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## IFLL Goals

The Inquiry's overall goal is to offer an **authoritative and coherent strategic framework for lifelong learning in the UK.**

This will involve:

- Articulating a broad rationale for public and private investment in lifelong learning;
- Re-appraising the social and cultural value attached to it by policy makers and the public;
- Developing new perspectives on policy and practice.

“We want a broad and bold strategy to come out of this Inquiry – one that cuts across sectoral and other boundaries. It will link lifelong learning to valued outcomes such as health and civic participation, as well as to economic life. The challenge to us all is to move beyond immediate concerns and current preoccupations.”

**Tom Schuller**

Director, IFLL

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## Themes

The Inquiry has adopted a thematic approach. It is exploring the critical issues that will face our society over the next 15 – 20 years and their implications for lifelong learning. The following themes provide a focus for the work:

- Prosperity, Employment & Work
- Demography & Social Structure
- Well Being & Happiness
- Migration & Communities
- Technological Change
- Poverty Reduction
- Citizenship & Belonging
- Crime & Social Exclusion
- Sustainable Development

Inquiry papers on each theme will be published early in 2009.

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## Principal Outputs

In addition to the Thematic Papers and the final report, the Inquiry is publishing interim papers on:

- **Sectors:** to explore the contributions of different sectors to lifelong learning, including further education, higher education, schools, local authorities, private training providers and third sector organisations.
- **Expenditure** on lifelong learning by the public, private and third sectors and by individuals.
- **Public Value:** to explore the impact of lifelong learning on key areas of public policy, including poverty reduction, crime and health.
- Scenarios for future **learning infrastructures**

We hope the Inquiry's interim papers will stimulate further wide and vigorous debate. Comments on the papers and further evidence are welcomed.

## The Commissioners

**Sir David Watson**, Professor of Higher Education Management, Institute of Education, University of London  
(Chair of the Commission)

**John Field**, Director, Division of Academic Innovation and Continuing Education, University of Stirling

**Bob Fryer**, Chief Learning Advisor, Department of Health

**Leisha Fullick**, Pro-Director (London), Institute of Education, University of London

**Helen Gilchrist**, former Principal, Bury College

**Clare Hannah**, Head of Organisational Development, EWS Railways

**Teresa Rees**, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Cardiff University

**David Sherlock**, former Chief Inspector of the Adult Learning Inspectorate

**Nick Stuart**, Chair, NIACE Company Board

**Tom Wilson**, Head of Organisation and Services, TUC

“The lifelong learning policy landscape is littered with policy initiatives and good intentions, but for many adults there is continuing instability of funding and variable opportunity. NIACE is sponsoring the independent Inquiry to seek a national consensus on the value of learning through the life-course, and to establish a new settlement on who should pay, and for what in funding learning opportunities.”

**Alan Tuckett**  
Director, NIACE

**For further information and to sign up for the IFLL Bulletin:**

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### Join the debate on:

[www.lifelonglearninginquiry.org.uk/blog](http://www.lifelonglearninginquiry.org.uk/blog)

**IFLL**

Inquiry into the Future  
for Lifelong Learning

**NIACE is hosting an independent Inquiry into the future for lifelong learning. The Inquiry will report in summer 2009.**

“Learning is rarely easy, although it is rewarding in all sorts of ways. The evidence is clear that it is linked to freedom of choice, to health, to happiness and democratic tolerance, as well as to productivity and prosperity. As a society we should be ambitious about the opportunities and capacity for learning by all of our members. The Commission hopes to establish not only why but also how we can achieve this. We need your help.”

**Sir David Watson**  
Chair, Inquiry Commission