

Council
19/12/24

Milly Southworth

From: Alex cottis [REDACTED]
Sent: 06 December 2024 19:34
To: clerk@torpointtowncouncil.gov.uk
Subject: Closure of adult learning in Torpoint

Hello Mrs Southworth,

I am writing to express my gratitude for the adult education provided in Torpoint, which has been instrumental in my personal and professional success.

I came from a challenging school background, having left with low grades. In my early 20s, I decided to pursue further education, but I needed to obtain my GCSEs. Torpoint adult education facilities provided me with the opportunity to complete my GCSEs after work, ensuring that I achieved the necessary grades to enter college.

From college, I went on to university, where I earned a first-class degree in automotive technology and a distinction master's degree in automotive engineering. Today, I am a lead electrical engineer at Bentley Motors. The foundation laid by the education system in Torpoint has been the cornerstone of my success.

I am deeply concerned about the proposed cuts to adult education by Cornwall Council, given the already limited funding available to the county. It is incongruous to consider cutting a program that provides so much value to so many individuals.

If the adult education system in Torpoint were to be discontinued, I am confident that I would not have achieved my current level of success. My father, who also benefited from the program, is highly appreciative of its support.

I would be interested in seeing the statistics on the number of people who utilize the facilities and whether it is justified to close them down if usage figures do not indicate a decline. The expectation that individuals should travel to Plymouth for the foundation of their education, particularly for those returning to education, can be challenging. Older learners often have employment commitments or other circumstances that make it difficult to travel to a different county.

The proposed defunding and closure of adult education facilities appear counterproductive to the government's efforts to encourage people back into work. By providing education opportunities that lead to better employment prospects, the government can support individuals' economic growth and development.

Sincerely,

Mr Alexander Cottis MSc AAE FIMI