

london

euroscene

byte-size



No.6 November 2007

Welcome to the new byte-size Euroscene

**Latest news on.... DATES FOR ALL 4 CFOS!..... PARTNERSHIP PORTAL
LVSTC AGM NEW LONDON COUNCILS PROCUREMENT ROUND**

LVSTC News

Cash for Cohesion:

the new London ESF round explained and explored

LVSTC Annual Conference and AGM

Wednesday 28th November will see LVSTC host their Annual Conference and AGM at the University of London Union, Euston – “Capital Cohesion!”. This full day event will focus on the opportunities offered by the new ESF round and how best the sector can take advantage of the new money coming in.

Booking for the AGM is now open so fill out a form which you can download from [here](http://www.lvstc.org.uk/events.php) and send it into us as soon as possible as places are filling up quickly: <http://www.lvstc.org.uk/events.php>.

LVSTC ESF Partnership Portal

Now live!!

We have had an excellent response since launching our Partnership Portal 2 weeks ago, with over 100 organisations, submitting their details to us. The Portal is now live on the LVSTC website and you can search for partners in a variety of ways. Of course, we would very much like to continue to build on these numbers so please do keep on sending in your details and passing it on any other organisations who you think might be interested.

If you want to play your full part in developing collaborative working through the **Partnership Portal**, –you can find out more by going to http://www.lvstc.org.uk/partnership_portal.php and completing the electronic form, detailing what other organisations need to know about you!

For help and information about the ESF Partnership Portal, contact the ESF Unit at LVSTC on 0845 262 2006

Training room for Hire

LVSTC now has a fully equipped training room for hire at our premises in Bromley Hall, Tower Hamlets. With room for up to 20 delegates, and IT facilities available as well, our reasonable rates mean that Bromley Hall could be the ideal solution for you.

For more details, please contact Bill Burke on billb@lvstc.org.uk or 0845 262 2006

EU News

Invitation to Tender for LSC Contracts

All published PQOs have now been evaluated and scored using a fair, transparent and robust scoring framework. The result of this process has been a list of “successful” providers to whom the LSC is now sending out Invitations to Tender (ITT) (for those provision types and geographical areas that they had indicated in

their PQQ).

The LSC is due to publish the Successful providers by region on their website but this information is not yet available due to technical difficulties. Once published, the details will appear on the [ESF Procurement page](#)

Second stage - From 12th November 07

Using the e-Tendering solution, the LSC will issue an ITT for the ESF to applicants that have been successful from the PQQ evaluation process. All tenders are given equal and fair consideration using a process that is consistent across all the LSC regions.

Instructions and guidance will be provided for the completion of the tender questions which relate to:

- Proposed Provision
- Recruitment
- Information Advice and Guidance (IAG)
- Initial Assessment
- The Learning Offer
- Learner's Needs
- Quality of Provision
- Learner progression

Third stage - February 08

Between 14th December 2007 and 20 February 2008, the ITTs will be evaluated and scored using a fair, transparent and robust scoring framework. Contract Award Panels will agree each contract offer against the original tender specification and Local Partnership Team staff will then carry out a "contract clarification" meeting with the relevant providers.

Contracts are expected to commence from 25 February 2008.

London Councils - ESF Application Workshop

London Councils is holding a CFO (Co Financing Organisation) European Social Fund event on **23rd November**.

This workshop from London Councils will detail the application process for its ESF programme. ESF aims to tackle unemployment and worklessness by developing the employability and skills of unemployed people. The London programme offers £320 million to tackle worklessness and low skills, address the barriers to work and develop a skilled and adaptable workforce. ESF in London is delivered by four organisations and this workshop focuses on the London Councils ESF programme.

This programme will fund projects to improve the employability and skills of unemployed and economically inactive people by equipping them with the personal and occupational skills they need to access and compete effectively in the labour market.

London Councils hopes to fund projects that contribute to reducing child poverty in London by raising family income and skills. The programme invites applications from voluntary sector organisations or from voluntary sector led partnerships that are strategic and show links with other programmes. The workshop will outline the programme's key priorities and go through the application process in detail.

Please note that local authorities are not able to apply directly for funding under this programme. Please book early as places are limited!

To book a place, please click here: <http://www.lces.qlgroup.co.uk/eventspage.php?id=29>

If you have any queries, please contact Hazell Jarvis on <mailto:hazell.j@gle.co.uk>

LDA ESF Programme Launch now 23rd November

The London Development Agency are now hoping to launch their ESF Programme on 23rd November. You can now register on their website to receive any information and updates as soon as they become available: <http://www.lda.gov.uk/server/show/ConWebDoc.2163>

Department of Work & Pensions update

The DWP have now taken receipt of all their published PQQs and are currently assessing them. A list of the successful bidders will be published on Monday 3rd December on their website at http://www.dwp.gov.uk/supplyingdwp/what_we_buy/european_social_fund.asp. The DWP will be organising meetings for potential prime providers where anyone interested in becoming sub-contractors will be able to

express their interest in doing so.

The European Commission launches consultation on the active inclusion of people furthest from the labour market

The European Commission recently launched a [new consultation on the active inclusion of people furthest from the labour market](#).

What the Commission is proposing through this public consultation, is to deepen social policy cooperation at EU level by adopting a set of common principles. These principles would guide implementation of the three strands of active inclusion and their subsequent monitoring and evaluation, while fully respecting the different situations and needs of the Member States.

The Commission plans to propose a set of common principles in the form of a Recommendation, which would constitute the basis for Council conclusions and a European Parliament resolution. EU financial instruments, such as the European Social Fund – which invests over EUR 10 billion a year in people – are also available to support the active inclusion approach.

The European Anti Poverty Network (EAPN) will of course follow the whole process very carefully and will submit its response in the coming months.

Responses to the consultation can be submitted until the 28th of February 2008 to empl-active-inclusion@ec.europa.eu

Sector News

Benefit from the Olympics – Mayor publishes guide

Mayor of London Ken Livingstone has published 'Your 2012', a guide explaining how Londoners can become involved in the lasting legacy that will come from staging the 2012 Olympic Games. New training and business opportunities have already been created as a result of the games and the Mayor said "we want to ensure everyone from the business and local communities can get involved".

'Your 2012' can be downloaded from www.london.gov.uk/gla/publications/economy.jsp

Learning Power: a contribution to the national skills strategy

The new report from the Scarman Trust, *Learning power: a contribution to the national skills strategy* can now be downloaded from <http://www.communitysectorcoalition.org.uk/news-events/papers-for-news-and-events/Learning%20Power.pdf> or copies obtained for £5 from Scarman Trust, Kemp House, 152-160 City Road, London EC1V 2NP

The report considers how learning can improve opportunities and life chances for all citizens, especially the poorest. It highlights the importance of governance for encouraging enterprise and improving public services. It argues that providing practical political education in imaginative and enjoyable ways, such as through learning by doing, will strengthen participation in decision-making, and makes 30 recommendations to government and the voluntary sector.

The executive summary is available free from the Scarman Trust, including multiple copies for events or committee members. To get copies, email adebola.boboye@thescarmantrust.org

If you would also like any workshops, discussions or talks on the issues raised, then please do contact Titus Alexander on titus.alexander@thescarmantrust.org

Commission for Disabled Staff in Lifelong Learning consultation

The Commission for Disabled Staff in Lifelong Learning has published its **interim report**. If you are involved in Lifelong Learning and whether you are disabled or not, your responses to these **consultation questions are welcomed, by 7th December 2007**.

Here is the link to the report and the on-line questionnaire: -

<http://www.niace.org.uk/projects/commissionfordisabledstaff/Default.htm>

Responses to our original questionnaires are also still welcomed **by 16th November 2007**. They will confirm or add to the interim findings and shape the final report. Fill in the appropriate questionnaire or complete the appropriate list of questions at:

<http://www.niace.org.uk/projects/commissionfordisabledstaff/consultations.htm>

Your responses will help to produce recommendations to improve opportunities for all staff in Lifelong Learning and help organisations meet their obligations under Disability Discrimination legislation. Many thanks in advance.

Resources & Information

Updated LORECA directory features online and print enhancements

The 2nd edition of the LORECA Employment, Training, and Business Support Directory was launched at the

London Enriched Consultation event on Wednesday, 17th October, and the online version of the directory is now live. Both versions contain enhancements designed to make the directory easier to use, and with additional information such as quality assurance standards listed by providers. To request additional copies of the directory, contact Resource Information Service at: ris@ris.org.uk or 020 7939 0641

Communicating Europe in Partnership

Communicating Europe in Partnership is the title of the latest communication on a European communication that was published on 3 October by the European Commission calling for partnership with all institutions in order to win back support from citizens, especially ahead of the 2009 European Elections.

In this paper, the European Commission proposes actions to close the communication gap between the EU and its citizens. The emphasis is on promoting better ways for debating European integration. The central objective is to empower citizens to be better informed on the EU to voice their opinions on European affairs.

The Commission will propose to the European Parliament and Council to formalise the communication actions carried out at European level by drafting an interinstitutional agreement in 2008.

Find the communication and related documents on http://ec.europa.eu/commission_barroso/wallstrom/index_en.htm

AGE Publication: Give a voice to Older People in Poverty and Social Exclusion

In the context of the "International Day for the Eradication of Poverty" on 17 October, AGE has launched a publication entitled "Give a voice to Older People in Poverty and Social Exclusion".

This publication, based on two years work, brings a series of recommendations for both the organisations working with older people confronted with poverty and social exclusion and policy-makers at all levels.

To access the publication please see: http://www.age-platform.org/EN/article.php3?id_article=353

Events

LVSTC ITT Workshop for ESF Applicants 2007

Wednesday 5th December 2007, 9.30am-1.00pm at Southwell House

Following the success of the recent PQQ workshop organised by LVSTC for Voluntary and Community Sector organisations, the LSC in the London Region has requested LVSTC to host another workshop for organisations that have been successful with their PQQ and have been Invited To Tender for ESF funds for the next three years. The workshop will focus on three main areas identified by the LSC to strengthen the application:

- * How to Track Beneficiaries
- * Evaluation
- * Unit Costs/Realistic Expectations

For more information and to book a place, please visit the following link: <http://www.lvstc.org.uk/events.php>

Help to Claim Your Tax Credits

Tuesday 11th December 1:30 – 4:30, Bromley Hall, 43 Gillender Street, London E14 6RN

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE A CHRISTMAS PRESENT WORTH HUNDREDS OF POUNDS YET COSTS YOU NOTHING?

Did you know that Tax Credits are available to nearly everyone over 25 who is working more than 16 hours a week, even if they earn up to £58,000, plus anyone with young children under the age of 5 can give them a present from the government of £200 to pay into their Childs Trust fund account.

More than a million people who are eligible are not claiming, yet it is not too difficult to apply, particularly with the help of Wise Owls. If you apply now you should be able to know what benefits you will receive in the New Year, in time for Christmas

Wise Owls has been paid by H.M Revenue and Customs (HMRC) to help people to apply for their rightful entitlement to tax credits and benefits. All you have to do is to contact Wise Owls and either ask them to give you the necessary information and advice or come along to our training half-day where we will go through the forms and Guidance notes, give you all the necessary contact and helpline details to help you to claim your entitlement. After that Wise Owls are available on the phone once you have received your application form to

answer any questions you may have in applying.

Please register with or contact Wise Owls through
Val Small – Tax Credit Project Manager
Tel: 020 8983 9716 ; Fax: 020 8983 5713 email marketing@wiseowls.co.uk

Training

Peer Coaching for Embedding Language, Literacy and Numeracy

LLU+ are currently offering a unique opportunity to take part in an exciting pilot course to train vocational and Skills for Life (SfL) teachers in using peer coaching approaches to improve embedded language, literacy and numeracy (LLN). The course aims to develop new approaches to embedding LLN in vocational training using peer coaching techniques. It will include a 3-day OCN accredited course at Level 3, membership of a pan-London coaching network and access to an on-line coaching forum. It will also count towards the new CPD requirement for teachers of adults.

This course will be delivered by LLU+ at London South Bank University and is part of the Transforming Teaching and Learning Project in partnership with the London Strategic Unit, based at the London Centre for Leadership in Learning at the Institute of Education. It is funded by ESF and the LSC and is free to both vocational and SfL tutors, who are qualified and working in London. There are currently courses planned for January 2008, in central and south London respectively.

To find out more or to book a place please contact: Julia McGerty. j.mcgerty@lsbu.ac.uk Tel: 020 7815 6442 or follow this link www.lsbu.ac.uk/lluplus/training/generic.shtml#1

For information about all courses running at LLU+, London South Bank University visit: www.lsbu.ac.uk/lluplus/training/

Discovering Potential for Information, Advice and Guidance Practitioners 04 December 2007, London, Kings Fund

Building confidence and a sense of wellbeing is increasingly being seen as a means of enabling learners to make the most of their potential and to participate more fully in society. But how do you do it? *Discovering Potential* is a resource pack that supports practitioners and managers who work with learners with low self-esteem, it offers practitioners an effective yet simple model for delivering sustainable guidance to their clients or participants. The pack and the training will help you understand what is meant about health, self-esteem, learning and working in partnership, not just in relation to your work with clients, but for yourself and your organisation too. Cost £198, to book please visit <http://www.niace.org.uk/conferences/TrainingCourses/Discovering-LSS.htm>

For a full list of forthcoming NIACE Training Courses please click here
<http://www.niace.org.uk/conferences/TrainingCourses.htm>

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This e-bulletin is edited by Ian Foster. Views expressed herein are not necessarily those of LVSTC.
If you would like to have an item included in the bulletin or have any feedback then please email ianf@lvstc.org.uk

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