

London Euroscene Bytesize



London's Voluntary and Community Sector in partnership with Europe
to promote Social Inclusion

August 2011

Overview

The ESF Tendering Rounds for the Skills Funding Agency and Department for Work & Pensions are now well underway, with deadlines detailed below. Although, formal partnership building is now integral to the tendering process, providers are recommended to sustain their marketing efforts as, even after the tendering deadlines, there is always much fine-tuning as prime-/lead- contractors seek to plug gaps in services.

Also, small providers in the key Boroughs below are advised to keep out a keen eye for the imminent Launch of the London Community Grants Programme.

CFO News

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Department for Work & Pensions

**"ESF Support for Families with Multiple Problems" Workshop
9.30am-1.00pm, Tuesday 23rd August @ Europe House**

In the Government's own words: "The focus of this provision will be on providing a whole family approach, making support available to individual members across the generations. This provision must also contribute to and add value to wider family support". As with the Work Programme, delivery will be through the Framework comprising the Prime Contractors identified as preferred bidders.

Given the sensitivity of this area of intervention, Local Authorities have been identified as the key source for identifying the beneficiary "families". Historically, many of these Councils have already involved a wide range of voluntary and community organisations in the development of local service provision. Over recent months, the Primes have been making contact with Local Authorities and third sector providers in assembling their supply chains.

This Workshop offers a "late-shopping" opportunity where lingering gaps in the above supply chains can be plugged. A forum facility, supported by an adapted LVSTC Partnership Portal, will be available for voluntary and community sector groups to meet the Primes. Such contact may lead to continuing dialogue beyond the Tendering Deadline as the Programme adjusts into the future to meet unmet needs.

The Workshop will also include a plenary session focusing on the wider issues around this family intervention scheme. This will help to develop an appreciation of the potential impact of the Programme as well as inform thinking about how the closing stages of the ESF 2007-2013 Programme might lay foundations for the following ESF 2014-2020 Programme being prepared, in part, to address the poverty-reduction target of the EU 2020 Strategy.

To book a place at the "DWP ESF Support for Families With Multiple Problems" Workshop to be held at the Europe House, Smith Square on Tuesday 23rd August 2011 from 10:00 am - 12:30pm, please visit <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/DWPPF> and complete the online booking form.

Please note the Tender Deadline is 30th August at 10am.

Skills Funding Agency

After the termination of the London Development Agency's (LDA) ESF NEET procurement round launched in autumn 2010, discussions around the specifications designed by the LDA took place with the Greater London Authority (GLA), the European Programmes Management Unit (EPMU), the Skills Funding Agency (Agency), Young People's Learning Agency (YPLA) and the Young People's Education and Skills team (YPES). Following these discussions, it was agreed that, in order to ensure provision for young people who are NEET is in place for the coming academic year, the Agency would launch a procurement exercise to procure the NEET services designed by the LDA. The LDA and the Agency, working with the YPLA and the National Apprenticeship Service, have worked together to deliver the objectives of the LDA's youth specifications.

The PQQ for this NEET activity has now closed and successful organisations will be able to access the Invitations to tender (ITT) through the Agency's e-tendering site. The ITTs are based on the four areas identified by the LDA.

Supporting Young Londoners who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) to re-engage with education, training or employment

The Pan London NEET Provision seeks delivery partners to support young Londoners aged 16-19 who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) to re-engage with education, training or employment. This activity will operate in six clusters areas.

Training to work

The employer-led Training to Work project will specifically bring together employers and training delivery partners within identified growth sectors in order to develop a scheme to move young people aged 16-19 who are not in education, employment or training into work.

Opportunities for Vulnerable Young People (NEET)

The Opportunities for Vulnerable Young People NEET project will specifically support young people with multiple barriers to participation from two particularly vulnerable groups within the wider population of those aged 16-19 who are NEET: Looked After Children/care leavers and teenage parents.

Volunteering into Employment, Education or Training

The Volunteering into Education, Employment or Training project will require a delivery partner to work with young people aged 16-19 who are identified as NEET and specifically requires the delivery provider to use volunteering as the mechanism to re-engage young people, to help them to improve their skills and aspirations and to help them to move back into sustained education, training or employment.

Updating your Partnership Portal entry

We are now extending the LVSTC partnership portal to allow your organisation to indicate which of the YPLA NEET Opportunities in which you have an interest either as a Lead Partner or Delivery Partner.

Please note: to be a Lead Partner, you will need to have successfully completed a PQQ (now closed) and complete an ITT by 30th August 2011.

To register your interest, please use this link :- [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ypla?c="000092-0597"](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ypla?c=)

London Development Agency

As part of the LDA's transition and closure plans, a number of the LDA's programmes and projects have since transferred to the Greater London Authority (GLA) as part of a phased process of folding the LDA's functions into the GLA.

The GLA is now accountable for all of the programmes and projects that have transferred – including Works for London, the London Ambassadors programme and the LDA's Climate Change, Olympic Skills and Academies, Youth and Volunteering projects – and is also responsible for delivery of the associated outputs and outcomes.

As a result of these transfers, and various additional Mayoral Directions, the total funding transferred to the GLA will equate to 44% of the LDA's project budget for 2011/12.

At the end of June, in parallel with the transfer of LDA programmes and projects, the London European Programmes Management Unit also transferred to the GLA. Under this arrangement, the LDA's accountability for the Unit and the management of programmes and projects supported under the London Programmes and delivery of the associated outputs and outcomes, ceased as of 30 June 2011.

Further information on the transition and closure process, including copies of progress reports and details of the transferred projects, is available at <http://www.lda.gov.uk/>. We will also continue to keep you informed of progress through future updates.

For more information on the ESF programme in London please visit www.london.gov.uk/esf

London Councils

An ESF Boroughs funding round is expected soon.

London Councils – Community Grants

It is expected that a new ESF Community Grants funding round will commence in the coming week which will offer grants of up to £12,500 to small voluntary and community sector groups designing projects to move the economically inactive closer to the labour market. The round will run in the boroughs of Croydon, Enfield, Lambeth, Southwark and Tower Hamlets with different criteria applying in each area – we will keep you posted as soon as we have confirmation of the details of the programme and the schedule of advice-giving support that will accompany it.

National Offender Management Service

At present, no tendering rounds are planned.

London ESF & ERDF Awards 2011

The application process for the third annual London European Social Fund (ESF) Awards has now been launched and for the first time, includes awards for the European Regional Development Fund programme (ERDF): <http://www.london.gov.uk/epmu/london-erdf-esf-awards-2011>. The Awards will showcase the talents, skills and employment-related achievements of individuals and businesses benefiting from ESF and ERDF across London.

The 5 ESF award categories are:

Young Learner / Participant of the Year (14-19 years)
Adult Learner/ Participant of the Year (20+ years)
Outstanding Achiever of the Year
Progression onto an Apprenticeship
Outstanding Mentor / Tutor /Employment Advisor of the Year

The 2 ERDF award categories are:

ERDF Project of the Year
Most Improved Business of the Year

Nominations are open now and will close on 30th September 2011. Any participant or organisation that has been supported under the 2007-13 ESF and ERDF Programmes is eligible to submit a nomination entry and all the paperwork can be found at <http://www.london.gov.uk/epmu/london-erdf-esf-awards-2011>

The Awards ceremony will take place at City Hall in November 2011 and places will be prioritised for nominees and their guests.

The London ESF & ERDF Awards 2011 is a joint initiative between the European Programmes Management Unit who manage the ESF and ERDF programmes in London, the Greater London Authority and the five London 'co-financing' organisations that fund ESF projects: the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), Skills Funding Agency, London Councils, the London Development Agency (LDA) and the National Offender Management Service (NOMS).

The Awards are supported by ESF Works (www.esf-works.com).

Online survey for informal adult learning - have your say

Individuals are given the chance to have their say about the future of informal adult community learning, by responding to a new [NIACE online survey](#) by **31 October 2011**, as part of the government's review of informal adult learning.

Responses to NIACE's online survey will help to influence how public money for informal adult and community learning is spent in local areas and what learning opportunities are made available. The survey is sponsored by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS), which will be launching a broader consultation aimed at organisations, such as education providers and employers, in August.

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LVSTC is funded by the European Social Fund, London Councils, City Bridge Trust and City Parochial Foundation.

This e-bulletin is edited by Geoff Robinson

Views expressed herein are not necessarily those of LVSTC.

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