

 For information

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Leading learning and skills

Learning and Skills Council Hampshire and Isle of Wight Annual Plan 2007-08

March 2007

Of interest to National, Regional and
Local Learning and Skills Colleagues

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Introduction

Our Local Plan for 2007/08 sets out an ambitious and challenging agenda. The Plan builds on recent years of substantial progress and success and sets out the key changes and actions that we must deliver if we are to deliver our vision of *creating a highly responsive system of learning and skills provision driven by the needs of learners, employers and communities*.

Our vision is supported by four key priorities for 2007/08:

- Work in partnership to support the development of 14-19 Consortia and the introduction of diplomas in order to enable young people to have improved access to high quality vocational provision. At the same time there is a continuing challenge to support our partners in a range of activities to reduce the number of young people not in education, employment or training.
- Focus on meeting the needs of employers by proactively working with the provider network and brokerage service to develop and deliver the Train to Gain offer to employers.
- We have an opportunity to transform the quality of the post-16 estate. Our local capital investment plans outline a total capital investment of up to £460 million in modernisation and renewal over the next 4 years. This includes a number of radical plans involving the wholesale redevelopment of FE campuses that have the potential to transform the reputation of the sector in the eyes of employers, learners and communities.
- There will be a strengthened role to support local economic development by taking the lead and working in partnership to develop skills in line with local needs. The preparation and implementation of Local Area Agreements will be a key means of taking a shared approach to skills development in support of local and regional economic objectives. Particular efforts will be needed in identified growth areas such as Urban South Hampshire to ensure skills shortages are not a barrier to raising rates of economic growth. The piloting of adult learning accounts in the growth areas will provide an opportunity to enhance productivity and economic performance.

We are now in a position to work closely with key partners at local level in our focussed partnership teams, backed by strong regional teams, to inform and support the wider plans for local physical and community regeneration.

We look forward to working with our partners and providers over the coming year in order to achieve the priorities and actions contained in this plan.

Terry Scriven
Chair

Martin Lamb
Area Director

Local Context Summary¹

Hampshire and Isle of Wight comprises the three Unitary Authorities of the City of Portsmouth, City of Southampton and the Isle of Wight. In addition to these the County of Hampshire includes eleven local authorities: Basingstoke and Deane, East Hampshire, Eastleigh, Fareham, Gosport, Hart, Havant, New Forest, Rushmoor, Test Valley and Winchester.

Hampshire and the Isle of Wight is a key sub region of the South East economy, providing about one fifth of the regional output and important gateway functions. It is a very diverse area with significant concentrations of employment and people in the urban areas of Southampton and Portsmouth, large rural areas in parts of Hampshire and on the Isle of Wight, and a relatively prosperous economy in Mid and North Hampshire.

Hampshire and the Isle of Wight has a total population of over 1.8 million, with over 910,000 people in employment. The ethnic minority population is relatively low at around 3.1%, the largest of which is in Southampton (7.6%). An overall population increase of 2.3% is forecast between 2004 and 2009 (above the national average but below the regional one). The 16-18 population is forecast to increase from 71,400 in 2004 to 72,800 by 2008 but to fall back again to 68,800 by 2013.

Two of the eight “Diamonds for Investment and Growth” identified in the Regional Economic Strategy are in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight: Basingstoke and Urban South Hampshire. The latter is the most advanced in the Region in developing its plans, having developed a partnership of eleven local authorities (Partnership for Urban South Hampshire) and an analysis of the measures to raise the average annual GVA increase from 2.5% to 3.5%. The South East England Assembly’s draft Plan also identifies South Hampshire as one of the areas where increased levels of development are proposed. The same Plan identifies the Isle of Wight as a Special Policy Area with a need to improve economic performance and reduce deprivation.

The sub region is by no means homogenous. Throughout the area, and especially in some coastal and urban locations (including Southampton, Portsmouth, Gosport, Havant, the Isle of Wight, Farnborough, Aldershot, Andover, Bordon/Whitehill and Basingstoke), there are areas of real disadvantage. Portsmouth and Southampton as a whole are ranked 88th and 96th out of the 354 local authorities in England on the Index of deprivation. In such areas, a significant proportion of adults have basic skill needs or low levels of qualifications and high proportion of young people are not in education, employment or training.

Compared to other areas in the South East, Hampshire and Isle of Wight has a higher proportion of businesses in manufacturing (7.2% compared to 6.8% in the South East), construction (11.2% compared to 10.2% in the South East) and distribution, hotels and restaurants (26.8% compared to 25.9% in the South East).

Economic activity rates are relatively high at 82% compared with an England average of 78%. As in other areas of the country unemployment rates have started to turn upwards but still remain at historically low levels (1.5% in December 2006, compared with the national rate of 2.6%).

¹ Local Area Profile, Autumn 2006

Employment projections for Hampshire and Isle of Wight indicate a continuation of the strong trend towards service sector growth and a decline in the manufacturing sector. Between 2004 and 2014 it is forecast that there will be an average annual increase of 6,000 jobs in the service sector and a decrease of 1,000 jobs in the manufacturing sector. The greatest growth in employment is predicted to be in Distribution & Transport and Business Service Sectors which are forecast to grow by approximately 2,000 and 2,200 employees per annum, respectively. Within these broad sectors, the Other Business Services sector (including high value services such as accountancy, legal and consultancy services) is predicted to see the strongest growth, with employment increasing by over 15,000 between 2004 and 2014. Over the same period the largest growth in occupations is forecast in managers and professionals (27.9%), personal services (26.9%) and sales and customer service (16.8%).

Investing in Young People²

Overall young people's participation in Hampshire and Isle of Wight continues to increase.

Between 2004/05 and 2005/06 the number of young people participating in education or training increased by 3.8%. The number in Further Education (FE) colleges increased by 4.5% over this period, with corresponding increases of 1.2% in School Sixth Forms and 0.7% in Work-based Learning (WBL). Overall a further 3.8% increase was planned between 2005/06 and 2006/07 compared to a 2.7% increase planned regionally.

There has been a decrease over the past year in the overall numbers of young people not in employment, education or training but further reductions are required and there are significant variations from area to area.

In November 2006 over 3,000 young people were not in education, employment or training. There has been an improvement over the previous year (November 2005 to November 2006) from 6.1% to 5.4% (based on adjusted rates which take account of allocating proportions of those in the "unknown" category to the NEET category). Significant variations remain between areas: based on a measure of where young people live, the highest rates in November 2006 were in Rushmoor (8.4%), Havant (8.0%), Southampton (7.8%), Portsmouth (6.2%) and Gosport (5.8%).

The progression rate in E2E programmes has improved.

There has been an improvement in the percentage of young people on an Entry to Employment programme with a positive progression outcome, from 42% in 2004/05 to 50% in 2005/06; this has resulted in Hampshire and Isle of Wight achieving above the regional and national progression rates. The average length of stay in E2E programmes is 19 weeks which compared with the regional average of 18 weeks. Over the same period actual starts have risen by 0.8% and there were 7% more starts than were planned.

An increasing proportion of young people are reaching level 2 and level 3 qualifications by age 19.

74.6% (equal to the regional rate) of young people in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight reached a level 2 qualification by age 19, compared with 72.0% in 2003/04. Significantly, 21.7% of 19 year olds achieved their qualification between the ages of 16 and 19, against a regional average of 18.9%. Locally 52.5% (slightly below the regional rate of 53.2%) reached a level 3 qualification by age 19 in 2004/05 compared with 47.6% in the previous year.

Overall FE Success Rates and full Level 2 Success Rates improved in 2005/06 and remain the highest in the South East.

The overall FE Success rate in 2005/06 was 80% (a rise of 2 percentage points from 2004/05). This rate is above the regional rate which is one of the best in the

² All Sources: Autumn Performance Review 2006

country and above the national rate. Full Level 2 Success Rates in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, and the South East increased by 4.2 and 4.5 percentage points to 69% and 63% respectively.

The local target for Apprenticeship Completions was exceeded by a significant amount.

2,253 apprenticeship completions were achieved in 2005/06, representing 145% of the target of 1,552. Advanced Apprenticeship framework completions have risen by 91.3% between 2002/03 and 2005/06, which is lower than the percentage increase regionally and nationally.

Education Maintenance Allowance Take-Up has met expectations.

11,830 16-17 year olds took up EMA in 2005/06, only marginally under the planned figure.

14-19 collaborative working continues to strengthen.

The number of 14-19 consortia in Hampshire and Isle of Wight increased from 9 to 12 covering every part of the sub-region. Ten of the consortia submitted a gateway application for the first phase of the diploma lines of learning. 14-19 Strategies have been either developed or refreshed for all three unitary authorities and Hampshire County Council.

Outstanding issues and challenges

- Despite strong growth in 16-18 participation, significant pockets of relatively low participation in post-16 learning (below 65%), continue to exist, particularly in areas of multiple deprivation such as in parts of Portsmouth, Southampton, Havant, Gosport and Rushmoor.
- Despite the gradual reduction between 2005 and 2006 in the proportion of young people not in education, employment or training (NEETs) there remain significantly high rates in Rushmoor, Havant, Southampton, Portsmouth and Gosport.
- In several areas there exist below national and regional average rates for 5 or more A*-C GCSE passes. This includes the three Unitary Authorities of Southampton (48.4%), Portsmouth (47.6%) and Isle of Wight (47.9%), but also other parts of Hampshire, e.g. Gosport, Havant, Andover, Rushmoor and Basingstoke. This is also the case when applying the new measures for 5 or more A*-C GCSE passes (including English and Maths).
- There remains a lack of vocational provision, particularly at entry level, level 1 and level 2, in several areas including: Central Portsmouth; Gosport; Havant; East Hampshire; and in areas of deprivation in Southampton.
- There is insufficient information on the range of learning opportunities and progression routes available to young people in travel-to-learn areas and across the sub-region.
- The demand for apprenticeships is outstripping the number of employers willing to offer a placement.

Action for Young People

Regional Priority: To improve substantially the range and accessibility of practical and vocational learning opportunities for all young people which inspire and engage them and lead to progression.

Locally, we will boost performance against national targets by:
[n.b. the percentages quoted are regional; local figures will not be available until local volumes in the Summary Statement of Activity have been confirmed].

- a **2%** increase in participation with a focus on priority learners to reduce the numbers of young people who are not in education, employment and training (NEET)
- increasing volumes of learning below Level 2 in every local area with particular attention to those areas with high numbers who are NEET
- a **2.5%** increase in participation in Entry to Employment programmes whilst seeking to at least maintain current progression in rates (**47%**)
- increasing the numbers of young people participating in apprenticeships by **4.5%**
- further improving Success Rates for Further Education and Apprenticeships.

Our Local Actions

1. Working jointly with the Local Authorities and South Central Connexions, support the development of 14-19 Consortia and the introduction of the diplomas, and improve choice and opportunity for young people including improved access to vocational learning and to independent advice and guidance.
2. Continue to increase 16-18 participation and outcomes, reducing the proportion of young people not in education, employment or training (NEETs) by developing additional targeted provision, particularly at entry level and levels 1 and 2, through collaborative models, development of 14-19 vocational skills centres, development of the Foundation Learning Tier (FLT) and, where appropriate, through 16-19 competitions.
3. Further develop the work-based learning (WBL) offer by increasing the number of apprenticeships and completions, tendering for provision where it is of poor quality, improving participation in entry to employment (e2e) to support the reduction of young people not in education, employment or training (NEET), consolidating regional contracting arrangements and working with Connexions to determine the future for the Centralised Vacancy Unit for employers.
4. Through partnership working with key agencies develop and extend delivery of 14-16 work-related learning programmes including Increased Flexibility (IF) and Young Apprenticeships (YA), supported by the continued

development and roll out of the AP4L system developed by S-Cool. Work through the 14-19 consortia to embed this provision.

5. Continued improvement of education and training for vulnerable young people and young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities (LLDD), ensuring information is available to support progression, and developing the learning infrastructure to address gaps.

Investing in Skills

The proportion of the workforce qualified to level 2 and above is below the South East Region but above the national average.

65.5% per cent of working age residents in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight are qualified to NVQ Level 2 and above, which is below the South East proportion (67.3%) but above the national proportion (62.9%). One in ten of the working age population have no qualifications, similar to the regional average. At level 1 and above the proportion locally (82.5%) is also similar to the Regional proportion.

In common with many other parts of the South East Region there are a significant minority of employers experiencing skill gaps, hard to fill vacancies and skill shortage vacancies.³

18.5% of businesses in Hampshire and Isle of Wight reported skill gaps in 2005 (SE average of 18.4%); 8.4% reported hard to fill vacancies and 3.6% reported skill shortage vacancies. 18% of employers reported skill gaps in literacy with a similar proportion (17%) with skill gaps in numeracy. Where there were hard to fill vacancies and/or skills gaps these were having an impact on costs and economic performance.

Train to Gain

Train to Gain was launched in the area in September 2006. The programme includes delivery of free NVQ and skills for life qualifications to employees not already qualified to level 2. Six providers in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight are leading on delivering demand led training in the areas of construction, health, public services and care, business administration, retail and commercial enterprise and local priority sectors of transportation, hospitality, ICT, leisure, travel and tourism and agriculture, horticulture and animal care. Planned first year delivery is for at least 9,084 NVQs and 1,421 skills for life enrolments by July 2007. Early indications are that after a slow start, performance is steadily improving.

There has been a continued switch to high priority provision contributing towards targets.

The proportion of FE funding for adult provision for high priority provision contributing to national targets has continued to increase – between 2004/05 and 2005/06 this proportion increased from 24% to 30% in Hampshire and the Isle Wight.

Adult participation in FE continued to fall reflecting the move away from funding of low priority provision.

Adult participation in FE fell significantly (by 17.7%) between 2004/05 and 2005/06, reflecting the increasing proportion of provision directed at full national qualifications.

³ National Employer Skills Survey 2005

IAG

Changes to the LSC nextstep provision have now been embedded. The delivery network continues to develop to meet local needs and the programme remains on target.

Outstanding issues and challenges

- A significant proportion of adults of working age (16+) remain without a level 2 qualification (34.5%). Whilst Hampshire and Isle of Wight is ranked 9th out of the 47 local LSC areas in terms of the proportion of workforce qualified to level 3, for level 2 it drops to 36th.
- In some of our communities (e.g. Andover, Southampton, Portsmouth, Isle of Wight, Havant, Gosport) a significant proportion of the working age population has essential skill needs and / or few or no qualifications or experience of learning. Overall, 7% (for literacy) and 43% (for numeracy) of adults in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight have skill levels below level 1. In Portsmouth, Southampton and the Isle of Wight these figures rise to 10% and 50% respectively.
- There are a number of sectors where a significant proportion of the workforce has sub level 2 qualifications: hotels and restaurants (31%), construction (25%), retail (24%) transport and communications (24%) and health and social care (20%).
- Performance on Train to Gain requires continued focus and priority given the increasing importance of raising level 2 skills for both the local and regional economy. The challenge will be to raise the volume of starts and to ensure learner achieve their qualifications in line with employer demand.
- In Hampshire and the Isle of Wight there were an estimated 72,750 adults with Entry Level 3 or below Literacy skills and 475,600 adults with Entry Level 3 or below Numeracy skills.⁴ The highest concentration of adults with basic skills needs was estimated to be in Southampton and on the Isle of Wight (each with 10% of the population with low Literacy skills) and Portsmouth, Gosport Southampton with over 53% of the population with low Numeracy skills. An estimated 64% of the population on the Isle of Wight had low ICT skills.

Action for Skills

Regional Priority: To improve skills training and employer engagement through implementing the South East Action for Business Strategy and further developing the responsiveness of the FE and work based learning provider network.

Locally, we will boost performance against national targets by:
[n.b. the percentages quoted are regional; local figures will not be available until local volumes in the Summary Statement of Activity have been confirmed].

- **80%** of Skills for Life provision to be accredited through nationally recognised qualifications
- a **4.5%** increase in target bearing Skills for Life provision

⁴ Skills for Life Survey 2003

- colleges delivering adult provision will move towards a minimum of **20%** of their adult allocation to supporting full Level 2 provision
- delivery of Level 2 for adults having a greater focus on delivering first full Level 2s with particular increases in participation of those claiming benefits
- increasing employers' engagement in supporting learning and skills through Train to Gain with a particular focus on those employers who have not previously been engaged
- continuing to increase the proportion of adult funding being spent on priority provision
- increasing the numbers of people over 19 participating in apprenticeships by **5%** (apprenticeships by **3%**; advanced apprenticeships by **8%**)
- improving provision and success rates in priority sectors with a particular focus on construction and the built environment.

Our Local Actions

6. Increase the number of individuals with a **first full level 2** by improving the number of starts and achievements in line with the regional commissioning plan. This will be achieved through Train to Gain, adult learning grant and Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) activity with a focus on strengthening consortia working and improving the effectiveness of local brokerage arrangements.
7. Implement the new programme of Apprenticeships **for 25+**.
8. Work with the network of accredited **Action for Business Networks, Centres of Vocational Excellence (CoVEs)** and other providers to manage effectively the transition to the New Standard.
9. Implement the LSC **Voluntary and Community Sector** Strategy (Working Together) and support Change Up by developing the VCS as both a key employment sector and provider of learning.
10. Undertake trials of **Adult Learner Accounts** in the regional economic growth areas of Urban South Hampshire and Basingstoke, with the objective of enhancing existing provision and improving the take-up of Level 3 programmes in order strengthen the skills base in these areas.
11. Address the needs of **priority sectors** (construction, health and social care, retail, marine, engineering and manufacturing and business services) and respond to employer skill needs as identified through Local Area Agreements, the Local Skills for Productivity Alliance (LSPA), sector specific investment plans, CoVEs and Sector Skills Agreements (SSAs).

Investing in Quality

Inspection performance

During cycle 2 of the inspection process no ACL, FE, or WBL providers in Hants & IOW have received a grade 4. Those providers graded 4 in cycle 1 are all receiving support from QIA, and the risk of failure at reinspection is deemed to be low. Hants & IOW continues to be amongst the best performing regions in the country.

Overall FE, full Level 2 and Apprenticeship 16-18 Success Rates improved in 2005/06.

The overall FE Success rate in 2005/06 was 80% (a rise of 2 percentage points from 2004/05). This rate is above the regional rate which is one of the best in the country and is also above the national rate. 16-18 Apprenticeship success rates are up by 9 percentage points, to 55%, just above the national average. Level 2 Apprenticeships have made an improvement to 55%, and is equal to the regional average. Advanced Apprenticeships have also improved (by 5 percentage points), and are above the regional but below the national averages.⁵

Adult Apprenticeship success rates in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight have improved considerably with particular improvement at Level 2 to above the national average.

All adult Apprenticeship success rates rose by 17 percentage points in 2005/06, slightly lower than the regional improvement; however they are above regional and national rates. Level 2 Adult Apprenticeship success rates in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight rose by 19 percentage points in 2005/06, and are now above the regional and national average. FE adult success rates have increased by 1 percentage point to 78%; however the FE full level 2 success rate rose marginally, to 65%. Both are above the regional rate (by 3 and 2 percentage points respectively).

Significant progress has been made by our provider network to improve responsiveness to employers' and sectoral needs.

7 FE Colleges have now achieved Action for Business accreditation. The network of 16 Centres of Vocational Excellence have all achieved full status. We have a total of 29 of our local colleges and WBL providers involved in our network of CoVEs.

The FE sector has responded positively to the LSC challenge to develop world-class buildings for world-class teaching and learning.

Our local capital investment plans highlight a planned investment of up to £460 million in the modernisation and renewal of FE estate and school sixth forms over the next 4 years. This includes a number of radical plans involving the wholesale redevelopment of FE campuses that will help transform the quality of the post-16 estate in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

⁵ Autumn Performance Review 2006

The local LSC has issued strategic statements of intent in those areas where structural change is required.

Strategic Statements of Intent have been issued in Isle of Wight, Fareham & Gosport and Andover setting out a clear vision for structural change, responding to weaknesses in the current configuration of provision and future viability of the provider network. In Andover and Fareham & Gosport, substantial progress has been made in implementing these changes.

Outstanding issues and challenges

- All of the existing CoVEs and Action for Business Colleges will need to consider the implications of the introduction of the New Standard and potential reassessment.
- The implementation of structural changes in Andover and Fareham & Gosport will involve a considerable level of resources during 2007/08. On the Isle of Wight the LSC will respond to the LA's Policy Commission's "blue paper", working closely with the Local Authority and other stakeholders to impact positively on post-16 performance through quality improvement and structural reforms.
- The capital investment plans put forward by our provider network represent a substantial level of investment but also a significant level of resource to ensure they are implemented in a timely fashion. The challenge is to address the fact that over a third of the FE estate is not fit for purpose.
- There are currently no colleges in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight falling below the threshold for minimum level of performance on long qualifications. Across the whole apprenticeship provision we have around 7% of provision below the minimum levels of performance.

Action for Excellence

Regional Priority: To raise performance and improve the quality of provision, using the Framework for Excellence, to further develop a self-critical provider network with a focus on quality improvement.

We will assure quality in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight and the South East with a particular focus on:

[n.b. the percentages quoted are regional; local figures will not be available until local volumes in the Summary Statement of Activity have been confirmed].

- investing in and growing excellent provision and encouraging increased specialisation
- all providers delivering at least minimum levels of performance over the next two years
- increasing the proportion of good and excellent provision
- eradicating unsatisfactory provision by 2008
- increasing young people's FE success rate for full Level 2 and full Level 3 qualifications by xx percentage points.
- a 3 percentage point increase in framework completion rates for all apprenticeship programmes, particularly for advanced apprenticeships

- all FE and WBL providers working towards a 5 percentage point improvement in adult full Level 2 success rates
- identifying high quality alternative providers through applying the principles of competition to secure new provision
- investing in a significant improvement in the quality of the FE infrastructure.

Our Local Actions

12. For both modernisation and new provision the local LSC will seek to prioritise ***capital investment*** in the areas set out in the local capital statement (attached as an annex to this Local Plan)
13. Continue to undertake and review an ***assessment of the ability of the provider network in each local area*** to meet and respond to the needs of its learners, employers and communities.
14. Review the outcome of the national ***Framework for Excellence*** pilot in 2007/08 and consider its implications for 2008/09.
15. Support providers in the implementation of the ***Disability Equality Duty*** and the duties under the ***Race Equality in Employment Standard***.
16. Improve the levels of ***employer responsiveness*** within the provider network and provide support to provider in the implementation of the New Standard.
17. Drive forward ***efficiency and quality improvement*** by embedding business excellence and implementing self assessment.
18. Ensure that all providers achieve ***minimum levels of performance***, implementing re-contracting arrangements for WBL providers and notices to improve for FE Colleges, wherever appropriate.

Investing in Communities⁶

Substantial progress has been made in achieving the target for Skills for Life Qualifications.

In the first two years of the 2004-2007 period, 27,897 qualifications counting towards the Skills for Life target had been achieved, some 124% of the target.

The LSC is working closely with the four local Authorities producing **Local Area Agreements (LAAs)**. Hampshire and Isle of Wight Councils are in the 2005 second round and Southampton and Portsmouth Councils are in the third round. Hampshire and Isle of Wight have completed a “refresh” of their indicators and targets following reporting on performance in the first year. Southampton and Portsmouth are close to agreeing their Plans. The LSC has led on Skills Improvement, a key element of the Economic Development and Enterprise Blocks of the LAAs (and contributed to the Children’s and Young People Blocks). The LSC has promoted and developed a consistent approach on Skills indicators between the LAAs. Indicators and targets for the Hampshire LAA have been broken down to cover Urban South Hampshire, thus enabling future monitoring of progress for the South Hampshire Growth Area identified in the Regional Economic Strategy.

There has been close working with Local Authorities and other agencies within PUSH to identify skills issues and commence the development of a **Skills Action Plan for Urban South Hampshire**

Voluntary and Community sector

The LSC remains committed to supporting the actions in the regional Compact. Continued support is provided to developing the Voluntary Sector Consortia Learning Net with a particular focus on meeting the workforce development needs of the sector as identified within the national agenda and the sector’s local Change Up plans.

Hampshire and the Isle of Wight had a small decrease in PCDL courses in 2005/06.

In 2005/2006 there were just over 26,000 learners on PCDL programmes. This was an increase against the planned total of 2.7% and a decrease of 1% from the previous year.

Offender Learning and Skills Service

Over the nine months to December 2006, 581 offenders were recruited and attending programmes with providers in Hampshire and the Isle Wight, with 208 qualifications gained. Over the same period 161 progressed to employment.

The Skills for Life Survey ⁷ estimated that Southampton had the highest concentration of population with English as a second language. Southampton also had some of the highest concentration of **adults with basic skills needs** with 10% of the population with poor Literacy skills and 55% of the population with poor

⁶ Local Area Profiles, Autumn 2006

⁷ Skills for Life Survey 2003

Numeracy skills. Overall in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight there were an estimated 72,750 adults with Entry Level 3 or below Literacy skills and 475,600 adults with Entry Level 3 or below Numeracy skills.

Outstanding Issues and challenges

- It will be important to work in partnership with Local Authorities and other key agencies to address the skill needs identified by PUSH to support higher levels of productivity and economic growth in Urban South Hampshire. Continued efforts will be necessary to “join up” Skills actions, indicators and targets through a consistent approach to different LAAs and other initiatives.
- There is a need to continue to recognise the key role skills development must play in wider Regeneration activities particularly in our older urban areas and to participate in and support key initiatives to develop local skills which will enable the local population to compete for new jobs.
- Local needs, such as language needs vary significantly from area to area and must be taken into account in support for relevant projects, eg. through the ESF programme.

Action for Communities

Regional Priority: To increase economic activity and productivity, and support the regeneration and growth of communities, by developing the South East Action for Communities model and aligning the LSC’s investment with that of others.

We will work towards the regional priorities with a particular focus on:

- increasing the proportion of learners from vulnerable groups engaged in Personal and Community Development Learning (PCDL)
- engaging economically underactive people who wish to develop their careers through Adult Learner Accounts and the adult Level 2 entitlement
- increasing quality and opportunities for offenders in custody and in the community
- increasing outcomes and progression for learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities
- increasing the resource allocated to priority skills in specified growth areas
- increasing opportunities and support for those without basic skills and first Level 2.

Our Local Actions

19. Work closely with Hampshire, Southampton, Portsmouth and Isle of Wight Local Authorities, through the Economic Development Block of ***Local Area Agreements (LAAs)***, to ensure the alignment of priorities and resources towards achieving common objectives and supporting the PUSH agenda to raise levels of economic growth and the economic needs of the Isle of Wight.

20. Prioritise ***Skills for Life*** learning that leads to a nationally recognised qualification up to and including Level 2.

21. Work with the four Local Authorities to support learning for ***personal or community development (PCDL)***, focusing on first steps learning, essential skills and progression to Level 2 learning, and the establishment of PCDL partnerships and ***Action for Communities networks***.
22. Working with Jobcentre Plus, secure ***Skills for Life and ESOL provision for Jobcentre Plus customers***, and deliver the new deal for skills to enable the low-skilled to acquire the qualifications necessary to enter and progress in the labour market.
23. Working with Jobcentre Plus, the Probation and Prison Service, manage the development of the ***Offenders' Learning and Skills Service (OLASS)*** as a comprehensive advice and learning service for those aged 15+ in custody and in the community, with a focus on developing the provider network, including delivery through mainstream provision.
24. Improve and enhance access to ***information, advice and guidance***, targeting adults with essential skills needs and without a Level 2 qualification.
25. Develop and support partnership approaches to meeting the ***Priority Skills needs identified in growth and regeneration areas***.
26. Work with the voluntary sector and Jobcentre Plus to develop the local ***"Skills for Jobs Programme"*** aimed at improving the recruitment and training of those not in work.

Aggregate Volumes
[All volumes are indicative]

Summary Statement of Activity	Year 1	
	16-18 (Learner Volumes)	Adult (Learner Volumes)
LSC Funded Participation		
Number of FE learners (total)	[41,640]	[72,570]
Number of FE learners undertaking Level 4 and above		[3,040]
Number of FE learners undertaking Level 3	[25,450]	[15,120]
of which: Full Level 3 Learners	[18,880]	[7,570]
of which: First Full Level 3 Learners		
Number of Train to Gain learners undertaking Level 3		
Number of learners undertaking an Advanced Apprenticeship (Average in Learning)	[1,010]	[1,490]
Number of FE learners undertaking Level 2	[10,370]	[23,420]
of which: Full Level 2 Learners	[8,200]	[7,850]
of which: First Full Level 2 Learners		[3,140]
Number of Train to Gain learners undertaking Level 2		
Number of learners undertaking an Apprenticeship at Level 2 (Average in Learning)	[2,590]	[1,460]
Number of FE learners undertaking Skills for Life qualifications that directly contribute to PSA target	[14,920]	[9,980]
Number of Advanced Apprenticeships and Apprenticeship learners undertaking Skills for Life qualifications that directly contribute to PSA target	[1,950]	[1,520]
Number of Train to Gain learners undertaking Skills for Life qualifications that directly contribute to PSA target		
Number of FE learners undertaking Level 1 and Entry	[5,770]	[25,820]
Number of learners undertaking Entry to Employment (starts)	[1,200]	
Number of learners undertaking Safeguarded Adult Learning (Total)		[30,140]
of which: Number of learners undertaking Family learning, literacy and numeracy		[1,940]
of which: Number of learners undertaking Neighbourhood learning in deprived communities		[540]
of which: Number of learners undertaking Wider Family Learning		[2,140]
of which: Number of learners undertaking Personal / Leisure Learning		[25,510]
ESF Funded Participation	16-18 (Learner Volumes)	Adult (Learner Volumes)
Number of ESF Learners undertaking any ESF Activity		
Number of ESF Learners not included in LSC Funded Participation table above		
Of which:		
Level 4 and above		
Full Level 3		
Full Level 2		
Skills for life that directly contributes towards the PSA target		
Level 1 and Entry		
Other ESF activity		

LSC Funded Outcomes	16-18 (Learner achievements)	Adult (Learner achievements)	16-18 Success Rate (%)	Adult Success Rate (%)
Number of FE Learners achieving a Full Level 3 qualification	[12,610]	[3,680]		
Number of FE Learners achieving a First Full Level 3 qualification				
Number of Train to Gain learners achieving a Full Level 3				
Number of Learners achieving an Advanced Apprenticeship Framework	[210]	[360]		
Number of FE Learners achieving a Full Level 2 qualification	[4,980]	[4,470]		
Number of FE Learners achieving a First Full Level 2 qualification		[1,790]		
Number of Train to Gain Learners achieving a Full Level 2 qualification				
Number of Learners achieving an Apprenticeship Framework (at Level 2)	[1,020]	[680]		
Number of FE learners achieving a Skills for Life qualification (s) that directly contribute to PSA target	[8,940]	[5,530]		
Number of Advanced Apprenticeship and Apprenticeship learners achieving a Skills for Life qualification(s) that directly contribute to PSA target	[1,270]	[1,520]		
Number of Train to Gain learners achieving a Skills for Life qualification(s) that directly contribute to PSA target				
Number of learners progressing to a positive destination from Entry to Employment				
ESF Funded Outcomes				
Number of ESF Learners not included in LSC Funded Outcomes table above achieving a qualification at:				
Full Level 3				
Full Level 2				
Skills for life qualification that directly contributes to the PSA target				

Funding summary	Funding (£)
FE 16 - 18	
FE Adult	
FE Additional Learning Support	
Train to Gain	
Advanced Apprenticeships and Apprenticeships 16-18	
Advanced Apprenticeships and Apprenticeships (Adult)	
Entry to Employment	
WBL additional learner / learning support	
Safeguarded Adult Learning	
ESF	
Total	

Fee Income and Other Activity Summary	Fee Income (£)	% of LSC funded activity Fee Income	Number of Learners
LSC Funded provision			

Other Information

Equality and Diversity

In all provision that we fund we aim to:

- promote equality of opportunity across six equality strands: race, disability, gender, religion or belief, sexual orientation and age.
- reduce gaps in participation and attainment by individuals from disadvantaged groups and for those in the most deprived localities within the region.
- utilise the capacity and expertise of the voluntary sector wherever possible.

The overarching aim as stated in the LSC's Equality and Diversity Strategy is to ensure the provision responds to all customers of education and training, driven by need. The LSC continues to promote the use of Equality and Diversity Impact Measures (EDIMS) as set by the LSC at regional and local levels

The contribution of ESF and LID to achieving objectives

European Social Fund (ESF) projects to the value of £19 million are underway in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. The programme reflects Regional priorities and local activities to address these. A new regional Programme will make funding available over the period July 2006 to July 2008.

In 2006/07 some £1.6 million of **Local Intervention Development (LID)** funding (including funding from SEEDA) was committed to Hampshire and Isle of Wight projects in line with Regional and local priorities. Major priorities included the development of the work of 16-19 consortia.