

# Minutes



Leading learning and skills

**Date** 2 April 2007  
**Subject** London North ESF Co-Financing Forum  
**Location** Alexandra Room  
**Time** 09:30  
**LSC office** London North  
**Publication intent** Public

**Present** Ian Mower - Southgate College  
Ginika Osuno - Middlesex University  
David Palfreman - Enfield College  
Andrew Rylah - Waltham Forest College  
Peter Stevens - Prospects

**LSC staff** James Miller  
David Clayton

**Apologies** Apologies have been received from:  
Carol Kirkland - Woodhouse College  
Carol Gates - CoNEL  
Joga Kabra - Leyton 6th Form College  
Anna Loughlin - London Borough of Enfield  
Apu Alam - London Borough of Haringey

## Item 1. Welcome and introductions

### Item 2. Minutes of last meeting

2.1 Minutes were agreed as an accurate representation

### Item 3. Matters arising

3.1 **London North co-financing plan targets update:** See accompanying file for more detail.

Summary:

- Currently across the 4 programmes LSC London North is 11% down on spend. However, this is normal over the course of a programme as activity is re profiled. It is envisaged that the programme will catch up as we reach the end.
- To note our target for disabled starts is 10%.

- It was noted how difficult it is to record “soft-outcomes”. DC agreed that there are complications with the ILR Short record in capturing the softer outcomes. However the ILR is a nationally designed and used document. DC assured the group that these issues are raised with National Office.

### **3.2 2007-2013 Programme:**

At the last meeting Dorothy Wilks explained that 22 January was the final day for responses to the consultation. The programme document has now gone to the European Commission (EC) and will probably be approved some time in autumn. There will be four Co-Financing organisations involved in London: LSC, LDA, London Councils and Job Centre Plus.

There will be two main priorities in the new Regional Competitiveness and Employment Objective, with some Technical Assistance.

- Extending employment opportunities
- Developing a skilled and adaptable workforce

Development of the co-financing prospectus will commence in September and there may be a potential tendering round before the end of the year.

London’s allocation is €490 million or approximately £330 million. This is a reduction from the last programme. There is no final decision at the moment on the finer details of the split of the monies between CFO’s and priorities.

It is envisaged that there will be a single LSC co-financing plan for the region, not 6 as per the previous round.

At the moment CFOs hold contracts with GoL, however that may change to ESF Division of DWP.

Although there will be 4 CFOs, it is hoped that there will only be 1 prospectus. However it is likely that there will be differing application and appraisal forms from each CFO.

Currently there is not an expression of interest procedure.

### **3.3 Current Interim Evaluation**

The interim evaluation was commissioned in November 2006, JH Consulting were tasked with looking at the delivery of the programme. The report was to look at among others, areas of best practice and engaging client groups. Some of the key areas to come out of the report are:

It was recommended that the LSC could produce 1 form to collect evidence for beneficiary eligibility. The difficulty in producing 1 form that covers every eventuality was highlighted by DC. GO asked the question, will the forms be valid across all the 4 CFOs? DC replied that the LSC will do what they can to influence the others to have a consistent approach but ultimately each organisation has its own reporting requirements.

Providers felt that, in some instances, disparity existed between what the client group were capable of achieving and the targets set.

Projects with strong and key partnerships were identified as being generally successful.

#### **Item 4. Any other business**

##### 4.1 Capacity Building Project –

DP wanted to remind the group of the Pan London 2 programme the Quality Improvement Toolbox. This programme will help providers to deliver their Self Assessment Report for ALI (now Ofsted) inspections. The programme is free and specifically targets ESF providers who have not been through an ALI inspection before. For further details please contact:

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[Project Manager](#)

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#### **Item 5. Date of next meeting**

5.1 The next meeting of the Committee will take place on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2007.

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<b>Meeting chair</b>	David Clayton
<b>Minute taker</b>	James Miller
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