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*The Education and Training Inspectorate -
Promoting Improvement*



Providing Inspection Services for
Department of Education
Department for Employment and Learning
Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Education and Training Inspectorate

Report of a Follow-up Inspection

Lisburn Institute of Further and Higher Education

March 2007

A number of quantitative terms are used in the report. In percentages, the terms correspond as follows:-

- More than 90% - almost/nearly all
- 75%-90% - most
- 50%-74% - a majority
- 30%-49% - a significant minority
- 10%-29% - a minority
- Less than 10% - very few/a small number.

Grading System

The Education and Training Inspectorate (Inspectorate) is piloting a new 6-point grading scale to replace the original 4-point scale as set out below. Where grades are recorded in this report, the grade is given on both the old and the revised scales

ORIGINAL GRADE	REVISED GRADE	DESCRIPTOR
1	1	Outstanding characterised by excellence.
1	2	Consistently good; major strengths.
2	3	Important strengths in most of provision. Areas for improvement which organisation has the capacity to address.
2	4	Overall sound/satisfactory but with areas for improvement in important areas which need to be addressed.
3	5	A few strengths; significant areas for improvement which require prompt action.
4	6	Poor; major shortcomings which require urgent action.

Mr McGregor
Chair of the Governing Body
Lisburn Institute of Further and Higher Education
39 Castle Street
LISBURN
Co Antrim
BT27 4SU

March 2007

Dear Mr McGregor

FOLLOW-UP INSPECTION OF LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT, AND THE PROVISION FOR ART AND DESIGN, AND KEY AND ESSENTIAL SKILLS IN LISBURN INSTITUTE OF FURTHER AND HIGHER EDUCATION

As a result of a grade 3 afforded to the quality of leadership and management, the provision for art and design, and essential and key skills in the Institute at the follow-up inspection in February 2006, the Education and Training Inspectorate has carried out a series of three monitoring inspection visits to evaluate the quality of the provision. These visits found the provision has improved significantly and has been graded 3 on the revised scale. A copy of the report is enclosed.

The focused inspection of Lisburn Institute of Further and Higher Education (the Institute) carried out in October 2004 identified significant weaknesses in many areas of the Institute's work. The follow-up inspection in February 2006 while acknowledging some improvement also assessed the provision as having more weakness than strengths. The areas for improvement included the strategic leadership of the Institute and in particular the:

- use of management information to inform decision-making, and in planning for improvement; and
- quality of provision, and leadership and management, in art and design, and essential and key skills.

As a result, the Department of Employment and Learning informed the Institute that for funding to continue, the provision had to improve significantly. The Education and Training Inspectorate was commissioned to monitor the provision over the next nine months. Discussions took place with representatives of the Governing Body and the Senior Management Team in the Institute and a series of visits was completed between June 2006 and March 2007.

Over this period the provision has improved significantly; the following are the most important developments:

- the improved strategic leadership provided by the senior management team (SMT);
- the clearly defined structure and remit of the continuous improvement team (CIT) and their work to sustain the improved quality of teaching and learning;

- the introduction of a systematic approach to curriculum planning and development of the art and design provision; and
- the improved use of qualitative and quantitative data to monitor the planning, delivery and quality of the essential and key skills provision.

In order to ensure sustained improvement the Institute needs to:

- monitor and evaluate regularly the impact of the actions taken within art and design and key and essential skills.

CONCLUSION

The follow-up inspection confirms that the Institute has made good progress in addressing the key issues for improvement identified in the original inspection report. The Inspectorate is confident that the actions implemented will result in sustained improvements in the quality of the provision. No further monitoring visits are required.

Yours sincerely

ELIZABETH WELLS (MRS)
Inspection Services Branch

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