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## LEARNING AND SKILLS COUNCIL NORTHWEST

### ESF CO-FINANCE 2007-13 BULLETIN ISSUE 1



Leading learning and skills

Welcome to the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) North West's first ESF Co-finance 2007-13 bulletin. In this issue we provide you with an overview of the procurement timetable for ESF via the LSC's ESF Co-finance Plan 2007-10 and details of how to reserve a place on the LSC's Pre Qualification Questionnaire (PQQ) briefing event which takes place at the Reebok Stadium on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> August 2007.

### ESF PROCUREMENT TIMETABLE

Outlined below is the timetable for LSC NW's first tendering for ESF activity via its ESF Co-finance Plan 2007-10.

- |                        |                                     |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| • <b>PQQ Event</b>     | <b>28<sup>th</sup> August 2007</b>  |
| • Launch PQQ           | 31 <sup>st</sup> August 2007        |
| • PQQ Return Date      | 28 <sup>th</sup> September 2007     |
| • ITT Return Date      | 7 <sup>th</sup> December 2007       |
| • Communicate Outcomes | 30 <sup>th</sup> January 2008 (TBC) |
| • Contracting          | February 2008 onwards               |
| • Projects Commence    | February 2008 onwards               |

Further ESF tendering rounds are anticipated for 2008.

### PRE QUALIFICATION QUESTIONNAIRE BRIEFING EVENT

The LSC invites you to attend a briefing event on its forthcoming e-procurement round for all 2008/09 LSC funding – including co-financing funding from the ESF 2007-13 programme.

The LSC is running a two stage e-tendering process, the first stage of which will be a PQQ followed by an Invitation to Tender (ITT). This approach applies to both the mainstream 2008/09 funding as well as the initial funding opportunity made available through the ESF 2007-13 programme.

The half day briefings, scheduled for late August 2007 will include presentations on:

- Our overall approach to 2008/09 and how we intend to make this accessible to potential providers;
- The ESF 2007-13 programme and key areas for delivery;
- Detail on the intended procurement process and its associated timetable;
- A more detailed look at the e-tendering software (Bravo) and how it should be used to complete the PQQ online.

The briefings will include a Question and Answer panel.

There will be nine regional events hosted by the regional LSC. It is not intended to restrict you to a particular region; however, there is a limit of two places per organisation. Within the North West there will be 2 PQQ events; both events will take place on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> August 2007. The morning event will commence at 10.00 am with registration from 9.15am; the afternoon event will commence at 2.00pm with registration from 1.15pm.

We would encourage the attendance of the organisations key decision maker to support the first half of the event. The programme has been constructed to allow a break before the presentation on the software which is aimed at your operational representative.

To register for an event please visit <http://www.lsc-procurementevents.org.uk> for the dates, venues and to register for your regional or preferred event - from which an email confirmation will be generated. This will include an email address to which you can direct any queries.

Full information on the events will be emailed to delegates and will shortly be posted on <http://www.lsc.gov.uk/providers/provider-procurement>. These events will also be advertised in the national and regional press.

Note: Many of these activities are co-financed by the 2007-13 ESF programme; please visit <http://www.esf.gov.uk> for more information on the European Social Fund.

Regional Economic Development Team  
LSC NW  
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