

**Adult and Community Learning Service (ACL)**

Transformation Fund Bidding outcomes:

The ACL service leads an Adult Learning Partnership for Camden bringing together providers of informal adult learning, including the ACL service itself; the 4 colleges; the British Library and Museum; a number of local museums (at least 8) from the Foundling to the Freud museums; the library service; English Heritage (Kenwood House); the Roundhouse and the Wellcome Trust. Also involved are a number of Council services such as the labour market and economy team in C&E; the integrated early years' service (for employability involvement with parents); extended services in schools; Camden Working; the Camden Training network; the Active Health team in C&E; Age Concern Camden and the Learning and Skills Council.

A bid was submitted on behalf of the Partnership to the £20m Transformation Fund set up as part of the Government's White Paper 'The Learning Revolution'. The aim is to identify new ways of working locally to improve the offer of learning activities (in their widest sense, not just traditional courses) and to engage those in the area who are not currently taking part in what's available. See: [www.bis.gov.uk/learningrevolution](http://www.bis.gov.uk/learningrevolution)

We have now been informed that the bid was successful and we've been allocated £194,520 to be spent between now and the end of March 2010. There were 213 successful bids out of 1,400 applications nationally. Camden's bid is identified as a 'showcase' project as the funding is over £100k which requires an element of matched funding and a reasonably high public profile.

There are 4 main aims:

1. Strengthen and broaden the partnership
2. Engage local residents to take up learning opportunities and to build confidence through a 'Community Champions' approach of training local people to organise their own activities and visits in the future
3. Create a 'Learning Market' (labelled as the 'Inspiration Market') in local shopping areas and social housing estates to stimulate demand for learning, culminating with a showcase event at the British Museum
4. Provide clear information about the opportunities available across the borough for learners and providers through the website

The bid contains an exciting blend of activities for partners to undertake, including a community choir at the Foundling Museum; a community quilt produced by a partnership between City Lit and Westminster Kingsway College; and setting up temporary 'learning markets' in empty shops on the high streets, linked to the Pop-Up shops initiative of the Council, for artistic activities or local clubs and societies to recruit new members.

The project will be overseen by Brian Mitchell, managed through the ACL team and an external consultant and individual projects will be delivered by organisations in the partnership, most of them by working jointly with other members.

The Partnership is strong and there has been a full commitment to working together in new ways for the benefit of the local residents.

Brian Mitchell  
Head of Adult and Community Learning