



**Rt Hon Anne Milton MP**

Minister of State for Apprenticeships and Skills  
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Mr Gavin Jones  
Essex County Council  
County Hall  
Market Road  
Chelmsford  
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Dear Gavin

I am writing to inform you of the Government's view of the position of Essex County Council's Adult and Community Learning Service (ACLS) in the light of Further Education (FE) Commissioner and Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) monitoring, since the Commissioner's initial intervention assessment in February 2017.

Following a recent inspection by Ofsted, I am encouraged to note that Essex County Council ACLS has now been re-assessed and has received an improved Ofsted grading of 'Good'. This improved grade from 'Inadequate' within a fourteen month period is testament to the focus and commitment of you and your senior leadership team, to ensuring your learners have access to good quality provision.

Given the improved Ofsted grading, and the measures taken to address the weaknesses identified by both Ofsted and the FE Commissioner, I am pleased to remove Essex County Council ACLS from FE Commissioner Intervention.

The ESFA will shortly write to you about its continuing monitoring and support processes.

This letter will be published on gov.uk. I am copying this letter to MPs: Robert Halfon, Kemi Badenoch, James Cleverly, Bernard Jenkin, Giles Watling, Will Quince, Priti Patel, Vicky Ford, Alex Burghart, Eleanor Laing, John Whittingdale, Mark Francois, James Duddridge, Rebecca Harris, John Baron, Sir David Amess and Stephen Metcalfe.

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