

## **REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, PLACE AND COMMUNITIES**

### **INSPIRE LEARNING ANNUAL PLAN AND FEES 2019/20**

#### **Purpose of the Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to:
  - report on performance and outcomes during the 2017/18 academic year
  - seek approval for the service's plan for the 2019/20 academic year
  - seek approval for plans for use of Education Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) funding in the 2019/20 academic year
  - seek approval for the Schedule of Fees for the 2019/20 academic year – appendix 1
  - seek approval for the service's Supply Chain Arrangements – appendix 2
  - note the Inspire Learning strategic approach 2019 – 2022 – appendix 3

#### **Information**

##### **Performance and Outcomes 2017/18**

2. During the 2017/18 academic year, the following key outcomes were achieved:
  - recruited 311 16/19-year-old students against a funding target of 308 learners
  - Achieved a 66% positive progression rate for 16 to 18-year-old learners
  - recruited 10,464 ESFA funded Community and Family Learning learners against a target of 8,000
  - delivered 58.3% of provision to learners from the 250 most deprived 'Super Output Areas' across Nottinghamshire against a 50% 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 2019/20**

4. The strategic aims and objectives for the 2019/20 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 and D2N2's Strategic Economic Plan 2019 - 2030: 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 10 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 a broader cross-section of learners at a higher rate, using their fee income to support the Service's offer
- Deliver £2.28m of community learning (i.e. non-accredited) and £211k of formula funded (i.e. accredited) learning to adults in 2019/20. Deliver £1.25m of 16 to 19 study programme learning to young adults in 2019/20.
- Inspire Learning delivered 193,098 guided learning hours in the 2017/18 academic year. It is planned to maintain the learner numbers to 6,000 in the 2018/19 academic year. The service will deliver 193,098 guided learning hours in 2019/20 to 6000 learners. Changes to reduce the learner numbers to 6,00 previously agreed, whilst maintaining the level of learning hours enables the service to continue widen, deepen and improve the opportunities offered. It also will deliver a more flexible path-way to positive progression to sustained employment by supporting longer courses which deliver greater value for money. It is hoped imbedding this change will assist in the move from Good to Outstanding at the next Ofsted inspection.
- It is planned to increase the level of direct delivery in the 2019/20 academic year for community learning. This model of delivery will enable the service to make the shift from Good to Outstanding at the next Ofsted inspection (due in the 2020/21 academic year).

## The service's schedule off Fees for the 2019/20 academic year

5. A transparent schedule of fees 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 £4.00 to £4.50. The proposed schedule of fees for 2019/20 is attached as **Appendix 1**.

## **The service's supply chain arrangements**

6. As Inspire Learning (via Nottinghamshire County Council) intends to sub-contract a proportion of the Adult Education Budget (AEB) non-formula funded community and family learning provision for the 2019/20 academic year, Inspire Learning needs to publish an annual statement of our supply chain arrangements on its website to comply with the ESFA requirements. The intended approach to supply chain arrangements for 2019/20 is outlined in **Appendix 2**.

## **The Service's Inspire Learning Strategy for 2019 - 2022**

7. Inspire Learning has developed a strategy covering the period 2019 to 2022 which has been approved by the Learning and Skills sub-committee of Inspire's Board and will be presented to the main Board of Inspire 11<sup>th</sup> June 2019. The Committee are invited to note this strategy which has been outlined in **Appendix 3**.
8. 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 2019/20 (building on the 2017/18 shift), which will mean that Nottinghamshire remains amongst the upper quartile of providers delivering from the most deprived areas of the county.

## **Other Options Considered**

9. No other options have been considered.

## **Reason/s for Recommendation/s**

10. 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**

11. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance 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, smarter working, sustainability and the environment 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**

12. The anticipated 2019/20 Community Learning funding of £2.5 million and the Study Programme of £1.25 million will be fully utilised delivering the services set out in this report.

## **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 the 2019/20 academic year.

## **RECOMMENDATION/S**

That Committee:

- 1) Endorses the report on performance and outcomes during the 2017/18 academic year;
- 2) Approves the service's plan for the 2019/20 academic year;
- 3) Approves the service's plan for use of the Education and Skills Funding Agency in the 2019/20 academic year;
- 4) Approves the schedule of fees for the 2019/20 academic year (appendix 1)
- 5) Approves the supply chain arrangements for the 2019/20 academic year (appendix 2)
- 6) Supports the Transforming learning and transforming lives strategic approach for Inspire Learning Services 2019 – 2022 (appendix 3)

**Derek Higton**  
**Service Director, Place and Communities**

**For any enquiries about this report please contact:**  
Ian Bond, Inspire Director of Learning, Tel: 0115 977 2875  
E: [ian.bond@inspireculture.org.uk](mailto:ian.bond@inspireculture.org.uk)

## **Constitutional Comments (SLB 18/04/19)**

14. Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of this report.

## **Financial Comments (RWK 08/05/19)**

15. The anticipated 2019/20 Community Learning funding of £2.5 million and the Study Programme of £1.25 million will be fully utilised delivering the services set out in this report

## **Background Papers and Published Documents**

None.

## **Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

All.