

Appendix 4 - briefing Paper - Neighbourhood Learning in Deprived Communities

1. This paper describes how Brighton & Hove City Council uses the funding allocated by the Education Skills Funding Agency (ESFA), through the Adult Education Budget (AEB) for Neighbourhood Learning in Deprived Communities (NLDC) a delivery strand of the community learning element of the AEB. NLDC supports local voluntary and other third sector organisations to develop their capacity to deliver learning opportunities for the residents of disadvantaged neighbourhoods.
2. In Brighton and Hove, NLDC grants of £20,000, has been awarded to the Hangleton and Knoll Partnership (HKP) and the Whitehawk Inn.
3. These Hubs are located in the most deprived parts of the City. Delivery in community venues widens participation in learning enabling them to work with clients who are least likely to be engaged in learning and consequently are furthest from the labour market, and least likely to access a more formal learning or training opportunity with other providers in the City.
4. They deliver largely non-accredited community learning programmes and first steps engagement learning which encourages development of skills which lead to progression into further study, volunteering, active citizenship, and work-readiness. They also work with other organisations and services to enable the provision offer to be customised to better meet the needs of residents, as well as achieve the city's strategic priorities to reduce unemployment, address low skills and improve economic outcomes for residents furthest from the labour market.
5. All non- accredited programmes are judged using the national Recognising and Recording Progress and Achievement (RARPA) process. Learners identify targets based on the programme content, learners are asked to rate their skills at the start and end of their learning to ensure they recognise the additional work-related skills they have gained on their programme.
6. Learners include residents who; have left compulsory education with no or low qualifications; had long periods of unemployment or little or no work history; suffer or have suffered from mental health problems; are/have previously been dependent on drugs and/or alcohol; been homeless; are ex-offenders.
7. The main barriers for residents are low prior attainment in maths and English, low confidence and self-esteem, a lack of work experience and poor digital skills. NLDC funding provides support to overcome these barriers to enable residents to benefit from opportunities over time that would not have been possible without the support of a first step approach.
8. In 2018/19 341 learners were supported by both organisations.

9. An example of the learning offer provided by both hubs is provided below:

Hangleton & Knoll Project (enrolments: 127 2018/2019)

- Food Safety
- Follow on IT course
- First Aid
- Community Volunteer Development
- ESOL conversation focussing on health, education and employment
- Computing for improvers
- Your Life, retirement course
- Microsoft Office
- Family history
- Solution focussed well being

Whitehawk Inn (enrolments: 161 2018/2019)

- Digital Gadget Workshop
- Creative Writing
- Graffiti Workshop
- Green Screen Filming
- Knitting
- Spoken Word
- Made of Money
- Social History
- IT Skills
- CV writing
- Interview Skills
- Job search & IAG

In addition digital first steps engagement sessions support residents to navigate DWP support, produce job applications, access electoral registration and money saving websites.