

Fy Nghyf / My Ref: NRS/RM/DD/14.01.15

Dyddiad / Date: 26 January 2016

Councillor Daniel De'Ath
Cabinet Member: Skills, Safety & Engagement
City of Cardiff Council
County Hall
Cardiff
CF10 4UW



Dear Councillor De'Ath

ECONOMY AND CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 14 JANUARY 2016

Adult Community Learning – 14/15 Performance

At our January meeting, Members of the Economy and Culture Scrutiny Committee considered the 2014/15 Performance Data for Adult Community Learning in Cardiff. I will be grateful if you could pass on the thanks of the Committee to Sarah McGill, Isabelle Bignall and John Agnew for the presentation delivered and for addressing the questions arising during the meeting. The Committee had a few comments and observations following the meeting, which are set out below.

Members were very pleased with the results reported for 2014/15, with Cardiff Council individually, and the Cardiff and Vale Community Learning Partnership (CVCLP) collectively, achieving success rates above the targets set. Members were particularly impressed when considering the level of improvement achieved in the two years following the 2012/13 results. We feel the 27% improvement in this time period is a testament to the success delivered through the establishment of the CVCLP and the improvement actions implemented by the Council.

While Members welcomed the performance data presented to them, we wish to request that, when considering this item or similar items reporting annual performance in the future, we are provided with actual figures as well as the figures in percentage terms. We have no doubt that the figures given to us show the service is performing well, but would like to be able to make comparisons in real terms and gain an understanding of the scale of the service. For example, the figures presented do not enable us to grasp how many individuals are achieving accreditation via adult community learning courses in Cardiff, and how this figure compares to the number of individuals achieving accreditation through courses provided by the Vale Council or Cardiff and Vale College.

During the meeting a brief discussion took place around English for Speakers of Other Languages provision and the Life in the UK Test. We were informed that this is

something provided in the city through Cardiff and Vale College, and have requested that the Principal Scrutiny Officer for this Committee contacts CAVC to arrange an update on this provision in the summer – please let Nathan know if this is an item you, or officers responsible for delivering lifelong learning would also wish to contribute to.

I would be grateful if you would consider the above comments, observations and recommendations, and look forward to receiving your feedback.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rod McKerlich', with a horizontal line underneath it.

Councillor Rod McKerlich
Chairperson, Economy and Culture Scrutiny Committee

cc Sarah McGill, Director: Communities, Housing and Customer Services
Cabinet Support Office
Members of the Economy and Culture Scrutiny Committee