

Case Study 1



NW HE Cross Institutional

Action Learning

Personal Profile

Lecturer, University of Central Lancashire

In post for two years, in practice for 25+ years. Relatively new to academia.

Problem / Challenge

What was the problem, issue or concern?

The problem related to how I had set up the assessment framework for a module, which created a lot of marking work for staff. Feedback to students was excellent, but staff were under great time pressure from the workload. I needed to resolve the situation short term and also improve the module design for next year.

Solution

How did you/and the programme solve the problem?

The group members helped me explore different options for the short and longer term management of the issue. I was then able to discuss some of the ideas with a senior member of staff who helped adapt the ideas within our organisational constraints. The ideas involved utilising members of administrative

staff to deal with some of the feedback processes and data collection. I also facilitated discussion with the module delivery team on how the process could be improved for the next year.

Results

What was the outcome? Who benefited? What were the changes and benefits using qualitative and quantitative data?

We survived the 15-16 year and students received the feedback and results required. I have used this

opportunity to put in minor changes to the module and have amended the number of assessments for 16-17. This should result in reduced workload for students and staff, without compromising achieving the learning outcomes.

The action learning set gave me protected time to think about a problem that was causing a lot of day to day stress. The non-judgmental presence of the group members helped me explore ideas and come up with a variety of options that I was able to discuss with others in my organisation.