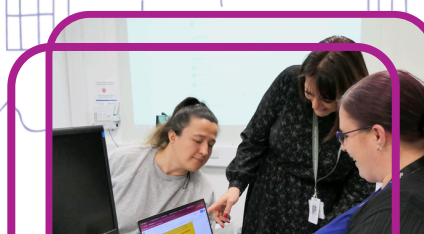
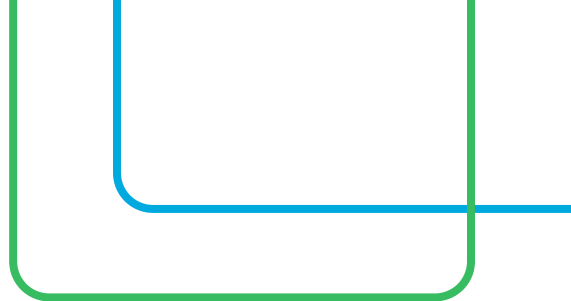


Accountability Agreement

2024 - 2025

Inspiring futures through
lifelong learning



Statement of Purpose

Thurrock Adult Community College is Thurrock Council's adult education service. It is the main provider of adult education provision in Thurrock and a stepping stone to further education at South Essex College. The college provides learning opportunities that improve residents' lives and outcomes, supports them to integrate into their communities and supports growth and prosperity in Thurrock.

The curriculum is designed and planned with the intent to develop the knowledge, skills and behaviours that learners need to take advantage of the considerable opportunities for employment both within Thurrock and in the surrounding areas both now and in the years to come.

The College reaches approximately 1200 adults across Thurrock each academic year. Opportunities include essential skills development at Level 2 and below and Level 3 and below in Vocational Qualifications. The college will be expanding its Tailored Learning programme in 2024/2025 in line with new funding allocations.

Service Vision

Inspiring Futures through Lifelong Learning.

Mission:

To make an impact on the communities where we live and work.



Strategic Objectives

Curriculum

Drive participation in adult learning by developing a vibrant and relevant community-focused curriculum offer

Quality

Provide learners with the highest standards of learning and personal attainment that ensures the learner experience is the best it can be, valued and confirmed as outstanding by our local partners and national agencies.
(All learners will have access to everything the college has to offer.)

Partnership

Developing effective relationships with key partners to deliver our strategic ambitions for Thurrock's employers and residents

Efficiency

A digital first approach to providing the most effective, efficient and best value services for all our users.

Context & Place

Based at the heart of the Thames Gateway, close to east London, Thurrock is a busy borough with picturesque towns, reams of beautiful countryside and 18 miles of river frontage. It is well connected by road networks and just 35 minutes by train to the City of London.

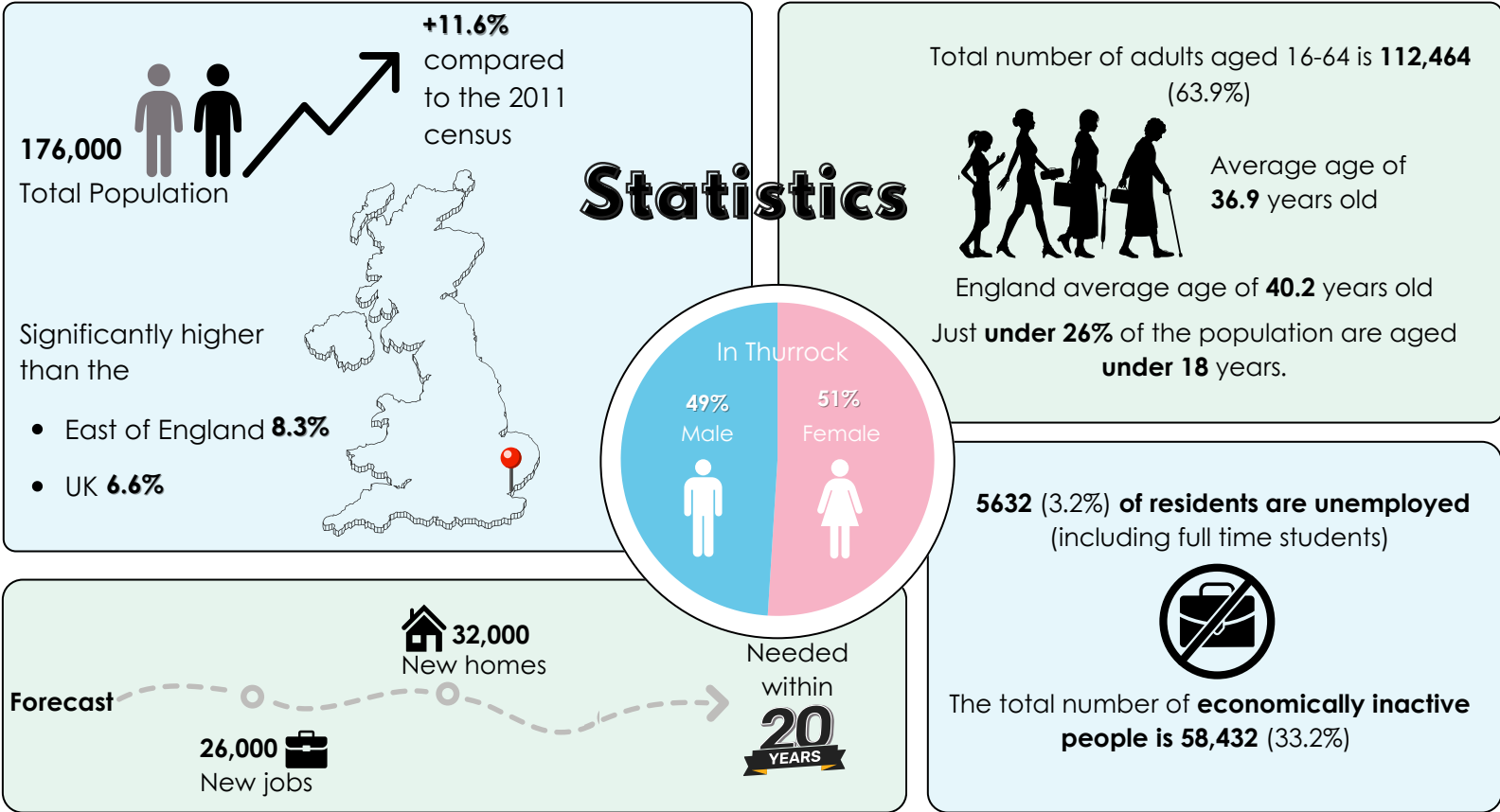
Thurrock is an area of national and international strategic significance, which accounts for the high percentage of transport and logistics, retail, creative and construction sector presence. The riverside location is also a significant asset with three international ports. Thames Freeport is also located within Thurrock.

Key sectors are transportation & storage (21.1%), construction, education, human health & social work activities and public administration & defence (all 7.9%). This accounts for just over half of the 74,755 jobs. (LSIP data)

Thurrock is a borough of contrasts with urban areas of Grays, Tilbury and Purfleet to the south and rural villages and open countryside to the north. 70% is green belt with nature reserves, heritage locations and sites of special scientific interest.

Within its geographic area of 165km², Thurrock hosts a diverse range of people and places. Over 130 different languages are spoken by children in Thurrock as their main language, and over 10% of residents were born overseas. White British is the most common ethnicity reported by Thurrock residents at 77% of the population. The second largest ethnic group is Black/African/Caribbean and Black British at 11.9% (2.92% Eastern region, 4.22% England).

The most recent deprivation scores show that Thurrock has several areas that fall within the 10% most deprived locations in the country, but also some areas that fall within the most affluent in the country. The more deprived areas are mainly located in and around Tilbury, Chadwell St Mary, South Ockendon, Grays and areas of Corringham. Less deprived areas are in more rural locations, around South Chafford, and in some areas to the north of Grays.



RQF Level	2022	2023	2022-23 Average
Level 4+	42.7	36.3	39.5
Level 3+	61.5	58.1	59.8
Level 2+	83.1	82.4	82.8
Level 1+	86.5	86.2	86.4
Other	9.8	6.8	8.3
No Qualifications	3.7	7.0	5.4

The percentage of households including a lone parent increased from **11.2% in 2011 to 13.5% on 2021** The largest rise in the UK.

Thurrock's score (Census 2021) for health relating to 'living conditions' is worse than the score for England as a whole and the lowest indicator score is for overweight and obesity in adults.

Participation rate in FE is **4891 per 100,000 down 1049 from 17/18**.
 This compares to **5161 in Essex, 4405 in Basildon and 5410 in Redbridge**.

* Data from Census 2021

Priority Areas and Communities

There is variation in health outcomes across Thurrock, and life expectancy for both men and women in Thurrock is significantly worse than the average for England - men (78.3 years vs 79.4 years) and women (82.6 years vs 83.1 years). The greatest contributor to inequality in health outcomes in Thurrock is smoking. The proportion of adults classified as overweight or obese is also significantly higher in Thurrock, and higher still in the most deprived areas. 69.4% of adults are classified as overweight or obese, significantly higher than the England average at 62.8%. In 2019-20 the prevalence of overweight children at year 6 (age 10-11) in Thurrock was at 39.6% which is also significantly above the England average of 35.2%.

It is estimated that 3,120 people have a learning difficulty, which accounts for just under 2% of the Thurrock population

Priority Groups

Residents who:

Are homeless or at risk of homelessness

Have health conditions and disabilities, including mental ill health

Are lone parents

Are from Black and Minority Ethnic Backgrounds (BAME)

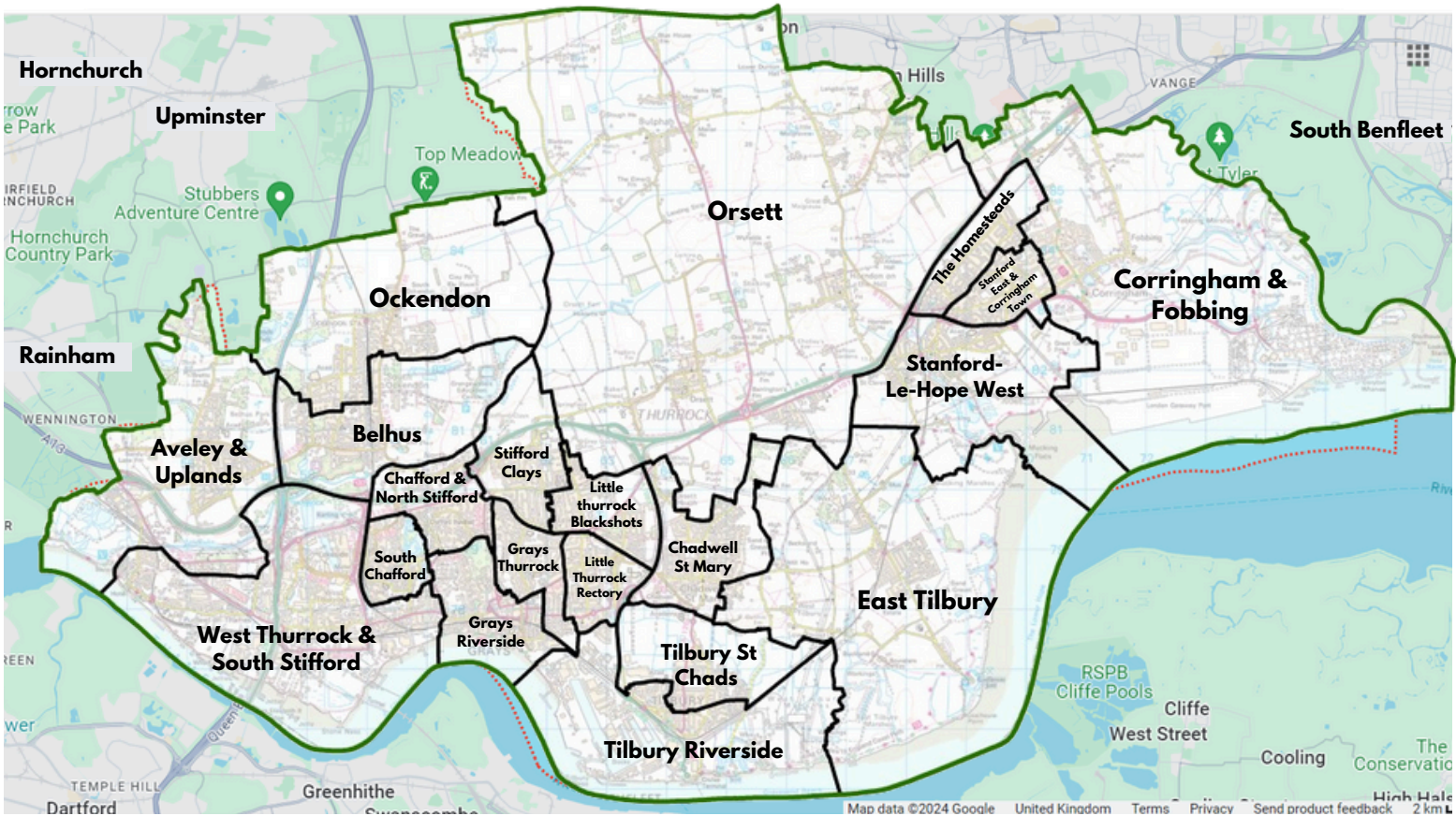
Are Refugees and Asylum Seekers

Are long term unemployed

Are in low skilled, low paid jobs



Thurrock Wards



Approach to developing the annual Accountability Statement

The College's annual planning cycle starts with a detailed analysis of national, regional and local priorities consulting with the Council's Economic Development Team, Essex Chamber of Commerce. Data from searches on Thurrock Opportunities job and skills search website is considered.

1

Regional and local needs are identified operationally and strategically through senior leadership membership of local groups identified below.

2

Stakeholder surveys are conducted with employers, partners, community groups and residents.

3

Following the publication of the Local Skills Improvement Plan for Essex the college is in the early stages of collaboration with Southend Adult Community College and ACL Essex to map curriculum provision, identify gaps and reduce duplication. This work will increase and continue into 2024/2025 and beyond.

4

The college participates in the Essex Multi Agency Forum group and has conducted a curriculum mapping exercise for ESOL provision across Essex.

5

6

To ensure the college's curriculum offer for 24/25 is aligned to the LSIP priorities, support was provided by the Essex Chamber of Commerce.

7

A draft plan is submitted to the Senior Leadership team and the Board of Governors for challenge, approval and sign off.

6

7



Key external stakeholders/partners



Thurrock Economic Regeneration Team
Backing Thurrock Skills Plan

Inspire Hub – Thurrock Council's all age
career service – Thurrock Works

Family Hubs

Brighter Futures/Stronger Together

Thurrock Childcare Providers Network

DWP and JCP

Thurrock Council Digital Inclusion
Working Group

Economic Development & Skills Partnership

Thurrock CVS
(Council for Voluntary Service)

Essex Chamber of Commerce

0-11 Strategy Group
11-19 Strategy group

Welcome to the UK

 thurrock.gov.uk



Our Contribution to National, Regional, and Local Priorities

Skills Priorities

- Soft skills and behaviours
- Basic English, Maths and ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages)
- Digital Skills and 'Digitech'
- Green Skills
- Leadership and Manage

Skills System Priorities

- System access and flexibility
- Information, Careers Advice and Guidance
- Tutor Shortages and capacity of providers to respond.
- inclusive employment
- Barriers to engagement
- Skills planning system for Essex



Essex LSIP Priorities:

Essex Sectors and Technical Skills

- Advanced Manufacturing, engineering & Aviation
- AgriTech & Food Tech
- Community & Voluntary
- Construction
- Creative and Cultural
- DigiTech
- Education
- Health, Care & Med Tech
- Professional Services
- Transport and Logistics

Strategic Aim: Drive participation in adult education by developing a vibrant, relevant and accessible curriculum offer that meets the needs of Thurrock's residents and employers.

Our curriculum offer for adult skills funding focuses on Skills for Life & Skills for Work. The Tailored Learning programme will offer progression routes into adult skills provision. Programmes will embed green skills awareness, Human Rights awareness and safe collaboration with AI

<p>We will develop a curriculum that:</p>	<p>Aims and objectives What/how/F2F, times per week</p>	<p>Impact and/or contribution towards national/regional and local priorities for learning and skills</p>
<p>1. Supports residents to retrain or upskill and develop soft skills and behaviours that employers have identified</p>	<p>Offer an inclusive curriculum in English, ESOL, maths and Digital skills that develops confidence and resilience and enables residents to take advantage of local employment opportunities. Classes run over 2 semesters, mostly face to face with classes several times per week Pre entry level up to level 2 Functional skills.</p> <p>Get That Job - regular workshops for interview techniques. CV writing, job searching – all face to face.</p> <p>Embed employability skills throughout the curriculum that equips people with the skills they need and builds aspiration to work.</p> <p>Work more closely with DWP and employers to co-design courses that support older people and lone parents to retrain or upskill. Retrain those that are unemployed or in insecure employment</p> <p>Engage with more male residents - aim to increase enrolments by 10%.</p> <p>Make links with those businesses that identified a need for first line management / supervisory roles. Pilot an offer of Level 3 Team Leader course.</p> <p>Deliver training once the “One Stop Shop” in Tilbury is operational (collaboration with Inspire Thurrock and Thurrock Freeport) to provide a co-ordinated and collaborative curriculum that pilots a ‘pathways to work’ programme for adults.</p>	<p>Co-ordinated offer to residents through the Thurrock Skills Plan and LSIP partner collaboration</p>



<p>2. Supports residents to engage in sectors where there are jobs</p>	<p>Work with employers to co-design and deliver programmes that lead to guaranteed job interviews. Deliver 9 face to face intensive programmes</p> <p>Develop 'Introduction to ...' courses in key sectors including the Green economy in conjunction with key stakeholders (EDSP/Backing Thurrock/Freeport)</p> <p>Embed level 1 Award in Sustainability in some curriculum areas</p> <p>Offer award as a stand alone qualification.</p> <p>Host 2 careers fairs and support other careers fairs in the Borough, in collaboration with DWP & local employers.</p>	<p>Childcare/Health & Social Care/Teaching Assistants</p> <p>Learners have an awareness & understanding of sustainability & green skills required for the green economy.</p> <p>Sector specific in line with need or generic</p>
<p>3. Supports residents with English as a second language to gain employment or to move from low skilled low paid jobs in to work appropriate for their skills and experience</p>	<p>Supports residents with English as a second language to gain employment or to move from low skilled low paid jobs in to work appropriate for their skills and experience.</p> <p>Pilot Preparation for Driving Theory test for ESOL learners – face to face Pilot Preparation for CSCS card for ESOL learners – face to face.</p> <p>Design and deliver contextualized vocational programmes for ESOL learners in priority sectors. Create pilots across 4 priority sectors (Childcare, Teaching Assistants, Health and Social Care, Logistics).</p>	<p>Will provide access to basic skills courses Will develop employability skills and improve access to vocational training and jobs.</p> <p>ESOL learners better able to access higher level vocational training and/or obtain employment</p>



<p>4. Reduces digital disadvantage</p>	<p>Increase enrolments in digital curriculum by 30%.</p> <p>Offer a digital skills pathway in collaboration with the Backing Thurrock Skills Implementation Group & Thurrock Digital Inclusion Group.</p> <p>Co design an offer with residents of sheltered housing complex to improve digital skills – some face to face, some online at other homes.</p> <p>Co design an offer with Thurrock CVS based on outcomes from community survey on digital skills.</p> <p>Face to face Offer Digital Skills for ESOL learners – face to face</p>	<p>Reduced number of adults with no essential digital skills.</p> <p>Improved outcomes for adults in terms of access to online services, access to employment opportunities and health inequalities.</p> <p>Reduces social isolation.</p> <p>Voluntary sector have employees with necessary digital skills.</p> <p>ESOL learners have digital skills required for work and able to access digital skills qualifications</p>
<p>5. Supports adults with learning difficulties or disabilities to develop essential skills with progression routes to volunteering or work opportunities</p>	<p>Pilot a programme with clearly defined progression pathways and access to volunteering opportunities Face to face 1 – 2 days per week.</p> <p>Collaborate with Inspire Hub to provide progression route for 19 – 25 with EHCP when they turn age 25 and lose EHCP.</p>	<p>Adult residents with learning difficulties & disabilities will develop essential skills and preparation for volunteering and/or employment opportunities.</p> <p>Residents aged 25 plus who previously had an EHCP will have access to tailored learning programmes.</p>



<p>6. Focus Tailored Learning provision to ensure we are working with more priority groups and locations within the borough to meet local need and provide stepping stones to employment. For example, health & obesity, wellbeing, confidence, mental health needs</p>	<p>To be a preferred provider to support with delivery of the Think Family priorities</p> <p>Supporting local people to take advantages of the growth and redevelopment opportunities in and around the Borough</p> <p>Work in partnership with DWP to develop bespoke programmes aimed at supporting female claimants to improve their wellbeing and/or mental health.</p> <p>Increase access to IAG opportunities</p> <p>Raise resident awareness of Inspire Hub all age career service Thurrock Works & refer residents as appropriate.</p> <p>Support One stop shop initiative in Tilbury when open.</p> <p>Collaborate with community partners, libraries and Welcome to the UK to support people new to Thurrock to understand how to navigate and access services and become part of the local community. (Feedback from community partners identifies a need for people new to Thurrock to understand how to navigate and access services and become part of the local community).</p> <p>Develop and train a team of volunteers to facilitate ESOL conversation groups in Thurrock libraries</p> <p>Working partnership with Family Hubs to engage parents and families in engaging first steps to learning with progression pathways</p>	<p>Collaborative curriculum planning with Think Family team</p> <p>Residents have access to impartial and free training and careers advice and guidance within their community</p>
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<p>7. Supports employers to address recruitment, training and retention issues LSIP</p>	<p>Embed positivity, teamwork, basic digital skills and communication skills across curriculum areas.</p> <p>Offer intensive courses in sector priority areas face to face with guaranteed job interviews.</p> <p>Offer online or face to face SEND & BSL awareness workshops each term.</p> <p>Collaborate with DWP and employers to host/attend careers fairs.</p> <p>Apply to offer Childcare & Health & Social Care Bootcamps when opportunities arise.</p> <p>Adult Social Care Certificate Level 2 – research into viability of offering to local employers for staff CPD – will be blended learning, assessor based.</p>	
<p>8. Provide a clear progression route for learners moving from Multiply in March 2025</p>	<p>Maths - Functional skills Preparing for Functional skills – focusing on exam techniques Bridging maths skills – skills gap development</p>	

Corporation Statement

On behalf of the Governing Body of Thurrock Adult Community College, it is hereby confirmed that the above Accountability Agreement and delivery plan reflects an agreed statement of purpose, aims and objectives as approved by the Governing Body in their meeting on 12th June 2024.

This Accountability Agreement will be published on Thurrock Adult Community College website at the start of the academic year in September 2024 and annually thereafter.

www.tacc.ac.uk

Chair of Governors
Neil Woodbridge

Date: 18/06/24

Supporting documentation

Provide a limited number of links as appropriate to any other key documents that are referred to or directly relevant, such as LSIPs, annual financial statements and Ofsted inspection reports.


[LSIP Commitment statement](#)

[LSIP Essex](#)



Thurrock Adult Community College

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 www.tacc.ac.uk



Inspiring futures
through lifelong
learning

