

EXTENDED SERVICES SELECT COMMITTEE

Hearing 2

Wednesday 28 April 2010

Input to Extended Services Select Committee by Community Learning and Skills (CLS) (Kent Adult Education and Key Training)

Community Learning and Skills (CLS) is a Kent County Council (KCC) enterprise working with a wide range of partners to provide learning for young people and adults to meet their needs for skills, personal development and enjoyment. We actively promote learning as a means to achieve prosperity and to help people enjoy life, stay fit and make a positive contribution in their community. CLS is the largest provider of Family Learning programmes in the Country, and KCC via CLS receives the single largest grant for informal learning of any Local Authority. Examples of the programmes provided by CLS that relate to the extended services agenda are as follows:

Activity	Details of Delivery
Family Literacy programmes	A range of courses for adults only and adults and children designed to engage parents and families in improving their literacy skills.
Family Numeracy programmes	A range of courses for adults only and adults and children designed to engage parents and families in improving their numeracy skills.
Parenting Programmes	A range of workshops and courses that address parenting issues by engaging parents in 3 hour workshops and longer 12 hour courses.
Wider Family Learning	A range of courses from 2 hour tasters to 20 hour courses for Adults and children, designed to engage families in the learning experience.
Family Learning Impact Funding	A small range of courses – Family literacy and numeracy and wider family learning, targeted at families most in need
English for speakers of other languages (ESOL)	Courses for parents, carers and adults whose first language is not English and wish to learn or improve their language skills.
Adult literacy and numeracy qualifications	Courses to improve literacy and numeracy skills of Adults in the community.
Vocational qualifications for School support staff	NVQ qualifications for School support staff at level 2 and 3. Includes Supporting teaching and Learning, NVQ for IT users, customer Service, early years and the new parenting support qualification.
Kent Innovation Pilot – Family Learning	A range of 2-hour Family Learning workshops for adults and children aiming to engage families and build a bridge between informal and more structured learning
Thanet Works – Wide Open Door project	2 hour Family Learning Workshops for adults and children to enjoy learning something new together. Delivered in “blocks” of 5 with an incentive to attend the whole set.
Learning for Leisure and Personal Development	A range of 4,000 courses for Adults covering Art and craft, Fitness, languages, IT and a number of other areas. The majority of courses are not exam accredited, but build personal skills.
Entry to employment	A programme that engages young people who need personal support to take up training and bridge the gap between school and the workforce.
Apprenticeships	A range of apprenticeship programmes for young people and adults, designed to provide the opportunity to obtain a full apprenticeship in a chosen vocational area.

Partnership Working

Many of the programmes are planned and delivered with Children Families and Education local partnerships, libraries and with schools, children's centres and the community and voluntary sector. The programmes generally have the benefit of government funding support to cover part or all of the cost, and CLS is working with CFE on fully funded and co-funded projects, to meet the needs of children and families from special schools and in areas of poverty and high deprivation.

In **Learning for Leisure and Personal Development**, a total of approximately 5,500 adults have attended courses delivered at 76 school sites across the County, this represents around 15% of the total.

The majority of **vocational qualifications for school and children centre staff** are delivered and assessed in the workplace, with over 250 staff trained in the last 12 months.

Virtually all **Family Learning Programmes** are delivered in Primary Schools or children's centres, on their premises during the day or at twilight sessions. Between September 2009 and end January 2010, a total of 256 family programmes courses will have been planned or delivered taking place at 135 venues across the county - mainly primary schools and children's centres, and at some libraries and Adult education centres. At the end of the measurement period (August 09-July 10) CLS expects to run circa 420 courses at 175 venues and engage over 6,000 adults and children.

A number of **Adult literacy and numeracy** programmes are run at school sites, where CLS has dedicated space (for example in Dartford, Tonbridge, and at a small number of primary schools).

Scale of Activity

In total CLS estimates that we will run approximately 665 courses, with 12,500 enrolments at 260 school and children's centre sites in the academic year August 09-July 2010. This includes delivery on dedicated adult education sites on some school campuses, for example in Canterbury High School and Dartford.

All of these activities engage adults and families in the extended services agenda. There is no consistent countywide policy around charging for rental of space and facilities to deliver programmes. Generally, facilities to deliver family programmes and staff training are provided free, as schools and children's centres recognise that the activity contributes to their core agenda.

CLS has multi level contacts with partners engaged in the delivery of extended services, in particular within CFE. Regular contact is made at Directorate, senior officer, and LCSP level, in particular with extended services managers and coordinators, who in some areas act as a channel to schools and children's centres. In addition, there are many contacts at individual site level, to agree programmes and support their promotion to the community.

CLS currently has a total of 148 contacts at officer and LCSP level. Also, CLS has 32 school and children's centre contacts in the Canterbury District which, if extrapolated across all current 23 LCSP's, would amount to 736 contacts across the County.