge is shared across the whole of Next Practice in System Leadership. Do take a look at the discussions, and feel free to make contributions. You'll need to be a member of talk2learn - you can join [here](#).



"I wish I'd known that when I started!"

This discussion aims to collect the key information that you believe would be essential to anyone embarking on a successful programme of radical change in System Leadership.

Events



Next Practice in System Leadership Conference, 17th September

We're delighted to have had so much interest in our event, which is now fully subscribed. We look forward to meeting many of you then, and will share learning from the event through our website and future e-newsletters.



NCSL National Leadership Conference

Seizing Success 2007 was the NCSL's biggest leadership conference yet, with more than 1,200 delegates attending. Thought-provoking, stimulating and inspirational, the conference aimed to make a tangible difference to leadership practice and thinking in schools today.

You can find highlights and news from the conference on the NCSL website, including NCSL Chief Executive Steve Munby's keynote [speech](#) and [presentations](#) from two of our field trial sites - Knowsley and Yewlands.

New publications and Tools



'How To' Toolkit

One of the aims of the project is to create a Toolkit that practitioners can use to support their own work in System Leadership, and we'd love to get some input from you to help us to shape it. What are the questions that you would most like to have answered? What do you most wish someone had advised you before you got started on your own work? What types of resource would most interest you?

Please do [write](#) to Grace Comely with your thoughts.



Leadership and Governance Landing Pad

The Next Practice in System Leadership project has developed a new tool to prompt constructive dialogue about leadership and governance that operates across local systems. This tool includes a provocative think piece that you can download [here](#). We'll be sharing more information about the Landing Pad tool in future editions of this e-newsletter.



System Leadership - lessons from the literature

This paper, produced by NCSL, argues that system leadership has a consistent set of principles that can and should be applied within and between institutions. You can download a copy [here](#).



A D&R System for Education

You might also be interested to read the new Innovation Unit [publication](#), written by Tom Bentley and Sarah Gillinson, which calls for more education research in general and for greater teacher involvement through Development and Research.

Other resources and research that we have found helpful can be found on The Innovation Unit and NCSL websites. If you know of any useful research or other resources that we can share with the community, please [e-mail](#) us.