

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

**ADULT SERVICES
CABINET MEMBER**

**THE OUTCOME OF AN OFSTED INSPECTION OF NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE
EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT SERVICE FEBRUARY 2009**

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To report the outcome of the Ofsted inspection of the North Lincolnshire Employment Support Service (NoLESS) which was carried out from 9 to 12 February 2009.
- 1.2 The inspection found the service to be satisfactory with a good standard of achievement in helping disabled people into employment.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 North Lincolnshire Council have a 'Workstep Programme' contract funded by the Department for Works and Pensions for 54 places, this is administered through the NLC Employment Support Service known as NoLESS. The NoLESS Service is based within Adult Social Services.
- 2.2 The key priority of NoLESS is to "increase the number of people with disabilities that the council supports into employment" as part of the Adult Social Services Service Plan.
- 2.3 NoLESS is currently part of Every Adult Matters, in the Well Being and Health arm of Adult Social Services. The team comprises of a Manager, three Development Officers and an Operational Support Clerk post.
- 2.4 The service receives an average of 60 referrals a year and support is provided to individuals with a range of disabilities (physical disability; sensory [sight/hearing]; long-term conditions; learning disabilities; mental health and neurological).
- 2.5 A range of support is provided to individuals and employers across North Lincolnshire to enable work experience, training, mentoring, coaching placements and individual development to be achieved.
- 2.6 NoLESS was inspected by Ofsted between 9 and 12 February 2009. The inspection was carried out by two Inspectors and they in turn were overseen for part of the inspection by a Senior Inspector. The Key Lines of Enquiry were:
 - Effectiveness of Provision
 - Capacity to Improve

- Achievements and Standards
- Quality of Provision
- Leadership and management
- Equality of Opportunity
- Preparation for Life and Work

2.7 The outcome of the Ofsted inspection is that NoLESS has been graded as a 3 (satisfactory) service in line with the Self-assessment.

2.8 In the area of Achievements and Standards, NoLESS received a grading of 2 (Good) because it was recognised that the progression rate into unsupported employment for those for whom it is appropriate is 40%, and all who have progressed into unsupported employment have maintained this after six months.

2.9 A Development Action Plan is currently being produced to tackle areas for improvement identified within the inspection.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

3.1 Report for information only.

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

4.1 Report for information only.

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

5.1 There are no implications.

6. OTHER IMPLICATIONS (STATUTORY, ENVIRONMENTAL, DIVERSITY, SECTION 17 - CRIME AND DISORDER, RISK AND OTHER)

6.1 There are no implications.

7. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION

7.1 Trades Unions have been consulted and have raised no concerns with this report.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 That the Cabinet Member notes the positive outcome of the Ofsted Inspection of NoLESS

SERVICE DIRECTOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE

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Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:
OfSTED North Lincolnshire Council Protect Inspection 12 February 2009