

## Bedfordshire & Luton LSC ESF Plan 2 List of Projects

### Luton Borough Council

Contact: Rebecca Nelson

### Project: Augmented Curriculum

Tel: 01582 548213

#### Project Aim:

The project will develop opportunities for extended work experience and work experience taster placements for highly disaffected young people who are at risk of permanent exclusion from school, and those at risk of exclusion (including ex-offenders). It is currently extremely difficult to find suitable placements, which develop basic and key skills for this particular group, for whom considerable support is required. A 0.5 f.t.e project worker will work with employers. Initially Luton Borough Council supervisors will develop and support appropriate placements. The project will form part of the augmented curriculum project, financed through a partnership between Luton High Schools and the LEA which will provide a coherent curriculum for pupils at risk of exclusion in their final year of compulsory education.

**Project Number: 30**

**Measure: 2.1**

**Who Benefited: 100 Young People**

### Partners in Adventure

Contact: Brian Stanbridge

### Project: Springboard

Tel: 01234 403933

#### Project Aim:

The programme will provide a linked structured opportunity to individual beneficiaries by providing additional learning opportunities in a new and innovative programme within Bedfordshire. The Springboard programme is aimed at disadvantaged young people aged 13-19 with no or low skills below level 2 and for those individuals aged between 13-17 this includes those who are excluded from school or at risk of exclusion, including ex-offenders. The programme will be located within Bedfordshire (excluding Luton) and will seek beneficiary referrals from Upper Schools, Pupil Referral Units and Connexions offices from within Bedfordshire.

The Springboard programme is an Outreach project using the medium of outdoors and adventure to engage with a minimum of 210 individual beneficiaries who will receive a short programme of day taster sessions. The programme will then undertake to carry out more intensive work with approximately 84 individuals using a basic skills ICT course with certification.

**Project Number: 31**

**Measure: 2.1**

**Who Benefited: 210 Young People**

### Learning for Life Bedfordshire and Luton

Contact: Lillian Hart

### Project: Learning Champions in the Workplace

Tel: 01234 743012

#### Project Aim:

To build on existing research which has identified barriers to participation and

achievement by undertaking a feasibility study in collaboration with the LSC, community groups, minority ethnic groups and employers to identify and utilise the skills of learning champions. The project aims to provide an opportunity for 20 individuals from ethnic minority backgrounds to undertake training to enable them to become learning champions and promote the benefits of learning to others, this in turn ensures capacity building within the community.

**Project Number: 32**  
**Measure: 2.3**

**Who Benefited: 20 Adults**

**Learning for Life Bedfordshire and Luton**

Contact: Lillian Hart

**Project: Guidance for employees**

Tel: 01234 302403

Project Aim:

The project would enable employees to be referred, or to refer themselves for one to one advice and guidance and basic skills screening (as appropriate). Individuals would then be sign posted to learning opportunities or possibility of local targeted provision would be explored with providers. The project seeks to explore a range of different ways of working with employers to facilitate greater awareness of the need for upskilling in the workplace and of the local community.

**Project Number: 33**  
**Measure: 3.1**

**Who Benefited: 500 People Ages 16-50+**

**Learning For Life Bedfordshire and Luton**

Contact: Lillian Hart

**Project: Women with Language Barriers**

Tel: 01234 743012

Project Aim:

To provide an opportunity for 35 women, with language barriers, undergoing a significant life change following their recent redundancy to be supported by intensive learning and support mechanisms. The project intends to provide access to skills development and training to increase their skills and knowledge base, increase their level of understanding and raise self-esteem. In addition the project will help to develop realistic lifelong learning strategies for individuals, to provide individuals with support and encouragement to enable them to take up opportunities and also to recruit and train a member of the community to become a 'Community Learning Champion/ Keyworker'

**Project Number: 34**  
**Measure: 3.1**

**Who Benefited: 35 Women**

**Protech Training Services Limited**

Contact: Mariella Cook

**Project: Second Chance**

Tel: 01525 858900

Project Aim:

Offering people with poor literacy and numeracy skills fresh opportunities for learning and long-term employment, the Second Chance project aims to identify and directly address the basic skills issues faced by agency and short term workers and by those consistently unsuccessful in vacancy applications. Working with contract

agencies, providers and employers throughout Bedfordshire and Luton, and providing natural progression for the work of the Skills Springboard project, Second Chance will combine research on the impact and extent of basic skills gaps with the development of two innovative delivery programmes for a minimum of 35 agency-registered individuals.

**Project Number: 35**  
**Measure: 3.1**

**Bedfordshire Adult and Community Learning (Beds County Council)**

Contact: Anne Anthony

**Who Benefited: 35 Adults**

**Project: Bedfordshire Rural Links Project**

Tel: 01234 228171

Project Aim:

The programme will include a range of activities to support beneficiaries from non-participation to qualification in a series of flexible learning steps, which will support their roles in their communities and families, as well as participation in the labour market. Threshold / taster activities will be offered in identified rural areas, using the BRCC mobile facility where no suitable local venue is available. Follow up activities will use ICT as the medium and include the opportunity to gain an initial qualification in ICT: wherever possible these will be offered on a workshop basis to allow for flexible attendance. Negotiated short programmes will be developed which include embedded Basic Skills: e.g. job application support / CV writing skills. Each participant will have the opportunity for individual advice and guidance and basic skills assessment and will be subsequently supported to participate in further education / training opportunities.

**Project Number: 36**  
**Measure: 3.1**

**Alcohol Services for the Community**

Contact: Tara Knight

**Who Benefited: 195 Adults**

**Project: Bridging the Gap**

Tel: 01582 723434

Project Aim:

To provide ICT learning packages to NVQ Level 2

To provide an additional learning opportunity in a safe environment where clients can mix and match with existing programmes relating to their alcohol misuse.

To continue to provide an out of hours service to make learning opportunities available to those at risk of periods of short term employment and provide ongoing support

To provide an outreach dimension by taking this service to associated community links to allow continuity for our clients should they need to be admitted to hospital for short periods of time.

In providing the ICT learning programme, our approach will be packaged to clients in an innovative way to encourage client participation in ICT learning.

**Project Number: 37**  
**Measure: 3.1**

**Who Benefited: 155 Adults**

### Learning for Life Bedfordshire and Luton

Contact: Lillian Hart

**Project Number: 38**  
**Measure: 3.1**

### Workbase Employment Service

Contact: Chris Treacey

**Project Number: 39**  
**Measure: 3.1**

### Protech Training Services Ltd

Contact: Mariella Cook

**Project Number: 40**  
**Measure: 3.1**

### Crabtree Development Consultants

Contact: Kay Killner

### Project: Overcoming Barriers

Tel: 01234 302400

Project Aim:

An opportunity for 10 individuals who have learning difficulties and/or disabilities to be given one to one support helping them to identify and overcome personal barriers to engagement in learning and work. The project aims to give the individuals the encouragement, support and help required to give them the opportunity to re-engage and to increase their knowledge base, increase their level of understanding and identify the skills they need to develop to re-engage.

**Who Benefited: 10 Adults**

### Project: Learning in the Community

Tel: 01234 853428

Project Aim:

The Community Learning Project offers community-based training in catering and hospitality, conference organisation and customer service, to people with learning disabilities. Beneficiaries will learn how to provide a service to local communities and use this as a focus for learning basic skills. The Project will also involve beneficiaries in the setting up of work group activities such as gardening groups, packing teams and craft production as a stage towards developing small scale business ventures – using business development as a focus for practical learning.

**Who Benefited: 20 Adults**

### Project: SkillsBase

Tel: 01525 858900

Project Aim:

The aim is to increase the **quality, quantity, accessibility and consistency** of basic and key skill provision for learners in Bedfordshire and Luton, through a fully co-ordinated, partnership-based network of specialist skills centres. The project will equip a minimum of 250 people with the essential skills to underpin their other learning. A particular focus of the project will be on basic and key skills support for young people currently on work based learning programmes. SkillsBase will offer a central resource-advisory centre for learners, providers and employers alike, alongside specialist delivery programmes and training to develop basic skills tutors in 10 providers. SkillsBase will support individuals already undertaking learning, whose progress is hindered by basic and key skills gaps.

**Who Benefited: 250 Adults**

### Project: Caring for Tomorrow

Tel: 01582 665094

**Project Aim:**

42% percent of information held within an organisation is retained in people's heads. This is particularly true within the care sector, where sharing and understanding of information can mean life or death. Building on existing partnerships within this sector, and using an innovative new knowledge management model, Caring for Tomorrow, aims to help care homes pinpoint where knowledge is insufficiently shared. The project will offer training in the use and evaluation of the model so that managers can meet the learning needs within their workforce ensuring sharing of information and compliance with government legislation, enhanced customer service, increased business effectiveness, back up for roles and meaningful succession planning. The result for the 125 individual managers and deputies from private care homes a wider range of skills, increased confidence, business understanding, flexibility and success.

**Project Number: 41**  
**Measure: 3.2**

**Who Benefited: 125 Adults from SME's in the care sector**

**Crabtree Development Consultants**

Contact: Kay Killner

**Project: Building for the Future**

Tel: 01582 665094

**Project Aim:**

Building for the Future provides the construction sector with ownership for own learning. Equipping organisations with the skills and innovative tools needed to identify skills gaps, mapped to appropriate qualifications, and by offering on-going mentoring support to key workers – or Learning Builders – to facilitate and measure learning activity, the result is more effective use of existing resources to address major skills shortages. A minimum of 45 people throughout Bedfordshire and Luton will receive industry or management-related NVQ training. The project will concentrate on supporting businesses in **identifying opportunities for up-skilling their existing workforce**. With a specially developed, highly-customised IT package to support the entire learning process, coupled with specialist mentoring and networking for the Learning Builders, businesses will be able to transform dormant talent into skilled labour – filling the gaps where they are most prevalent.

**Project Number: 42**

**Measure: 3.2**

**Who Benefited: 48 Adults from SME's in the Construction sector**

**EEF Mid-Anglian Employers Associations**

Contact: Barry Herd

**Project: The Achievement Partnership**

Tel: 01767 681722

**Project Aim:**

Provide SME's, in the Engineering and Manufacturing Sectors, with an introductory programme of training and development for supervisory management (team leaders, supervisors and first appointment managers) who have not had access to management

training.

To assist SMEs in increasing the effectiveness of their supervisory management, who are pivotal to both the growth and the profitability of their companies.

To enable supervisors to gain a relevant recognised qualification in management.

Be able to apply in the workplace the knowledge and skills gained

To enable delegates to become a "champion" of training, up-skilling and lifelong learning in the organisations.

To enable delegates to significantly develop their interpersonal skills.

To enable delegates to realise that their roles is pivotal to the effectiveness and the profitability of their company and that they can make a difference.

**Project Number: 43**

**Measure: 3.2**

**Opps**

Contact: Vincent Davies

**Who Benefited: 64 Adults from SME's in the Engineering sector**

**Project: Developing Skills in the Retail Sector**

Tel: 01480 896043

Project Aim:

Help beneficiaries to identify the skills required to develop and run their businesses effectively, and in particular to develop the skills identified by the Retail Sector Skills Council (Skillsmart). Courses will include:

1-2 units of NOCN "Intermediate Certificate in Running a Small Business", Finding and Keeping your Customers, and Money Management.

**Project Number: 44**

**Measure: 3.2**

**Protech Training Services Ltd**

Contact: Mariella Cook

**Who Benefited: 50 Adults from SME's in the Retail sector**

**Project: Learning Leaders**

Tel: 01525 858900

Project Aim:

The Learning Leaders project aims to leave a legacy of learning in organisations with a clear focus on one of the key areas of acknowledged skills shortages such as – information and communications technology (ICT). By firstly providing 18 key people – or Learning Leaders – with the relevant technical capabilities, accompanied by professional needs assessment, coaching and mentoring skills, the project will enable these people to develop the ICT abilities of their colleagues. The project will concentrate on upskilling managers and supervisors and place ICT firmly within the management agenda, the project will provide 35 people with European Computer Driving Licence certification, as well as establishing a network of Learning Leaders for the sharing of best practice; thus developing a culture of sustainable partnership-based learning for the future.

**Project Number: 45**

**Measure: 3.2**

**Who Benefited: 35 Adults**

### **Cambridge Online Learning**

Contact: Colin Davison

**Project Number: 46**  
**Measure: 3.2**

### **Learning for Life Bedfordshire and Luton**

Contact: Lillian Hart

**Project Number: 47**  
**Measure: 2.1**

### **Telework Association**

Contact: Alan Denbigh

### **Project: Developing managers in high growth sectors**

Tel: 01226 321717

Project Aim:

To deliver certificated management development to employed managers in the Bedfordshire and Luton LSC area. Cambridge Online Learning (COL) will provide training programmes leading to the Cambridge Management Award (CMA) – Executive Certificate and Executive Diploma in Management. The action learning programmes are delivered online, at home or at work, at a time to suit the learner. The Executive Certificate and Diploma are certificated by the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate.

The Learner is supported by a personal tutor, a subject matter specialist and a Client Service manager. The management assignments are all work-based and will benefit the company as well as the learner.

**Who Benefited: 24 Adults**

### **Project: Economically Inactive Adults**

Tel: 01234 743012

Project Aim:

The project will work with individuals who are currently economically inactive to support and encourage them back into learning and work. Learning for Life intends to work with two specific groups of people, lone parents and people who care for dependants. Learning for Life will help them to identify their personal barriers, produce a personal action plan, give them an understanding of the need to address their personal skills development, support their re-engagement with the learning process and make them aware of the need for lifelong learning. Through supported guidance, this project will support equal opportunities and access to learning for those in need.

**Who Benefited: 50 Adults**

### **Project: START**

Tel: 01453 834874

Project Aim:

The START project reduces the barriers to accessing skills for economically inactive adults. The three target groups within this measure are people who care for dependents, lone parents and pre-release offenders. All of these groups have difficulty in travelling to and attending work and training. START uses remote training methods to teach the skills necessary to work from home. The first stage of the training focuses on telephone based sales, marketing and data gathering, which are the skills most frequently, required by employers contacting the Telework Association. The project delivers the training supported by effective telephone tutorial both on a one-to-one basis. The project uses a course

developed in conjunction with employers in stage one. Graduates from stage one can then move onto stage two and be tutored remotely in IT skills with the computer literacy (CLAIT) qualification, allowing access to a greater range of (tele) work.

**Project Number: 48**  
**Measure: 2.1**

**Who Benefited: 50 Adults**

**Bedford College**

Contact: Teresa Frith

**Project: Urban Support**

Tel: 01234 291700

Project Aim:

The project intends to deliver IT, ESOL, Literacy and Numeracy qualifications to 120 beneficiaries within the targeted areas. 80 beneficiaries will have access to professional advice and guidance on successful parenting techniques and encouraging learning in the home. It is intended that 50% of beneficiaries will be women and 60% will achieve a qualification.

The programmes will run during the school holidays and at weekends and evening during term time. Childcare and crèche facilities will be provided at all times, enabling single parents or both parties to attend the programme, possibly ties in with after school club activities. Average course length will be 60 contact hours, this will include information, Advice and Guidance (IAG), screening and tracking, as well as actual delivery.

**Project Number: 49**  
**Measure: 3.1**

**Who Benefited: 200 Adults**

**Bedfordshire Adult and Community Learning**

Contact: Anne Anthony

**Project: Bedfordshire Urban Links Project**

Tel: 01234 408147

Project Aim:

The programme will include a range of activities to support beneficiaries from non-participation to qualification in a series of flexible learning steps, which will support their roles in their communities and families, as well as participation in the labour market. Threshold / taster activities will be offered in socially disadvantaged urban areas using community based facilities, including employer premises if appropriate. Follow up activities will use ICT as the medium and include the opportunity to gain an initial qualification in ICT: wherever possible these will be offered on a workshop basis to allow for flexible attendance and linked to existing ICT UK- on-line / learn direct facilities. Negotiated short programmes will be developed which include embedded Basic Skills. Each participant will have the opportunity for individual Advice and Guidance and Basic Skills assessment, and will subsequently supported to participate in further education / training opportunities.

**Project Number: 50**  
**Measure: 3.1**

**Who Benefited: 75 Adults**

**Dunstable College**

Contact: Richard Mills

**Project Number: 51**

**Measure: 3.1**

**Chamber Business**

Contact: Richard Collyer

**Project Number: 52**

**Measure: 2.3**

**Spectrum Health Trust**

Contact: Jane Offer

**Project: Project Outreach Worker**

**Tel: 01582 678715**

Project Aim:

Provide a Project Outreach Worker to stimulate take-up of skills training and other education opportunities through close networking with community groups (lone parent, mums and toddlers, elderly drop-in centres etc). The worker will recruit volunteers and co-ordinate training to enable them to identify and recruit further volunteers, creating "chains of referral"

**Who Benefited: 15 Adults**

**Project: Combating Discrimination in the Labour Market**

**Tel: 0845 850 8822**

Project Aim:

Chamber Business will develop a database of organisations in Bedfordshire and Luton, which targets those with over 10 employees from each of the key sectors. Information for this database will be drawn from several sources, including the Chamber Business Link Track database and the UK Enterprise network. A sample of up to 50 organisations from each sector will be surveyed using a telephone interview and a structured questionnaire given to ensure the information obtained during the interviews is consistently recorded. Once information has been obtained, a series of workshops will be arranged in order to better understand the participating organisations ability to contribute and identify their training needs. A project steering group will be established to include, the Chamber Business Ethnic Adviser, Luton University, Industry / Sector Representatives, LSC Representatives, Business Link and HR Advisers. The steering group will review the information that has been collected during the telephone interviews, workshops and as a result of referrals from Chamber Business or Business Link Advisers. The group will identify specific training needs or priorities for the development of core- training programme, which is based on the effective employers best practice when the assessment and training.

**Who Benefited: 300 Organisations**

**Project: Passport to Development**

**Tel: 01582 707090**

Project Aim:

The project will seek to build capacity within the Spectrum Health Trust to enable them to respond to ever increasing requests for holistic services within local communities: particularly Luton. It will train and provide ongoing support to 30 key workers drawn from disadvantaged communities, unlikely to engage in mainstream learning or basic skills training and provide them with basic skills, holistic support and

qualifications. Beneficiaries will benefit from both an accredited training programme, one to one guidance, group work and any therapeutic support necessary to enable them to reach their own goals and to overcome barriers to developing their learning.

**Project Number: 53**  
**Measure: 3.1**

**Who Benefited: 30 people Ages 16-50+**

### **Progress Through Training**

Contact: Alan Durham

### **Project: Management Skills Hot House**

Tel: 01727 841700

#### Project Aim:

Train 65 individuals towards a qualification in workforce development and management issues. It intends to deliver development and delivery of programmes for individuals in the management team and members of the workforce to develop skills and improve business performance in targeted economic growth business clusters. It will do this by delivering a programme of learning, advice and guidance to 65 first line managers and supervisors in Bedfordshire and Luton SMEs, which will improve their management, communication and human resource development skills.

**Project Number: 54**  
**Measure: 3.2**

**Who Benefited: 65 Adults**

### **The For You Group**

Contact: Stan Holland

### **Project: Luton Learning Centre**

#### Project Aim:

This project will develop flexible learning programmes, including outreach ICT and taster sessions delivered through locations in urban communities. The programme will recruit 400 learners, 320 will complete an NVQ level 1 and 270 will complete an NVQ level 2.

**Project Number: 56**  
**Measure 3.1**

**Who benefited: 400 Adults**

All of these projects have now completed.