

9c. CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION AND SKILLS

Adult Learning Success Rate Data for the 2014/15 academic year

Adult Learning enrolment numbers & success rate data	Enrolment	Success rates	
	s 2014/15	2014/15	2013/14
Overall service success rates for completions in year	13,971	94.3%	94.1%
Skills:			
Classroom-based learning	3,490	86.7%	86.2%
Apprenticeships**	303	75.4%	81.4%
Work-place Learning	68	97.0%	82.9%
<i>of which</i>			
Community Learning	9,853	97.4%	97.3%
Overall success rates for key areas:			
English	450	92.4%	92.9%
Maths	450	86.0%	85.7%
English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)	1,340	82.2%	80.0%
Adults with Learning Difficulties and Disabilities (ALDD)	740	98.2%	97.7%

** Although the overall success rate for apprenticeships has fallen, this is solely due to apprentices leaving their employment before completing the qualification. Every apprentice who completed the programme gained their qualification. The overall success rate is still 5.5% higher than the national benchmark for 2013/14 for equivalent apprenticeships.

Adult Learning Ofsted Inspection

Adult Learning had a rather belated full Ofsted inspection from 03–06 November 2015, the previous one having taken place in October 2008. Results may not be shared publicly until the report has been published in about a month's time, but the provisional result is an overall grade 2 – Good for Overall Effectiveness, with each of the six contributory grades also being 'Good'. The oral feedback included, "the service is highly effective at engaging and supporting local communities that are otherwise disadvantaged by education and training" and "many of the learners progress beyond their expectations".

Apprentices

Children's Social Care and Learning has made a commitment to help young people get into work and offering apprenticeships is an important part of our plans to do this. Now in our fifth year, we have recently recruited two new apprentices who will be undertaking an NVQ Level 2 and 3 in Business Administration. The Children's Partnerships' Team-led programme offers work experience, training and full internal support, which has ensured our previous apprentices have secured temporary or fulltime work within the County Council, continued further education or secured employment elsewhere.

CYP Now Awards 2015

Girls on a Mission is an eight week project which looked to address the 'drop off' in physical activity in girls aged 16 – 24 years old. The Children's Partnerships' Team recently entered the project into the CYP Now Awards 2015 and has been shortlisted as a finalist in the Health and Wellbeing Award category. The winner will be announced on 26 November 2015. A record number of entries was received and to get to this stage is a tremendous achievement against extremely tough competition.

Children's Centres

From 01 September, Action for Children took on the delivery of 25 children's centres and Short Breaks services, and Spurgeons took on the delivery of three Aylesbury based children's centres.

It has been two months since the start of these new contracts. For a transfer of this size, involving two services and five organisations, the associated complexities of TUPE, as well as leases and buildings, the transfer has gone relatively smoothly. During September and October the focus has been on workforce issues and maintaining 'business as usual' in the short term. There have been some issues, mainly due to TUPE, which has resulted in disruption to some services. These are being resolved and recruitment is taking place to fill the posts left vacant. The focus for the next couple of months, and into the New Year, will be on needs assessment and stakeholder engagement so that both organisations can arrange the services and resources to best meet the needs of families with young children. Staff consultation will also continue to ensure the most appropriate structures are in place with staff with the right skills to deliver the service.

Children's Centres and Short Breaks are important early help services. The primary objective of the service specification is to move towards a more targeted service which involves supporting more families with complex early help needs. This prevents the need for more intrusive and costly interventions later on, while also providing an element of support to families already known to children's social care as part of a planned package of support. It will be a challenge to make this shift to a more targeted emphasis whilst maintaining a level of universal services at the same time and families will experience some changes to services and staffing. Universal services are important as they are vital to picking up early signs that a family needs support. Both organisations will be exploring different ways of delivering a universal offer i.e. using volunteers and bringing in more partners to deliver universal services.

We anticipate that coming months will be the most challenging aspect of the transfer as families and partners begin to see changes in the way that services have been delivered. However, both organisations will do this in partnership with stakeholders and families with young children so that they are fully engaged in the process and understand why changes are being made. It should be noted that these changes will take some time to fully implement and for the desired outcomes to be achieved. It is anticipated that steady state will be achieved by April 2016; however, early indication is that there is beginning to be an increase in engagement with centres.

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