



Wirral Met College

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Pound Plus Policy

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What is Pound Plus?

Pound Plus refers to additional income generated by education and training providers over and above core income from the Education and Skills Funding Agency's (ESFA) Adult Education Budget. It is a term used to describe how providers can show how they are maximising the value of public investment. This is important because generating additional value is central to the objective of driving up participation within a very constrained public funding environment.

Pound Plus includes additional income generated or savings made through course fees, financial sponsorship, access to new learning spaces made available at no or reduced costs; use of volunteer workers; donations of equipment or consumable items and access to other funding sources or grants.

Wirral Met College and generation of Pound Plus

Wirral Met offers a balanced programme of courses. This includes courses open to all adults as advertised in our prospectus as well as provision designed to meet specific needs of learners and/or communities i.e. learners with learning difficulties/disabilities, family learning, those recovering from mild to moderate mental health difficulties and those from deprived communities. Courses are created and delivered in the community in response to local need and in partnership with local community groups e.g. Tomorrow's Women courses are specifically designed for women only groups

The ESFA contributes to the overall costs of delivering the programmes, but this particularly constrained funding resource often does not cover the necessary costs to deliver a quality offer to the community.

To address this issue the College:

- 1) Regularly reviews all activity to ensure efficient and effective delivery;
- 2) Works closely with partner stakeholders to secure additional resources or to deliver in a more effective manner for the community. For example, the College secured its new Hamilton Campus from Wirral Council with associated funding from the Liverpool Combined Authority;
- 3) Focus upon meaningful educational activities that enhance the prospects of the local community and is not distracted by peripheral activities that may generate additional income but would do so at a loss.

Monitoring

Wirral Met will carry out regular reviews of provision through our quality processes and self-assessment processes.