

# **EXTENDED SERVICES SELECT COMMITTEE**

## **Hearing 2**

**Wednesday 28 April 2010**

**Caroline Polley, Head of Enterprise and Skills, Communities Directorate,  
Kent County Council**

### **Biography**



Caroline is the Head of the Enterprise & Skills in the Communities Directorate.

Caroline spent 16 years in areas related to adult education (HE and AE) including, prior to joining KCC (Kent Adult Education), the development and management in Kent of academic awarding bodies with an adult focus (National Open

College Network, Kent Access Consortium, University of Kent). She joined KCC, Kent Adult Education in 2004.

In her current post - Head of Enterprise and Skills, Community Learning and Skills (Kent Adult Education and KEY Training) - Caroline's responsibilities include: the development of strategic and operational partnership working and the management of delivery of Learning Skills Council funded contracts totalling c£4m, including Skills for Life (Literacy and Numeracy - branded as Skills Plus, ESOL and ILS), Family Learning, Neighbourhood Learning in Deprived Communities and work based vocational qualifications focused on the development of the Extended Services workforce. Caroline developed the Kent Adult Education Service to become the largest provider nationally for Family Programmes, KCC's preferred provider for Skills for Life and the Early Years Framework. Caroline also negotiated the inclusion of, and lead for, basic skills indicators with Kent Agreement 2 (NI161 and 162).

Caroline had a four year career break to raise children (son and daughter - both currently at University). She spent 10 years working in management positions within a number of areas including publishing and sales. After University Caroline worked in Broadcasting in the North East (TV Presentation and Interviewing) and Performance (appearing in community based productions, Arts Council funded films, National Theatre premiere of Edward Bond's play The Worlds). Caroline received her education in Kent and obtained an honours degree in Drama in Newcastle, followed by a PGCE in English and Drama and a subsequent Postgraduate Management qualification.