

SPOTLIGHT



**ADULT
LEARNING
SERVICE**

Suffolk
County Council

ISSUE 3 | 1 July 2020

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Message from Andy

Hi all,

Welcome to the third edition of Spotlight newsletter and I hope this finds you and your family well.

It has been another month where restrictions have been in place but one which has seen a lot of preparation to take the first steps back to a level of normality. The Adult Learning Service team remain working from home at this time and any plans to return to Council offices will be communicated to you.

Through our quarterly review process, we have been able to discuss with each provider their plans to move slowly back into centres and offices. We also understand how difficult this process is and will be. The staff at Suffolk County Council are here to support and assist where needed. Please continue to communicate and discuss any issues or progress in this area.

We are once again really pleased with the hard work and effort shown to continue to deliver, support and evidence learning. We would like to say a huge thank you to the providers, staff and learners for their continued motivation and work ethic in what has again been a very busy month for the service.

We have completed the contracting for delivery in 2020-2021 and will be able to communicate the results of this to you very soon. We are very pleased with the results and would like to thank all providers that took the time to make an application for funding.

We would also like to thank each provider for completing the monthly report and detailing and evidencing the continued activity to us. We would like to focus our attention on the impact to the learner and would ask that you keep this in mind when completing future monthly reports.

The learner feedback has been very positive and a pleasure to read and document. You will see more on this later in the newsletter. It is very reassuring that there are positives to take from this difficult time and that the experience of this year will indeed make us a stronger service in the years ahead. It will also potentially change parts of our learning offer in the future and how

learning is delivered. We must continue to share good practice and experiences across the service to ensure we continue to develop.

We hope that you enjoy the newsletter and reading about the different activities that are taking place. Please feel free to comment on the content as we are always continually striving to develop and improve.

Many thanks

Andy

Andy Mawby | Adult Learning Service Manager
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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!



ALS highlights:

- Thank you for completing the **Provider Monthly Report** for April/May. A lot of hard work has been put in by staff across the ALS provider network since the lockdown to continue to support the learners and learning in Suffolk. Your own learning curves are phenomenal, you told us that you have learnt, and now use, a mixture of technologies to deliver or communicate with learners – Facebook, Google Classroom, MS Teams, Padlet, SharePoint, Twitter, WhatsApp, YouTube, ZOOM etc. Do share with us on your and the learners' experience in the unfamiliar digital world of learning and teaching in the next Monthly Reports.
- As you wrap up your learning activities for 2019-2020 in July, a **gentle reminder** for the **course documentation** to be submitted to the ALS SharePoint site as soon as possible before the summer break.
- For our 2020-21 providers, the suite of subcontractor documentation will be available to you in July.

Sector highlights:

- The ESFA has published version 1 of the funding and performance management rules for 2020-21, for providers who are delivering from 1st August 2020, please familiarise yourself with the funding rules:

[ESFA adult education budget \(AEB\) funding and performance management rules 2020 to 2021](#)

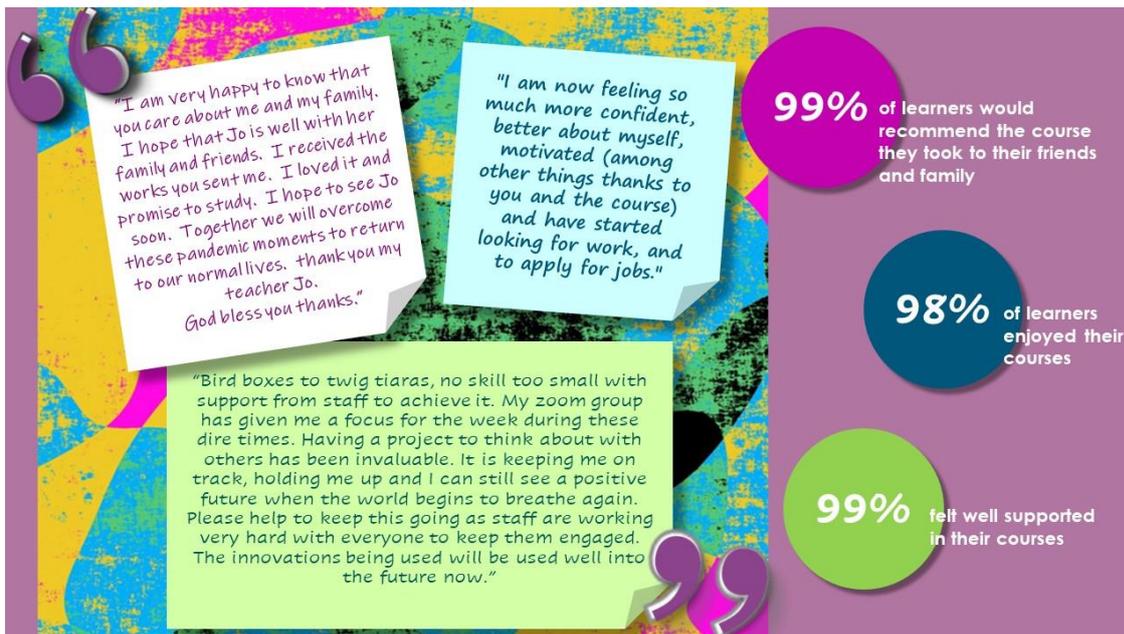
A graphic with the text "Message from Kathy" in white, sans-serif font centered on a teal, rounded rectangular background.

Message from Kathy

- **2020-21 Delivery of Services:** Realise Futures will continue their delivery of ASF and CLF learning, and we thank them for their continued support to adult learners in Suffolk.
 - **Thanks also goes to** all who submitted bids for the recent mini-competitions for delivery of services for 2020-21; awards of contracts have been made and we will announce the providers who will be delivering services for the ALS in the next Spotlight edition.
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- **Learner Feedback:** Learner feedback is very important to us and we continue to gather feedback in a variety of different ways; questionnaires, videos, audio, forums and talking directly to our learners.

We are delighted to share with you data we have received from our Learner Feedback Forms and highlight how our courses are continuing to have impact during Lockdown:



- **Realise Futures:** keep checking the "Our Courses" page on their website, as they are continuing to add new online resources, sessions and learning opportunities all the time: <https://www.rflearn.co.uk/courses>
- **Inspire Suffolk's Engage programme has gone on-line** - this is a great option for young people (19+) who might not be getting the response they wanted from their search for a job or don't know where to start. It's also perfect for those that have been made redundant or are uncertain about the future as a result of Covid-19. <https://inspiresuffolk.org.uk/courses/engage/>

We look forward to hearing how **Garry Mills** got on during his Inspire fundraising 100-mile Cycle Ride on 26 June. Garry reached his £1,000 goal – well done Garry!

- **Out Loud Music:** iDeeJay has moved online and on 25 June it held a *Pick & Mix Clubnight* live on *Mixcloud* where you could chat along live in the comments box or sit back/stand up/dance in your living room and enjoy the tunes! Over 80 people joined the virtual event! Congratulations for running such a successful event! <https://www.facebook.com/outloudmusicccic/>



☞ Don't forget to email Kathy at Kathy.simpson@Suffolk.gov.uk with any items that you would like included in the next issue of *Spotlight* (new courses, latest news, learner stories etc)

SCC has had information for **wearing face coverings translated into 11 languages**.

These are available on the SCC Covid-19 translated information page:

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/about/web-accessibility/interpreting-and-translating-services/covid-19-information-in-other-languages/>



#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.



The power of saying thank you is the basis of a new, countywide campaign called 'Suffolk Says Thank You' which calls on everyone, of all ages, to send their messages of thanks and appreciation. From friends, family, neighbours and others in your community, the campaign celebrates everyday acts of kindness.

Say thank you directly by printing and putting up a poster in your window or share a card with someone you'd like to thank - or get involved by sharing your messages of thanks with us. You can upload your messages onto the website or share on social media using the hashtag #SuffolkSaysThanks and who knows, your messages really could make someone's day!

The free fun assets are available to download [via the Suffolk Says Thanks website](#).

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



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