



## **SOUTH WEST REGION - TRAIN TO GAIN PROVIDER UPDATE October 2008 – Update 1/10**

Dear Provider

As information comes through from National Office on changes to policies and procedures the Train to Gain team will endeavour to keep you up-to-date using Provider Updates. However it would be useful if you registered for e-alerts – see the green button on the bottom right of the LSC home page ([www.lsc.gov.uk](http://www.lsc.gov.uk)).


### **1 Train to Gain Performance Period 2**

Performance to the end of period 2 is measured against start profiles sent in by providers. Results are as follows:

	Profile	Actual	% of profile
Level 2	6649	1755	26%
Level 3	1427	293	21%
SfL	951	455	48%

We understand that some providers have had problems in uploading data and we are working on resolving these issues. We also need you to ensure that you check error reports and make any corrections prior to the last submission date to ensure that we have the most accurate data. The attached bulletin from the SW Data Support Team may answer some of the queries that you may have.

Colleges are reminded that FE NVQs must be uploaded in the same way as for Train to Gain as they are now part of employer responsive funding.



Reconciliation periods 1-3 2008/09 – please note that you will be paid the third and final profile payment for Employer Responsive provision for October on November 17<sup>th</sup> as previously advised. This profile payment will be 25% of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter's agreed profile as set on LSC AMPS. At the end of November we will be moving to payment on actuals and this will be reflected in the payment made in December. It is the LSCs intention that during November providers will be able access Provider Funding Reports (PFRs) based on the data sent to the LSC. Further information about the movement from profile payments to payment on actuals will be made available next week.

There will be a report available at the end of period 3 indicating what the LSC think you have actually earned to advise you of the variance. In preparation for reconciliation, please ensure that your data has been uploaded successfully, and any system problems have been discussed with your LSC partnership team as soon as possible.

## 2 Announcement re funding to support small businesses



Skills Secretary John Denham announced this week that small businesses will be the focus of £350m of Government funds to help them train their staff. No details are available at the moment on how this will work within Train to Gain. However if you wish to access the announcement from the DIUS website please use the following link:

<http://nds.coi.gov.uk/environment/fullDetail.asp?ReleaseID=381864&NewsAreaID=2&NavigatedFromDepartment=False>

## 3 Training Quality Standard

Congratulations to the 8 Providers in the South West that have achieved Training Quality Standard. They are:

City College Plymouth  
Cornwall College  
S&B Automotive Academy  
Truro & Penwith College

City of Bristol College  
Lifetime Health and Fitness  
South Devon College  
White Horse Training

We appreciate that not all of these providers are Train to Gain providers but intend to keep you updated on a regular basis on all providers that achieve the standard.

## 4 Learning and Skills Improvement Service (formerly QIA)

Please note the following events are being run by KPMG during the next few weeks:

28.10.08	Sales Practitioner Training (1)	Taunton
30.10.08	Funding and Finance for Maximising Business	Bristol
05.11.08	Using LMI for Commercial Advantage	Bristol
06.11.08	Manage your organisation's performance	Taunton
12.11.08	Meeting learner demand	Bristol
13.11.08	Assessing your level of responsiveness	Bristol
18.11.08	Sales Practitioner Training (2)	Taunton


There are other events taking place throughout the country – please check events in other regions through the events schedule at:

<http://wcsexcellence.qia.org.uk/Programmeschedule>

If there are events elsewhere that you think may be useful, providing there is sufficient demand locally, KPMG is willing to be put on additional workshops in your region/area. Please liaise with Anjie Winter at [Anjie.winter@lsc.gov.uk](mailto:Anjie.winter@lsc.gov.uk).

## 5 Assessor Training

Following on from last year's funding for assessors and based on recent requests, the LSC has recognised the need for some employers to have employees qualified to assess those undertaking training in the workplace. Therefore, funding is being made available for suitably qualified employees to be trained as assessors.

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Funding will be available for A1 or A2 awards on a 'first come first served' basis to a maximum £500 per employee. The offer is limited to employers with at least 2 employees engaged in Level 2 or 3 training through Train to Gain to ensure continuity of the assessment. See attached guidance for details on accessing the funding.

## **6 Leadership and Management**

We will be organising a number of Leadership and Management Capacity and Capability building workshops across the region during January and February 2009.

These workshops will offer the opportunity to deepen the understanding of how to meet employer needs for leadership and management development; review the leadership and management provision choice to employers taking up this offer; linking to Train to Gain and potentially enabling more investment by employers in developing their workforce.

If you would like to register your interest in participating in these workshops please contact Pat Perryman, [pat.perryman@lsc.gov.uk](mailto:pat.perryman@lsc.gov.uk) and we will contact you in the near future with further details.

## **7 Skills for Life (SfL)**

There has been an encouraging increase in SfL activity in recent months so this is an opportunity to communicate with all our Providers what has been happening and just what is available for you.

### **Provider Resources**

We have collected a whole range of materials and information which covers everything you want to know about Skills for Life in one place on the Regional Skills for Life webportal at:

<http://www.skillsforlife-sw.org.uk/Page2.aspx?PageID=113>

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### **Skills for Life On-Line Survey**

Please complete our short questionnaire (11 questions and estimated 15 minutes to complete) which is aimed at capturing relevant and vital intelligence from ALL our Train to Gain Providers to help us utilise any untapped resources or address any gaps that will help us build an accurate picture of capacity and development requirements for the year ahead.

You can access via the SW Regional Skills for Life webportal  
OR

Direct to the questionnaire at:

<http://www.smart-survey.co.uk/v.asp?i=6801cyezz>

### **MATCH – peripatetic practitioner register**

The register will be 'live' from 27<sup>th</sup> October and will give you access to experienced and qualified practitioners across the region who can work with you to deliver SfL qualifications. You will receive an electronic letter inviting you to register with Learning South West in the next few days OR for more information and an application form access:

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<http://www.learning-southwest.org.uk>

### **Get qualified to teach English and Maths to adults - courses are recruiting now for autumn starts**

The Skills for Life Improvement Programme is continuing to support the development of literacy, numeracy and ESOL teacher training programmes. Find out more about the range of programmes starting soon - consult the course listing for your region - go to:

<http://www.sflip.org.uk/workforcedevelopment/getqualified.aspx>

### **Policy changes**

For new Providers who are accessing this update for the first time please find attached ***Skills for Life Fact sheet 12 – Skills for Life in Train to Gain***. The purpose of this document is to set out, in one place, the new flexibilities in Skills for Life provision through Train to Gain and what is eligible for funding. A really useful read.



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for Life\Key Issues sr

## **8 Train to Gain events: Understanding the new flexibilities**

Thanks to all of those providers who attended the events held at Gloucester Rugby Club, St Mellion and Bournemouth Football Club – hopefully it was useful for you. We are collating all the Q&As and will send this out in an additional update shortly plus a link to the slides used at the presentations.

**Train to Gain Team**  
**23rd October 2008**