

**Pound Plus Policy**

<b>Policy number</b>	<b>New or review date</b>	<b>Date of next review</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
<b>P112</b>	<b>New – February 2023</b>	<b>September 2025</b>	<b>Curriculum Manager – Adult Skills</b>

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## Introduction - What is Pound Plus?

Pound Plus is a term used to describe how learning providers can show how they are maximising the value of the public funding they receive. Generating any extra income allows us to make sure that we are using a limited funding allocation to reach as many adult learners as possible. The aim is for us to provide opportunities for adults in Bath and North East Somerset who are at the greatest distance from education and employment.

The West of England Combined Authority (WECA) and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) require providers to detail how they provide added value to their Community Learning Provision.

## Support of the Strategic Priorities

This policy and those related will continue to support the strategic priorities as shown below.

	We will.....	We will....	We will....	We will....	We will....	We will....
<b>AMBITION</b>	<b>Create and deliver a dynamic, flexible and influential curriculum</b>	<b>Be known for delivering the highest quality provision</b>	<b>Achieve growth on an enhanced estate</b>	<b>Create strategic partnerships to benefit learners</b>	<b>Be at the heart of the community where there is a place for everyone</b>	<b>Commit to a net zero future now</b>
<b>PRODUCT</b>	We will have.... An Influential curriculum	We will have.... The highest quality provision	We will have.... A growing college with a strong asset base	We will have.... Impactful partnerships	We will have.... A central role in the communities we serve	We will have.... A roadmap to net zero
<b>BEHAVIOURS</b>	We will be.... Innovative and Influential	We will be.... Relentless in our pursuit of quality	We will be.... Creative and ambitious with our estate	We will be.... Impactful partners	We will be.... Proud of our inclusivity and diversity	We will be.... Committed to a net zero future

## Purpose

The aim of 'Pound Plus' within Community Learning is to maximise the impact of funding allocated by WECA and the ESFA. It is used to increase the ability to offer high-quality community learning service meeting the needs of the individual learners across BaNES. Bath College recognises the responsibility to add value to the funding received and that it should take appropriate action to attract additional income (actual or in kind), and reduce costs to widen the offer available to disadvantaged learners who otherwise may not be able to afford course fees.

## **1 Generating Pound Plus**

Generating Pound Plus has been embedded into the curriculum design of all Community Learning provision. Its main elements include: -

- Contributions in kind
- Collaborative working with community or industry partners/agencies
- Fee Income from courses
- Funding from other government departments and/or commercial sales
- Volunteer activities
- Sharing services and/or pooling of resources
- Other income streams and non-income

## **2 Income Generation**

### **2.1 Fees and charges policy**

Through the fees and charges policy the College generates income from those learners who can afford to pay for their community learning course. Fee remission is in place for individuals who, due to personal circumstances are unable to pay for some or all of their course.

### **2.2 Cost Savings**

#### Accommodation

Courses are held where possible in venues that are accessible to learners and which are free of charge across BaNES.

#### Shared Services

Sharing processing, compliance, welfare, monitoring and quality costs across the wider College in addition to making use of wider resources available to all College learners enhances the learning experience for adult community learners.

### Partnership Working

Through partnership working, additional provision and services are provided that aim to engage and fully support hard to reach learners both within and outside of the learning environment.

## **2.3 Value for Money**

Bath College Adult Community Learning ensures that the curriculum available is designed in response to the learning and skills needs identified by the local community – through individual and organisational demand – and in response to the local strategic objectives.

## **3 Effectiveness of the curriculum**

We provide courses that encourage participation which lead to increased and improved progression opportunities.

### **3.1 In Kind Resources**

It is difficult to fully quantify the value of all in kind resources, the added value of the knowledge, external support and guidance provided by partners and referral agencies is one of the strongest ways to enhance the learner experience.

Bath College also benefits from the donation of free or subsidised community premises and venues which allow provision to be delivered within target communities and reach learners who would otherwise struggle to access the opportunities.

Local media outlets and promoters can help raise the profile of the provision whilst providing case studies to inspire those who might otherwise not engage with Community learning.

Volunteers and support staff (often experts working for local voluntary and statutory bodies) are both a cost saving and in kind resource helping to remove barriers to learning and providing professional expertise to maximise the chance for learners to thrive.

## **5 Monitoring and Review**

This policy will be reviewed in line with the date detailed or earlier where legislation, a change in contractual requirement, or an occurrence determines a review is necessary.