

Item No.	Classification: Open	Date: 2 February 2012	Meeting Name: Education and Children's Services Scrutiny sub- committee
Report title:		Review of adult learning	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Adrian Whittle, Head of Culture Libraries Learning and Leisure	

RECOMMENDATION(S)

1. Consider the raw data gained from a number of stakeholder workshops (appendix I), and provide any feedback to be considered as part of the review.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. A report to scrutiny 19th October signaled the start of a piece of work to develop the future direction of the adult learning service (ALS). The report also highlighted the range of adult and family learning providers in Southwark, including Morley College and Southwark College. There is also significant provision from private and voluntary sector organizations. In addition there is provision commissioned or provided through different service areas within the council.
3. The review therefore needs to consider the totality of adult learning provision in the borough. The objective is to agree a:
 - vision for adult learning, identifying purpose, focus and the council and other providers role in provision
 - common and joined up approach across the council for the commissioning of adult learning provision
4. At the 19th October meeting it was agreed that officers would report back on the consultation with stakeholders, including service users and adult education providers. It was agreed that this data would be provided before/without analysis.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

5. The review will take place between now and July 2012, resulting in a new vision for the service to be agreed by Cabinet. It is proposed that a report on the final outcomes of the review is taken back to this scrutiny committee.
6. The review will be evidence based. A needs and capacity assessment will be

carried out encompassing an assessment of:

- a) Population level data to understand the overall needs and capacity of the population
 - b) The views of users, non users and providers to gain a more in-depth understanding of demand, need and capacity
 - c) Current provision (including utilization and effectiveness) and opportunities (including good practice elsewhere), to enable a view to be taken on how needs are being met and how they could be met.
7. Appended to this report (appendix 1) is the raw data captured from several stakeholder workshops with users of the ALS services/Thomas Carlton Centre. A workshop with ALS voluntary and community sector providers had to be rescheduled to the 13th February.
8. This is provided without analysis, therefore members of scrutiny may wish to consider the following when looking at the data:
- This will need to be reviewed as part of the entire evidence based, including population level data and a review of current provision.
 - Other stakeholder views are being gathered, including those who use other forms of adult learning, not just that provided through ALS, and also those that do not access adult learning provision
 - Demand is not the same as need
 - Additional forms of engagement with stakeholders will be required which is tailored towards supporting participants to identify and consider any innovative way of meeting adult learning needs.
9. Officers would like to take the opportunity to thank those who gave up their time to take part in the workshops and enthusiastically participated, providing much valuable information.

APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix 1	Write up of stakeholder workshops
Appendix 2	Project outline

AUDIT TRAIL

This section must be included in all reports.

Lead Officer	Adrian Whittle, Head of Culture Libraries Learning and Leisure	
Report Author	Adrian Whittle, Head of Culture Libraries Learning and Leisure	
Version	1.1	
Dated		
Key Decision?	No	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments included
Strategic Director of Communities, Law & Governance	n/a at this stage	
Finance Director	n/a at this stage	
List other officers here	n/a at this stage	
Cabinet Member	n/a at this stage	
Date final report sent to Scrutiny Team	Date/month/year e.g. 20 May 2010	