

# Inspire Learning Accountability Agreement 2023/24



## Contents

Our Mission and Purpose .....	2
Non-Accredited Adult Learning .....	2
Accredited Adult Learning .....	2
Inspire College: Study Programmes for Young People .....	2
Strategic Aims and Objectives .....	3
Community Context .....	4
About Nottinghamshire .....	4
Challenges and Needs .....	4
Approach to Developing the Plan: Key Stakeholders and Partners.....	5
Key External Stakeholders .....	5
Other Local Providers.....	5
Key Objectives 2023/24: Contribution to National, Regional and Local Priorities .....	6
Corporation Statement .....	8
Reference to Relevant Supporting Documentation .....	9

Inspire is a charitable Community Benefit Society, owned and controlled by its members and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

Inspire delivers the Study Programmes and Adult Education Service on behalf of Nottinghamshire County Council.

Inspire has a board of 12 elected and nominated directors and reports to the Communities and Place Committee of Nottinghamshire County Council.

## Our Mission and Purpose

We believe in working with our learners to create opportunities to help them achieve their lifelong potential. We do this by listening to our learners and creating high quality courses for them and their community, bringing people together in welcoming and friendly spaces.

We deliver provision broadly categorised into three main areas:

### Non-Accredited Adult Learning

Working in partnership to identify local needs across the county, with organisations such as Job Centres and the councils, we help to identify skills gaps in local labour markets and provide training to upskill the local community. Our non-accredited courses are designed for everyone aged 19 and above. We inspire and help people to develop their skills, interests and wellbeing. We deliver Family Learning courses that are designed to help parents, carers and relatives to understand how they can support and engage with their children, whilst developing their own skills at the same time. This can either be as an adult-only course, or jointly with the children. This is often a first step into further accredited or non-accredited learning and steps towards the job market.

#### How we do this:

*“Listening to you, we create high quality courses for you and for your community, bringing us together in welcoming and friendly spaces.”*

#### Why we do what we do:

*“We believe in working with you to create opportunities to achieve your lifelong potential.”*

### Accredited Adult Learning

We deliver a wide range of employability and accredited courses in a variety of venues across Nottinghamshire and online. Our courses help people to: Improve their Maths, English and ESOL skills; Gain a relevant qualification to help them progress in their employment or education; Grow in confidence, and; Gain the Functional Skills they need in everyday life and to play a meaningful role in their community

### Inspire College: Study Programmes for

### Young People

Our Study Programmes provide employability, personal and social development, and vocational courses for young people across Nottinghamshire who would otherwise be NEET (not in employment, education or training). Our curriculum provides learners with high levels of individual pastoral support, along with the knowledge, skills and experiences that prepare them for life as responsible citizens and help them gain access to further learning and/or employment. Inspire College also delivers provision for learners with high needs.

# Strategic Aims and Objectives

Inspire aims to provide high-quality learning opportunities to Nottinghamshire young people and adults. We do this through 6 core aims:

- Inclusion and Access for All
- Achievement and Progression
- Quality and Continuous Improvement
- Value for Money
- Growth and Sustainability
- Community Development

## Inclusion and Access for All

All of our learners will feel welcome, included, and be able to enrol onto a range of courses that meet their needs. More than half of our learners are from areas of high deprivation.

## Achievement and Progression

We endeavour to help all of our learners achieve their personal aims and progress to their desired next steps. 87.9% of our adult learners achieve the qualifications they enrol on.

## Quality and Continuous Improvement

We are passionate about providing the best possible learning experience and always look for ways in which we can improve our service and learner experience.

## Value for Money

We seek to deliver our offer efficiently and cost effectively, without compromising quality. A recently commissioned study confirmed a return of between £10 and £13 on each £1 invested.

## Growth and Sustainability

We will grow our learning offer, geographically and via the curricula we offer, ensuring the service is both financially and environmentally sustainable.

## Community Development

We work closely with community groups, the councils and local agencies, working in partnership to build and strengthen our curriculum offer.

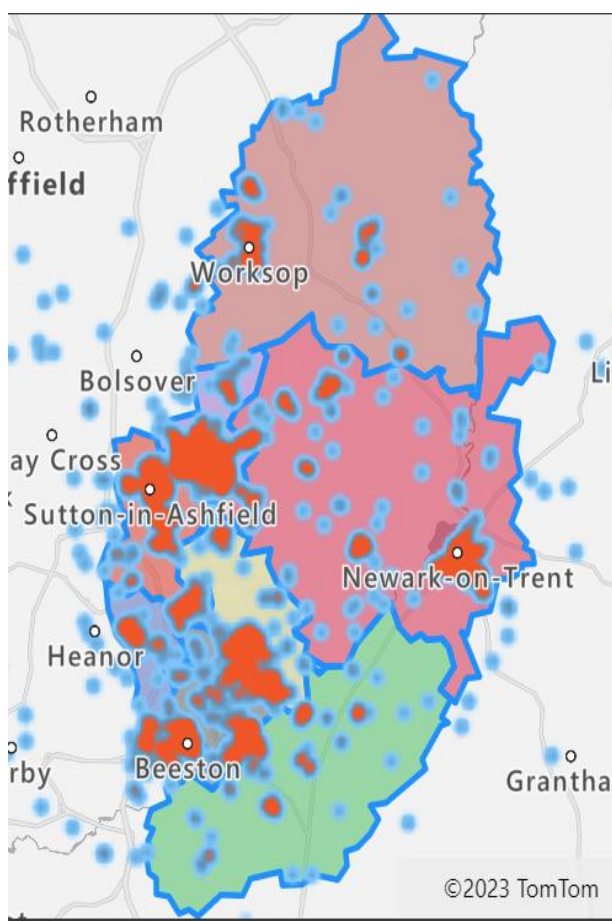
## Community Context

### About Nottinghamshire

Nottinghamshire has a population of 826,300. Of these 407,600 (78.1% of 16-64 year olds) are economically active, which is slightly below the average for Great Britain (78.4%).

The Local Authority of Nottinghamshire is comprised of seven non-metropolitan boroughs (right).

The regional economy was traditionally based on coal mining and manufacturing. Due to the closure of these mines and factories, Nottinghamshire residents, on average, suffer from lower-level transferrable qualifications and skills.



low social mobility in these areas and poor children are more likely to become poor adults.

### Challenges and Needs

7% of working age adults have no qualifications.

45,200 (16.4%) of households in Nottinghamshire are workless, compared with 14% nationally.

33.3% of Nottinghamshire adults have a qualification at level 4 above, this compares with 43.6% nationally.

54.1% of adults have a level 3 qualification or higher, compared with 61.5% nationally

25.8% of adults do not have a level 2 qualification. This compares with 21.9% nationally.

Four out of the seven Nottinghamshire districts are classed as Social Mobility Cold Spots (2016 Social Mobility Index), meaning that there is

Heat-map showing Inspire's distribution of learners

## Approach to Developing the Plan: Key Stakeholders and Partners

Our approach to developing the curriculum offer is informed by our experience of working with a wide range of interested stakeholders and learners. We aim to provide a broad and rich curriculum offer which is accessible across the whole of Nottinghamshire. It is reviewed annually and developed continuously throughout the year. Regular meetings with the local careers advice service allow us to quickly respond to unmet demand and trial innovative new provision at speed. Through regular dialogue with local Job Centre Plus colleagues, the county and district councils, and other stakeholders, we tailor learning to local need and create learning opportunities that residents otherwise would not be able to access. By working with local colleges, we ensure there is no duplication of learning. Wherever this is identified, we meet to agree actions to prevent it.

### Key External Stakeholders

- Nottinghamshire County Council
- The seven Nottinghamshire District Councils
- The ESFA territorial team
- Employers
- Futures for You Careers Advice and Guidance
- Local Job Centre Plus agencies
- Community-based organisations

### Other Local Providers

- West Nottinghamshire College
- Portland College (Specialist College for Disabled Young People)
- Nottingham College
- North Notts College (RNN Group)
- Newark College (The Lincoln College Group)
- Academy Transformation Trust Further Education

## Key Objectives 2023/24: Contribution to National, Regional and Local Priorities

D2N2 LSIP Actionable Priorities <sup>(1)</sup>	Aims and Objectives	Actions	Status 2022/23	Target 2023/24	Deadline
1, 8	1. Deliver Level 1 and Level 2 Legal Entitlement and Local Flexibility provision to hard to reach adults in Nottinghamshire.	Deliver accredited qualification in Maths, English, ESOL, IT, Employability Skills and Level 2 and 3 vocational qualifications.	755 enrolments	950 enrolments	Fully delivered by July 2024
1, 2, 4, 6, 8	2. Deliver a high quality and accessible non-accredited, community learning funded adult learning offer in all Nottinghamshire districts.	Increase adult learning participation in non-accredited courses, in line with the seven community learning priorities.	4,145 learners	4,500 learners	Fully delivered by July 2024
1, 6	3. Build on non-accredited provision by developing progression routes from community learning into accredited learning.	Ensure that learners on all community learning courses have a 'next steps' advice session with reference to accredited courses delivered by Inspire and other local organisations.	Health and Social Care mapping exercise undertaken	Map all other vocational areas	April 2024 for the 2024/25 academic year
1, 8, 14, 18	4. Develop learners' transferable employability skills across both the 16-18 Study Programmes and 19+ Adult Learning curriculum.	Ensure that learners are developing their transferable employability skills on all Inspire provision. Review how effectively this is embedded into all curricula.		Review how effectively employability is embedded into all curricula	Review carried out by December 2023
1, 2, 6, 8	5. Deliver relevant National Skills Priorities within our Adult Learning	Construction, Health and Social Care, Digital and Technology, Science and Mathematics are the four	Delivering 4 National	Review curriculum to	April 2024

<sup>1</sup> Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Local Skills Improvement Plan, available online

	and Education Programmes for Young People .	main national priorities that Inspire will deliver in 2022/23	Skills Priorities	offer more National Skills Priority Courses	
1, 2	6. Deliver Level 3 Free Courses for Jobs (FCFJ) and Skills Bootcamps.	Deliver accredited learning to Nottinghamshire adults in line with the Level 3 Free Courses for Jobs and Skills Bootcamps offer.	49 enrolments	150 enrolments	Fully delivered by July 2024
1, 2, 6, 8	7. Decrease the number of Nottinghamshire young people who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) and close the educational attainment gap.	Develop partnerships with local schools, colleges and referral organisations. Maintain marketing focus through social media and local advertising.	226 learners	250 learners	February 2024
	8. Continue to provide the highest quality of learning and improve achievement rates across all aspects of the service.	Continue to improve upon the current successful achievement rate through a robust quality assurance process.	College 79.2% (21/22) Adult Learning 87.9% (21/22)	College 81% Adult Learning 89%	End of 2023/24 academic year <sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Actual publication of National Achievement Rate Tables will be March 2025

## Corporation Statement

On behalf of the Inspire Learning, it is hereby confirmed that the service plan as set out above reflects an agreed statement of purpose, aims and objectives as approved by the Chair of the Learning and Skills Committee on 27/05/2023. The plan is published on the service's website and can be accessed from the following link: <https://>

Signed Chair of Learning and Skills Committee:



Dated: 27/05/2023



## Reference to Relevant Supporting Documentation

Our service is informed by a range of existing partner and stakeholder strategies, including:

- Nottinghamshire County Council's Nottinghamshire Plan [here](#)
- Inspire's Forward Plan 2022 [here](#)
- Levelling Up White Paper, click [here](#)
- Skills for Jobs: Lifelong Learning for Opportunity and Growth White Paper, click [here](#)
- A healthier future for Nottingham and Nottinghamshire (part of the Sustainability and Transformation Plan), click [here](#)
- UK Shared Prosperity Fund, click [here](#)
- New Challenges New Chances: Further Education and Skills System Reform Plan 2011; Department of Business Innovation and Skills, click [here](#)
- Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Local Skills Improvement Plan, available online