



Discussion

1. We recognise that digital is just as important as literacy and numeracy for life and work in the 21st century, however we are concerned that the training meets the requirements of people who need it most.

What unique contribution could family / community learning make in delivering the digital entitlement?

What are the issues / barriers for providers?

2. The government's new policy is to be funded from within the existing Adult Education Budget – there is no new money attached. Any increase in the number of people receiving digital training may mean cuts elsewhere and limit the flexibility for devolved areas.

Is it possible to train 10 million adults in England in basic digital skills with no increased funding? What are the implications for other provision? How could this be achieved?

3. Partners

The government's Digital Strategy encourages cross-sector partnerships

Which partnerships should family / community learning providers make to help them deliver the digital entitlement?

4. Recommendations

L&W initial response to digital entitlement agreed that digital is just as important as literacy and numeracy for life, work and learning and work in the 21st century

BUT

- Concerns that government's commitment without additional funding could negatively impact on other areas of adult learning
- Creative approaches could alleviate negative impact, while truly meeting the needs of those most in need of digital skills

What other recommendations should we make in response to the forthcoming consultation?

- **Role of family and community learning**
- **Local solutions to meet local needs**
- **Commissioning**

- **Qualified vs non- qualified provision**
- **Role of job centres to support digital skills for Universal Credit**