

Report sponsor: Pauline Anderson – Service Director & Andy Smith Strategic Director of People.

Report author: Anna Mimms Head Employment Skills and Adult Education

Derby Adult Learning Service – Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG); English Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Integration Fund – follow on 2021/22 second phase project - permission to submit bid.

Purpose

- 1.1 To seek permission to apply for the MHCLG ESOL Integration fund phase 2 when it is published for tender.
 - Bid deadline for submission: End of May early June 2021
 - Project duration: 1 year – this follows on from the previous 2020/21 fund
 - Project start date: 1 August 2021 – 31 March 2022

Derby Adult Learning Service (DALs) is seeking approval to bid for approximately £0.4m of funding through the MHCLG ESOL Integration Fund stage 2; to engage with and deliver ESOL related learning opportunities to approximately 500 beneficiaries across Derby. The fund particularly welcomes bids that demonstrate collaboration with eligible local partners to deliver elements of the Community Engagement and ESOL delivery. These partners will be co-ordinated by DALs, who will ensure they have sufficient track record and quality management processes to provide compliant outcomes.

DALS is writing a collaborative bid with strategic partners in Derby spanning cultural, community and education sectors. This builds on our previous MHCLG bid approved by cabinet in May 2020 that was hailed by MHCLG as the national exemplar. We are specifically working with those 3rd Sector organisations who have access to hard to reach, new, emerging, and non-English speaking communities. This collaborative work is inclusive spanning services within Derby City Council (DCC) including cultural strategic partnerships, community, and Move More Derby.

- 1.2 Successful local authorities will be expected to support all participants' integration into British society and improve their connection to the local area. This can be achieved by building confidence to use English and engage with people outside their immediate community – mixing with those from different backgrounds and accessing services.

Deliver locally and engage learners who may be isolated or within segregated communities with little or no English language skills. Community-based tuition is the most effective means of engaging people who are in greatest need of support and may not have previously taken steps to learn English.

This fund will support highly localised English language provision in community buildings that learners may already be familiar with, such as schools, community centres and places of worship.

We want the fund to provide high-quality learning experiences. We know some learners new to English language learning may not have literacy skills in a first language, causing learning journeys to be slower or inconsistent. MHCLG aims to increase literacy skills through the teaching of reading, writing, speaking, and listening to learners at New to English Speakers of Other Languages ESOL Level ('Pre-Entry'- Entry Level 1).

Recommendations

- 2.1 To authorise the submission of a bid for the value of approximately £0.4m for the English Speakers of Other Languages ESOL Integration Fund to Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government MHCLG the award of grants to named partners.
- 2.2 To delegate authority to accept the MHCLG English Speakers of Other Languages ESOL integration funds to the Strategic Director for Peoples Services'.
- 2.3 To delegate the award of grants to named partners to the Strategic Director for Peoples Services.
- 2.4 If the bid is successful to delegate the acceptance of the funding to the Strategic Director for Peoples Service.

Reasons for recommendation

- 3.1 The Derby Adult Learning English Speakers of Other Languages ESOL Integration bid delivered in phase one 2020/2021 was hailed as the national exemplar with senior policy advisors presenting the project to the Secretary of State; and sharing the Derby model with the 25 other participating local authorities.

Phase 2 will build on our work with creative partners; providing funding support to Voluntary and Community organisations and link directly with the covid recovery plan and the Prevent agenda.

- 3.2 Derby Adult Learning is well placed to put in a successful and meaningful bid to this competitive open tender. Ministry of Housing, Community and Local Government MHCLG have indicated that they would welcome our submission
- 3.3 This funding represents an excellent opportunity to inject our communities with the funds, resources, skills and support necessary to address issues of isolation, racial tensions, confidence, and English-speaking skills.

- 3.4 After COVID-19, English speaking skills will be essential for isolated communities to seek help and support. This bid will engage the hardest to reach and provide practical support.
- 3.5 This project will work collaboratively with both larger and smaller grass roots community and cultural organisations ensuring a much need injection of support. This support will be hugely important part of DCCs after lock-down impact work with more isolated people and different cultural groups and associations.

Supporting information

- 4.1 In 2011 Census data showed that 90.5% of Derby residents (aged 3 and over) declared that English was their main language. 22,622 people had a language other than English as their main language. Of these 22,622, 41.9% spoke a South Asian language as their main language, 35.2% spoke a European language, 6.6% spoke a West / Central Asian language, 5.7% spoke an East Asian language, 3.4% spoke an African language and 2.8% spoke Arabic. Panjabi, Urdu, Polish, Slovak, Kurdish, and Latvian were the most commonly spoken individual languages. There were believed to be in excess of 71 languages spoken in Derby in 2011.

From all the data collected for an updated population profile of City residents we know that there are at least 158 languages / dialects spoken in Derby currently, 147 of which are spoken by children in Derby schools. Department for Education data shows that from 2013 to 2019 there was a 6.2% increase in the proportion of pupils whose first language was other than English in Derby state-maintained schools. In 2019 this group accounted for over a quarter of all pupils (26.3%).

Hate crime and support for victims or concerns regarding extremism and radicalisation – whilst a niche area, one issue we have is with some settled communities having a low literacy level and as a result, unaware of how to raise concerns.

- 4.2 **Feedback from DALs OFSTED inspection Deep Dive English Speakers of Other Languages ESOL**
Derby Adult Learning DALs Ofsted Inspection on 23/3/20.
 - Learners were well engaged and participated well
 - There was good learning and progress and learners commented on how they are using skills learnt in their social/daily life

Quality of Education

- The English Speakers of Other Languages ESOL curriculum focuses on the individuals to promote independent learning and preparing them for employment
- Most make good progress and they are confident in using skills learnt in real life
- There are commendable amounts of homework and learners enjoy and appreciate teachers
- Learners are confident

Leadership & Management

- ESOL staff collaborate well
- There is individual support
- There is positive focus on development

Learner Conversations:

- Teachers are ambitious for progression.
- Skills are built over time. They are building specific skills, which is building their confidence. They are being challenged.

Public/stakeholder engagement

- 5.1 This project will be delivered in partnership with a wide range of community stakeholders, building on relationships that the Cultural Strategy Group, Move More Derby, and others have already established. We will also continue to work with those partners who enabled phase one of the English Speakers of Other Languages ESOL integration fund to be so successful.
- 5.2 Regular engagement with 3rd sector partners is sustained through the delivery of the service. Bid proposes that 150 beneficiaries directly delivered by Derby Adult Learning DALs 350 directly delivered by partners.
- 5.3 The Quality Management Hub and Spoke Delivery Model is designed to optimise partnership working with local, grassroots organisations who already work with the hardest to reach individuals.
- 5.4 In preparation for developing the bid concept Anna Mimms, Head of Employment Skills and Adult Education has gained input from a wide range of 3rd sector organisation, such as: Baby People; Artcore; Quad, Derby Theatre, and DCC Community Engagement Services.

Funding to these Voluntary and Community Sector VCS creatives in phase one provided essential injections of cash that sustained English Speakers of Other Languages ESOL services in our communities throughout the Covid lockdowns. In phase 2 we will sustain and grow our impact.

Other options considered

- 6.1 Do nothing:
- Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government MHCLG will see a 'no bid' as a lack of interest in any future potential funding opportunities.
 - A waste of opportunity to build significant national influence in the innovation of English Speakers of Other Languages ESOL and community and creative partnership working.
 - Community groups will not have access to valuable funding and services at a time of significant challenge
- 6.2 Seek alternative funds to offer this type of English provision – non available

Financial and value for money issues

- 7.1 This bid would represent new funding to provide essential services to the some of the most vulnerable citizens of Derby, who ordinarily struggle to access services.

- 7.2 The proposed bid assumes Derby Adult Learning DALs would deliver 150 places directly and 350 through partnerships, the following forecasted income is projected for this project:

Project Coordinator	45,000
Delivery tutors (ESOL)	32,000
Delivery tutor (Employability)	10,000
Childcare/creche	15,000
Marketing & engagement	8,000
Quality, admin, MI, Senior Management	45,000
Resources, printing, food, refreshments, books	10,000
Room/Venue costs	10,000
Volunteer costs (CPD, travel, refreshments)	5,000
Partnership delivery	200,000
Community Events	20,000
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS	£400,000

- 7.3 Project co-ordination, quality, administration, MI, and Senior Management income is proportioned across both direct delivery and partnerships.
- 7.4 There is no matched funding requirement.
- 7.5 This is unrestricted funding.
- 7.6 There is no risk of pay back to Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government MHCLG if the targets are not met

Legal implications

- 8.1 Payments in the form of grants for agreed services and outcomes delivered by partners organisation will require an SLA from DCC. Review and revise the previous successful partnership agreements from 2020/21.

Climate implications:

- 9.1 We propose an increase in digital skills training and the use of virtual cafés to engage learners, reduce travel, and reduce carbon footprint.
- 9.2 We are improving our use of digital technologies to complete core functions and processes linked with enrolling learners and processing fees, to reduce the use of paper in our centres.

Personnel:

- 10.1 We propose to extend the contract, to cover the 2nd phase of the project, of the existing project Co-Ordinator.
- 10.2 Volunteers to be recruited specifically for the project to follow normal recruitment processes.

- 10.3 Management, quality, administration, and support staff hours will be allocated as required; no additional permanent staff will be recruited.

IT:

- 11.1 The project will include elements of digital skills training and the use technology to support learners to access online local support and services.

Equalities impact:

- 12.1 The project aims to specifically work with 3rd Sector organisations who have access to hard to reach, new, emerging, and non-English speaking communities. This collaborative work is inclusive spanning services within DCC including cultural strategic partnerships, community, and Move More Derby.
- 12.2 The project will be delivered locally and aims to engage learners who may be isolated or within segregated communities with little or no English language skills. Community-based tuition is the most effective means of engaging people who are in greatest need of support and may not have previously taken steps to learn English.

Health & Safety:

- 13.1 Risk assessments will be completed for all Derby Adult Learning outreach and practical activity.

Other significant implications

- 14.1 Quality visits, risk assessments, clearly agreed outcomes and phased payments will mitigate any risks of noncompliance with partner organisations.

This report has been approved by the following people:

Role	Name	Date of sign-off
Legal	Olu Idowu	28 April 2021
Finance	Alison Parkin	28 April 2021
Service Director(s)	Pauline Anderson OBE	28 April 2021
	Andy Smith	28 April 2021
Report sponsor	Cllr Evonne Williams	28 April 2021
Other(s)		

Background papers:	N/A
List of appendices:	N/A