

Open Report on behalf of Andy Gutherson, Executive Director – Place

Report to:	Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee
Date:	14 January 2020
Subject:	Adult Skills & Family Learning Programme Update

Summary:

In May 2019 the Environment & Economy Scrutiny Committee supported a recommendation for the Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services to approve the continued commissioning of an Adult Skills and Family Learning programme and the establishment of an Open Framework for learning providers. This paper provides a summary of the subsequent Adult Skills and Family Learning programme commissioned, and an overview of the findings of the Ofsted Inspection that took place in June 2019.

Actions Required:

The members of the Environment and Economic Scrutiny Committee are invited to:

1. Consider and comment on the Adult Skills & Family Learning programme in place for 2019/20.
2. Highlight any additional areas for consideration to meet the needs of businesses and constituents at a District Council level to inform the 2020/21 Adult Skills & Family Learning programme planning.
3. Endorse the findings of the June 2019 Ofsted Inspection on the Adult Skills & Family Learning programme and continued development of the service.

1. Background

The Adult Skills & Family Learning programme is funded by the Adult Education Budget grant provided by the Education & Skills Funding Agency. This funding enables flexible tailored programmes of learning to be made available, which may or may not require a qualification, to help hard to reach learners engage in learning, build confidence and enhance their well-being. Meeting the government's adult skills priorities the funding's principal purpose is to engage adults and provide the skills and learning they need to equip them for work, an apprenticeship or further learning.

LCC's Adult Skills & Family Learning Service raises achievements and aspirations by providing high quality learning opportunities in a safe environment that enables learners to progress according to their ability, needs and interests. Through skilful partnership working with other Adult Education providers the provision is designed to add value, and provide inbuilt progression routes to other provision. This unique provision fills the gaps and meets the needs of Lincolnshire communities that aren't able to be met by other funded provision. This important programme increases the skill levels of residents of Lincolnshire and gives them new career opportunities whilst helping local businesses to recruit the talented employees they need to develop.

Adult Skills & Family Learning programme 2019/20

A breakdown of the 2019/20 programme is outlined on the Dashboard provided at Appendix A. This breakdown describes:

- a) the number of planned enrolments by District Council area
- b) the number of planned qualifications by District Council area
- c) the amount of funding invested in Adult Skills provision by District Council area
- d) the number of planned enrolments against provision types by District Council area
- e) planned numbers of learners with local qualifications, learners living in areas of deprivation, planned numbers of unemployed male learners engaging in the programme
- f) planned enrolments linked to LEP priority areas
- g) planned qualifications by District Council area
- h) the value of the 2019/20 at training provider level

Ofsted Inspection June 2019

The Adult Skills & Family Learning Service, alongside Young Peoples Learning Provision and the Council's internal Apprenticeship programme, was inspected by Ofsted in June 2019. The service was delighted to retain its 'Good' grade for its overall provision, as well as 'Good' for the effectiveness of leadership and management, quality of teaching and learning, outcomes for learners, 16 to 19 study programmes, adult learning programmes and apprenticeships. Personal development, behaviour and welfare were rated as 'Outstanding' reflecting the service's effective strategies to promote high standards.

We were pleased that Ofsted recognised the very good partnership working taking place with our high-quality subcontractors to plan the adult curriculum resulting in increasing numbers of residents, including those with few or no formal qualifications, participate in education and develop skills and qualifications that improve their life chances.

The service has put together a post-inspection action plan to address areas for development identified by Ofsted. In particular, the service will focus on improving the collection of progression data to measure the impact of the programme as well

as improve joint working with the other areas of the council that are included in the Inspection to develop joint working and sharing of good practice.

2. Conclusion

Members of the Committee are invited to review and comment on the Adult Skills & Family Learning programme and highlight any additional areas for consideration to meet the needs of businesses and constituents at a District Council level to inform future curriculum planning.

3. Consultation

a) Have Risks and Impact Analysis been carried out?

No

b) Risks and Impact Analysis

N/A

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	ASFL Planned Programme Dashboard 19_20

5. Background Papers

This report was written by Thea Croxall, who can be contacted on 01522 550381 or Thea.croxall@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

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