

## **LSC East of England launches first ever regional commissioning plan**

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Today, Monday 29 January, the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) East of England officially launched its first ever regional commissioning plan to key stakeholders in the region. The plan highlights learning and skills priorities for the region and indicates how the challenges will be tackled, including skills and labour shortages in traditional employment sectors.

Caroline Neville, Regional Director for the LSC East of England explains; 'We want to work with our partners to tackle these challenges and make a real difference in realising the vision of both the Regional Assembly (EERA) and the Regional Development Agency (EEDA) – that the East of England should develop one of the most successful knowledge-based economies in Europe. Together we are already making significant progress for young people, adults and employers and together we will start to overcome the deep-seated problems in some of our urban, rural and coastal areas.'

Regional priorities and key actions are based on a robust analysis of supply, demand and need, and dialogue with key partner organisations. There are four key priorities. To fund plans and activities which drive up participation and attainment in education and training for 16 to 18 year olds; to strengthen partnerships with employers to raise the skills and productivity of the region's workforce; invest in the quality of provision and finally, encourage economic development and growth in the region.

Local LSC plans will be developed over the next two months and will outline how local areas are responding to the needs of learners, employers and communities. For more information on the regional commissioning plan log onto [www.lsc.gov.uk/eastofengland](http://www.lsc.gov.uk/eastofengland)

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**Note to Editors:**

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**LSC**

The LSC exists to make England better skilled and more competitive. We are responsible for ensuring the availability of high-quality education and training for everyone. We have a single goal: to improve the skills of England's young people and adults to world class standards. Our vision is that young people and adults in England have knowledge and skills matching the best in the world and are part of a truly competitive workforce. We work nationally, regionally and locally to deliver this ambition on behalf of learners and employers.