



Education and Training
Inspectorate

European Social Fund provision in
Fermanagh and Omagh District
Council

ASPIRE

Report of a Quality Improvement
Planning Inspection in
October 2018



The Education and Training Inspectorate
Promoting Improvement

Providing inspection services for:

Department of Education
Department for the Economy
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Introduction

In October 2018 the Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI) carried out a quality improvement inspection of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council to evaluate the effectiveness of the project promoter's self-evaluation and quality improvement planning processes. At the last inspection in November 2016, the project promoter demonstrated a high level of capacity to identify and bring about improvement.

Focus of the quality improvement planning inspection

The quality improvement planning inspection focused on the following key areas identified for improvement:

- the enhancement of the curriculum and programme activity to meet better the diverse needs of the participants; and
- the further development and use of a wider range of work placement opportunities.

The arrangements for safeguarding were also included.

Key findings

The inspection identified the following key findings:

- A wider curriculum offer has been developed, including appropriate bespoke short courses, to meet more effectively the needs, interests, aspirations and employability of the participants. The project promoter is responsive to need, as evidenced, for example, through the organisation and provision of a well-planned and effective two-week programme of training and development to enhance the employability of participants in classroom support roles. Across the offices, the team recognises the need to engage more male participants in the project.
- Effective action has been taken to ensure more participants avail of tailored, meaningful work placements which are matched well to their needs, interests and abilities. The work placements are planned well, the participants engage in an appropriate range of work activities which develop effectively their employability and other wider skills, and in particular their confidence in the workplace. Consequently, they are well placed to progress to employment with the workplace provider or another employer.

Safeguarding

Based on the evidence available at the time of the quality improvement planning inspection, the arrangements for safeguarding participants reflect broadly the guidance from the Department for the Economy (Department). The project promoter, however, needs to:

- develop further the reporting arrangements for staff and participants to ensure clarity and transparency at project level; and

- update the written information provided for the participants in order to inform them fully of the project's approach to the safeguarding of young people and adults at risk, and to dealing with complaints.

Overall Outcome

At the time of the quality improvement planning inspection visit, and in the areas evaluated, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council continues to demonstrate a high level of capacity to identify and bring about improvement in the quality of the provision.

The outcome from this inspection will inform the next steps for the project promoter with regard to the inspection cycle.

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