

Committee(s): Education Board - For Information	Dated: 20/10/2022
Finance Committee – For Information Department Of Community and Children’s Services	N/A
Subject: Adult and Community Learning Ofsted Inspection Report - Monday 14 th June – Friday 17 th June 2022	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation’s Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?: 1. People are safe and feel safe 2. People enjoy good health and wellbeing 3. People have equal opportunities to enrich their lives and reach their full potential. 4. Communities are cohesive and have the facilities they need	Corporate Plan Numbers. 1,2,3,4
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	No
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source funding?	Grant Funding
Has the funding source been agreed with the Chamberlain’s Department?	Yes
Report of: Andrew Carter: Director of Community and Children’s Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ofsted Inspection Report - for Information • Post Inspection Action Plan – for information
Report author: Barbara Hamilton: Department of Community and Children’s Services: Adult Skills, Education and Apprenticeships.	

Summary

Members are asked to note the Ofsted Post Inspection Action Plan in Appendix One

A full Ofsted inspection of the City of London Corporation’s Adult and Community Learning Service took place on Tuesday 14th June – Friday 17th June 2022.

The Inspection results were as follows:

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good

Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Adult learning programmes	Good
Apprenticeships	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good

Recommendations:

The Ofsted inspection report recommendations:

- Leaders and managers should ensure that targets set by tutors for apprentices and learners challenge them to develop their skills beyond the minimum requirements for their qualifications.
- Tutors should provide feedback on learners and apprentices work that is clear, concise and helps learners and apprentices to improve
- Leaders and managers should ensure that they have an accurate overview of the quality of provision offered by subcontractors.

Main Report

Background:

1. The Ofsted Inspection report confirmed that the Adult Skills and Education Service provides a good standard of education and training for residents and employers in the City of London.

2. The report confirmed that training support is also provided to residents who live in neighbouring local authority areas. The inspection team reviewed the Service's response to the needs of approximately 350 ACL learners each term. Each learner had enrolled on an average of two or three courses. The team was impressed with the Service's quick response to the needs of learners, especially those needing accredited high level ESOL, Functional Skills Maths and English.

3. The Inspection report confirmed that a majority of courses were designed to support those learners who needed to acquire new skills to enable them to secure sustainable employment.

4. The report also reviewed the apprenticeship provision. Although, prior to the Inspection, there had been a 'freeze' on apprentice recruitment, the Apprentice Training and Employment Service was graded as good. The team commented on the high number of apprentices who secured a distinction grade at the end of their apprenticeship training.

5. In relation to an observation in the report the number of subcontractors being used to deliver external training for the apprentices has been reduced. The aim is to continue to reduce the Service's reliance on the use of external subcontractors.

6. The report confirmed that learners and apprentices are fully supported throughout their learning journey. All tutors, teachers and assessors are highly knowledgeable, qualified, and experienced in their individual teaching areas. Many have extensive industry experience. Relevant up to date information is skilfully transferred to learners and apprentices.

7. The service was commended on its very quick response to the skills needs of learners and employers. This level of response would ensure that learners were able to efficiently respond to job vacancies.

8. The Ofsted inspection graded the Safeguarding provision as being good. Learners and apprentices felt safe during their learning. Learners also had knowledge and confidence to report any Safeguarding concerns.

9. Learners and apprentices continue to benefit from good careers advice. A dedicated programme has been set up to support all learners with CV preparation, confidence building and interview practice. The inspectors were impressed with the number of learners who had secured qualifications and employment as a result of the 'Grow programme'.

Current Position:

10. The Adult Skills and Education Service has prepared an action plan to respond to the three Ofsted recommendations (Appendix One

Options:

11. The Community and Children's Services Committee have the following options:
- a. Approve the 2022/2023 Action Plan in Appendix One
 - b. Approve the action plan subject to amendments
 - c. Not approve the Action Plan

Proposals:

12. The Ofsted recommendations is being fully implemented as part of the Services overall continued improvement.

Key Data:

13. The Adult Skills and Education Service prepare monthly data which is sent to the main funding agencies. This data was used to form the Ofsted inspection performance judgement.

Corporate and Strategic Implications:

14. The action plan sets out the response to the Ofsted Inspection recommendations. These actions will also form part of the Adult Skills and Education Service's annual Quality Improvement Plan.

Financial Implications:

15. The annual budget for this Service follows an academic year and not a financial year. The main grant funding is awarded for the start of the September teaching delivery year. Additional funding for this service is available throughout the year.

Resources Implications:

16. The Action Plan will be delivered by dedicated members. Additional support will be available from individuals who form part of the core team.

Legal Implications:

17. There are no immediate legal, Risk, Climate or Security implications identified.

Equalities Implications:

18. The proposals in this report comply with the City Corporations Public Sector principles of the Equality Duty Act 2010.

Conclusion:

19. The inspection that took place in June 2022 was a full inspection. It took place over four days. The inspection team was assisted by internal nominees. The process reviewed all relevant strategic documents such as the recently published self-assessment report, development plan and the ASES's impact report. This report carefully examined the impact of the Service on local communities, both business and domestic areas.

20. ASES was graded an overall Good.

21. The further Education Inspection handbook was used to inspect all relevant service areas. Supporting evidence was collected to inform the final judgements.

Appendices:

Appendix One: Post Ofsted Inspection Action Plan

Appendix Two: City of London Corporation's Adult and Community Learning Ofsted Inspection Report, 14th – 17th June 2022.

Barbara Hamilton
Head of Adult Skills, Education and Apprenticeships
Department of Community and Children's Service

T: Mobile Telephone Number 07920 70 30 87
E: Barbara.Hamilton@cityoflondon.gov.uk