

## Regional Meeting Update – Midlands

### Regional Chair – Stuart Ruddy

Venue	Virtual Meeting (MS Teams)
Date	Thursday 10th December 2020 at 2:00 pm
Date of last meeting	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> November 2020 @ 2pm
Meeting objective	Informal update across the region
TUCO Contacts	Hannah Myton-Wright (Category Manager) <a href="mailto:hannah.myton@tuco.ac.uk">hannah.myton@tuco.ac.uk</a> Judith Hoyle (Executive Assistant) <a href="mailto:Judith.hoyle@tuco.ac.uk">Judith.hoyle@tuco.ac.uk</a> Sarah McLoughlin (Head of Academy) <a href="mailto:sarah.mcloughlin@tuco.ac.uk">sarah.mcloughlin@tuco.ac.uk</a>

1. TUCO Update SR
  - Virtual Conference 18<sup>th</sup> November – Feedback
2. TUCO Framework Updates HMW
3. Academy update/reminders SM
4. TUCO Board / General Update GB/KG/GK/DN
5. Member Updates – Round the Table
6. Results of Doodle poll on presentations for future meetings HMW
7. AOB
8. Next Meeting Date

At the end of the meeting there will be a Christmas Cocktail Demo courtesy of LWC and a Christmas Quiz with our Quizmaster Extraordinaire, Sarah McLoughlin



## TUCO Midlands Region Virtual Meeting

### Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2020 at 2:00 pm via MS Teams

## MINUTES

<b>Attendees:</b>	Stuart Ruty [Chair]	Wolverhampton
	Rob Bean	Leicester
	Dan Brazill	Loughborough
	Gavin Brown	Leicester
	Mark Gane	Leicester
	Kate Glynn	Aston
	Judith Hoyle	TUCO Secretary
	Sarah McLoughlin	TUCO Academy
	Hannah Myton-Wright	TUCO Category Manager
	Philip Olivant	Staffordshire
	Amanda Pettingill	Nottingham
	Richard Plummer	Leicester College
	Clive Singleton	Warwick
	Audrey Taylor	Wolverhampton
	Matthew Thorpe	Harper Adams
	Debbie Tyler	Loughborough
	Dawn Vincent	Stoke-on-Trent
<b>Apologies:</b>	Louise Chatfield	Staffordshire
	Rebecca Devaney	Extracare Trust
	Mike Guest	Halesowen
	Ryan Hanson	RAU
	Ivan Hopkins	Nottingham Trent
	Richard Thurman	Aston
	Anthony Midgley	Leicester

#### 1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies as listed above.

#### 2. Minutes of the Last Meeting

These were taken as agreed.

#### 3. TUCO Update

At TUCO Head Office the staff are now on partial furlough with some of the Team working 50% of the time and others working 3 out of 5 days. The office will close on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December after which all staff will be on full furlough until Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January. Hannah was congratulated on passing her Final CIPS exams.

## 4. TUCO Framework Updates

The Brexit Impact Tool has now gone live and is on the website.

Currently up for tender is the new IFDC framework on which it is hoped to include a lot for High Street Coffee Shops. Research is also being done on a brand new EPOS tender which will have several lots on it. It is hoped that both these will start early in 2021. Extensions have been made to Catering Light and Heavy and Recruitment frameworks. Contract Review meetings have been held, albeit virtually, on both DipChem and Sandwiches. In February reviews for Alcohol and Fresh Fish will take place. Volunteers are wanted on several of our Tender Working Parties – Meat and Poultry; Fresh Fish and Alcohol. Anybody interested in assisting please let Hannah know: [hannah.myton@tuco.ac.uk](mailto:hannah.myton@tuco.ac.uk) Street Eats and Tiffin are not a single entity yet but when they become one Tiffin Products will be phased out.

Hannah ran through the list of suppliers suggested for presentations at future meetings, including:

- Two Services (Kitchen Equipment Maintenance, Deep Cleaning and Ventilation Services)
- Delice de France – new innovation on products and different business model

Starbucks – for those members who have current contracts with them, it will be business as usual and no cause for concern. Hannah is looking at a compliant route to market for them.

## 5. Academy Update

### *Virtual Conference Feedback*

We had received praise for the standard of the speakers and also for the Black Tie event in the evening and the cook-off. On the negative side, it was felt that the cook-off was too rushed and there was not enough time between the speakers. Members agreed that they are looking forward to face to face contact again in the future. In the main, suppliers had been positive about the Exhibition which had generated promising leads for some of them. Britvic had held a treasure hunt which had received excellent feedback so theirs was the most popular stand. Gavin wished to relay his thanks to Sarah for all her hard work in organizing this and for the App, which had proved really useful.

On the training side, Level III and IV Food Safety courses will be held in the first quarter of 2021 and will be free of charge. Managing Food Safety currently has 12 delegates booked on it at a cost of £99. Food Safety Refresher Courses will be free of charge to Full members and £25 to Associate members. There will be a First Aiders for Mental Health course held at £200. In February we will be running a Social Media course (2 spaces left), Leadership Skills (spaces available) and Change Management (spaces available).

## 6. Board Update

The Board are due to hold their next meeting on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December. LACA Buying Group have now joined TUCO with 12 new frameworks and one larger member in particular will bring in circa £1 million to the frameworks. TUCO's financial position is stronger than expected.

## 7. Member Updates

### *Staffordshire*

Very little to report.

### *Leicester College*

Income is forecast to be around 75% down on last year with footfall down 65%. Richard has all his staff still working. Two new fast food outlets are opening opposite the campus – one of which is a McDonald's, which will prove a challenge.

### *University of Leicester*

Rob showed a presentation of their new Food Court at Leicester. This is an extension of the Percy Gee Building (which was the old Students' Union Building) and includes an Astrovan Concept in the old Queens Hall, Craft Coffee House, Afro-Caribbean food trend in the SOUL Outlet, Queens Pizza and Pasta named after the Hall and also Queens in New York and a Wholesome Concept, which is all plant-based. The building has been increased from two storeys to four and are using Andy Daniels as their Food Consultant. The university is currently on the wind-down to Christmas so very few outlets are open. Rob explained that they are also taking advantage of the furlough scheme. Where they would have had competing food outlets they are now all under one roof, which has reduced their operating costs.

### *Stoke College*

The college will close on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December and re-open on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January.

### *Warwick*

Building work has carried on on campus. The Arts Centre and new Faculty of Arts are dominating the campus. Mass testing is still going on. The furlough scheme has been used extensively but the majority of staff are working on other assignments. They have a new venue called 'Base Camp' with a number of food concessions. They are offering free Christmas meals for all students staying on campus.

### *Harper Adams*

The Veterinary School at Keele is being handed over on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December. There will just be vending options in there to start off with. Most students have now gone home for the holidays. There will be a skeleton staff of 5 in the department during the following week.

### *Aston*

50% of their staff are being redeployed on a rotational basis. Sales are a long way down.

### *Nottingham*

There has been some positives and retail sales are current around 30%. They have been carrying out asymptomatic testing with a natural flow after Christmas. King's Meadow Campus is becoming a vaccination centre for five months which will take up most of their Administration building and will be open to Nottingham residents. Amanda has just completed 12 months in her new role and since she started has been working on a new Till system. This will now be going live on 14<sup>th</sup> December with a company called 'Kappture' based in Derby. This is totally integrated with Agresso as well as their own SU systems. They have placed an order for two Tuk-Tuks with one on site already. They have also ordered an Airstream which is due for delivery first week of January. They have set up mini shops in all their Halls of Residence. One of their older halls will be undergoing a refurbishment of 200 bedrooms. They are doing a 10-year programme of upgrading to accommodation. They have a Christmas programme of 160 students on a catered package.

Their East Midlands Conference Centre will become a Student Executive Lounge with international banquets for both Christmas and New Year's Day. They are taking advantage of the furlough scheme at the moment with people returning throughout January and February.

#### *Wolverhampton*

No furlough in place. Christmas meals will be provided on Christmas Day only however goodie bags are available for those students not staying.

#### *Loughborough*

The number of students isolating has reduced from 1,500 to 18 however this may increase in January when international students return. They have been looking at the flexible furlough scheme for staff. Takings are down in retail by around 85% however dining halls have sustained the levels of last year. There has been no business in delivered catering but they are trying to extend this offer to the students.

On the procurement side, they are doing the Frozen Grocery tender at the moment and will look to do the Coffee tender in 2021. They plan to have 5 days when they offer food and drink for free – Christmas Eve/Christmas Day/Boxing Day/New Year's Eve/New Year's Day.

## **8. Any Other Business**

Clive announced that Warwick will be a base camp for the 2022 Commonwealth Games and that they will be looking for staff to come and work on this. Amanda mentioned that they have facilities which have been used for conferencing. Members tend to be holding on to deposits which they have taken for events up to summer 2022.

## **9. Presentation by LWC**

There was a very informative presentation on wine pairing by Sheryl Foster following by a cocktail making demonstration. The meeting was rounded off with a Christmas Quiz hosted by Sarah.

## **10. Date of Next Meeting**

First meeting of 2021 to be held around mid-February – exact date to be confirmed.