



## **Life Long Learning in London**

### **Round-up from group discussion – 23 May 2018**

Being 'older' is hugely multi-levelled with differing focus and needs. PAiL recommend the Mayor looking at the whole picture, not just care needs. PAiL would like feedback from the Mayor on our recommendations and how older people's needs are met in policy or practice. Also, further clarity on what the Mayor's work involves.

It was agreed that more of an emphasis on the work and health of older Londoners should be prioritised. PAiL will continue to raise awareness of keeping older people skilled and educated.

In the light of the presentations and discussions on Life Long Learning the following key aspects were identified by those attending at the end of the conference.

#### **Training**

- With the challenge of the digital world, off-line communication should be offered to older Londoners.
- Older workers to get further high-level training for their own development, and to pass knowledge on.
- Encourage older people to act as mentors for the 40-50 age bracket, to pass on their advice and harness their expertise in effective practice.
- Increased need for continual learning and training for older people.
- Suggested learning reviews at key points throughout life e.g. 25, 50 and 75 years of age. There should be opportunities in place at all three key stages of a person's life.
- More awareness raising, keep older workers skilled with continuing professional development.
- Roll out the Manchester model of an Age Friendly city.

#### **Transport and accessibility**

- Better availability of local courses.
- Teach people how to travel safely.
- Work closely with TFL & TFA to ensure accessibility to learning for all.

#### **Diversity and inclusion**

- Address inequality to include everyone.
- More opportunities for formal and informal learning.



- Develop inter-generational learning.
- Life Long Learning should include cultural heritage and diversity.
- Forums should include representation from the local community.
- Monitoring in the workplace and ensure that older people are being promoted fairly.

#### **Funding**

- Common levy to finance Life Long Learning. Currently this subject is ignored by government and local authorities.
- Life Long Learning to be centrally funded, not a postcode lottery.
- A grant for a degree is currently available for those studying for the first time at this level, in later life, but not for living expenses. It was agreed that clear routes for grant access are needed.
- We recommend ring-fenced funding for older people.