

Adult Skills & Family Learning Service Pound Plus 2019/20

'Pound Plus' is a term that describes how the Adult Skills & Family Learning Service is able to show how it is maximising the value of public investment. Pound Plus refers to additional income generated by the Adult Skills & Family Learning Service over and above core income from the Government's Adult Education budget and the County Council's contribution, as well as cost savings. This includes income generated through course fees, access to learning spaces made available at no or reduced cost, the use of volunteer workers, access to expert staff at no or reduced cost and donations of equipment or consumable items.

'Pound Plus' allows the Adult Skills & Family Learning Service to show that the initial investment of public funding in community learning has a crucial and positive leverage value that can be expressed as a multiplying factor for the initial public funding investment. In other words, it enables them to evidence that for every one pound of public funding investment further funds have been generated to extend reach, provision and impact – sums that may not, or would not, be possible without the initial investment.

In Lincolnshire, as a result of the strong partnerships in place in Family Learning, and robust sub-contracting arrangements in place across Adult Skills programmes, significant Pound Plus of around £638,000 has been achieved, as outlined in the table below. This has supported robust targeted learner recruitment, particularly in the period pre-Covid, August to February, whilst enabling the service to tap into a range of specialist services and provide a good range of suitable resources and support (including removing barriers to participation such as funding child care and transport) to achieve strong outcomes for our learners. It has also enabled the service to deliver free provision to groups of LLDD and unemployed learners, support end of course IAG, as well as establish self-supported groups and fund under age learners who would otherwise have not been able to attend.

Covid-19 severely impacted on the delivery arrangements of the Adult Learning programme in 2019/20 reducing the potential to earn Pound Plus.

'Pound Plus' Element	Hourly Rate (£)	No. of hours	Total (£)
Volunteer hours	10.00*	3,610	36,100
Centre overheads, including Stationery, printing, advertising			65,588
Additional courses for learners			13,680
Resources for learners			17,480
Staff time working with partners to facilitate IAG			39,520
Venue use	18.00*	18,451	332,123
Progression to self-supported groups	18.00*	127	2,286
Other:			86,287
Fee Income			45,449
Total			£638,513

Note : The hourly rate is estimated and therefore a calculated total will not equal the amount shown in the Total (£) column