

The New Local Authority Context – Protecting Learning for Citizens

**Councillor Ross Willmott
Leader, Leicester City Council**



- The vision of the pioneers
- Today's challenges
- Reinvigorating the vision

Leicester – Key Facts

- Britain's tenth largest city
- Diversity – 40% BME population
- City centre regeneration – Cultural Quarter
- Deprivation, unemployment, low income
- Building education and skills
- One Leicester strategy



The Developing Vision of Adult Education

- Emerged from the grassroots
- Social philanthropists
 - Toynbee Hall
- Inter-war and post-war
- Local authorities – co-ordination

Four Messages from Adult Learning Pioneers

- Enabling people to realise their own aspirations
- Community-led approaches
- Taking the broad approach
- Individuals and Communities

Work Highcross Partnership- LEP Awards 2009



Samaiya & Rumena – Faith Tourism Course Participants



Six Major Challenges

- Economic globalisation
- Continuing communication revolution
- Environmental sustainability
- Building cohesive communities
- Enabling social mobility
- Riding the crunch in public spending

One Leicester Priorities

- Investing in our children
- Planning for people not cars
- Reducing our carbon footprint
- Creating thriving, safe communities
- Improving well-being and health
- Talking Up Leicester
- Investing in skills and enterprise



The Reinvigorated Vision – My Five Components

- Value of Lifelong Learning within overall educational system
- Wide concept – innovative approaches
- Learning for work and learning for personal growth
- Building local communities – tackling broader issues
- Councils – co-ordinating and place shaping

one passion

one

leicester

