

Specification Title: Alternative curriculum for Young Offenders	Specification Number: 22004/9 (22004/7)
ESF Objective 3	Funding available: £178,600
Measure: 2.2	Location: Planning area C, D, F
<p>Description</p> <p>This project will address the Skills for Life and vocational needs of young people aged 14-19, who have been involved in crime, particularly vehicle related, or are young people from the NEET (Not in Employment, Education or Training) group. The project will recruit a minimum of 50% of beneficiaries from the (Black and Minority Ethnic Groups) BME target group and be closely linked with the Youth Offending Teams (YOTs).</p> <p>All beneficiaries will receive appropriate information, advice and guidance (IAG), both at entry onto the programme, and at the point of exit, in order to establish their need and interest, and implement a sustainable pathway to further mainstream community provision. These interventions will also identify the relevant support/aftercare to be provided during the project and into the first 6 months of mainstream provision. The YOTs will inform the individual learners' plans in alignment with their own intervention plans for the young people on the programme.</p> <p>The project will deliver an Initial Diagnostic Assessment for all beneficiaries, who will then progress onto either Key Skills or Skills for Life (including ESOL) accredited qualifications. We expect all beneficiaries to have completed at least one accredited Skills for Life qualification during the course of the project, (preferably at Entry 3 or Level 1 but other levels are equally acceptable).</p> <p>50% of the beneficiaries above will also complete a vocational programme of learning at Level 1. Programmes should be focused on "Key Sectors" as defined by the Skills for Productivity Alliance for Sussex, but may also include Motor vehicle and other vocational areas of particular interest to the beneficiaries and in consultation with the Youth offending Teams.</p> <p>(Key sectors include horticulture, construction, cultural industries, advanced engineering, retail and social care.)</p> <p>An embedded approach to delivering Skills for Life within a vocational programme would be preferable whenever appropriate.</p> <p>50% of beneficiaries who have completed a level 1 qualification will then progress onto mainstream vocational training at Level 2 in "key sectors", including Work-Based Learning.</p> <p>The project will monitor the progress of those young people on a monthly basis for the first six months of their participation on a level 1 or level 2 programme. Appropriate support should be provided by the project to encourage the retention of the young people on mainstream programmes. Any unpreventable dropout should be recorded and documented appropriately, so to identify trends in barriers to retention by this group.</p> <p>A number of beneficiaries should become employed or follow a mainstream vocational programme as a result of this project. The project should seek to support those young people and their employers in a similar way as described above.</p> <p>LSC Sussex invites applications to develop innovative and responsive provision which will be attractive to this target group and will result in achievement and progression to further learning and employment, thus reducing the risk of re-offending.</p> <p>The project will need to demonstrate a full understanding of the new Offenders Learning & Skills Service (OLASS) and a commitment to work within the context of the Offenders Learning Journey for Juvenile Offenders in England. Working closely with Youth Offending Teams will be critical in order to achieve positive outcomes for this project.</p> <p>It is anticipated that the LSC will award 1 contract for this project. The project may start in 1st May 2007 and all delivery activities must have been completed by 30th June 2008.</p>	

Priority Target Group	Activities	Planned Outputs
<p>Young people aged 14-19 who have been involved in crime, particularly vehicle related, or are young people from the NEET (Not in Employment, Education or Training) group. 50% of beneficiaries must be recruited from the BME community.</p>	<p>To provide information, advice and guidance</p> <p>To deliver appropriate diagnostic assessments for literacy, language and numeracy needs</p> <p>To deliver a suitable programme of accredited Skills for Life qualifications, including Key Skills and ESOL when appropriate dependant on the outcome of the IDA</p> <p>To deliver a programme of vocational learning at Level 1</p> <p>To facilitate progression towards an appropriate mainstream vocational programme</p> <p>To identify and provide & source out (if necessary) relevant support during the first 6 months of Level 2 programme</p> <p>To monitor progress and record/document reasons for drop-out</p>	<p>70 receive appropriate information, advice and guidance once on entry to the project & once on leaving</p> <p>70 receive Individual Diagnostic Assessment (IDA)</p> <p>70 accredited Skills for Life qualifications, or full Level 1 accredited Key Skills qualifications</p> <p>Achieve 35 level 1 vocational qualifications</p> <p>18 progress onto accredited Level 2 programme in “key sectors” Or Employment Or Work-based learning</p> <p>35 receive appropriate support to keep the individual on the programme, e.g. mentoring, learner support etc.</p> <p>70 beneficiaries tracked for six months, after leaving the project, to ensure that their destination data can be collected i.e. into training; into employment.</p>

Applicants

It is expected that specialist organisations, including those from the voluntary and community sector will be involved in the project to address the issues that may prevent young people from accessing learning.

The successful applicant is likely to have knowledge and experience of:

- Delivering supportive programmes to young people from the NEET group or who have been involved in crime.
- Developing relationships/appropriate referral mechanisms with relevant organisations i.e. Youth Offending Teams, Connexions and the Youth Justice Board.
- Demonstrating a good understanding of the LSC's remit and the local delivery of education and training to young people 14-19.
- The new Offenders Learning & Skills Service (OLASS) & a commitment to work within the context of the Offenders Learning Journey for Juvenile Offenders in England.

Successful applicants will need to have the **capacity** to:

- put in place a delivery plan and management and monitoring structures to ensure that the programme is operational from 1st May 2007;
- deliver the outcomes by 30th June 2008;
- set up and further develop robust and genuine partnership working, especially where such working will help address issues of sustainability or viability.

Successful applicants will need to have robust **administrative and management information systems** to collect details of:

- employees supported using the LSC Short Record;
- SMEs supported using the LSC ESF Company Level Data Form. This includes maintaining payment records related to State Aid.
- provide monthly monitoring progress reports to the LSC
- handle the requirements of ESF monitoring and the quality standards of the LSC Provider Framework.

Successful applicants will need to have the **forward planning skills** to:

- outline in the 'Project Sustainability' section of the tender form, an exit strategy of how they anticipate the project could be sustainable beyond the ESF funded phase;
- complete the 'ESF Sustainable Development Toolkit' and supply their score in the 'Sustainable Development' section of the tender form.

Successful applicants will need to have the **qualifications and experience** to:

- work effectively with the target group, voluntary and community sector organisations, further education and training providers, employers and others;
- evidence a successful track record where they have had involvement in ESF or similar funded projects (current or within the last 3 years), either as a contract holder or partner. New providers to the LSC will need to undergo the LSC New Provider Assessment process.

- have achieved matrix Accreditation (or and intention to achieve matrix Accreditation within a specified timescale) if they and/or their partners/sub-contractors are delivering Information, Advice and Guidance.

Contract Negotiation Date:	23rd – 24th April 2007
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