

# Accountability Agreement 2024/25



# Statement of Purpose

Leicester City Council Adult Education provides learning opportunities that engage and support the most disadvantaged in our communities while remaining open to all and supporting growth, wellbeing and prosperity in the city.

## Service Vision

We anticipate and respond to the needs of individuals, communities, employers and Leicester's economy through the delivery of outstanding, inspirational and highly flexible learning opportunities.

## Strategic Aims

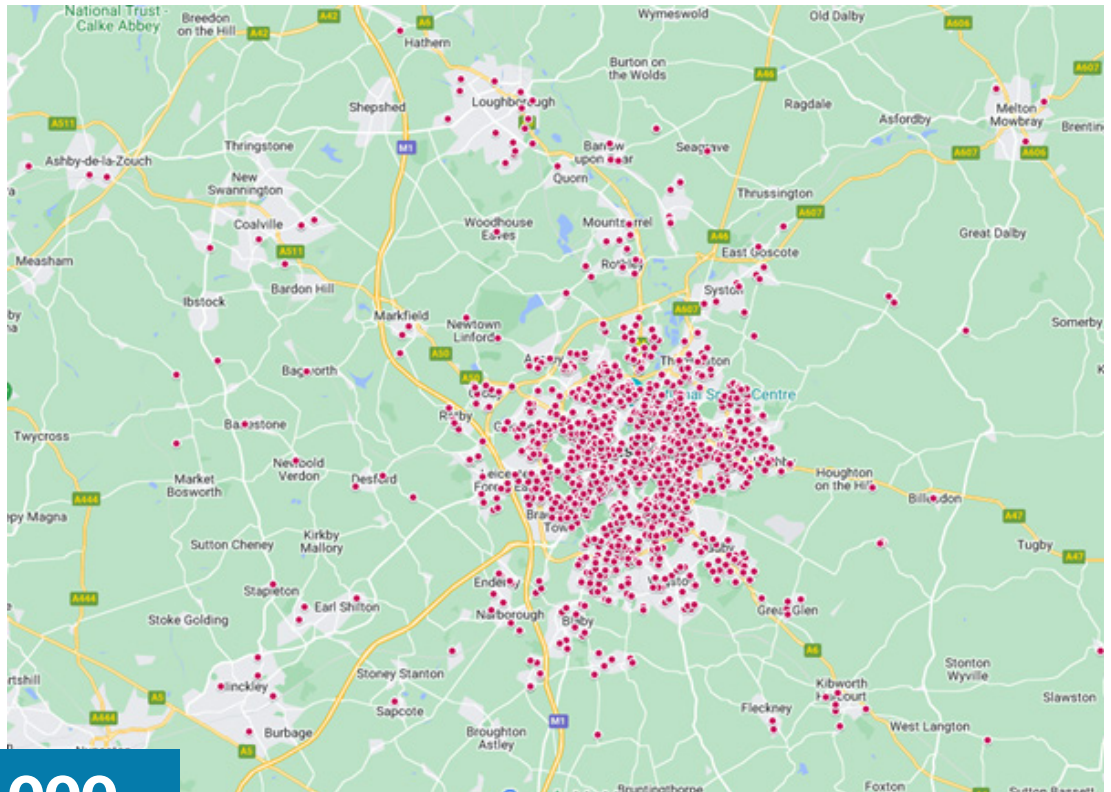
We have adopted The Education and Skills Funding Agency's (ESFA) seven purposes of Adult and Community Learning as our strategic aims:

1. improved confidence and willingness to engage in learning
2. acquisition of skills preparing people for training and further learning
3. acquisition of skills preparing people for employment or self-employment
4. improved digital, financial literacy and/or communication skills - includes English (including English for speakers of Other Languages), maths, and digital provision
5. parents/carers better equipped to support and encourage their children's learning
6. improved/maintained health and/or social well-being
7. develop stronger communities, with more self-sufficient, connected and pro-active citizens, leading to: increased volunteering, civic engagement and social integration; reduced costs on welfare, health and anti-social behaviour; increased online learning and self-organised learning; the lives of our most troubled families being turned around

***“The experience of learning with other adult learners was enjoyable and positive. It was interesting getting to know them and learning about the business and interests for which they were building their websites. Everyone was learning at a different pace but that wasn't a problem, and we actually learned a lot from each other. Having company while learning was really nice.”***

# Context and Place

**Leicester Adult Education serves the residents of Leicester and the surrounding area reaching around 3400 learners (9000 enrolments) each academic year. The map below highlights the distribution of learners across the city and surrounding area.**



**More than 32,000 residents do not speak English well**

**At the 2021 census,**

■ 151,492 Leicester residents were born outside of the UK. This represents 41% of Leicester's population and an increase of 7% in the last decade. Excluding the UK, the most common countries of birth were: India (59,842); Other South and East Africa inc Uganda\* (12,674); Poland (8,924); Kenya (6,417); Pakistan (4,989); Romania (4,698) India, Romania and Italy saw the largest increases. There are 15 times more Leicester residents who were born in Romania than 2011.

■ 2% (7499) of residents do not speak English at all, 7% (24,541) do not speak English well.

■ 61% of Leicester households have at least one dimension of deprivation compared to 52% for England overall. By this measure Leicester is the fourth most deprived upper-tier local authority in England, behind Blackpool (62%).

■ A significantly larger proportion of Leicester's 16+ population have no qualifications (26.7%) compared to England (18.1%). Leicester has the second highest percentage of its 16+ population of all English UTLAs with no qualifications at 26.7%. (Sandwell, highest – 28.9%). A smaller proportion of Leicester residents have a Level 4 qualification or higher (26.8%) compared to England (33.9%). Leicester has one of the highest percentages of its population with 'Other' qualifications, including those obtained outside of the UK (4.3%) of all English UTLAs.

■ Areas to the East of the city centre generally had higher proportions of their population with no qualifications, as would be expected for an area with large numbers of international migrants. Spinney Hill Road MSOA has the highest percentage of its 16+ population of all English MSOAs with no qualifications at 45%. Other areas of the city such as Braunstone and New Parks also have relatively high percentages of the population with no qualifications (c.30%-35%).

**27% of the 16+ population have no qualifications**

### **Leicester Household Survey.**

In 2021, Leicester City Council undertook the Leicester Household Survey. This survey indicates that 2 in 5 households in the city speak more than one language, with Gujarati (24%) and Hindi (12%) the most widely spoken after English. The survey asked a wide range of questions which are not covered by census data, including aspects of health and wellbeing, financial health and digital access and skills.

- Nearly half of respondents felt isolated from others some of the time (37%) or often (12%)
- 35% are slightly or much worse off compared to before COVID

**17% of households have someone who would benefit from training in accessing services online**

- 95% have access to the internet at home
- 80% are confident or very confident at online learning
- 17% of households have someone who would benefit from support or training in how to access services or carry out transactions online.

**The Leicester and Leicestershire Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP) is produced by East Midlands Chamber. The 22-23 report focuses on the Knowledge, Skills and Behaviour areas that businesses identified as priorities to meet growth aspirations.**

**Knowledge** - Across all sectors, technical and vocational knowledge areas are the most important to a business's success. The next four top areas are: Basic literacy; Basic numeracy; Health & Safety; Basic IT.

**Skills** - Team working is the most important skill across all sectors, followed by; verbal communication, specific occupational skills, written communication and time management

**Behaviour** - Being a team player is the most important behaviour, followed by; being hard working, reliable, resilient, and honest

## The Planning cycle

**The core planning cycle begins in the autumn and concludes in the late spring of the previous academic year. However, a dynamic and responsive approach allows the service to respond agilely to emerging needs and changing demands throughout the year. In future, the Accountability agreement will be updated in the autumn to inform planning for the following academic year.**

**Step 1** – review of current enrolment patterns, performance, feedback from learners and partners and viability of programmes as part of self assessment.

**Step 2** – research and analysis of national and local needs and priorities, taking account of government policy and funding regimes, changes to qualifications and new and emerging opportunities and threats.

**Step 3** – consultation with internal and external partners and the Economic Development, Transport and the Climate Emergency scrutiny commission.

**Step 4** - accountability agreement approved by the Assistant City Mayor for Skills and Jobs

**Step 5** – planning of the curriculum with clear outcome and impact measures aligned with the accountability agreement.

# Stakeholders and Partners

**A wide range of stakeholders and partners contribute to the development of the plan. The nature of the involvement ranges from ongoing, informal networking and collaboration through to formal consultation, partnerships and co-production of learning opportunities.**

- Learners and potential learners
- Elected members
- Economic Development Team / Leicester Employment Hub
- Public Health
- Arts and Museums
- Housing and support services
- Libraries and Neighbourhood services
- DWP/ Job centre Plus
- Connexions
- VCS organisations
- Local employers & LLEP, Work & Skills Forum
- Schools & Early Years providers
- Other education providers – DMU, Leicester Uni, LC, WEA, Training Providers

## Our contribution to national, regional and local priorities

<b>Strategic Aim</b>	<b>Contribution to National and Local Learning and Skills Priorities (SMART target)</b>	<b>Priorities addressed and reason for objective</b>
ACL 1: improved confidence and willingness to engage in learning	Through our outreach and engagement activity we will engage 2000 new learners in 2024/25..	Health Leicester Strategy - -'Increase the number of people with basic level skills by promoting our adult and family education services to improve employment and earning potential' To address the city's low qualification levels identified in the Census
ACL 2 : acquisition of skills preparing people for training and further learning	We will support at least 50% of 2022/23 learners to progress to further learning in 2024/25. We will contribute to the development of the Local Skills Accountability Board and ensure new funding and development opportunities are aligned to the LSIP priorities and objectives.	To address the city's low qualification levels identified in the Census

<p>ACL 3: acquisition of skills preparing people for employment or self-employment</p>	<p>We will review curriculum design and delivery in line with the local Knowledge, Skills and Behaviour requirements of businesses as evidenced in the LSIP</p> <p>200 learners will achieve vocational or professional qualifications to help them progress in/into work or self employment</p> <p>We will support for the continuation of the work of the Fashion Technology Academy and the Construction Hub through Skills Bootcamps and explore the subcontracting of ESFA Adult Education Budget for specialist and technical skills delivery</p> <p>We will Offer 10 easy access, short courses for Digital Skills in business, with a specific focus on digital marketing, social media, cloud computing and data analytics.</p> <p>We will support the development of green skills and the Council's Net Zero strategy through the development of new community and family learning courses.</p>	<p>To address employer's needs for improved Knowledge, Skills and Behaviours as identified in the LSIP To address the high levels of deprivation identified in the census</p> <p>LSIP sector priorities and Council objective to improve the quality of local jobs in the manufacturing sector.</p> <p>LSIP Digital Skills objective</p> <p>LSIP Green Skills objective</p> <p>Council Net Zero strategy</p>
<p>ACL 4: improved digital, financial literacy and/or communication skills - includes English (including English for speakers of Other Languages), maths, and digital provision</p>	<p>We will deliver English (including ESOL), maths and digital skills to 1750 people, preparing them better for employment, independent living, further training and learning.</p> <p>Increase the provision of English Language training, including more advanced and technical language skills.</p>	<p>LSIP ESOL objective</p>
<p>ACL 5: parents/carers better equipped to support and encourage their children's learning</p>	<p>In partnership with our schools and childcare settings we will provide Family Learning to at least 400 parents and carers in 35 locations across the city.</p>	
<p>ACL 6: improved/maintained health and/or social well-being</p>	<p>Through participation in our community learning programme we will improve / maintain the health and/or social wellbeing of 1500 older people (60+), reducing social isolation and inactivity.</p>	<p>Healthy Leicester Strategy – encourage older people to access leisure and cultural spaces in their local communities to overcome social isolation and improve mental and physical health</p>
<p>ACL 7: develop stronger communities, with more self-sufficient, connected and pro-active citizens, leading to: increased volunteering, civic engagement and social integration; reduced costs on welfare, health and anti-social behaviour; increased online learning and self-organised learning; the lives of our most troubled families being turned around</p>	<p>We will work with our partners in public health and other Council departments to develop and deliver courses to support 150 residents with digital inclusion, the cost of living and to improve their health and wellbeing.</p> <p>We will deliver a programme of ESOL with community orientation courses for 150 new arrivals in the city. This will improve social integration, reduced costs on welfare, health and council support services.</p>	<p>Leicester City Council Anti Poverty Strategy</p>

# Corporation Statement

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On behalf of Leicester City Council, it is hereby confirmed that the plan as set out above reflects an agreed statement of purpose, aims and objectives as approved by the City Mayor on Date TBC

The plan will be published on the Leicester Adult Education Website within three months of the start of the new academic year and can be accessed from the following link:  
TBC

## Links to key supporting documents

[Levelling Up the United Kingdom: Executive Summary \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

[Learning and Skills for Economic Recovery, The Labour party WR-16813 22-Labour-Skills-Council-report-Edit-19-10-22.pdf](#)

[Leicester & Leicestershire Economic Partnership LLEP Skills Plan 2022-24](#)

[Healthy Leicester The Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2019-2024 \(leicester.gov.uk\)](#)

[Leicester & Leicestershire Local Skills Improvement Plan , East Midlands Chamber of Commerce, https://www.emc-dnl.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/LSIP-full-report.pdf](https://www.emc-dnl.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/LSIP-full-report.pdf)

[Home — Leicester Open Data](#)

If you would like the information in this leaflet in a different form we will do our best to help

Contact us on 0116 4541900 or [adult.ed@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:adult.ed@leicester.gov.uk)

Leicester Adult Education  
Leicester Adult Education College, Belvoir Street, Leicester LE1 6QL  
Tel. 0116 4541900  
[leicesteradulthood.ac.uk](http://leicesteradulthood.ac.uk)

