

## PRESS RELEASE

### 2023 Suffolk Adult Learners' Awards

On 29<sup>th</sup> June Suffolk County Council hosted and organised the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Suffolk Adult Learner Awards at Endeavour House, Ipswich.

The Suffolk Adult Learners' Awards celebrate the positive impact of learning for learners as well as celebrating the hard work, commitment, motivation and skill of the people who work within the adult education sector to support learners with their journey.

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*"The annual Suffolk Adult Learning Awards provides a fantastic opportunity to celebrate and showcase the vital role Adult and Community Education plays in enabling lifelong learning, in supporting our residents in Suffolk on their journey to learn skills to move towards, enter, return or progress in work. It is also essential to recognise and highlight that successful adult education experiences impact very positively for those who engage with learning and reduces loneliness, makes people happier, healthier, more confident, capable, and resilient."*

*Councillor Rachel Hood, Cabinet Member for Education, SEND and Skills.*

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Sponsors of the Awards this year included: Suffolk County Council; East Coast College; West Suffolk College; Suffolk New; Ipswich Community Media & Learning and Realise Futures CIC.

The evening was hosted by Cad Taylor, (BBC Belongings and the Hive, Ipswich) and this year Winners were presented with a Trophy plus a £200 voucher.

Many congratulations to all the winners and runners up and all those who were nominated.

Winner: Carole Clarke, nominated by Green Light Trust



#### Outstanding Learner Award

"Carol is one of the most inspirational women I have ever met. From her first interaction with GLT she has given so much to support others whilst improving her own quality of life at the same time."

Link to Carole's journey: [Super Carol Volunteer award video - YouTube](#)

Winner: Linda Vines, nominated by Ipswich Community Media & Learning



#### Outstanding Service to Adult and Community Learning

"Peace Love and Happiness Is all any of us really want out of life. Linda has sprinkled more than her fair share of PLH onto the refugees, as and migrants coming to our shores looking for a better life.

Many come with nothing many only carry with them the baggage of war, trauma and abuse.

Through her undying commitment to social justice and only seeing the best in everyone Linda has transformed the lives of so many of our learners through learning and pastoral support into engaged, productive citizens. This in turn makes a wonderful contribution to our local diverse community that with Linda's support will continue to prosper and thrive."

The evening was a huge success and we heard inspirational stories about the impact this sector of education can have.