



Education and Training
Inspectorate

European Social Fund provision in
Compass Advocacy Network

WE CAN Project

Report of a Quality Improvement
Planning Inspection in October 2019



The Education and Training Inspectorate
Promoting Improvement

Providing inspection services for:

Department of Education
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Introduction

In October 2019, the Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI) carried out a quality improvement planning inspection of Compass Advocacy Network to evaluate the effectiveness of the project promoter's self-evaluation and quality improvement planning processes. At the last inspection in January 2017, 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 which the organisation had prioritised for improvement through its self-evaluation and quality improvement planning processes:

- improve recording, tracking and monitoring of soft skills development for the participants who complete their programme; and
- increase the range of opportunities available to meet better the needs of the participants.

The arrangements for safeguarding were also included.

Key findings

The inspection identified the following key findings:

- Compass Advocacy Network has developed the use of a soft skills outcome measurement tool which is used well to record, track and monitor clearly and regularly the impact of the learning and training experiences on the development of the participants' personal capabilities and wider employability skills. An appropriate individualised action plan is subsequently agreed and implemented for each participant, to address those skills identified for further development. The plan is used to good effect to improve the soft skills acquisition and application by the participants, enhance their work-readiness and help them progress into employment.
- A well-planned wider range of opportunities has been developed to meet more effectively the needs, interests, aspirations and employability of the participants. These include: the expansion of premises and investment in specialist equipment to provide a higher quality and more varied learning environment for the participants; the introduction of the plastic recycling initiative which has resulted in participants developing a new set of skills in product manufacturing; the successful introduction of structured health programmes delivered by health professionals to support and promote healthy living and well-being for the participants; access to fully trained advisers to assist participants with benefit advice when transitioning to paid employment; and the provision of accommodation for short breaks for participants and their families.

Safeguarding

Based on the evidence available at the time of the inspection, the arrangements for safeguarding participants reflect current legislation and practice.

Overall Outcome

At the time of the quality improvement inspection visit, and in the areas evaluated, Compass Advocacy Network 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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