

ADULT COMMUNITY LEARNING

REPORT CARD – February 2016



What We Do

Adult Community Learning provides a range of learning activities for post 16 year olds in Neath Port Talbot. It is non-statutory and around 60% of adult community learning courses provided in Neath Port Talbot County are delivered by Adult Community Learning (ACL) using two streams of external funding:

1. Welsh Government
2. a franchise agreement with Neath Port Talbot College Group

Unfortunately, the Family Learning grant ceased last year. However, ACL has continued to work with schools providing as many free courses as possible to encourage families back into education.

ACL acknowledges the importance of engaging adults in the learning process, developing their soft skills (including their confidence to learn) and ensuring progression into more formal learning and/or employment. An example of this is the Introduction to Childcare which raises awareness of opportunities and helps learners improve their learning skills in preparation for undertaking more formal training onto the QCF level 2 and then the level 3 in Children's Care, Learning and Development. Other courses delivered by ACL are literacy, numeracy, study skills, confidence building, employability skills, GCSE mathematics and English etc. Adult Community Learning ensures that costs are kept to a minimum e.g. literacy, numeracy, study skills courses etc are free, to enable all residents in NPT to access learning to improve skills.

Adult Community Learning works with partners to guarantee that the best possible opportunities are available in NPT by utilising funding; this includes providing tutors to deliver courses for Communities First, Glynneath Training Centre etc.

Who We Work With

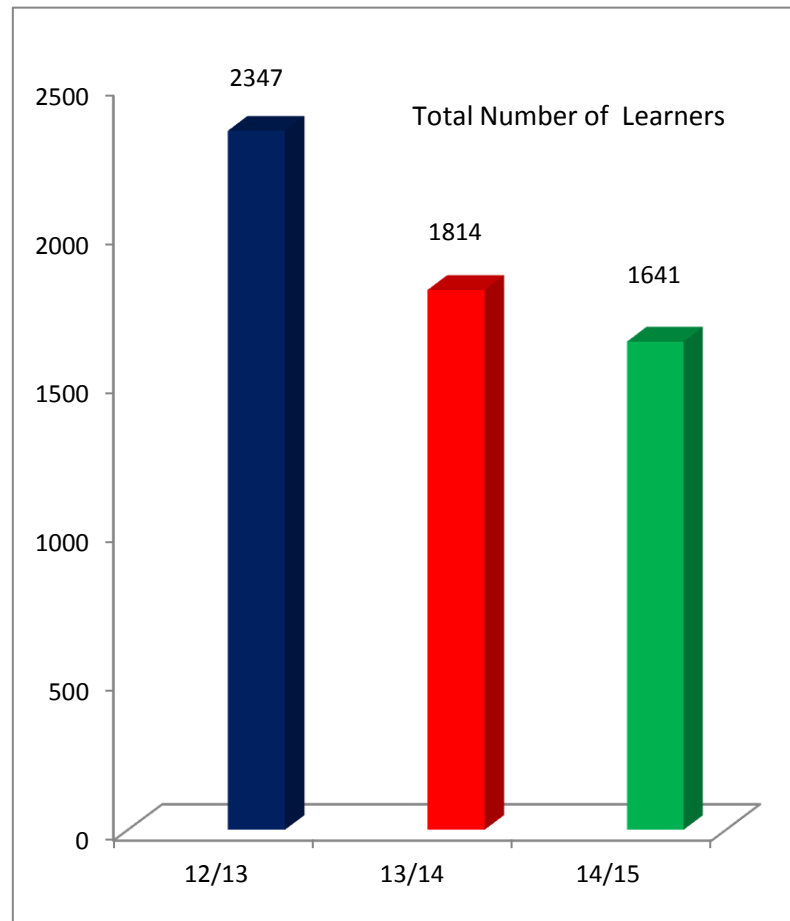
Neath Port Talbot Adult Community Learning (ACL) is a part of the Adult Learning Network (ALN). The partnership, which was set up in 2000 under the New Learning Network, is now well established and involves a range of public and voluntary-sector organisations in Neath Port Talbot County Borough including:

- NPTC Group
- Neath Port Talbot Council for Voluntary Service;
- Workers' Educational Association (WEA) South Wales;
- Swansea University Department of Adult Continuing Education
- South West Wales Welsh for Adults Centre
- NPT Homes
- Open University

ACL also works closely with:

- Communities First
- Department of Work and Pension
- Shaw Trust
- DOVE
- Glynneath Training Centre
- Neath YMCA
- NPT Primary and Comprehensive Schools
- NPT - Community Centres
- Skills and Training
- Community Groups/Clubs
- The Work Programme
- Youth Service
- Flying Start / Playworks/ Playgroups/ Crèches

How Much Did We Do?



How Do We Deliver the Service?

Since 2012/13 staffing levels have reduced considerably – present staffing levels are: 3 full time, 2 part time and 18 tutors. In 2014, ACL had 7 full time staff, 3 part time and approximately 40 tutors.

The ACL direct funding grant from the Welsh Government has reduced since 2013/14 from £135,235 to £221,039. Funding for 2016/17 has yet to be confirmed by the Welsh Government. NPTC Group cut the franchise budget by 50% in 2014/15. The budget was £286,560 – this year the budget is £143,360. Funding from the college covers the academic year – August – July and the service needs to deliver the appropriate amount of learning to ensure that the target set by NPTC Group is met (to achieve the full funding allocation). Over the past two years, by working closely with different partners, ACL has managed to bring in some external funding by offering accreditation, providing tutors etc. ACL has always worked within budget and our sickness records indicate the commitment to providing a high quality of service.

Adult Community Learning Sickness Absence

Average FTE days Lost per Employee - Quarter 3 (1st April to 31st December)

	Quarter 3 2014/15	Quarter 3 2015/16
FTE Days Lost	18	8
Average FTE Employees	8.6	7.8
FTE Days lost per Employee	2.1	1.0
Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning Services FTE Days Lost per Employee	6.1	6.2
Council FTE Days lost per Employee	6.7	6.8

How Well Do We Deliver? (Data for 14/15 published in March 2016)

Partnership Benchmarking data - 13/14 Completion 94% Attainment – 91% Success – 86%

Franchise Benchmarking data – 13/14 Completion 93% Attainment – 89% Success – 84%

Direct ACL Benchmarking data – 13/14 Completion 91% Attainment – 88% Success – 83%

2012/13	ALN Partnership	Franchise	Direct	2013/14	ALN Partnership	Franchise	Direct	2014/15	ALN Partnership	Franchise	Direct
Completion	94%	99%	94%	Completion	98%	99%	99%	Completion	Awaiting figures	Awaiting figures	98%
Attainment	86%	82%	72%	Attainment	88%	87%	96%	Attainment	Awaiting figures	Awaiting figures	98%
Success	81%	77%	67%	Success	86%	86%	95%	Success	Awaiting figures	Awaiting figures	95%

How Well Did We Do It? - Learner survey

A total of 61894 learners across Wales took part in an IPSOS survey, including 148 learners from Neath Port Talbot Adult Community Learning

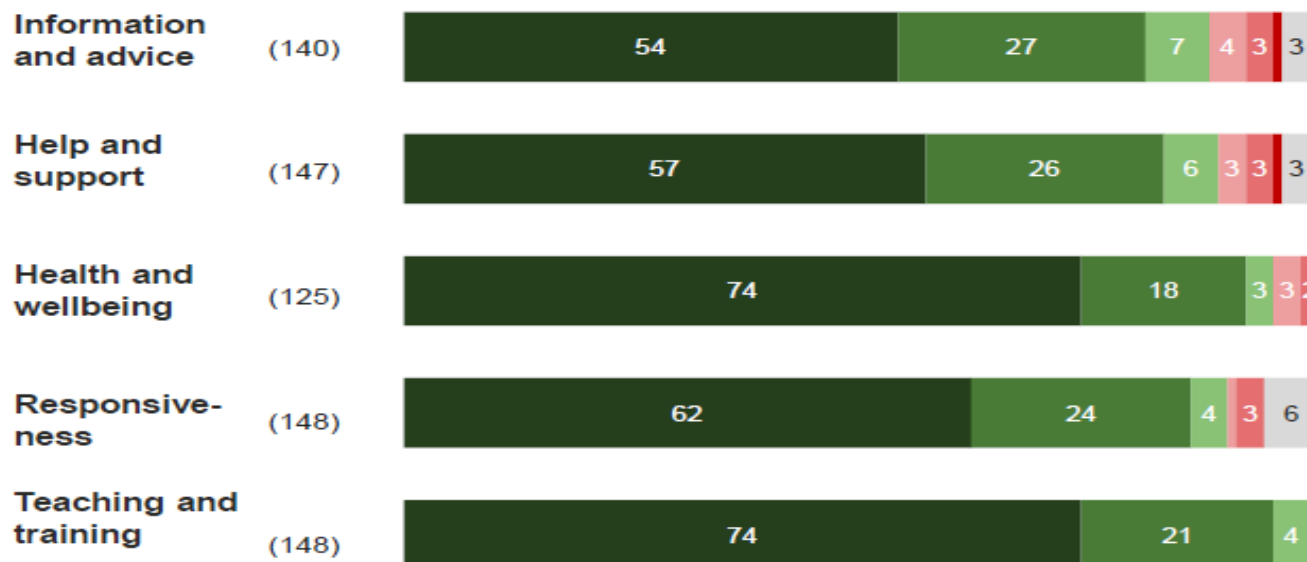
How do you rate ACL – 91% very good/good in 2014 89% very good/good in 2015

Is the course what you expected - 92% very good/good in 2014 92% very good/good in 2015

Breakdown of learner satisfaction

These composite scores are calculated by combining answers to key themes in the survey

Very good Good Fairly good Fairly poor Poor Very poor Don't know



Your score	Benchmark % 'very good' ACL	Your % change from 2014
54	52	-1
57	60	-4
74	75	+2
62	62	+3
74	73	-2

Learner Voice Wales survey 2015. Fieldwork conducted Dec 1st 2014 – Feb 20th 2015. A total of 61894 took part in the survey, including learners in further education, work-based learning, adult community learning (4728), and Welsh for Adults. A total of 148 took part from Neath Port Talbot Adult Learning Network Base size for individual questions shown in brackets. For ease of display, figures below 2% are not shown on the chart.

ACL Development

- To continue to provide accurate data to LLWR (Lifelong Learning Wales Record) ensuring exact records.
- Linking with the NPTC Group to provide electronic data on franchise learners.
- To continue to develop tracking information on learners e.g. learner support, exit data, courses etc.
- To provide attainment records / store certificates on learners' achievements.
- To provide more information on learning opportunities that are not being provided in NPT by Adult Community Learning e.g. clubs, groups.
- To import Wales Essential Skills Toolkit (WEST) results into the ACL website.
- Creating an online section of the ACL website to house information for all clubs / groups across NPT.

Story Behind the Data

DIRECT DATA

- Up until February 2014, Adult Community Learning was using Maytas (Management Information System) to store and record learner data but following many issues with the company, the contract ceased in February 2014. ACL now uses Sharepoint (ACL website) to record data which is an internal system.
- Data transferred from the ACL website (Management Information System) to LLWR (Lifelong Learning Wales Record) was accurate in 13/14 as a result the Direct data has improved – learning activity success is up by 27% and for 14/15 - success remains the same at 95% (see above graph).
- Funding has reduced substantially over the last 3 year – this has had an impact on staffing, enrolments and courses being delivered in NPT. ACL works closely with partners to try and provide the same learning opportunities for the residents of NPT.

FRANCHISE

- Franchise courses for 14/15 - data is electronically submitted to the college. As this is a new way of transferring data, there have been a number of issues. By transferring data electronically, we hope to avoid duplication and increase data accuracy.
- Data transfer has been a concern as NPTC Group was unable to transfer to LLWR - this was only completed in January 2016 for 14/15 data. Less time for ACL to ensure result data was accurately submitted – benchmarking data may not be accurate.
- There has been a 50% reduction in funding from the college in 15/16 – this has had an effect on the number of courses being delivered in NPT.

Other Information

- The ALN Partnership data is published on the Welsh Government website. Attainment and Success improved in 13/14 – completion remained the same. Overall learning activity success is 86% - the national comparator is also 86%. 14/15 data will be published at the end of March 2016.
- ACL continues to support past ACL classes that have moved to clubs/groups by advertising information on the ACL website, referring, marketing information at events.
- Screening for ACL learners is via WEST (new literacy/numeracy screening tool) as directed by the Welsh Government and this is used to influence curriculum development and support.

Next Key Actions To Do Better

What?	Who?	By When?
• Continue to improve benchmarking data (completion, attainment and success) to be above the National Comparator for all ACL courses.	ACL	February 2017
• To continue to improve the quality of teaching in ACL by providing access to quality continuing professional development.	ACL	September 2016
• Improve system for assessing, recording, and monitoring learners with additional learning needs.	ACL	September 2016
• To screen learners who are on literacy/numeracy course and those learners who are studying more than 5 hours per week – as directed by the Welsh Government and use this data to inform curriculum development.	ACL	September 2016
• Develop Digital Literacy classes for all to provide opportunities for learners at all levels. To utilise technology to assist them in developing transferable skills that increase the capacity for self-advocacy and self-directed study.	ACL	January 2017
• Continue to provide as much support as possible to the clubs/groups that were ACL courses.	ACL	April 2016