

## **To receive an update on Cornwall Councils provisions for Adult Education in Saltash and consider any actions**

Meeting with Cornwall Council Adult Education representatives  
Saltash Guildhall 13<sup>th</sup> March 2024

### **Present**

Rob Sweetzer-Sturt | Head of Service – Adult Education  
Emma Fox | Area Coordinator – Adult Education  
Councillor Richard Bickford – Saltash Town Council  
Councillor Julia Peggs – Saltash Town Council  
Councillor Hilary Frank – Cornwall Council  
Councillor Shelia Lennox-Boyd – Cornwall Council  
Councillor Martin Worth – Cornwall Council

### **Introduction**

Rob explained that Adult Education was funded per enrolled student, so ‘bums on seats’ were very important and that they needed to stay the course. It was stated that there has been a slower return to the classroom since the pandemic for some subjects. Vocational subjects are very popular at the moment.

In Saltash they operate from one room hired from the Saltash Wesley Church. Rob stated that they are happy with the offer at the Church. There is capacity to grow the offer as only basic Math and English are offered at present.

Members gave feedback that the relatively few learners taking the current courses are extremely impressed but expressed their disappointment at the lack of subjects available to residents of Saltash and the immediate area.

When asked about the poor range of courses offered in Saltash, a number of reasons were given:

- Lack of interest/demand
- Difficulty in finding the right training location (mixture of affordability and facilities) for vocational subjects such as Art, Pottery, Lino Printing etc
- Difficulty in finding trainers willing to travel as far as Saltash

How are they planning to improve the situation

- Try to identify trainers willing to travel to Saltash
- Examine which courses might easily be delivered in Saltash
- Aiming to put on 4 more courses from September 2024

It was pointed out that Adult Ed have been given a large facility in Liskeard as part of the Cattle Market development. When it was queried why Adult Ed does not seem to be involved in the Estates Transformation programme in Saltash, Rob said they were not aware of the programme, and no approach had been made to them. Rob undertook to investigate.

**Councillor Richard Bickford**  
**April 2024**