



Department  
for Education

Steve Broomhead  
Chief Executive  
Warrington Borough Council  
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11 March 2015

I am writing to inform you of the government's view of the position of Warrington Borough Council Community Employment Learning and Skills Service in light of the Further Education (FE) Commissioner's review, and the next steps that will be taken to secure improvement.

As you are aware, in light of the inadequate grading following the Ofsted inspection of Warrington Borough Council Community Employment Learning and Skills Service in October 2014, I have asked the FE Commissioner, Dr David Collins, to carry out a short, sharp assessment. The assessment of Warrington Borough Council Community Employment Learning and Skills Service was conducted between 2 and 6 February 2015.

I have now considered the FE Commissioner's assessment, which includes a set of recommendations. I have accepted all these recommendations. A summary of the assessment and the recommendations is provided with this letter. The summary and my letter to you will be published on [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) following receipt of your response to this letter.

While I acknowledge the importance apprenticeships and Adult and Community Learning to Warrington and to the Council's wider economic strategy, I agree with the FE Commissioner's conclusion that the delivery of this provision would be better provided by the colleges and other providers in the area. I also share his views that it would be helpful for the Council to focus its role on setting the strategic framework against which Adult and Community Learning should be delivered in the area. To address this I am sure you will want to strengthen the leadership and management in order to ensure immediate improvement of the provision for which the Council is responsible, to ensure effective transfer of provision to other providers going forward, and to enabling the Council to take on its strategic role in setting the framework and plan for delivery of Adult and Community Learning in Warrington going forward.

I have asked my officials at the Skills Funding Agency to work with you and experienced colleges and providers in the area to ensure that high quality skills programmes remain on offer to the learners of Warrington.



Department  
for Business  
Innovation & Skills

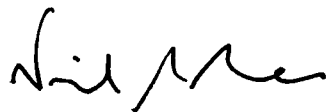

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My officials at the Skills Funding Agency will be in touch shortly to arrange a meeting between you, the Leader of the Council and the FE Commissioner to discuss this letter and agree next steps, and how Lancashire Adult Learning will work with the FE Commissioner. It is suggested that an FE Adviser monitors the implementation of your recovery plan, ahead of a further stock take assessment at the end of the spring term.

If you have any questions about the FE Commissioner's assessment or this letter please contact Debbie Corcoran ([Debbie.corcoran@sfa.bis.gov.uk](mailto:Debbie.corcoran@sfa.bis.gov.uk)) at the Skills Funding Agency in the first instance.

I am copying this letter to Councillor Terry O'Neil, Leader of Warrington Borough Council.



**NICK BOLES MP**