

SPOTLIGHT

Suffolk
County Council

ADULT
LEARNING
SERVICE

ISSUE 2 | 1 June 2020

In this issue:

- Welcome
- ALS & Sector Highlights
- Procurement update
- Provider News
- SCC Updates
- Learner Quote

Message from Andy

Welcome to the 2nd edition of *Spotlight*

We hope that you are taking care and that you and families remain safe.

We are still in an ever-changing and difficult time, however, the Adult Learning Service has continued to meet the challenge head on and provide support and learning when it is needed the most. I have again been overwhelmed with the motivation, commitment, and ability to adapt from all the providers that are striving to provide a service to the adults of Suffolk.

The priority for the remainder of this year is to continue to do this and consolidate the remaining weeks by continuing to adapt, review and change the learning offer in response to the changes that we face. We must also start to formulate best practice and evaluate and confirm the best approaches for an online learning offer so that we can carry this forward into early 2020-2021. Even if face-to-face learning starts to return, we are still going to need an online offer or blended approach. The positive thing to come out of this unprecedented time is not only our ability to adapt but our ability to think outside of the box and change the way we do things. This is something that we can take forward and will strengthen the service in the future.

Quality is something that is always continuous, and I will be looking to strengthen our quality processes over the coming weeks and updating the Quality Manual to reflect this.

I will be asking for a discussion with each provider regarding the quality assurance of online learning in the coming days and will be adapting the way that SCC manages the quality of the service. The recent Network Meeting of providers was the first stage in this, and further work is now being completed. The changes seen in the OFSTED inspection framework this year (EIF) will also be further incorporated and embedded in the management of quality as will best practice for delivering online learning.

As we continue to react to Government and Funding Body changes and guidelines the need for communication across the service is as important as it has ever been. I would like to remind all providers that the staff at SCC are here to support, help and guide the service through this time.

Please stay in touch and reach out for support where needed.

Many thanks

Andy

Andy Mawby | Adult Learning Service Manager
Tel: 07704017575

Please circulate our newsletter to everyone working on projects for the Adult Learning Service, and to anyone that you feel may be interested in learning more about what we do!



Message from Wing

ALS HIGHLIGHTS:

- **MIS Documents:** The process for obtaining learning agreement from learners during lockdown restrictions was sent to providers on 14th May. Please continue to submit completed Learner Registration Forms and other relevant document to MIS via ALS SharePoint site as soon as they become available.
- **The revised Provider Monthly Report** template is to be used for the next 3 reporting periods: April/May, June and July 2020.

SECTOR HIGHLIGHTS:

Since the government announced the phased opening of education settings in May, we understand some of our providers have been starting to work on plans for blended learning, re-opening and welcoming learners from June and beyond. Please continue to review the following guidance regularly, the latest updates provide guidance on considerations when working on your risk assessments. The key message from ESFA is flexible approach and delivery models that will *maximise learner engagement as well as supporting more vulnerable learners and enabling the provider as a whole to minimise transmission risk*. It may not be appropriate for all providers at this time but please do continue to share with us how you are getting on with your risk assessment and plans, in the June Monthly Report.

[Maintaining education and skills training provision: further education providers](#)

[Actions for educational and childcare settings to prepare for wider opening from 1 June 2020](#)

Message from Kathy

- **Network Meeting 14th May.** Thank you to all who were able to join us for our virtual Teams meeting, we hope that you found it useful and found it supportive sharing your experiences over the last few months.
-

-
- **Procurement News.** The Mini-Competition Call Off Contracts for 2020-21 were advertised on Suffolk Sourcing on 19 May (closing date for bids 3 June at 12noon).
 - **Cyber Essentials:** For the 2020 to 2021 funding year, the ESFA are looking for subcontractors to meet the requirements for Cyber Essentials, with progression to Cyber Essentials Plus from the 2021 to 2022 funding year. [Cyber Essentials](#)
-



- **Inspire Suffolk:** Let's support Inspire Suffolk's **Garry Mills** on his **fundraising 100-mile Cycle Ride on 26th June**. Garry will cycle from Inspire's HQ in Ipswich to their HQ in Lowestoft...and back again!

Aim: To raise over £1,000 to give young people in Suffolk the tools they need to build a brighter future – something that is so important, now more than ever during the Covid-19 crisis! <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/garry-mills1>

- **Realise Futures:** Offering a series of pastoral support workshops, mainly on life in lockdown, online safety and job search/employment readiness. New dates and titles are being added as the programme rolls out: <https://www.rflearn.co.uk/courses/life-in-lockdown>, <https://www.rflearn.co.uk/courses/online-safety> <https://www.rflearn.co.uk/courses/employment>.

Don't forget to email Kathy with any items that you would like included in the next issue of Spotlight.



- **#StickWithItSuffolk** SCC have launched the next phase of our COVID-19 communication campaign. The aim of the campaign is to encourage members of the public to continue to act responsibly, sticking to the government guidance in order to prevent the virus spreading.
 - **SCC's social media accounts.** Please 'share' and 'like' our posts to help us cascade the message to all of Suffolk's residents. Twitter - @SuffolkCC and Facebook – www.facebook.com/SuffolkCountyCouncil.
-



New Suffolk Safeguarding Partnership website launched. We have now moved to a single website replacing the former adult and children's website. The new website aims to help everyone understand the signs of neglect or abuse and what to do if they are worried about a child or an adult. <https://www.suffolksp.org.uk/>



COVID-19 Emotional Wellbeing information Hub

A new information Hub, containing resources to support emotional wellbeing and mental health has been launched. The Information Hub brings together guidance, tips and support in one place <https://www.healthysuffolk.org.uk/>



BSC Multicultural Services CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) SUPPORT. BSC Multicultural Services is working in partnership with Suffolk Community Foundation to provide **urgent Food Packs** to support some of the most vulnerable and isolated members of our communities in Ipswich and Suffolk during the current COVID-19 crisis.

If you need urgent support or you know someone who needs support, please contact us as we may be able to help: **01473 400081 / 01473 429740 | Mobile: 07415 935297 | email: info@bscmulticulturalservices.org.uk | <https://www.bscmulticulturalservices.org.uk/>**

#YOUARENOTALONE

COVID-19 IS NO EXCUSE FOR ABUSE.

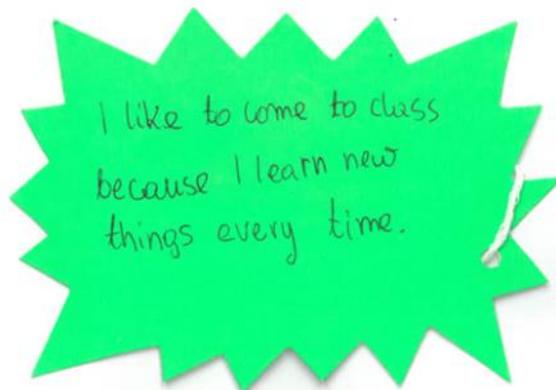
SUFFOLK DOMESTIC ABUSE HELPLINE - FREEPHONE 24/7 ON
0800 977 5690

SuffolkCollective
Suffolk partners and agencies
working together

ACT
Anglia Care Trust
Support • Advice • Action



Learner Quote



Learner quote from Realise Future's 'Learner Tree'

We look forward to receiving your feedback and any information that you would like to be included in future newsletters.

To unsubscribe or subscribe please email skills@suffolk.gov.uk



**Education & Skills
Funding Agency**



European Union
European
Social Fund



Suffolk
County Council