

Questions from Convergence ITT Workshop

13 February 2009
Alverton Manor Truro

- Q. Is there a restriction to SMEs?
A. **No. Non-SMEs and public sector are eligible. If the targeted need within the public sector is at level 3, a business case is required. Clarification will be sent shortly to contracted projects.**
- Q. There is a need to clarify mixed messages with regards to public sector, to ensure a more integrated approach. **Please see above.**
- Q. Definition of time? How long is inactive?
A. **There is no definition determining the period of inactivity.**
- Q. Is there an opportunity to extend national digital inclusion to July 2011?
A. **No, currently activity under the national specification will run until December 2010 with monitoring through to June 2011.**
- Q. In terms of participants under the National specification, how should outcomes/outputs be anticipated?
A. **There are no targets for qualifications or units. Delivery is based on the individual's needs.**
- Q. Are providers able to hold Skills for Life courses for learning representatives to identify scale of support?
A. **Yes this is ok.**
- Q. Can the women entrepreneurs specification be matched by leadership and management?
A. **Yes if appropriate to the needs of the individual access to both strands of support may well be appropriate.**
- Q. Is it a requirement to have a completed full Level 3?
A. **No, full qualification not necessary, could be thin.**
- Q. Is there a requirement to have a specific percentage of participants who are deemed 'at risk'?
A. **There are no specific percentage targets of participants at risk.**
- Q. Can a single provider tender or is a consortium preferred?
A. **We would like to see a single provider as specified in the specifications.**
- Q. When is the closing date for the local specifications?
A. **The closing date is 12 noon on 20 March 2009.**
- Q. Is the costing form the same for both National and Regional tenders?
A. **Yes.**

- Q. Do you have to get any ratios between target groups?
A. **No.**
- Q. Is it ok to bid for different geographical areas as long as you show added value?
A. **Yes.**
- Q. Under the National specification is the £50million in addition to the Train to Gain funds?
A. **Yes it is.**
- Q. Would there be higher weighting for providers who can cover other regions?
A. **No.**
- Q. Is being self employment the same as being employed?
A. **Yes.**
- Q. Is it possible to spend £1,000 on one individual and £2,000 on another? Is that a problem?
A. **No but you will not receive any additional money, the overall funding is £1,500 per participant.**
- Q. How does the funding model work if using an ILR?
A. **This will be confirmed at contracting stage.**
- Q. What is the minimum number of hours to be classed as in a job?
A. **8 hours within 13 weeks of leaving the programme.**
- Q. Are you expecting a bid which is a proportion of the total funds available for example 20%?
A. **If providers wish to bid on their own they can. We would view collaborations positively in line with the lead provider guidance noted at the workshop.**