

SPOTLIGHT

A graphic of a spotlight beam shining down on the word 'SPOTLIGHT'. The beam is yellow and originates from a grey spotlight head at the top left. Below the main title, there is a logo for 'Suffolk County Council' and 'ADULT LEARNING SERVICE' with several colorful circles (blue, green, orange, purple) arranged in a staircase pattern.

Suffolk
County Council

ADULT
LEARNING
SERVICE

ISSUE 13 | 1 May 2021

Welcome

Spotlight 13 - keeping you in touch with the latest Adult Learning news across the region and nationally.

We look forward to receiving your feedback and any information that you would like to be included in future newsletters.

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- 2021-22 Mini-Competitions
- ESFA/AEB reconciliation for 2020-21 Update
- ESFA (AEB) funding and performance management rules 2020 to 2021 - Version 6
- FE Workforce Data Collection
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- Latest SCC updates

Please circulate our newsletter to everyone working on projects for the Adult Learning Service, and to anyone that you feel may be interested in learning more about what we do!

Don't forget to find out more by visiting our website: [Learnsuffolk.org](https://learnsuffolk.org)



SERVICE NEWS

- **2021-22 Mini Competitions:** The following mini competitions have been published on Suffolk Sourcing's Suffolk Adult & Community Learning Service DPS (CD1281):
 - ✓ Supporting Positive Wellbeing (*Contract Value: 2 x Lots of £50,000*)
 - ✓ Supporting with English, IT & Digital Skills for Speakers of Other Languages (*Contract value: £60,000*)
 - ✓ Support into Work (*Contract value: £50,000*)
 - ✓ Promoting Social Inclusion (*Contract value: £50,000*)



Approved providers are invited to submit Returns for any of the above by 12.00noon on **Tuesday, 4th May 2021**.

If you are interested in becoming an Approved Provider for future opportunities, please contact kathy.simpson@suffolk.gov.uk.

- **ESFA/AEB reconciliation for 2020-21 Update:** The ESFA confirmed a revised threshold for grant funded AEB providers for 2020-21 from 97% to 90%. Adult education has been impacted very significantly across England, clawback of funding

will have detrimental effects to the future of adult and lifelong learning. There is a petition to prevent the ESFA from clawing back any 2020-21 Adult Education funding.

The **petition** can be found here: <https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/582855>

- **Sentinel Leisure Trust's - Positive Change Course:** Sentinel have recently produced the following promotion for their course: <https://fb.watch/52UNKNaFIM/>



- **Suffolk Adult Learners' Awards 2021 – 24th June 2021, 6.00pm:** The Awards, now in their 10th year, celebrate the outstanding achievements of adult learners and their teachers. They recognise the commitment shown by tutors, volunteers, providers and learners while demonstrating the impact adult learning has on the lives of individuals. [Suffolk Adult Learners Awards 2021 | University of Suffolk \(uos.ac.uk\)](https://www.uos.ac.uk/suffolk-adult-learners-awards-2021)

Note: Nominations for the awards closed on 30th April 2021.



CONTRACT CATCH-UP

Catch up on meetings, data, events and updates

- **Version 6 - ESFA adult education budget (AEB) funding and performance management rules 2020 to 2021:** Version 6 of the rules were published on 21st April 2021. Please see link for full details: [Version 6](#)
- **2021-22 Mini Competitions:** Mini-Competitions will be evaluated following the official close on Tuesday, 4th May 2021 and Awards will be made in early May.
- **ESFA Update - FE Workforce Data Collection:** The data submission will be **mandatory** from 2021-22: [FE Data Collection](#)
- **Service Network Meeting 26th May 10.00am-12.00pm:** The 3rd of our Network Meetings this year will again be held on-line, via Teams.

LEARNER VOICE



Some of our learners have been telling us about how important on-line courses have been over the last year.

Learner P,
Realise Futures

"I was so pleased when I went to class. With the lockdown it has helped me a lot, finding out about things that have changed so much. My car MOT changed, when rubbish bins would start again, sending photos to my boy in the States...I did send one by mistake with me in my face mask to a holiday booking that was made...They wondered what I was doing...Gave them a laugh 😊 Play lots of games, it helps me to relax instead of watching doom and gloom on TV"

"I have an old second-hand tablet at home and wanted to learn more about how to properly use it... My newfound knowledge and confidence will now help both me and my husband in the future, although it has made me more confident with online shopping, so I can now read my electricity meter online and can sort out payments...It's given me options and that's what it's all about as you get older isn't it?" Learner D, Realise Futures

Learner D,
Realise Futures

Learner E,
Realise Futures

"Because I live with COPD, I was only able to make 8 of the 10 sessions; this hot weather has made my breathing difficult. I had never even switched on a tablet or a computer before this course; I was egged on by my children. I really want to learn... I am so pleased to have done this, and to have a tablet of my own at the end of it is just marvellous."

Suffolk LATEST UPDATES County Council

- **Community testing centres:** These sites offer Lateral Flow **COVID-19 Testing for people who cannot work from home and do not** have symptoms of Covid-19. The test process takes about 15 minutes with the result provided via text within an hour. People are advised to get tested at least twice a week. At the moment, those who work from home should not leave home to get tested, unless they have symptoms.



Regular testing has a very significant role in helping Suffolk live with and manage Covid-19. One in three people who have Covid-19 have no symptoms at all, so regular testing is vital in breaking this invisible chain of infection.

For further details and to book a test, visit the [COVID-19 asymptomatic testing webpage](#). There is also a YouTube video presented by Stuart on community testing. This can be found on the [SCC YouTube channel](#).

- **Latest SCC Guidance on Coronavirus (Covid-19):** Visit our website on how to check central government and NHS advice, plus answers to common questions about COVID-19. [The Suffolk County Council COVID-19 website contains some frequently asked questions and is updated regularly](#)
- **Suffolk County Council launches a new website to support sustainable travel:** The Way To Go Suffolk website provides information and advice on walking and cycling, public transport, car sharing and electric vehicles and features up to date information on how people can travel more sustainably across the county: [The Way To Go Suffolk](#)



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We look forward to receiving your feedback and any information that you would like to be included in future newsletters.

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Funding Agency



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