

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

**BUSINESS, INNOVATION, EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS
CABINET MEMBER**

ADULT COMMUNITY LEARNING OFSTED INSPECTION OUTCOME

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Cabinet Member of the outcome of the Ofsted inspection of Adult Community Learning (ACL) undertaken between 14-17 June 2016.
- 1.2 A full copy of the report is available in Group offices.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 All providers funded by the Skills Funding Agency are subject to Further Education and Skills Inspection. The inspections are carried out using the Common Inspection Framework. This is in line with the Education and Inspections Act 2006.
- 2.2 The overall aim of inspection is to evaluate how efficiently and effectively the education and training provision meets learners' needs. Inspectors gather evidence from observations, success data, a range of interviews and written evidence.
- 2.3 The inspection report gives an overall judgement based on:
 - **Effectiveness of leadership and management**
 - **Quality of teaching, learning and assessment**
 - **Personal development, behaviour and welfare**
 - **Outcomes for learners**
 - **Adult learning programmes**
- 2.4 Inspectors provide specific guidance about what the provider needs to do to improve further.
- 2.5 Ofsted previously inspected the service in 2013. The service was graded as 'Good' and although the grade has stayed the same the Common Inspection Framework has changed significantly. The service has made good progress since that time.
- 2.6 The outcome of the recent inspection by Ofsted is that the service has retained an overall rating of '**GOOD**'. Our ambition for the future remains to be rated as 'Outstanding'.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

3.1 The Cabinet Member is asked to continue supporting efforts to improve our Adult Community Learning service in support of the ambition to achieve an 'Outstanding' rating at the next Ofsted inspection. To these ends, the Cabinet Member may wish to write to ACL staff and comment on the inspection report.

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

4.1 A summary of the main inspection grades is set out below.

Overall effectiveness

GOOD

Aspect	Grade
Effectiveness of leadership and management	Good - 2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment	Good - 2
Personal behaviour, development and welfare	Good - 2
Outcomes for learners	Good - 2
Area of Learning	
Adult learning programmes	Good - 2

4.2 The following is a summary of some of the key findings from the published inspection report.

- Leaders and managers have successfully set a clear vision and strategy, well linked to local priorities.
- By working effectively with partners, managers ensure that the service provides a relevant curriculum which meets learners' and employers' needs and develops good employability skills.
- Learners' make good progress and the proportion of learners' who meet their intended qualifications is high.
- A very high proportion of ESOL learners' succeed in their studies and make very positive contributions to their local communities.
- A high proportion of learners' progress from entry level to level 1 qualifications and beyond. Many learners' on non-accredited programmes continue onto courses that provide them with qualifications.
- Staff provide very effective and tailored support which meets learners' individual needs.
- Tutors use a range of well-planned activities that motivate learners' well and help them develop new skills.
- Tutors create an inclusive atmosphere that celebrates diversity and supports equality of opportunity.

4.3 The inspection report highlights the following areas for further improvement. Putting in place plans to take forward these improvements will help to realise the ambition to be outstanding in the future.

- Improve the quality of learning targets set by the tutors so they are personalised to meet learners' individual needs and ensure that the most able learners are given additional targets that challenge them further.

- Improve the low attendance on a minority of courses; ensure that managers promote the importance to learners' good attendance for learning and work.
- Ensure that all tutors enable learners', especially on ESOL programmes, to develop and apply their English and mathematical skills and to achieve their functional skills in these subjects.
- Review and strengthen the procedures for collecting and collating information on the destinations of learners, in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the current curriculum and plan further improvements.

5. **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCIAL, STAFFING, PROPERTY, IT)**

5.1 There are no resource implications for consideration.

6. **OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)**

6.1 N/A

7. **OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED**

7.1 Inspectors interviewed learners' during classroom observations and carried out a number of telephone interviews. An online evaluation was completed during the inspection. The overall Ofsted assessment takes these views into account.

8. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

8.1 That the Cabinet Member continues to support improvements in Adult Community Learning aimed at achieving the ambition for the service to secure an 'Outstanding' rating at the next Ofsted inspection.

8.2 The Cabinet Member may wish to write to staff and comment on the Inspection report.

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Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

- The Adult Community Learning inspection report published 22 July 2016.