

# REPORT TO ECONOMY, SKILLS, TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY BOARD

**07 February 2019**

<b>Subject:</b>	Skills in Sandwell
<b>Cabinet Portfolio:</b>	Councillor Paul Moore - Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Economic Investment
<b>Director:</b>	Director – Education, Skills and Employment – Chris Ward
<b>Contribution towards Vision 2030:</b>	
<b>Contact Officer(s):</b>	Kelly Thomas – Employment and Skills Manager kelly_thomas@sandwell.gov.uk

## DECISION RECOMMENDATIONS

**That Economy, Skills, Transport and Environment Scrutiny Board:**

1. Consider the following, which is summarised herein:
  - To provide data and a summary of the current skills position in Sandwell including changes to the Adult Education budget.
  - To include an update on the Sandwell Adult Family Learning (SAFL) service.
2. Make any comments and recommendations as necessary.

### **1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 To provide an update on skills in Sandwell including the changes to the Adult Education budget.
- 1.2 To provide a performance update for the Sandwell Adult Family Learning (SAFL) team.

## **2 IMPLICATIONS FOR SANDWELL'S VISION**

2.1 3. Our workforce and young people are skilled and talented, geared up to respond to changing business needs and to win rewarding jobs in a growing economy.

1. Sandwell is a community where our families have high aspirations and where we pride ourselves on equality of opportunity and on our adaptability and resilience.

## **3 BACKGROUND AND MAIN CONSIDERATIONS**

3.1 The Adult Education budget (AEB) has now been devolved to the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) with funding commencing this academic year (July 2019).

3.2 The devolved AEB provides funding for adults (those aged 19+), for residents of West Midlands constituent member areas. In 2016/17, this represented £126m delivered through colleges, local authorities and training providers.

3.3 The Department for Education (DfE) will confirm the full allocation for the 2019/20 year in January 2019 with a yearly allocation thereafter.

3.4 Within Sandwell the aim is to align the AEB to meet the objectives set out within the Regional Skills plan, Vision 2030 and Strategic Economic plan. This includes a greater focus on helping people into employment and delivering higher level skills in priority sectors.

3.5 Sandwell Adult Family Learning (SAFL) is an internal service within the Council which delivers training as part of the Adult Education budget and community learning funding.

## **4 THE CURRENT POSITION**

4.1 Current statistical information is attached as Appendix 1-4:

Appendix 1 - Percentage of Working Age Population by Qualification Level in 2017

Appendix 2 - current overview of skills levels in Sandwell including comparison with the Black Country and England

Appendix 3 - skills gaps, summary tables taken from Employer Skills Survey 2017

Further information will become available on sector specific skills gaps and levels – which are currently in development by the WMCA in partnership with the Black Country Consortium

Appendix 4 - Sandwell Adult and Family Learning Performance Data 2017-2018 (End of Year)

#### 4.2 **The Future of the Adult Education Budget**

The AEB allocation will be based on actual spend on residents within the 2017/18 academic year. Sandwell's spend on residents in 2016/17 was £10,358,654.

Colleges and local authorities within the WMCA area who currently receive a grant from AEB will continue to do so at their existing levels. The remainder of the funds will be repatriated to the WMCA area to be commissioned from January 2019 onwards. This should lead to more local delivery with increased potential for Council support and influence on the use of funds.

#### 4.3 **Adult Education Budget in Sandwell**

Sandwell are well represented at regional groups to assist the shaping of the funds for the future including involvement in commissioning and aligning the use of funds to meet local needs and objectives.

4.4 Sandwell will have a tender specification to commission AEB funds which is being created by WMCA in partnership with Sandwell Council officers. Local providers have been informed of the opportunity to bid for funding.

4.5 Grant providers are also being asked to complete 3 year plans on how they will develop their provision to meet local area needs and future business requirements.

4.6 Officers will work with local providers to improve collaborative working between providers to enhance the customer journey and provide a wider range of support between funding streams and provision.

4.7 Maximising the use of the funds in this way should contribute towards improving skills in Sandwell, upskilling residents who are economically inactive or in work and focus on achieving sustainable employment outcomes. This contributes towards Sandwell's Vision 2030 and the inclusive growth agenda.

- 4.8 **Sandwell Adult Family Learning (SAFL)**  
Sandwell Adult Family Learning are Sandwell Council's Adult Education service and currently receive an AEB allocation and funding for community learning.

## **5 CONSULTATION (CUSTOMERS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS)**

- 5.1 There is no consultation associated with this report.

## **6 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

- 6.1 There are no alternative options.

## **7 STRATEGIC RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 The allocation of grant funding for Sandwell Adult Family Learning is unaffected by changes to the Adult Education budget.

## **8 LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE CONSIDERATIONS**

- 8.1 There are no specific legal and governance requirements regarding the information provided.

## **9 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

- 9.1 There are no equality implications arising from this report.

## **10 DATA PROTECTION IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

- 10.1 The information contained herein does not include any personal data and is publicly available.

- 10.2 There are no data protection issues from this report.

## **10 CRIME AND DISORDER AND RISK ASSESSMENT**

- 11.1 There are no crime and disorder implications arising from this report.

## **12 SUSTAINABILITY OF PROPOSALS**

- 12.1 Update reports on the information herein will be available at a frequency required by Scrutiny.

## **13 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING SOCIAL VALUE)**

13.1 There are no specific health and wellbeing implications in the information provided.

#### **14 IMPACT ON ANY COUNCIL MANAGED PROPERTY OR LAND**

14.1 There are no implications on any council managed property or land in relation to this report.

#### **15 CONCLUSIONS AND SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

15.1 The information provided summarises the current position for skills in Sandwell, including the changes to the Adult Education budget and current performance for the Sandwell Adult family learning service.

#### **16 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

16.1 None.

#### **17 APPENDICES:**

1-4 below.

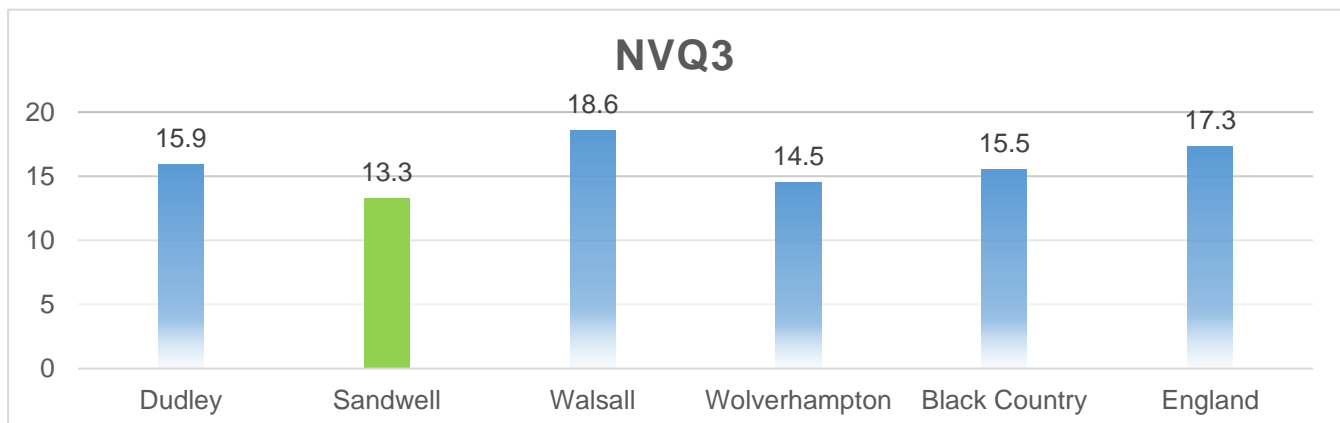
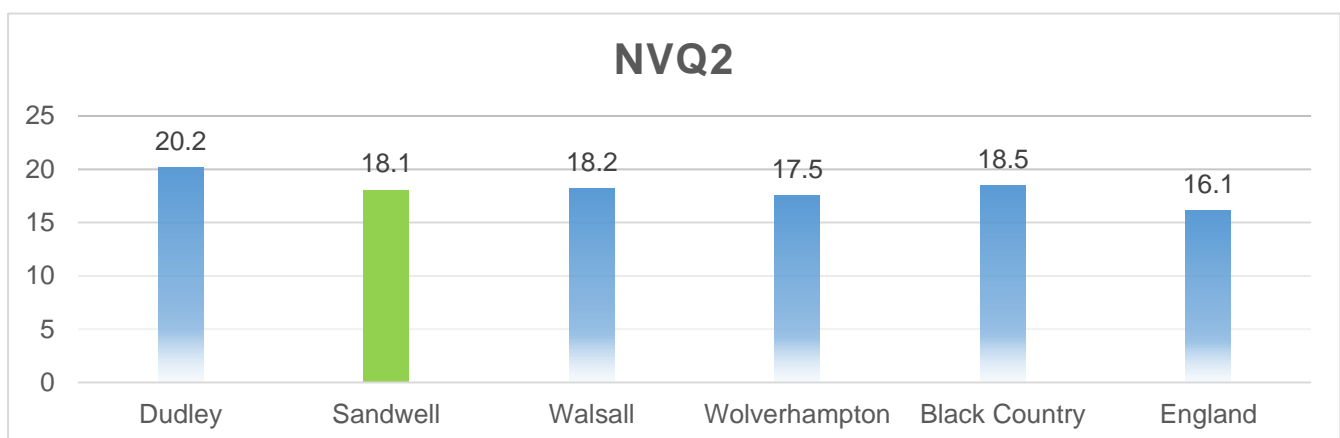
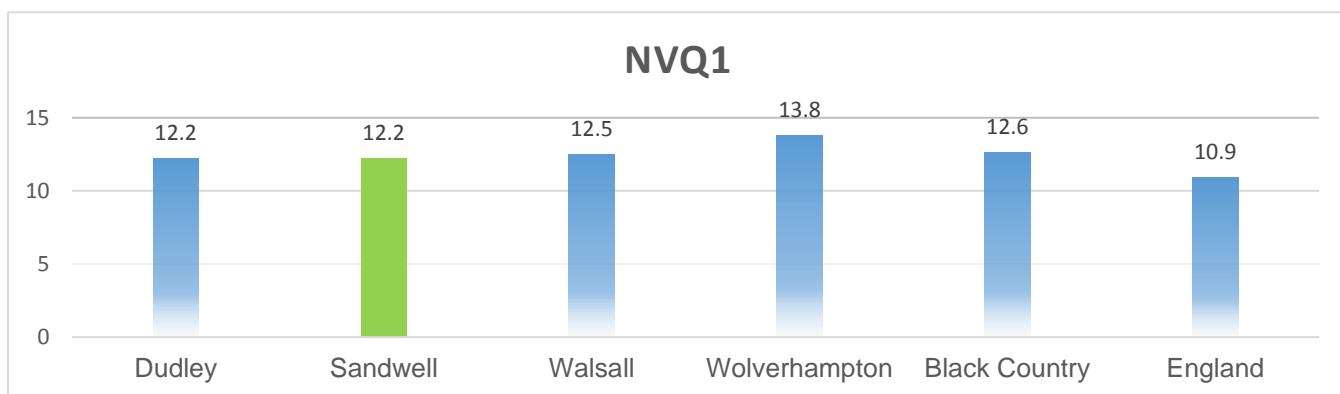
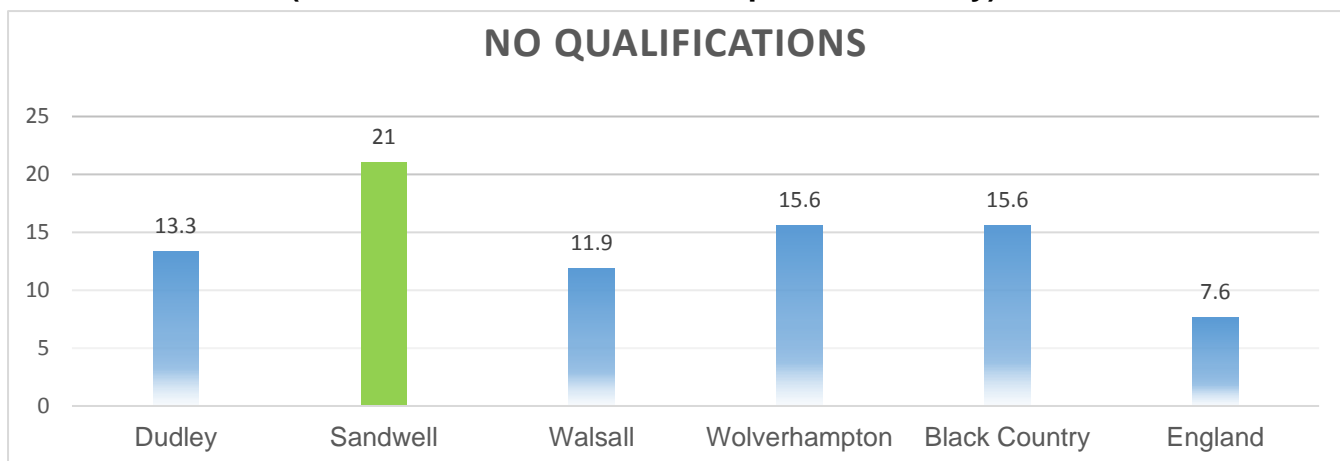


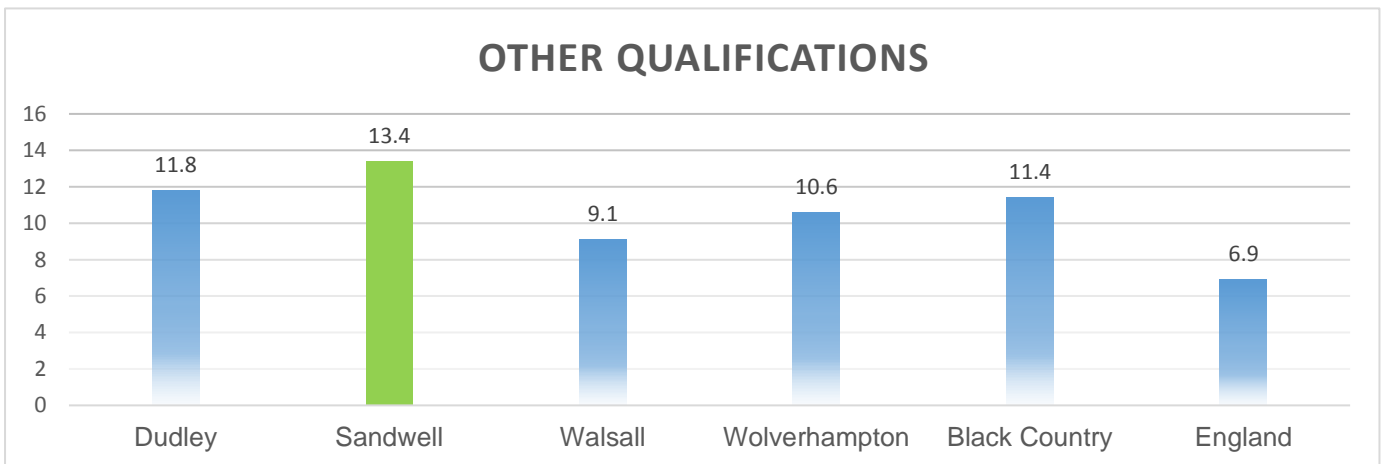
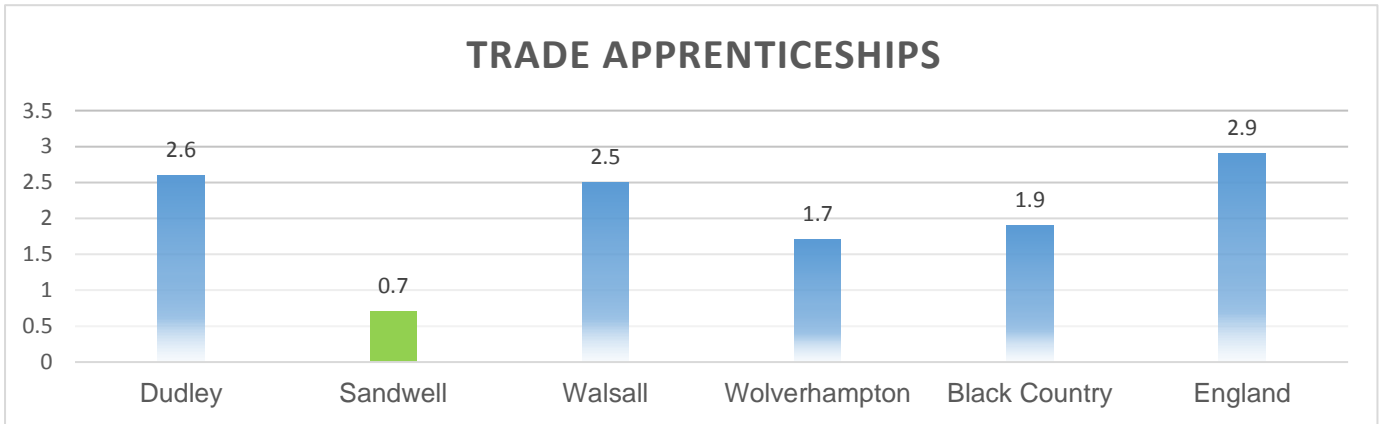
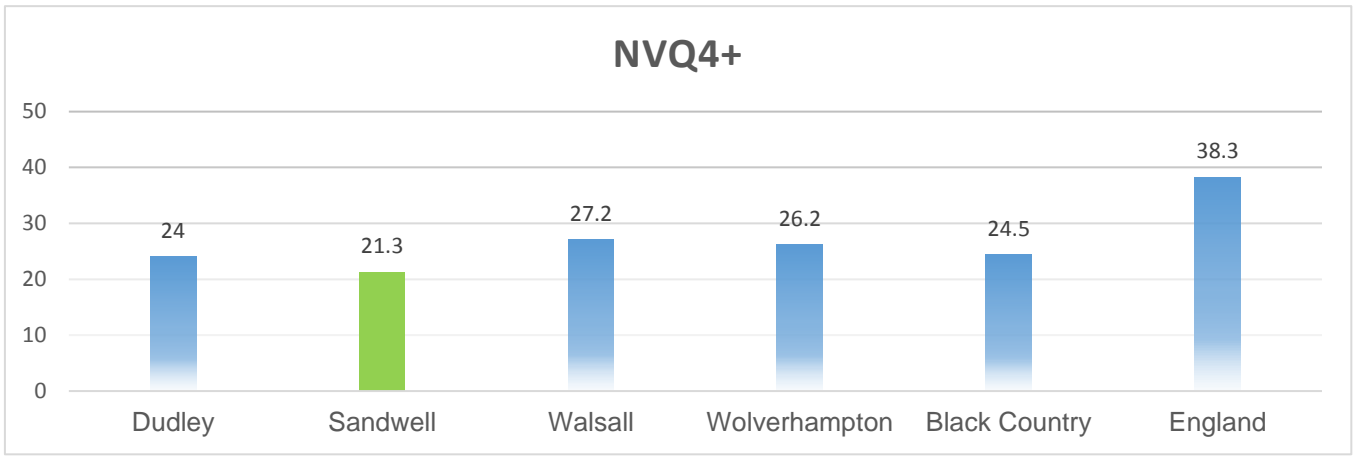
**Chris Ward**  
**Director – Education, Skills and Employment**

## Percentage of Working Age Population by Qualification Level in 2017

2017	Dudley %	Sandwell %	Walsall %	Wolverhampton %	Black Country %	England %
<b>No Qualifications</b>	13.3	21.0	11.9	15.6	15.6	7.6
<b>NVQ1</b>	12.2	12.2	12.5	13.8	12.6	10.9
<b>NVQ2</b>	20.2	18.1	18.2	17.5	18.5	16.1
<b>NVQ3</b>	15.9	13.3	18.6	14.5	15.5	17.3
<b>NVQ4+</b>	24.0	21.3	27.2	26.2	24.5	38.3
<b>Trade Apprenticeships</b>	2.6	0.7	2.5	1.7	1.9	2.9
<b>Other Qualifications</b>	11.8	13.4	9.1	10.6	11.4	6.9

**Appendix 2 – Breakdown of Sandwell skills levels  
(Jan – Dec 17. ONS Annual Population Survey)**







### Skills gaps in Sandwell, summary tables taken from Employer Skills Survey (ESS) 2017

(\*\* :no data available)

#### Skills gaps

	ENGLAND	REGION	LEP	LEA
	England Total	West Midlands Total	Black Country Total	Sandwell Total
% of establishments with any staff not fully proficient	13%	12%	15%	15%
Number of skills gaps (absolute figures)	1060004	105914	12723	3416
Number of skills gaps (number of staff not fully proficient as a % of employment)	4%	4%	3%	3%

#### LEA Sector (13 sector grouping)

	Primary Sector & Utilities	Manufacturing	Construction	Wholesale & Retail	Hotels & restaurants	Transport & Storage	Information & Communications
% of establishments with any staff not fully proficient	**	33%	**	10%	**	**	**
Number of skills gaps (absolute figures)	**	595	**	920	**	**	**
Number of skills gaps (number of staff not fully proficient as a % of employment)	**	3%	**	4%	**	**	**

	Financial Services	Business Services	Public admin.	Education	Health & social work	Arts & Other Services
% of establishments with any staff not fully proficient	**	22%	**	**	19%	**
Number of skills gaps (absolute figures)	**	882	**	**	310	**
Number of skills gaps (number of staff not fully proficient as a % of employment)	**	5%	**	**	2%	**

## LEA Sector (6 sector groupings)

	Primary Sector and Utilities	Manufacturing	Construction	Trade, Accommodation and Transport	Business and Other Services	Non-Market Services
% of establishments with any staff not fully proficient	**	33%	**	8%	16%	23%
Number of skills gaps (absolute figures)	**	595	**	966	1231	503
Number of skills gaps (number of staff not fully proficient as a % of employment)	**	3%	**	3%	4%	2%

## Establishment size

	2 to 4	5 to 24	25 to 49	50 to 99	100 to 249	250+	5+	25+	100+
% of establishments with any staff not fully proficient	7%	20%	24%	33%	**	**	22%	28%	**
Number of skills gaps (absolute figures)	250	1090	676	605	**	**	3166	2077	**
Number of skills gaps (number of staff not fully proficient as a % of employment)	3%	4%	2%	3%	**	**	3%	2%	**

## Establishment type

	Seeking a profit	Charity / voluntary sector	Local or Central govt funded
% of establishments with any staff not fully proficient	15%	19%	**
Number of skills gaps (absolute figures)	2697	284	**
Number of skills gaps (number of staff not fully proficient as a % of employment)	3%	3%	**

## % staff with L4 qualification or above

	<20%	20-80%	>80%
% of establishments with any staff not fully proficient	17%	15%	**
Number of skills gaps (absolute figures)	2342	865	**
Number of skills gaps (number of staff not fully proficient as a % of employment)	3%	3%	**

## Upskilling

	ENGLAND	REGION	LEP	LEA
	England Total	West Midlands Total	Black Country Total	Sandwell Total
Whether expect need for new skills in next 12 months	62%	63%	61%	61%

## LEA Sector (13 sector grouping)

Upskilling	Primary Sector & Utilities	Manufacturing	Construction	Wholesale & Retail	Hotels & restaurants	Transport & Storage	Information & Communications
Whether expect need for new skills in next 12 months	**	71%	**	49%	**	**	**

	Financial Services	Business Services	Public admin.	Education	Health and social work	Arts & Other services
Whether expect need for new skills in next 12 months	**	**	**	**	86%	**

## LEA Sector (6 sector grouping)

	Primary Sector and Utilities	Manufacturing	Construction	Trade, Accommodation and Transport	Business and Other Services	Non-Market Services
Whether expect need for new skills in next 12 months	**	71%	**	47%	70%	86%

	Establishment size								
	2 to 4	5 to 24	25 to 49	50 to 99	100 to 249	250+	5+	25+	100+
Whether expect need for new skills in next 12 months	**	65%	77%	**	**	**	68%	75%	**

	Establishment type		
	Seeking a profit	Charity / voluntary sector	Local or Central govt funded
Whether expect need for new skills in next 12 months	57%	**	**

	% staff with L4 qualification or above		
	<20%	20-80%	>80%
Whether expect need for new skills in next 12 months	58%	72%	**

## Sandwell Adult and Family Learning Performance Data 2017-2018—End of Year

### ASB Provision

#### Learner Profile (ASB Funding) 356 Learners, 616 Enrolments

Employment status	Learner	%
JSA/ESA/UC claimants	115	32.3
Other benefits/another state benefit	26	7.3
Employed	120	33.7
Economically inactive	42	11.7
Equality and Diversity	Learner	%
Black and minority ethnic	230	64.6
Female	272	76.4
Male	84	23.5
Disabilities/ learning difficulties	68	19.1
<i>(of which Mental Health - XX)</i>	9	2.5
Age	Learner	%
19-29 years	69	19.3
30-39 years	139	39.0
40-49 years	77	21.6
50-59 years	57	16.0
60-65 years	11	3.08
Over 65 years	3	0.84
Residence	Learner	%
In Sandwell	304	85.39
In 9 most disadvantaged	178	50
In 10% most disadvantaged LSOAs	60	16.85

#### Course/Enrolment Profile (ASB Funding) 78 ASB Courses

By Level	Enrol	%
Entry	144	23.37
Level 1	264	42.85
Level 2	208	33.76
Subject Sector Area	Enrol	%
Health & Social Care	11	1.8
ICT	31	5
Retail	17	2.8
Social Media	159	25.8
Preparation for Life & Work	384	62.3
Business / Administration	14	2.3
Cluster	Enrol	%
East	95	15.42
South	183	29.70
West	338	54.87
Towns	Learner	%
Oldbury	37	10.39
Rowley Regis	8	2.24
Smethwick	89	25.0
Tipton	75	21.06
Wednesbury	20	5.61
West Bromwich	75	21.06
Wolverhampton	12	3.37
Birmingham	13	3.65
Dudley	20	5.61
Walsall	6	1.68
Worcestershire	1	0.28

**Adult Skills Achievement Rate is 92.2%**

**Adult Skills Retention Rate is 91.2%**

