

EXTENDED SERVICES SELECT COMMITTEE

Hearing 2

Wednesday 28 April 2010

Ian Forward - Head of Community Learning and Skills, Communities Directorate, Kent County Council

Biography



Ian is the Head of Community Learning and Skills (CLS) in the Communities Directorate

Ian has worked in Adult and Community Learning for over 25 years, starting out as a part-time tutor and subsequently holding a variety of curriculum development, centre manager and district posts before joining the strategic management team of the Kent Adult Education Service in 2000. A qualified teacher and with post-graduate qualifications in TEFL and Management, Ian's career in adult education started with the teaching of English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) and teacher training. His contribution in Kent has focused increasingly on community development and social inclusion. Ian was responsible for the introduction of Skills Plus, community outreach and intergenerational learning in the County, which now provides for over 7,500 participants annually.

Ian took on the leadership of Adult Education in Kent in December 2006, and now heads CLS - a service unit that combines adult learning and work-based provision for young people. He is Chair of South East LEAFEA (the adult and community learning leaders' network) and a member of that organisation's National Executive.