

# **WESTMINSTER CITY COUNCIL**

## **STATEMENT OF DECISION**

### **SUBJECT: PETITION RESPONSE: CLOSURE OF WAES CLASSES**

Notice is hereby given that the Cabinet Member for Housing, Regeneration, Business and Economic Development, has made the following executive decision on the above mentioned subject for the reasons set out below.

#### **Summary of Decision**

- (1) That it be noted that WAES has had a reduction in funding and can no longer offer all of the classes that were provided during the last academic year;
- (2) That it be agreed that, in light of (1) above, public funding from the SFA for adult skills courses must be focussed on delivering qualification bearing skills training for the workplace, rather than leisure classes; and
- (3) That, in light of (1) and (2) above, it be agreed that the decision taken by WAES to cease running the specified art classes, as detailed in the petition, be upheld and this decision be provided to the petition organiser as the Council's formal response.

#### **Reasons for Decision**

The decision taken by WAES to cease running some of the Art classes was as a direct result of:

- the reduction in public funding nationally for adult learning and locally to WAES and
- the requirement to use the public funding from the SFA for qualification bearing adult skills programmes to provide education and training to develop skills for the workplace. The classes listed in the petition do not meet this requirement.

As a direct result of these two changes, WAES will no longer have sufficient funding to maintain all of its publicly funded and subsidised courses, whilst at the same time some of the existing programmes will need to convert to qualification bearing courses such as BTEC awards, certificates and diplomas.

**Peter Large, Head of Legal & Democratic Services,  
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**Implementation Date:** 30 October 2014

**Reference:** CMfHRB&ED/2014-2015/12