

8 March 2018**Agenda Item: 6****REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, PLACE AND COMMUNITIES****INSPIRE LEARNING ANNUAL PLAN AND FEES POLICY 2018/19 & CULTURAL
EVENTS SPRING/SUMMER 2018****Purpose of the Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to:
 - report on performance and outcomes during the 2016/17 academic year
 - seek approval for the service's plan for the 2018/19 academic year
 - seek approval for plans for use of Education Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) funding in the 2018/19 academic year
 - seek approval for the Fees Policy for the 2018/19 academic year
 - seek approval for the service's Supply Chain Policy
 - seek endorsement of this year's spring and summer events at NCC's Country Parks, and Inspire's various culture, learning and arts events found at **Appendix 3**.

Information**Performance and Outcomes 2016/17**

2. During the 2016/17 academic year, the following key outcomes were achieved:
 - recruited 307 16/19-year-old students against a funding target of 284 learners (the additional 23 learners will be 'consolidated' by the ESFA during the 2018/19 academic year)
 - Achieved a 76% positive progression rate for 16 to 18-year-old learners
 - recruited 8,674 ESFA funded Community and Family Learning learners against a target of 8,000 (6,107 learners were first-time learners with Inspire Learning)
 - delivered 68.3% of provision to learners from the 250 most deprived 'Super Output Areas' across Nottinghamshire against a 68% target
 - Successfully implemented Nottinghamshire County Council procurement compliant subcontracting processes.

OfSTED Inspection October 2017

3. Inspire Learning was inspected in October 2017 and achieved a Grade 2 (Good) for Overall effectiveness.

Approval for strategic aim and objectives for 2018/19

4. The strategic aims and objectives for the 2018/19 academic year are as follows:

Aim

To ensure that local people have access to an appropriate range of flexible learning opportunities that contribute to personal, social, educational and economic development.

Objectives

- Deliver a programme of high quality learning which clearly contributes to the priorities of the County Council: to support safe and thriving communities; support economic growth and employment; provide care and promote health; and invest in our future
- Focus ESFA public funding on people who are disadvantaged and least likely to participate in learning, including Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) young people, people on low incomes, those with low skills and furthest away from the labour market
- Continue to deliver a universal community learning and skills offer with access for all and set a fees policy to ensure fees are paid where learners can do so
- Provide Study Programmes for 300+ young people (aged between 16 and 19 years) from centres across the County
- Providing a range of programmes under the themes of: Employability; Health and Wellbeing; Family Learning and Learning for Learners with Learning Difficulties and/or Disabilities (LLDD)
- Deliver learning to fee paying adults including courses designed to appeal to broader cross-section of learners at a higher rate, using their fee income to support the Service's offer
- Inspire Learning delivered 135,838 guided learning hours from 8,674 learners in the 2016/17 academic year. It is planned to adjust the learner numbers to 6,000 in the 2018/19 academic year while maintaining the same number of guided learning hours. These planned changes will enable the Service to widen, deepen and improve the opportunities offered and will deliver a more flexible path-way to positive progression to sustained employment by supporting longer courses which deliver greater value for money

The Service's Fees Policy for the 2018/19 academic year

5. A transparent fees policy is required to ensure that adults within Nottinghamshire are treated fairly by each delivery partner within the Service Provider Network. It is proposed that the **standard** hourly tuition fee for Community Learning programmes for adults not qualified for fee remission should be increased from £3.00 to £4.00. The proposed Fees Policy for 2018/19 is attached as **Appendix 1**.
6. In the context of expanding the Service's learning Community and Family learning offer beyond the 250 super-output areas and following a comparative review of providers in other Counties who target areas of deprivation, it is proposed to deliver 50% of provision from the super-output areas in 2018/19, which will mean that Nottinghamshire remains amongst the upper quartile of providers delivering from the most deprived areas of the County.

Seek approval for the Service's supply chain policy

7. The Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) requires that all organisations that use subcontractors to deliver all or a proportion of their contract must publish a copy of their supply chain policy on their public website. This must clearly outline the level of ESFA funding that is retained by the service to cover the support delivered to subcontractors, and the level of funding that is distributed to the subcontractors to pay for their delivery. The proposed supply chain policy is attached as **Appendix 2**.

Other Options Considered

8. No other options have been considered.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

9. The recommendations are made to ensure effective spend of the ESFA grant against relevant government and Nottinghamshire County Council priorities and to set a fair fees policy.

Statutory and Policy Implications

10. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public-sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

11. The anticipated 2018/19 Community Learning funding of £2.68 million and the Study Programme of £1.3 million will be fully utilised delivering the services set out in this report.

Human Resources Implications

12. None.

Safeguarding of Children and Adults at Risk Implications

13. The service fully supports Fundamental British Values, the Prevent agenda and all forms of safeguarding for all its learners and staff. To this end the service has arranged a series of training sessions for staff and subcontracted providers in 2018/19 academic year.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That:

- 1) the Committee ratifies the report on performance and outcomes during the 2016/17 academic year;
- 2) the Committee approves the service's plan for the 2018/19 academic year;

- 3) the Committee approves the plan for use of the Education and Skills Funding Agency in the 2018/19 academic year;
- 4) the Committee approves the Fees Policy for the 2018/19 academic year;
- 5) the Committee approves the service's supply chain policy;
- 6) the Committee endorse the spring and summer events programme for Country Parks and Inspire's various culture, learning and arts events.

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Constitutional Comments (SLB 15/02/18]

14. Communities and Place Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of this report. If Committee resolves that any actions are required it must be satisfied that such actions are within the Committee's terms of reference.

Financial Comments [SES 06/02/18]

15. The financial implications are set out in the report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

None.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

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