



European Union
European Social Fund
 Investing in jobs and skills

ESF CO-FINANCE NORTH WEST

OCTOBER 2008

SUMMARY OF TENDER SPECIFICATIONS



Leading learning and skills

ESF PRIORITY 1: OPEN TENDER SPECIFICATIONS

Reference	Title	Funding
NW/ADULT/S25	Cumbria – Pathways to Progress through Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG)	£158,300
Bravo Filename	NW_A_S25 Cumbria-IAG_	
Aim	<p>The aim of this specification is to enhance existing Information, Advice and Guidance services to support unemployed and economically inactive adults (19+) to make informed decisions about learning and job opportunities that meet their personal circumstances, skills needs and aspirations and lead to sustainable job outcomes and further learning.</p> <p>This will be achieved by linking people who want to work with employers/sectors where there are vacancies and supporting individuals to identify pathways of activities which will progress their skills and abilities to secure and sustain employment and further learning.</p> <p>A key opportunity for providers of IAG is to identify gaps in pre-employment provision and influence the responsiveness of providers, in particular where gaps exist in appropriate responses to the needs of relevant priority target groups.</p> <p>Launch Date: 7th October 2008 Closing Date: 26th November 2008</p>	

ESF PRIORITY 2: OPEN TENDER SPECIFICATIONS

Reference	Title	Funding
NW/EMPLOYER/S31	North West including the Merseyside Phasing-In Area - Inward Investor and Restructuring Company Response Programme in the North West	Total of £6,900,000 , of which £2,100,000 is available for the Merseyside Phasing-In Area and £4,800,000 is available for the rest of the Northwest.
Bravo Filename	NW_E_31 NW-MsidePhasInArea-Inward Invest_	
Aim	<p>This programme will provide a rapid response fund to support skills development in companies which are inward investing, undertaking significant expansion or downsizing and creating redundancies. It is being established both to stimulate and to address demand for workforce development amongst SMEs and large companies in the North West Region.</p> <p>The aim is to enable the North West region to compete with other regions to attract new employers, ensure companies are competitive following restructuring or redundancy and to enable workers facing redundancy to re-enter the labour market with the enhanced skills to make them competitive.</p> <p>The skills development will be targeted on companies and their supply chains or will assist staff back into the labour market following the announcement of redundancies. The programme will provide an incentive to take up the Skills Pledge and facilitate access to Train to Gain provision.</p> <p>The importance of responding to the needs of companies is paramount. Providers are expected to develop a variety of bespoke solutions depending upon the needs identified by the employer.</p> <p>Launch Date: 7th October 2008 Closing Date: 26th November 2008</p>	
NW/EMPLOYER/S32	Greater Merseyside – Merseyside Phasing-In Area – Voluntary/Community Sector - Skills Pledge Plus	
Bravo Filename	NW_E_32 G Mside-PhasInArea-Skills Pledge_	£1,201,200
Aim	<p>The project is intended to stimulate and address demand for workforce development amongst Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) employers across the Merseyside phasing-in area (Knowsley, Liverpool, Sefton, St Helens and Wirral) through commitment to the Skills Pledge. The funds will be used to incentivise employers to sign the Skills Pledge by providing funded additional learning and skills provision not accessible through other routes e.g. Train to Gain</p> <p>Launch Date: 7th October 2008 Closing Date: 26th November 2008</p>	
NW/EMPLOYER/S33	Greater Merseyside (Merseyside Phasing-In Area) – SkillWorks	£6,000,000
Bravo Filename	NW_E_33 G Mside-PhasInArea-SKILLWORKS_	

Reference	Title	Funding
Aim	<p>This programme has been established to stimulate and address demand for workforce development amongst Small and Medium sized companies (SMEs) in Merseyside specifically. The programme builds on the success of the SkillWorks programme and provides additionality to Train to Gain provision locally.</p> <p>The programme will also be utilised to extend and incentivise companies to take up the Skills Pledge and facilitate access to Train to Gain provision. The importance of responding to the needs of small and medium enterprises is paramount. Providers are expected to develop a variety of bespoke solutions depending upon the needs identified by the employer.</p> <p>Launch Date: 7th October 2008 Closing Date: 26th November 2008</p>	
NW/EMPLOYER/S34	North West including the Merseyside Phasing-In Area – Employer Pool and Integrated Career Development Mentoring Programme	<p>A total of £2,819,515 is available of which £1,080,000 is ringfenced for the Merseyside Phasing-In Area) and £1,739,515 is available for the rest of the Northwest.</p>
Bravo Filename	NW_E_34 NW-MsidePhasInArea-Empl Pool_	
Aim	<p>The Learning and Skills Council is seeking to appoint organisations or consortia of organisations to develop, and deliver an innovative method of providing Apprentices with real work opportunities using a matrix approach to portfolio development with different employers.</p> <p>The aim of the programme is to offer employers and individuals the chance to access a wider range of employment / Apprentice opportunities by pooling part time employment opportunities in different employers to create a full time Apprenticeship opportunity.</p> <p>This programme also aims to increase participation and achievement on the Apprenticeship programme by young people, whilst providing opportunities for employers to meet their workforce development and employment needs.</p> <p>Launch Date: 7th October 2008 Closing Date: 26th November 2008</p>	
NW/EMPLOYER/S35	North West including the Merseyside Phasing-In Area - Employer Engagement in Creative and Media Apprentices	<p>A total of £300,100 is available of this £81,000 is ringfenced for the Merseyside Phasing-In Area and £219,100 is available for the rest of the Northwest.</p>
Bravo Filename	NW_E_35 NW-MsidePhasInArea-Apprentices_	
Aim	<p>The Learning and Skills Council is seeking to appoint a single organisation or consortium of organisations to develop, and deliver an innovative method of providing Media and Creative Apprentices with real work opportunities on a portfolio basis.</p> <p>This programme aims to increase participation and achievement on the Apprenticeship programme by young people, whilst also providing opportunities for employers to meet workforce development needs. Evidence</p>	

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	<p>(through employer feedback) suggests that for some employers, there are several factors that prevent them from engaging fully in the Apprenticeship programme. For example, for smaller employers an apprenticeship opportunity can only be offered on a part time basis.</p> <p>Whilst much progress has been made working with employers to generate apprenticeship opportunities locally, there remains considerable work to be done to increase the company penetration rate in terms of the numbers offering apprenticeship places throughout the region</p> <p>Launch Date: 7th October 2008 Closing Date: 26th November 2008</p>	