

Request

In relation to the decision made by Wigan Council/Cath Pealing to withdraw funding for My Life Learning can you please provide the following information.

1. Was a report written on the decision for the public and/or other stakeholders?
 - a. If no report was written, then please state this and the reasons why a report was not written.
 - b. If a report was written, then I would like a copy of the report.
 - c. If a report was written, was it referred to either the Cabinet Office or the Children and Young Peoples Scrutiny Committee.
 - d. If the report was not referred, please state it was not referred and the reasons why it was not referred.
 - e. If the report was referred, to either the Cabinet Office or the Children and Young Peoples scrutiny committee or both then please state the date/s this happened.
 - f. If the report was referred to another body, committee, Office, stakeholder etc... then please state the name/s and the date/s of the referral.
2. The Public Sector Equality Duty states that a public body has the following Specific Duty: Assessing the impact of changes is an important part of complying with the equality duty and assessments should be done before changes are made.
 - a. Please provide the assessments that were completed before this decision was made.
 - b. If no assessments were completed, then please state that no assessments were completed and the reasons why?
3. The ESFA provided the following information: DfE/ESFA took the formal decision to terminate the funding agreement with MLL once confirmation was received from the commissioning local authorities that they intended to withdraw their learners and that alternative high quality educational placements could be made available for the learners in question by 31 October 2022.

Please state the names of the alternative high quality educational placements that were supposed to be available to the learners who were impacted by the decision to withdraw funding to MLL.

Response

1. There was no requirement under the Council's Constitution for an officers report to be prepared for elected members .The decision was a commissioning decision.
2. No Equality Impact Assessment was required given the nature of the decision
3. In Wigan LAs letter to the ESFA stating that we were withdrawing all of our learners from My Life Learning we stated 'we perceive it to be in the best interests of our young people to source alternative placements with other commissioned providers, who we are confident can provide access to a safe and quality education.

We did not name specific providers. We met with the ESFA and colleagues from MLL regularly to update on progress identifying placements.