

**ADULT LEARNING AND SKILLS REVIEW PROPOSAL**

**To:** Economy and Environment Committee

**Meeting Date:** 14<sup>th</sup> July 2015

**From:** Executive Director, Economy, Transport and Environment

**Electoral division(s):** All

**Forward Plan ref:** Not applicable      **Key decision:** No

**Purpose:** Committee agreed to setting up a working group to review the work of Adult Learning and Skills and, to consider how to improve equity and the county-wide offer. This report suggests terms of reference and possible membership of the review group.

**Recommendation:** Committee is asked to

- a) Endorse the review
- b) Approve the terms of reference
- c) Agree membership of the review group

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## **1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 The Adult Learning and Skills self-assessment report summarises achievement of the Service against the Ofsted Common Inspection Framework. This Committee reviewed the self-assessment report at its meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> March and agreed to undertake a follow up review of the Service.

## **2. MAIN ISSUES**

- 2.1 The review's aims as part of the "closing the gap resolution" are to review how the service meets the needs of the learners who are furthest from the learning
- 2.2 The terms of reference for the review developed with Cllr Schumann are to include:
- An assessment of the participation of learners in the 12 most deprived wards. This will also include the profile of learners in those wards. Profile to include age, ethnicity and employment status.
  - To give an account of the Learning and Skills activity taking place in the most deprived wards. To look at types of course and the success rates of the programmes.
  - To look at learner feedback and learner outcomes where available.
  - To look at actions being implemented to improve participation and review progress in achieving those actions.
- 2.3 The review will need to be completed by November 2015 so that the results can be included in the 2014-15 Self-Assessment Report
- 2.3 It is proposed that the review group include 2 members and a lead officer. Cllr Schumann has to date led on this work and so in addition to him, it has been suggested by the Economy and Environment Spokespeople that the Member of the Committee representing Wisbech (Cllr Lay) be invited to join the review group and having been contacted Councillor Lay would be happy to serve on this review group. Committee endorsement for this is sought.

## **3. ALIGNMENT WITH CORPORATE PRIORITIES**

### **3.1 Developing the local economy for the benefit of all**

Providing increased skills and training to individuals will increase their ability to find work and reduce dependency on Council and other public services which in turn will benefit the local and national economy.

### **3.2 Helping people live healthy and independent lives**

Personal health and independence generally improves through greater job prospects and greater self-esteem, which can be developed through increasing skills levels and opportunities available.

### **3.3 Supporting and protecting vulnerable people**

Increasing skills levels improves life chances. The Adult Learning and Skills service focuses its efforts on those most in need of additional skills and thus

those most at risk of exclusion and not being able to benefit from the opportunities available in the local area.

#### **4. SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS**

##### **4.1 Resource Implications**

There are no significant implications within this category.

##### **4.2 Statutory, Risk and Legal Implications**

There are no significant implications within this category.

##### **4.3 Equality and Diversity Implications**

Ensuring a high quality Adult Learning and Skills service will improve life chances for learners and will allow them to participate in society and the economy more effectively..

##### **4.4 Engagement and Consultation Implications**

There are no significant implications within this category.

##### **4.5 Localism and Local Member Involvement**

There are no significant implications within this category.

##### **4.6 Public Health Implications**

There are no significant implications within this category.

<b>Source Documents</b>	<b>Location</b>
Adult Learning & Skills Self-Assessment Report 2013-2014.	Room 309, Shire Hall, Cambridge CB3 0AP

