

 For information

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Leading learning and skills

Thames Gateway Skills Plan 2008/09

July 2008

Of interest to everyone involved in improving skills and learning opportunities across the Thames Gateway

National Targets

Our Statement of Priorities, Better Skills, Better Jobs, Better Lives (November 2007) sets out government's key strategic priorities and the contribution the LSC will make towards achieving them. The section below summarises the key points set out in the Statement of Priorities.

As part of the Comprehensive Spending Review, the government has set out four new strategic priorities for the period 2008/09 – 2010/11.

- Sustainable growth and prosperity
- Fairness and opportunity for all
- Stronger communities and a better quality of life
- A more secure, fair and environmentally sustainable world

Under each of the priorities is a set of cross government delivery agreements, each containing a number of Public Service Agreement targets (PSA), which together play a vital role in improving the delivery of services. The LSC will indirectly support a number of these delivery agreements and targets.

The Statement of Priorities can be found on the LSC website: <http://www.lsc.gov.uk/aboutus/lscstrategy/statementofpriorities/>

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Foreword

The Thames Gateway represents the single largest regeneration project in Western Europe. It spans three regions covering East London, the East of England and the South East. The Prime Minister launched the three year delivery plan at the Thames Gateway Forum in the Excel Centre on 29th November announcing over £9 billion of investment. This document details the LSC's plans for investing in Skills across the Gateway in 2008/2009.



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Director General
Thames Gateway - DCLG



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Joe Montgomery

I welcome the flexibility the LSC has demonstrated in aligning its skills investment plans with the Thames Gateway area. This plan will form an integral part of our wider intention to ensure the ambitious investment plans outlined in the Prime Minister's speech are monitored and delivered to produce the results that are so important to transforming this area.

David Hughes

It is essential that the local economy thrives, businesses prosper and local communities access the unparalleled opportunities this initiative offers. It is our job to ensure we work with our partners across the Gateway and invest in the skills necessary to realise these worthwhile ambitions.

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Key Challenges facing the Thames Gateway

Higher levels of deprivation and unemployment

Within the Thames Gateway are local authorities containing higher levels of deprivation and unemployment than surrounding regions, some of which are the most deprived in England. Deprivation is particularly acute in the London Thames Gateway sub-region, where there are higher levels of worklessness, social exclusion and lone parents, but also within areas in outer London, Essex and Kent. ¹ Many of the less deprived local authorities contain pockets of deprivation, a key issue in the Gateway.

The regeneration of the area offers a wide range of economic and environmental development opportunities for both the physical area and residents.² There is however a number of key learning and skills challenges facing the Gateway to ensure that existing local people can benefit from these opportunities. These issues can also differ between local geographic areas, indicative of the need to tailor and deliver policy at the most appropriate spatial level.

Map 1: The Thames Gateway



Skills levels do not meet predicted employer demand, particularly from new or relocating employers

Although the proportion of degree qualified residents is increasing, qualification levels are behind those of other regions and do not appear to match predicted employer demand.³ Approximately a third of residents do not have a Level 2 ⁴ qualification, which is a key issue as 60% of the extra jobs planned by 2016 are expected to require at least a Level 3 (A-level standard) qualification, while almost 40% would need a Level 4.⁵

¹ The State of the Gateway, DCLG, 2006

² PM speech to the Thames Gateway Forum, 29th November 2007.

³ Almost a quarter of residents are qualified to degree level.

⁴ January – December 2006, Annual Population Survey.

⁵ Thames Gateway Skills Action Plan 2005 – 06 and Thames Gateway Delivery Plan. See also, 'A Skills Need Analysis for the Thames Gateway 2007-14', IER, 2007 for more information.

Economic growth has been identified as primarily in the high skilled 'Knowledge Economy' sectors, reinforcing the need for higher skill levels of Thames Gateway residents to ensure that local people benefit from new high-value jobs.⁶ The Prime Minister announced 225,000 new jobs in the Gateway by 2016 linked to the Gateway house building plans and related significant regeneration projects.⁷ Whilst the majority of these jobs are likely to be located in the London Thames Gateway, there will also be significant demand in Essex Thames Gateway and Kent Thames Gateway.⁸

Lower skill levels are a barrier to labour market participation and progression

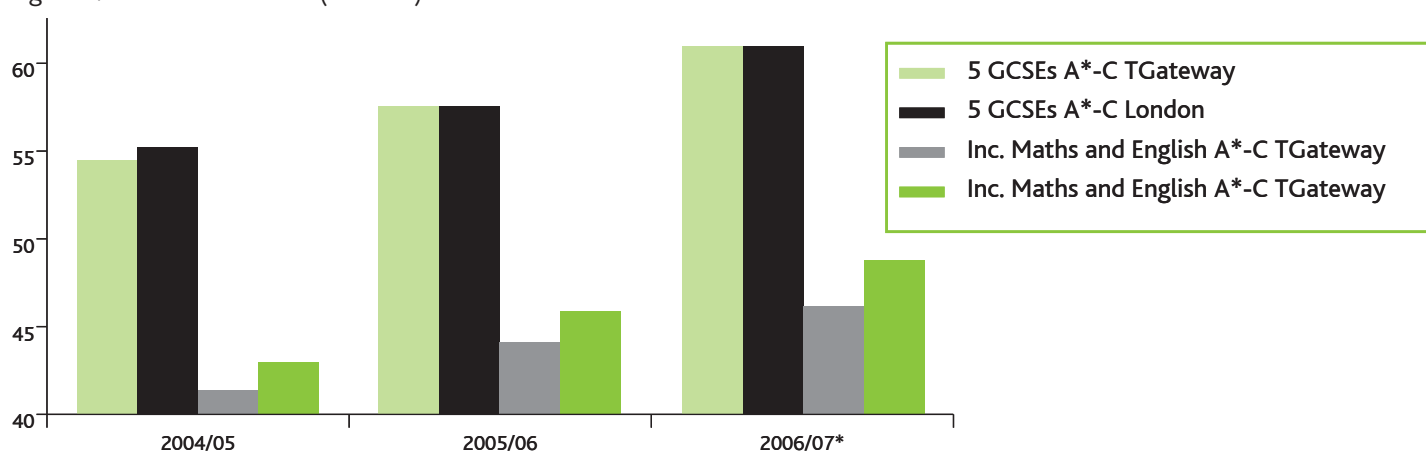
Lower qualification levels also mean that Thames Gateway residents struggle to compete with commuters from within London and the South East for the jobs that exist either in the centre of London or in any of its outlying growth areas.⁹ Unemployment in the Gateway, for example, has increased from 6.8% in 2005 to 7.3% in 2007.¹⁰

Low employment rates correlate to having no or low level qualifications; falling from 86% for NVQ Level 4 and above, 73% for NVQ level 3, 67% for NVQ level 2, to 46% for those with no qualifications. These rates can only get worse as the demand for non-skilled labour reduces along with the rise of a knowledge and service economy and may be exacerbated by planned improvements to the transport infrastructure as part of the Thames Gateway development.

Young People's achievement below other regions

GCSE achievement (5 A*-C) in the Gateway has improved constantly over the past few years, reaching 60.9% in 2006/07, and is for the first time above the London average of 60.8%. Achievement including Maths and English at 46.2% is however below the London average of 47.8%.

Figure 1: GCSE Achievement (5 A* - C)



Source: DCLG/DCSF

Note: * denotes provisional data

⁶ See http://www.theworkfoundation.com/Assets/PDFs%5Cdefining_knowledge_economy.pdf

⁷ See the Thames Gateway Delivery Plan.

⁸ 'A Skills Need Analysis for the Thames Gateway 2007-14', IER, 2007.

⁹ This is partly demonstrated by the contrast in wage levels. A resident in London Thames Gateway has an average weekly earnings of £436 compared to £384 for a resident in Kent Thames Gateway (2006 figures).

¹⁰ Annual Population Survey. Figures represent April 04' – March 05' and April 06' – March 07'.

Fewer young people in the Gateway have achieved Level 2 or 3 by age 19 than within the surrounding regions.¹¹ Furthermore, in London there is only a 1% drop between the number of learners achieving a Level 2 at 16 and the number of learners going on to attain a Level 3 by 19. The drop is 9% for Gateway learners, equating to thousands of learners. A key issue therefore is what happens to those young people who achieve a Level 2 and do not progress onto a Level 3 by age 19.

Area	Level 2 at 16	Level 2 at 19	Level 3 at 19
All Gateway	50%	64%	41%
London Gateway	-	63%	41%
Essex Gateway	-	67%	41%
Kent Gateway	-	65%	41%
London region	50%	71%	49%
East of England	-	73%	49%
South East	-	75%	54%

Source: 2005/06 Matched Administrative Dataset

Note: These figures represent the same cohort aged 16 in 2002/03, and aged 19 in 2005/06

Achievement levels at both age 16 and 19 vary greatly by borough within the Gateway and are lowest in inner London boroughs. This trend continues for those Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET). NEET, at 6.2%, is below the National and London averages of 6.7% and 6.5% respectively but above the South East (5.2%).¹² NEET has reduced from 7% over the past year, especially in Newham; Barking and Dagenham; Hackney; Essex; Southend and Thurrock.

Access and Progression to Higher Education (HE) is lower than other regions

Both the Thames Gateway Interim Plan and Delivery Plan identify a possible perception that the Gateway suffers from a low achievement / low participation education culture. Thurrock in South Essex and Barking in London have the second lowest rate of HE participation in the country. A young person living in the Gateway has approximately a 1 in 5 chance of going to university, compared to a 1 in 3 chance anywhere else in the South East, reducing to 1 in 10 for those who live in Thurrock or Barking.¹³

Recent mapping of progression routes from Level 3 provision to HE, found there was limited HE provision or providers in the Kent & Essex parts of the Gateway, with institutions tending to be located in the London Gateway. There were also significant gaps at Level 3 in key sectors such as Marketing & Sales, Biosciences, Environmental Technology and Green Skills (which are usually more acute in the Essex and Kent & Medway sub-regions).

Improvements to learning infrastructure needed to match learner and employer demand

Overall 2006/07 FE success rates in the Thames Gateway were lower than the National and London averages (76%, 77%, 79% respectively). Adult FE success rates are significantly lower, whilst 16-18 is above the London average and below the National figure. The proportion of Apprenticeship Frameworks completed (60%) is below the National average (63%), but above the London average (59%). Over £337m of capital has been invested in the Thames Gateway since 2001. This has transformed existing facilities and built new state of the art facilities for adults and young people across the Gateway. Evidence suggests that additional FE stock is in need of modernisation and modes of delivery need to change if they are to attract employers and meet the demands of a 21st century economy.

¹¹ 2006/07 figures were not available at time of publishing

¹² Proportion of 16 - 18 year olds NEET including PDOs (adjusted). November 2007 figure.

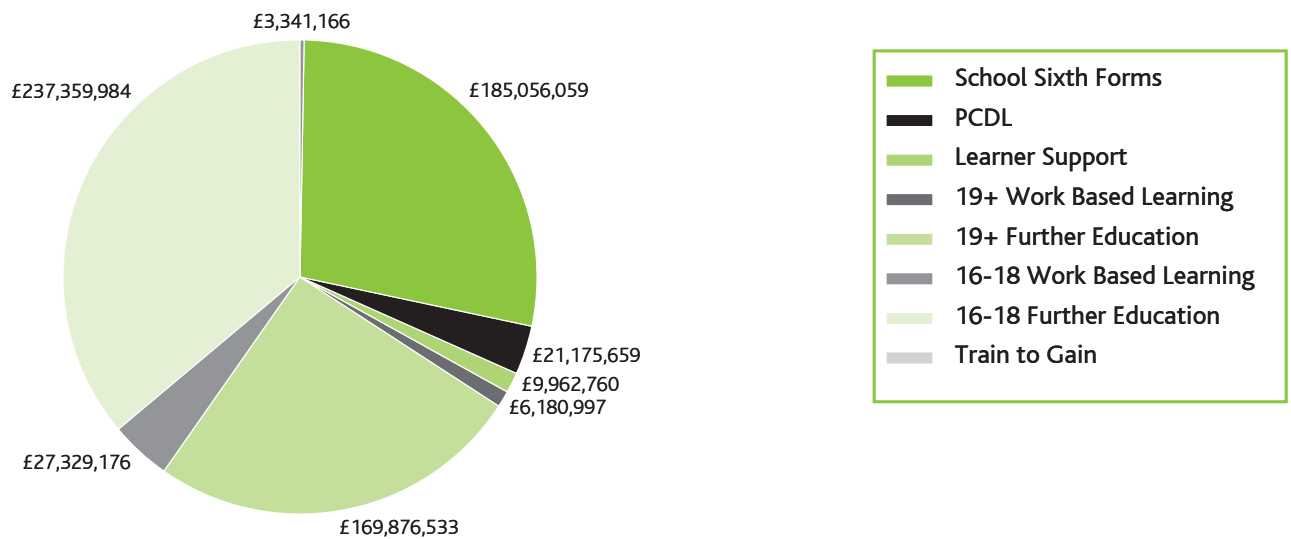
¹³ Thames Gateway Delivery Plan.

Investing in the Thames Gateway

This year we will invest more than ever before in learning and skills in the Thames Gateway. We want to buy the best quality provision to meet the Thames Gateway's needs, and will employ robust and urgent measures to withdraw poor-quality provision and to invest in providers that can deliver.

The chart below indicates how expenditure for LSC funded learning was broken down for 2006/07.

Thames Gateway Headline Participation Expenditure, 2006/07



Challenges, key actions and measures of success for the Thames Gateway

The LSC has three national priorities, which we deliver at both a regional and local level. The LSC's local and regional responses to these priorities are detailed in the three Regional Commissioning Plans. These documents can be found using the following weblinks

London Region

http://readingroom.lsc.gov.uk/lsc/London/LSC_London_Regional_Commissioning_Plan_2008-09.pdf

East of England

http://readingroom.lsc.gov.uk/lsc/EastOfEngland/LSC_East_of_England_Regional_Commissioning_Plan_2008-09.pdf

South East

http://readingroom.lsc.gov.uk/lsc/SouthEast/South_East_Regional_Commissioning_Plan_Draft.doc

The Thames Gateway Skills Plan has been developed to provide a focus on this key area of regeneration. The high level analysis in this document and the supporting data and research lead to one overwhelming conclusion on skills in the Gateway. If the residents (young people and adults) of the Gateway are going to compete for the opportunities the regeneration of the area will bring, they will need to raise their skill levels. It is incumbent upon those agencies funding skills across the Gateway to work together to ensure the best quality provision is in place which reflects the opportunities for employment and career progression over the coming years. To that end the LSC has worked with its strategic partners across the Gateway and highlighted the following key challenges which will help to transform the opportunities and prosperity of local people.

Key Challenge 1

Local community access to skills, qualifications and jobs for the future

The skills and qualifications offer across the Thames Gateway will prepare local residents for the new job opportunities presented in both existing occupations and the phenomenal growth expected in new occupations over the coming years. This is consistent with the approach outlined by the **Mayor's London Skills and Employment Board strategy**, and the development of **Local Employment Partnerships**. This will tackle the more entrenched problems of **child poverty and worklessness** as well as ensuring more people than ever before are accessing and achieving nationally accredited qualifications. We will also draw on the lessons learned at a local level from the **East London City Strategy Pathfinder**.

Key Challenge 1 Local community access to skills, qualifications and jobs for the future	
Action	Milestone
1.1 Increase the total number of adults accessing and achieving Skills for Life (which includes ESOL) provision to ensure they have the educational foundation in place for accessing jobs	From 68,150 in 07/08 to at least 72,600 in 08/09, this represents an additional 4,450 learners.
1.2 Increase the percentage of young people achieving level 2 by 19 and adults achieving their first level 2 qualifications	Percentage of young people achieving level 2 by 19 - 68% in 07/08 to 70% in 08/09, increase of 2%. Number of adults achieving first level 2 qualifications - 2,700 in 07/08 to 3,225 in 08/09, representing an increase of 525 adults.
1.3 Ensure more innovative methods of supporting local people into jobs is shared based upon our two Employer Demonstration Pilots in Hackney and Tower Hamlets	Outputs delivered, money spent (c.£200k) and best practice findings shared across the Gateway.
1.4 Deliver a more integrated employment and skills service through our new Skills for Jobs initiative in close partnership with Jobcentre Plus to drive up the number of local jobs accessed by local people	From 2,150 Skills for Jobs places in 07/08 to 4,000 in 08/09 - increase of 1,850 places.
1.5 To maintain the number of young people on Entry to Employment (E2E) programmes	We will continue to fund over 3,250 young people on the E2E programme in 2008/09.
1.6 Use the new European Social Fund co-financing programme 2008 - 2012 to progress more adults into jobs and make sure there is enough choice locally for young people who are not in education, employment or training	To ensure at least £8.9m of ESF, focussing on young people who are NEET and workless has been tendered and allocated across the Gateway.
1.7 Ensure the September Guarantee for all young people at 16	All providers to offer flexible enrolment and courses that target those at risk of becoming NEET.

Key Challenge 2

Opportunities to progress onto higher level skills and jobs

The residents and employees of the Gateway need more opportunities to improve their skills in the workplace, to progress onto higher level skills and higher level employment. The extra jobs planned by 2016 in more sustainable economic sectors will require 60% of employees to have at least a Level 3 qualification; almost 40% will need a Level 4.

Key Challenge 2 Opportunities to progress onto higher level skills and jobs	
Action	Milestone
2.1 Continue to increase the numbers of adults accessing full level 2 qualifications in the workplace including our Train to Grain programme	From 55,960 in 07/08 to 64,650 in 08/09, this represents an additional 8,690.
2.2 Extend the Train to Gain programme to include full level 3 qualifications in the workplace	Increase from 3,000 places in 07/08 to 6,250 in 08/09 representing an additional 3,250.
2.3 Increase the number of young people on level 3 programmes ensuring a wider choice including more work based and applied options	From 46,794 in 07/08 to 46,939 in 08/09, this represents an additional 145.
2.4 Drive up the number of employers, young people and adults taking up and completing apprenticeship programmes in priority sectors, creating provision for progression to level 4, from level 3 Apprenticeships	From 12,500 in 07/08 to 13,500 in 08/09, this represents an additional 1,000 places.
2.5 Work with colleges to increase the number of learners accessing Foundation Degrees in Further Education	From 276 learners undertaking Foundation Degrees in 07/08 to 390 in 08/09, this represents an increase of more than 114 learners.

Key Challenge 3

Clear and flexible career paths for young people and adults in all sectors of opportunity

A variety of accessible routes to learning will be available. Training will be offered in flexible, modular formats. It will include part and full time options available through both applied and vocational routes.

Information, advice and guidance for young people and adults will be better integrated, more impartial and targeted to match key decision making milestones in people's lives. We will continue to develop level 3 courses with a linked higher education offer, to try and facilitate qualification progression for all residents of the Gateway, working with Lifelong Learning Networks whenever possible.

Key Challenge 3 Clear and flexible career paths for young people and adults in all sectors of opportunity	
Action	Milestone
3.1 Ensure that clear progression routes are in place for the Gateway linking entry level courses to level 2, 3 and 4 opportunities	Progression routes across the Gateway mapped. Maps used to inform future commissioning.
3.2 Work to support the implementation of the new integrated skills and employment service in a way that best suits the residents and employers of the Gateway	A coherent skills and employment offer across the Gateway.
3.3 Work to ensure advice and guidance services for young people transfer smoothly over to Local Authorities and are delivered collaboratively across each borough	New IAG structures in place. IAG key to agreement of local 14-19 and adult plans.
3.4 Work with our Local Authorities on the emerging 14-19 Diploma pilots which will be vital to any successful and engaging local 14-19 curriculum offer of the future	3,253 Diploma pilots to be delivered in 08/09.
3.5 Work with local authorities to commission a range of quality work experience placements to ensure young people are adequately prepared for the world of work	Effective transition and work experience placements commissioned for 08/09.

Key Challenge 4

21st Century buildings for 21st Century skills

We will open modern innovative buildings worthy of the challenges a 21st Century economy brings. The LSC estimates over £850m capital will be spent in the Gateway. The Higher Education Funding Council has committed significant resources to the same aim and many boroughs across the Gateway are currently modernising their schools through the Building Schools for the Future programme.

Key Challenge 4 21st Century buildings for 21st Century skills	
Action	Milestone
4.1 Work with our providers and partners to integrate capital investment to ensure best value for local employers and residents	Further Education capital plans to complement Building Schools for the Future programme and Higher Education capital developments.
4.2 Work with the Local Authorities to integrate Further Education capital investment and explore innovative ways of linking employers, local communities, local schools and universities in a way that can deliver excellence to support the provision of applied and work based learning	Innovative capital proposals submitted and approved. £280m in 08/09.

Key Challenge 5

The right providers in the right locations to meet the needs of employers and local communities

The further and higher education sector will be the providers of choice for employers and learners across the Gateway representing a successful step change in employer focused activity underpinned by the Train to Gain offer and the development of more foundation degrees.

Key Challenge 5 The right providers in the right locations to meet the needs of employers and local communities	
Action	Milestone
5.1 Capacity build our provider base working with the Quality Improvement Agency to achieve better results in inspections and respond swiftly when this does not happen	Inspection grades to improve across the FE sector in 08/09.
5.2 Set Minimum Levels of Performance for all of our further education and work based learning provision to drive up quality and competition in the sector. We will support colleges and providers that are performing well to perform even better, and we will challenge colleges and providers that are satisfactory but not improving	Overall increase of 1% in FE success rate across the Gateway. Apprenticeship success rates increased by 5% by 2008/09. Notices to improve issued to those providers failing to deliver the minimum level of performance.
5.4 Support providers to improve their employer responsiveness and generate more revenue through commercial training contracts	Providers increase their capacity for employer engagement.
5.5 Drive up the numbers of employers and employees accessing and successfully completing the Train to Gain programme	From 34,650 in 07/08 to 45,000 in 08/09, this represents an additional 10,350.

Key Challenge 6

A successful 2012 Olympic Games and a legacy that inspires a generation and delivers sustainable benefit to local employers and communities

Proposals have been formulated by the London Employment and Skills Taskforce (LEST). These include developing an employer accord to strengthen employer engagement in training. The Games will also raise the profile of skills across London and the Gateway and deliver a lasting skills and employment legacy for local people.

The preparation and construction of the 2012 site and venues will lead to a growth in demand for specialist construction, customer service and audio-visual skills, while the actual staging of the Games will require 70,000 trained volunteers.

The Olympics also provides us with an opportunity to address the chronic shortage of sports coaches across London, by raising the profile and improving the quality of training.

Key Challenge 6 A successful 2012 Olympic Games and a legacy that inspires a generation and delivers sustainable benefit to local employers and communities	
Action	Milestone
6.1 Ensure Local communities benefit from both the short term and long term employment opportunities offered by the 2012 Olympics . This includes the 'Personal Best' (PVP) programme	From 145 Personal Best graduates in 07/08 to 730 in 08/09, this represents an additional 585.
6.2 Raise the profile and importance of skills to people and employers across the Gateway to build a lasting legacy	800 additional apprenticeship places commissioned in 08/09.
6.3 Work with the Greater London Authority, The London Development Agency, London First, UK Skills and providers to support a World Skills 2011 competition that is underpinned by the two Skills London events in 2008 and 2010	Skills London event successfully delivered in 2008.
6.4 Build on the investment in 2007 to capacity build excellent provision in the key Olympic sectors with a clear focus on apprenticeships Increase our investment which directly contributes towards Olympic skills needs by increasing allocations on participation and investing in a series of 'legacy buildings' for 2012	Apprenticeship capacity building programmes supported in 08/09. A series of Olympic Legacy Centres commissioned across East London to promote excellence in apprenticeships, Train to Gain and other employer training.

Key Challenge 7

A flexible offer for investing employers and new businesses to create sustainable economic growth and prosperity

Employers considering investment in the Gateway will benefit from a collaborative approach by all of the key agencies involved working together to offer the best package possible.

Key Challenge 7 A flexible offer for investing employers and new businesses to create sustainable economic growth and prosperity	
Action	Milestone
7.1 Develop a partnership approach for the Gateway to ensure a more co-ordinated inward investment service coupled with a coherent skills offer that complements the opportunities available	LSC to establish closer working relationships with the RDAs and Inward Investment Agencies across the Gateway.
7.2 Universities, colleges and schools will connect local people to entrepreneurial opportunities, business incubation space, business start-up support and advice and patent advice to create a thriving small business sector across the Gateway	Increased number of entrepreneurial opportunities available to young people and adults across the Gateway.

Plans for the Future

This year the LSC has been able to express its activities, volumes and budgets in terms of the Thames Gateway geography. We have worked with our strategic partners and across government departments to develop the seven key challenges for skills detailed above. We will use these challenges to underpin our collaborative planning going forward and ensure our resources are focused to deliver the skills needs of local residents and employers.

Our key partners are the Regional Development Agencies and Government Offices for London, East of England and the South East, The Higher Education Funding Council, Job Centre Plus and their sponsoring government departments, the Department for Communities and Local Government, the Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills, the Department for Children, Schools and Families and the Department for Work and Pensions.

Due to the changes in the commissioning of local provision proposed under the "Raising Expectations: enabling the system to deliver" consultation paper, the Local Authorities will be central to taking forward the skills agenda as lead commissioners for 0 to 19 year olds and significant players in the wider skills agenda for adults and employers. The LSC will begin to work even more closely with the Local Authorities to ensure a smooth transition of responsibilities and decisions going forward that complement their future planning and priorities.

It is our intention to ensure that this plan and the MI Gateway platform for collaborative working and knowledge sharing will form the basis of a joint planning approach to skills across the Gateway. The newly appointed Thames Gateway Skills Envoy will play a lead role in this.

Progress against this plan will be reported at the Thames Gateway Strategic Partnership chaired by the Minister for Housing & Planning, Caroline Flint.

Commissioning Profile

We will continue to measure our success - either directly or by working with regional and local partners - as outlined below.

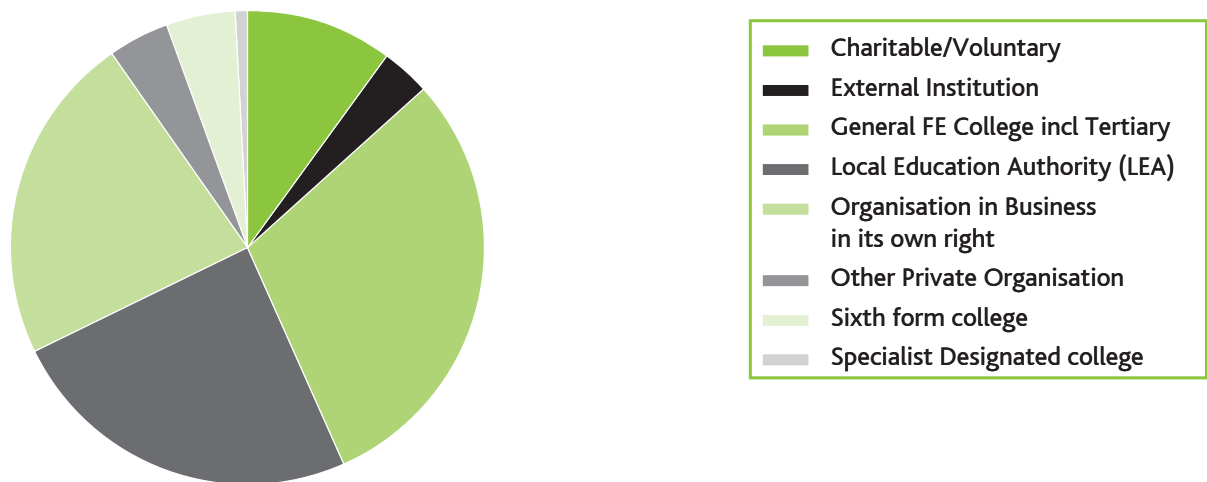
Measure	2006/07	2007/08 estimated	2008/09 projected
16–18-year-olds (Young People Delivery)			
Number of young people participating in learning	89,662	109,715	110,772
Number of young people participating in Apprenticeships or Advanced Apprenticeships	6,083	5,924	6,161
Percentage of young people reaching Level 2 at age 19	66%	68%	70%
Percentage of young people reaching Level 3 at age 19	43%	45%	47%
Adult Learning (Learner Responsive)			
Number of adult learners of which	188,359	166,660	158,610
Number of adults participating in Full Level 2 (in FE)	10,674	12,371	12,884
Number of adults participating in Full Level 3 (in FE)	10,526	11,846	12,580
Adult Learning (Employer Responsive)			
Total number of learners of which	49,480	66,852	81,006
Number of adults participating in Apprenticeship or Advanced Apprenticeship	5,596	6,669	7,472
Number of adults participating in Full Level 2 (NVQ's in the workplace)	6,873	8,203	8,711
Number of adults participating in Full Level 3 (NVQ's in the workplace)	4,061	4,219	5,055
Number of adults participating in Full Level 2 (TTG)	18,059	31,502	38,685
Number of adults participating in Full Level 3 (TTG)	1,804	3,147	6,250
Skills for Jobs	1,593	2,160	3,942
Overall Adults			
Number of Skills for Life achievements overall for adults	14,322	14,169	14,721
Number of First Level 2 achievements overall for adults	2,524	2,712	3,225
Number of First Level 3 achievements overall for adults	2,745	2,517	2,932
Number of adults accessing adult safeguarded learning	73,922	70,965	68,127
Learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities (LLDD)			
Total number of learners supported by the LLDD safeguard	35,897	36,256	36,256
Total number of learners in specialist residential colleges	174	155	138
European Social Funding (ESF)			
European Social Fund Delivery beneficiaries	15,021	18,058	17,968

Infrastructure

We are a responsible government-funded organisation: rather than funding the same providers year after year, we take great care to test the market. This ensures that our learning and skills provision continues to meet the changing needs of learners and employers.

We take an active interest in the overall volume, pattern and range of learning and skills activity that individual learners and employers can choose from in each area. We also analyse delivery to ensure that no group is disadvantaged and that equality of opportunity exists throughout our learning and skills provision in the Thames Gateway.

The chart below shows the wide range of organisations that we contracted with in 2006/07.



We want to invest in the capacity of the FE system so that it is continually able to respond to future challenges and where necessary, we want to encourage a diverse provider base to increase choice, quality and stimulate the delivery of innovative provision. One way we will achieve this is through the use of open and competitive tendering processes where this will result in improved quality or choice for learners and employers. Where we have good and excellent providers, we will help them to grow so that they can continue to offer the breadth and depth of provision we need in the region.

Related strategies

- Local Area Statements of Need
- Single Equality Scheme
- LLDD - London LLDD plan
- Capital Prospectus
- Children and Young People Plan
- Thames Gateway Delivery Plan
- Thames Gateway Implementation Plan
- Economic Development Investment Plan (RDAs)

Glossary

CoVE: Centre of Vocational Excellence

CWDC: Children's Workforce Development Council

E2E: Entry to Employment

ECDL: European Computer Driving Licence

EMA: Education Maintenance Allowance

ESF: European Social Fund

ESOL: English for Speakers of Other Languages

FE: Further Education

Full Level 2: equates to five GCSEs at grades A* to C

Full Level 3: equates to two GCE A-level passes or equivalent

HE: Higher Education

ITQ: Information Technology Qualification

LAA: Local Area Agreement

LEST: London Employment and Skills Taskforce

Level 5: foundation degree-level learning

Level 6: degree-level learning

NEET: Not in Education, Employment or Training

NSA: National Skills Academy

NVQ: National Vocational Qualification

OLASS: Offender Learning and Skills Service

OSAT: On-Site Assess and Train

PCDL: Personal and Community Development Learning

Progression pathways: a high-quality, coherent curriculum offer for entry and Level 1

QCF: Qualifications and Credit Framework

TGFHEAG: Thames Gateway Further and Higher Education Action Group

Data Sources

- Individualised Learner Record (ILR)
- Planning and Modelling (PaM)
- LLDD Placements System
- Fischer Family Trust (FFT)
- CODA
- Institute for Employment Research (IER)
- Annual Population Survey (APS)
- National Employers Skills Survey (NESS)
- DCSF website
- DCLG

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