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# **LEARNING & SKILLS COUNCIL**

## **ESF 2008-2010**

### **Tender – East of England/Adult Project Specifications**

September 2008

**Contents**

Introduction to tender ..... - 3 -

**Specifications**

Skills for Olympics and Paralympics (ESF) – Sports-Related Skills ..... - 5 -

Skills for Jobs (ESF) ..... - 8 -

## Introduction to tender

The importance of rapidly enhancing the skills base of those in employment has been emphasised in the Leitch Review of Skills. The Review recommended that for the UK to become a world leader in skills by 2020, a number of targets would need to be achieved including: 95% of adults with functional literacy and numeracy skills, 90% of adults with at least a level 2 qualification, 1.9million more level 3 attainments and 500,000 more apprenticeships in the UK.

Adult learning patterns in the East of England broadly reflect those of the country as a whole. Over two thirds of adults in the East of England took part in some form of learning in 2005 whilst just under half of adults were involved in some form of taught learning<sup>1</sup>. However, the definition of learning is very broad (training while doing a job; time spent keeping up-to-date with developments in one's work or profession; deliberately trying to improve one's knowledge or teach oneself a skill), with very little of this learning likely to lead to a recognised qualification or addressing recognised skills needs in the region.

Areas of greatest skills need are concentrated in particular areas in the region, with the greatest proportion of adults without a Level 2 found in North Norfolk, Forest Heath in Suffolk, the Fenlands as well as along the Essex/London border. The pattern of need for Level 3 qualifications is similar though there is more of a general need throughout the region, including parts of Suffolk, Cambridgeshire and Bedfordshire.

Unemployment rates remain low in the region. In June 2006, around 2% of the people aged between 16 and 65 were claiming unemployment benefit across the East of England, slightly lower than the England average of 2.5%<sup>2</sup>. This would suggest that adults can readily access the labour market with their current level of qualifications. It also highlights the scale of the challenge in meeting the additional employment needs of the priority sectors. The pattern of unemployment is varied across the region, with rates above the national average in Great Yarmouth, Luton, Norwich, Ipswich and Waveney. These districts also have a significant proportion of workers claiming unemployment for six months or more.

Improving literacy and numeracy skills across the East of England continues to present a significant challenge. Findings from the national Skills for Life Survey suggest that an estimated 53% of adults in the East of England had literacy skills at Level 1 or below. Whilst below the national average, it suggests around 1.8 million adults in the East of England region have scope to improve their literacy skills. Of these, around a quarter were classified at Entry Level (Levels 1-3 inclusive), with the majority estimated to be at Entry Level 1. Levels of numeracy skills amongst adults in the region were found to be lower. An estimated 7 out of 10 adults in the East of England had numeracy skills at Level 1 or below, equivalent to around 2.4 million adults in the region. In contrast to literacy skills, the majority of adults were classified at Entry Level for numeracy skills.

The London 2012 Olympics and Paralympics Games represent one of the most significant and strategic regeneration projects in the Gateway. In addition to being the largest sporting event in the world, the 2012 Games will provide long term regeneration benefits to the Lower Lea Valley in the Thames Gateway and to surrounding areas.

As a neighbouring region, the 2012 Games offer substantial opportunities and challenges to the East of England. Estimates suggest that the economic impact on the East of England could exceed £600 million, though this excludes the costs of programmes to support the realisation of these benefits. The greatest economic benefits for the region revolve around using the Games as a catalyst to improve the tourism product in the region. There are also potential significant benefits in the areas of skills, most notably in construction, logistics, culture, media, creative industries, hospitality and sport and leisure. There will also be opportunities for the region's businesses, which could be expected to secure up to 5-10% of the value of contracts linked to the Olympics. However, there will also be some risks for the region to manage, including a drain of skills from the region and competition for funding and other resources. Some sectors, such as manufacturing, may experience a decline as there will be

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<sup>1</sup> Annual Population Survey, APS05, Department of Education and Skills, 2005

<sup>2</sup> Claimant Count, Department for Work & Pensions, 2006

little direct benefit from construction activities or tourism but will have to compete for similar labour, including the possibility of having to pay higher wages than normal to attract workers.

The Learning and Skills Council (LSC) for the East of England is currently supporting a range of providers to deliver Skills for Jobs activity for adults who are not in work, with particular focus on providing the skills necessary to enter the priority sectors experiencing significant skills shortages.

Skills for Jobs an umbrella term for a range of different actions that directly link skills and employment.

The main target group is low skilled adults (19+) not currently in employment but who want to work. Within this broad category, groups facing specific barriers and experiencing significant disadvantages would be prioritised, reflecting local and sub-regional needs.

Core Skills for Jobs activities across the region include:

Pre and post recruitment bespoke training to meet the needs of employers:

Once the prospective employee has been identified, bespoke training is required to prepare the individual for employment and meet employers' needs prior to access to Train to Gain when employed.

Employability and occupational training tailored to individual and employer needs:

Providing the skills needs often raised by employers as being important – communication skills, working as part of a team, flexibility, problem solving and personal management skills.

Pre and post employment mentoring and support for individuals:

Unemployed individuals may have additional problems related to motivation, health, disability, debt, dependency, transport etc. that will require ongoing and targeted attention both pre and post employment. Mentoring will be the vital component in the provision that adds value to current provision.

Access/Foundation level learning for entry level or below learners:

Units tailored to meet the needs of potential learners with an emphasis on occupational activities leading to vocationally relevant skills development, including but not exclusively, qualifications.

Pre-employment support for individuals, e.g. CV writing, mock interviews, action planning:

Individual skills diagnostics, undertaking research, skills action planning, signposting, referral, letter writing, application form completion, personal presentation, interview techniques, follow-up/review success.

Within this tendering round the LSC is looking to support projects that provide additional flexible provision that will add to the range of current 'Skills for Jobs' (S4J) provision available within the region.

Successful delivery of Government policy aspirations for the engagement of communities and individuals in increased levels of sporting activity and in securing a lasting legacy from the Olympics requires a grassroots infrastructure of competent individuals. Many of the qualifications recognised by SkillsActive, the Sector Skills Council for Sport and Active Leisure, as demonstrating appropriate competence are not eligible for Train to Gain support or cannot be easily financed by the volunteers or the employees of the small organisations who make up the majority of the sector workforce. There is as a consequence considerable unmet demand in the sector for competent, qualified individuals.

Within this tendering round the LSC is looking to support projects that will fill this unmet need.

<b>Skills for Olympics and Paralympics (ESF) – Sports-Related Skills</b>	<b>Reference: EE/A/S13</b>
<b>Aim</b>	
<p>The Learning and Skills Council (LSC) for the East of England is seeking one or more tenders to enable individuals to obtain qualifications that are in high demand by organisations operating in the sports and active leisure sector and that are not supported under Train to Gain. This service will ensure that individuals can access and can operate effectively in employed or volunteer roles in the sector and will assist the East of England to contribute effectively in the preparation for, delivery of and realisation of the legacy of the London Olympics &amp; Paralympics in 2012.</p>	
<b>Service requirement</b>	
<p>The LSC is seeking one or more projects that will deliver sports-related learning activity in qualifications recognised by SkillsActive, the Sector Skills Council for Sport and Active Leisure. The projects will also encourage smaller organisations operating in the sector to further develop their workforce via the Train to Gain service and the National Skills Academy for Sport and Active Leisure (NSASAL). The areas of activity within the service will cover the development of individuals as:</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coaches;</li> <li>• Coach Tutors;</li> <li>• Community Development sports workers;</li> <li>• Managers;</li> <li>• Operations workers;</li> <li>• Health and Fitness workers; and,</li> <li>• Match Officials.</li> </ul>	
<p>Participants in the service will receive awareness training in Equality and Diversity (particularly disability awareness in a sports context), Skills for Life and be helped to understand and use SkillsActive and the NSASAL careers resources that will enable them to identify and access opportunities in employed and volunteer roles in the active leisure and learning sector and the London Olympics &amp; Paralympics 2012.</p>	
<p>All training and qualifications outcomes delivered will be those recognised by SkillsActive as being necessary for individual progression in the Active Leisure and Learning sector or of value to employing organisations for those seeking to further or develop a volunteer/employed status role in the sector. It is <b>expected</b> that the management development offer will be part of all the successful tenders and not tendered for as a standalone element.</p>	
<p>The service delivered under the tender will complement and <b>not</b> compete with activity delivered by Train to Gain and the successful tenderers are expected to work closely and collaboratively with the Train to Gain brokerage offer. It is anticipated that all organisations and participants benefiting from this service and who have not yet engaged with the Train to Gain service will receive active encouragement to do so and to progress to appropriate full Level 2 and Level 3 training.</p>	
<p>All tenderers will be expected to hold discussions on their tender with SkillsActive at regional level in advance of the submission of their tender and to submit a letter of support from SkillsActive with their tender. It is expected that all proposed delivery partners will be named in the tender and will have given prior agreement to their inclusion</p>	
<p>The successful tenderers for this service will be expected to work closely with SkillsActive and the Regional Operational Group of the NSASAL. They will ensure that provision under this bid is consistent with service and quality standard set by NSASAL or agreed equivalents. The NSASAL Regional Operational Group will act as the steering group for the delivery of the service.</p>	
<p>It is expected that the successful tenderers will make full use of the Active Passport (<a href="http://www.skillsactive.com/resources/skills-passport">www.skillsactive.com/resources/skills-passport</a>) as a way of engaging employing organisations and learners with their development needs and as a portable means to demonstrate achievement and to track progression both within and beyond the life of the service.</p>	

Where there is more than one successful tender for this service, the successful tenderers will be expected to work collaboratively and cohesively with each other, the Train to Gain Brokerage and NSASAL and its Regional Operational Group to deliver the entire service.

The Personal Best programme will roll out in the East of England in 2009. It is anticipated that the successful tenderer(s) will interwork with regional arrangements for Personal Best to ensure participants can access both offers. It is also anticipated that participants in the delivery of the service may also signpost individuals they are working with into Personal Best.

The successful tenderers will integrate the lessons learnt from the evaluation of the East Links Sports and Leisure Project

(<http://www.acer.ac.uk/eastlinks/sports%20and%20leisure/Sport%20and%20leisure%20low%20res%20pdf.pdf>) into the delivery of this service.

Please note that all deliverable activity identified in this specification must be funded by the European Social Fund.

### Target groups & priority

- Individuals 16+ seeking to develop a volunteer or employed status role in the active leisure sector and are neither following a full L2, L3 or L4 sports-related learning aim nor whose training/qualification goals (or equivalents) can be achieved via engagement by their employing organisation with the Train to Gain service; and,
- Individuals and organisations accessing the NSASAL.

### Geography / area of delivery

Delivery across the region is anticipated with attention paid to the needs of geographical areas associated with high deprivation indices or which are hosting facilities for the London Olympics & Paralympics in 2012.

### Outputs

- **Coaching** – At least 750 UK Coaching Certificates (or SkillsActive agreed equivalents) at L1, L2, L3 with at least 80% targeted to Olympic sports;
- **Coaching Tutors** – At least 25 individuals on training leading to a qualification;
- **Community Development** – at least 100 individuals on training programmes leading to a qualification. This may include Community sports awards, mentoring awards and elements of the SkillsActive sector/employability routeway;
- **Additional Management Development** – enabling up to 100 sector **organisations** supported by this service and who have also taken up the Train to Gain Management Development offer to qualify **additional** staff or volunteers in management, leadership, supervisory or business improvement roles;
- **Operations** – at least 100 individuals to access appropriate training and qualifications such as Active IQ Certificate in Operations, the Pool Plant operator qualifications and the IQL Lifesaving qualifications;
- **Health and Fitness** – at least 100 individuals to access qualifications such as the Active IQ Certificate in Fitness instructing and the CYQ Certificate in Fitness Instructing; and,
- **Officiating** – up to 200 individuals to access qualifications such as 1<sup>st</sup> for Sport Certificate for Match Officials.

### Results

- 80% of participants will achieve SkillsActive recognised qualifications
- 100% participating organisations are briefed on and signposted to the services and offer of the NSASAL and the Train to Gain service

### Other outcomes

- The East of England has a substantially increased capability to contribute to the successful delivery of the London Olympics & Paralympics 2012 and the realisation of its legacy;
- Volunteers in the sector are qualified to work confidently and effectively in supporting sports activity in their communities and know where to find support if they wish to further upskill or move into sports-related careers;
- Participants are able to progress into higher skilled employed/volunteer roles in the Active Leisure and Learning sector;
- Individuals working in very small sector organisations are better supported to access appropriate learning via Train to Gain and the NSASAL;
- Individuals progress to Skills for Life or full NVQ qualifications appropriate to the sector; and,
- All individuals accessing the programme are supported to work with their host organisations to advocate the offer and benefits of the Train to Gain service.

#### **Funding available**

Up to **£1,300,000** is available for delivery of this service.

#### **Start and end dates**

January 2009 to 31 Dec 2010 or any period between.

#### **Contracting details**

The Learning and Skills Council intends to contract the activity within this tender specification against a set of deliverables, these are defined in the Outputs and Results section of this Tender Specification. Each key deliverable will be assigned a unit cost and the LSC will pay against this profile of activity. Successful applicants will be required to submit regular learner and performance related information to the LSC and the LSC will reconcile contracts on an agreed regular basis, which may affect future profile payments, or involve recovery of funds where necessary. Please note that all deliverable activity identified in this specification must be funded by the European Social Fund.

If more than one project is supported within this specification, all projects will be offered funding at the same rates for equivalent activity. In addition, the LSC will expect projects to work together to ensure a consistent approach is taken across the region.

Skills for Jobs (ESF)	Reference: EE/A/S14
<p><b>Aim</b></p> <p>The Learning and Skills Council (LSC) for the East of England is seeking tenders that develop and add value to our current mainstream activities by investing in a recognised range of additional pre- and post- employment activities collectively referred to as 'Skills for Jobs' (S4J). This will be an enhanced pre-employment programme to respond to individual needs.</p>	
<p><b>Service requirement</b></p> <p>The commissioned activity will provide an important 'pre-employment' phase and additionality to a number of existing mainstream funded programmes including: Personal and Community Development Learning (PCDL); Neighbourhood Learning for Deprived Communities (NLDC); Train to Gain and Apprenticeships/Adult Apprenticeships and Offenders' Learning and Skills Service (OLASS).</p> <p>Activity could also provide additional pre-level 2 training in employment where appropriate, providing a clear "pipeline" for Train to Gain referrals. Such activity will involve working closely with Train to Gain brokers and groups of employers to identify vacancies and skill requirements and prepare unemployed individuals for job entry through individual support and tailored (or mainstream) training.</p> <p>Training will continue once in employment through Train to Gain or Apprenticeships, with continued enhanced support for the employer and employee to ensure both sustained employment and further skills and qualification attainment.</p> <p>The LSC anticipates that at least 1500 individuals throughout the East of England will benefit from this provision.</p> <p>It is vital that any successful tender demonstrates links to current activity in this area, such as the Employability Skills Programme, other ESF-funded Skills for Jobs activity and Jobcentre Plus funded pre-employment programmes arranged as part of a Local Employment Partnership (LEP).</p> <p>It must also show links into mainstream LSC funding.</p> <p>We welcome bids from individual providers or collaborations that want to work at regional, sub regional and local levels, including at Local Authority Ward level, where there are significant pockets of worklessness. It is up to the provider to specify the areas that they might want to engage with and the volumes that they might want to deliver within those areas.</p> <p>Applicants must be able to demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A track record of delivering the type of activity specified</li> <li>• Local knowledge of the both the client group, the barriers they face and the needs and requirements of the local labour market</li> <li>• Capacity to deliver in very local areas. They must also demonstrate their staff have the necessary skills to make the tender successful. Where these resources are not in place they must demonstrate <b>how</b> and <b>when</b> they will be secured</li> <li>• Effective collaborative working</li> <li>• Experience of working on an outreach basis with a history of delivering in a multi-agency approach</li> <li>• How changes will be effected in their own organisation and in the way they work with other organisations and partners to effectively progress participants into successful sustained employment outcomes</li> </ul> <p>Applicants must be able to demonstrate they have the capability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor this activity</li> <li>• Supply timely and accurate management information</li> <li>• Work with partners to track each individual.</li> <li>• Ensure quality of provision</li> </ul>	

- Effectively recruit learners
- Assess learner needs
- Provide services tailored to learners needs and progression
- Deliver expected achievement rates
- Deliver specific regional requirements
- Demonstrate value for money

Working in partnership will be vital to a successful delivery that must be tailored to meet both individual and employer need.

Applicants will need to demonstrate either:

- A partnership approach, if they are proposing to deliver all activity listed in the programme delivery section, detailing clearly which organisations will deliver which aspects of the service and their capability and capacity;
- or
- How they will work with other local organisations to engage, progress and track individuals if an organisation is applying to deliver very specific activity from the programme delivery section.

This work needs to be focussed on the specific needs of individuals and responsive to employers' needs. Applicants must provide convincing detail of how this will be achieved.

Within the over-arching national eligibility criteria, each region will identify key issues faced by disadvantaged customer groups or in particular geographical areas for which they are seeking a tailored response. This will include the need to demonstrate links to other mainstream or locally funded activities, and to ensure that added value is provided by newly commissioned S4J activity.

Successful S4J providers must demonstrate:

- Strong partnership working with Jobcentre Plus (JCP)
- Strong working links with the Voluntary and Community Sector
- Strong working links with Train to Gain Brokerage services
- Strong links with providers and employers.
- The ability to provide single access to an integrated service for participants within a tailored package of support
- How they complement and enhance existing partnership activity
- Supplementary activity to current programmes and partner activity where a clear "gap in the market" has been identified.
- Effective integration of mainstream provision to an integrated service
- Their current and proposed involvement in wider partnerships and how their proposal will lead to more effective partnership working.

**In addition flexible provision** will be delivered from the following procurement menu:

Area	Activity	Description
East of England	Pre-employment training for Local Employment Partnerships (LEPs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision will be short, sharp and job focused and could last for a 3 day programme to a maximum of a 2 week programme (<b>Please Note:</b> this may change to 8 weeks in the future).</li> <li>• Providers will work with LEP employers to determine their requirements for pre-employment training, and provide support to the employer once learners start employment.</li> <li>• Provision will equip individuals with the skills required to enter employment or benefit from up to a 3 weeks work trial</li> <li>• Pre-employment support for individuals e.g. CV writing; mock interviews; action planning tailored to the requirements of employers' recruitment procedures.</li> <li>• Use of Sector Employability Toolkits (sector-specific training to enable potential employees to gain skills required by particular</li> </ul>

		<p>employers)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support and mentoring for individuals and employers (both pre and post employment) to promote sustained employment and progression routes for learners.</li> </ul> <p>We also expect bidders to demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A proven track record of LEP support and engagement</li> <li>• Established contact with local employers</li> <li>• A strong working relationship with JCP</li> </ul>
Suffolk, Norfolk and Cambridgeshire	Additional S4J in rural areas	<p>Potential learners in rural areas of Cambridgeshire, Suffolk and Norfolk often lack access to provision because of the distances required for them to travel to larger towns where providers are based.</p> <p>S4J will provide a service for people who live in less accessible rural areas, to help them gain skills and confidence that will enable them to seek work in their local labour market.</p> <p>This provision will provide support for the Integrated Employment and Skills trials starting in December 08, to ensure that all customers, wherever they live within Suffolk, Norfolk and Cambridgeshire, have access to pre-employment training and support. We expect bidders to describe how this will be provided.</p> <p>We will be seeking providers who demonstrate an in-depth knowledge of the rural areas of the three counties and an understanding of the local population and labour market.</p>
East of England	“Through the Gate” support for Offenders	<p>To support offenders discharged from prisons across the region or serving community sentences through pre-employment training and support. Offenders released into the community without support from the Probation Service will be a particular focus. Providers are encouraged to build on good practice developed through the ESF EQUAL “Engage “ Project and the ‘relay worker’ concept designed to give additional mentoring and support to offenders leaving the region’s prisons or coming back into the region, especially from London, SE and the East Midlands.</p> <p>Providers will need to have or demonstrate how they would develop partnership relationships both within the region and across the above mentioned regions to facilitate progression into further training or employment for offenders ‘Through the Gate’.</p> <p>Providers will be expected to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work closely with JCP and both the Prison and Probation Services to identify offenders who would benefit from additional support</li> <li>• Identify individual training and support needs and appropriate progression pathways</li> <li>• Refer into existing provision where this would meet an individual’s need to continue training/qualifications begun in prison (JCP or LSC funded)</li> <li>• Support offenders and ex-offenders into work trials and employment</li> <li>• Provide specialist mentoring and support to both offenders and employers</li> </ul> <p>We also expect bidders to demonstrate:</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A track record of working with offenders and the Prison and/or Probation Services</li> <li>• A working relationship with JCP</li> <li>• Established contact with local employers</li> </ul>
<p>We would not expect one provider to bid for all of the above as different providers will specialise in different areas.</p> <p>Please note that all deliverable activity identified in this specification must be funded by the European Social Fund.</p>		
<p><b>Target groups &amp; priority</b></p>		
<p>Workless individuals 19+ in priority groups of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incapacity Benefit</li> <li>• Jobseekers Allowance</li> <li>• Lone parents</li> <li>• Older people</li> <li>• Young unemployed</li> <li>• BME communities</li> <li>• Refugees</li> <li>• Economic Migrants</li> <li>• Offenders/ex-offenders</li> </ul> <p>The support identified in this specification is intended primarily for those who are almost job ready, but need some additional help to enter jobs. It is likely that participants will have been out of work for some time.</p> <p>In certain circumstances support may be available to those who already have a Level 2 qualification. Examples of this are if the individual's qualification is no longer vocationally valid or if the individual can no longer use their existing work skills due to health reasons.</p>		
<p><b>Geography / area of delivery</b></p>		
<p>Participants must come from the East of England and from areas of high worklessness.</p> <p>Areas of high worklessness: some local authority wards have been identified as having an employment rate significantly below the national rate and have, consequently, been designated as Deprived Wards. We would expect these Deprived Wards to provide a focus for delivery. The following are designated as Deprived Wards in the East of England:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Peterborough – Central</li> <li>• Luton – Dallow, Northwell and Biscot</li> <li>• Bedford – Cauldwell</li> <li>• Southend – Victoria and Kursaal</li> <li>• Tendring – Golf Green, Pier and Rush Green</li> <li>• Waveney – Harbour and Kirkley</li> <li>• Great Yarmouth – Central &amp; Northgate and Nelson</li> <li>• King's Lynn – North Lynn and St Margaret's with St Nicholas</li> <li>• Norwich – Mancroft</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Outputs</b></p>		
<p>Key outputs for this activity will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-employment training for Local Employment Partnerships = 1000 starts</li> <li>• Additional Skills for Jobs for rural areas = 250 starts</li> <li>• Through the Gate support for offenders = 250 starts</li> </ul>		

<p><b>Results</b></p> <p>Key results will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The number of individuals engaged in and completing S4J activity</li> <li>• At least one third of beneficiary profile should be engaged in secure employment. The definition of “employment” within this specification is individuals engaged in employment of at least 16 hours per week, for Job Seeker Allowance customers, and 8 hours per week for Incapacity Benefit / Employment Support Allowance customers for 13 weeks duration within 6 weeks of completing S4J activity</li> </ul> <p>In addition to job outcomes, other participants in the programme could progress to vocational training, work-placements, supported work-placements, voluntary work or further learning.</p>
<p><b>Other outcomes</b></p> <p>The outcomes of this activity will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants moving towards or into employment opportunities</li> <li>• Eligible participants taking up Train to Gain opportunities for training when they move into work</li> <li>• An increase in the number of employed adults</li> <li>• Progression into vocational training etc.</li> <li>• A reduction in the number of adults claiming Job Seekers Allowance</li> </ul> <p>Other specific outcomes will be agreed through negotiated agreements with partners. These may include, for example, evidence of regular contact once clients have entered work or evidence of an agreed employability plan. They may also include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an expectation that improved employer linkages are developed to help with delivery of pre/post employment training;</li> <li>• that providers collaborate in delivery with local subcontractors;</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>or</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• that clients are guaranteed a job interview on completion of pre-employment training.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Funding available</b></p> <p>£1.5 million for pre-employment training for individuals recruited through the LEPs  £375,000 for additional Skills for Jobs in rural areas  £375,000 for “Through the Gate” support for Offenders</p>
<p><b>Start and end dates</b></p> <p>January 2009 to 31 December 2010</p>
<p><b>Contracting details</b></p> <p>The Learning and Skills Council intends to contract the activity within this tender specification against a set of deliverables, these are defined in the Outputs and Results section of this Tender Specification. Each key deliverable will be assigned a unit cost and the LSC will pay against this profile of activity. Successful applicants will be required to submit regular learner and performance related information to the LSC and the LSC will reconcile contracts on an agreed regular basis, which may affect future profile payments, or involve a recovery of funds where necessary. Please note that all deliverable activity identified in this specification must be funded by the European Social Fund.</p> <p>For activity commissioned through this specification, the potential indicative funding is based on a unit cost of up to £1,500, giving a range from £250 for a lower level intervention to a likely maximum of £1,500.</p> <p>The funding model for the Offenders “Through the Gate” project will be based on £1500 per participant, though</p>

details will be worked out at the contracting stage.

As this project is supporting individuals and does not provide any commercial advantage to a specific employer or sector, it is NOT subject to State Aid.