

The Accord: An introduction

In July 2008, SEEDA, LSC SE and Jobcentre Plus SE all signed up to a groundbreaking agreement to work more closely together than ever in developing and delivering an employment and skills system which is simpler, better integrated and able to deliver the skills and jobs needed to succeed in the 21st Century global economy. As architects of this Accord, the Agencies are committed to actively seeking Local Authorities, the Health Service and other national, regional and local funding agencies to join them as partners in putting their commitment into practice. The aim is for the South East to be at the **forefront** of integrating employment and skills services to support welfare reform and productivity agendas.

To learn more about the agreed focus and actions that has already begun to move the Accord from a statement of intent to practice, you can access the full Accord document [link] and read about sub-regional developments in Thames Gateway, Slough and Urban South Hampshire below. The Integrated Planning Matrix (JH Consulting) is being used by some of the sub-regional partners as a tool to put integrated employment and skills ideas and strategy into practice. Further details about the Matrix can be found at www.jhconsulting.org.uk/integrated-service-planning.