



**An Roinn Coimirce Sóisialaí
Department of Social Protection**

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Minister Ó Cuív visits Dublin Adult Learning Centre

Minister for Social Protection, Éamon Ó Cuív, TD this evening (14th September 2010) visited the Dublin Adult Learning Centre, Mountjoy Square, Dublin 1.

The Dublin Adult Learning Centre aims to provide basic education services to ensure that everyone in the inner city has the opportunity to develop their literacy and numeracy skills. The profile of the centre's students shows many to be unemployed and experiencing disadvantage.

The Dublin Adult Learning Centre is part funded by the Department of Social Protection through the Second Chance Education scheme. The Centre also receives funding from the Department of Education and Science, FÁS and POBAL for childcare staffing costs.

Speaking at the Centre the Minister said: "I am aware of the fine work being carried out here in providing education services in basic literacy and numeracy, to those who require them most in Dublin's inner city. Since its establishment in 1997 the Centre has done great work in providing many people from disadvantaged communities with literacy and numeracy skills. Many of these people are my Department's customers."

The Minister continued, "This year my Department has provided funding of €150,000 which has helped the Centre to organise summer programmes, tutor seminars and other education courses and to promote the services provided by the Dublin Adult Learning Centre. The overall objective of my Department's funding for this Centre is to encourage those in certain target groups to return to education and training. By improving their educational qualifications they are enabled to return to the labour force."



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Minister Ó Cuív concluded, "The Department of Social Protection funds many similar programmes through the local facilitator network which provide local communities with resources to enhance social inclusion and improve employability."

Notes to the Editor:

Services currently provided by the Centre include:

- Pre vocational programmes
- Basic English programmes/spelling programmes
- Numeracy/ computer literacy
- English courses for speakers of other languages
- Provision of intensive accredited courses including FETAC courses
- Production of publications
- Developing courses which encourages progression from one to one groups tuition
- Tutor training to volunteer tutors
- Organising seminars and conferences for tutors and students throughout the year

See: www.dalc.ie for more information.

Ends