

The logo for the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) is displayed in white on a black rectangular background. It consists of a stylized chevron symbol followed by the letters 'LSC' in a bold, sans-serif font.

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# European Social Fund Working Towards Convergence 2007 - 13

# Welcome



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# Aim of Session



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- **Update on Co-financing for Convergence, Current Position and Next Steps**



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# Background Information



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- **ESF – The National Operational Programme**
  - » Aim - To support economic growth and social inclusion by contributing to policies to increase employment rates and develop a skilled and adaptable workforce.
  
- **Convergence - Three Priorities**
  - » Tackling Barriers to Employment
  - » Improving the Skills of the Local Workforce
  - » Technical Assistance



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# Background Information



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- **Funding Available**

- » Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly £120m

- **Progress to Date**

- » RSP tasked with producing Framework giving Cornwall's take on National Operational Programme
- » Frameworks have been signed off by RSP Board
- » CFO Applications considered by GOSW/ESFD
- » Commission considering National Operational Programme (will be signed off in August/September)
- » Convergence Co-Financing Steering Group set up – SWRDA, GOSW, Jobcentre Plus, Local Authorities HE,,



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# Development of Co-financing Plan



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## **CFO Steering Group – GOSW, LSC, Jobcentre Plus, SWRDA, HE, Local Authorities**

- **Overarching Strategic Level Joint Approach**
  - » **Which CFO will do what?**
  - » **How much funding will be allocated to each CFO**
  - » **Linkages to other funding streams – ERDF, RDP, Mainstream**



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# Development of Co-financing Plan



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## Sub-regional Joint Working

- LSC Economic Development Managers/ESF Managers
- Jobcentre Plus District Managers
- Local Authorities
- HE

## Aim

To engage with relevant sub-regional partners to establish demand/interventions around mainstream in the context of the Regional Frameworks, the Local Area Agreements and the remit of the CFO's



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# Sub-regional Working



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## Time-frame – LSC

- Sub-regional Working – to Mid August
- End of August - Report to SWMG
- Sept - Development of Specifications/Invitation to Tender (ITT)
- Plan submitted to GOSW/ESFD and Programme Monitoring Committee - September



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# Procurement



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## Indicative Time-frame – LSC

- Procurement Event – SCAT Taunton 28<sup>th</sup> August
- Pre Qualification Questionnaire (PQQ) – 1<sup>st</sup> September
- Invitation to Tender (ITT) Opens – 12<sup>th</sup> November
- ITT Closes – 7<sup>th</sup> December
- Letters to Applicants – 30<sup>th</sup> January
- Contracts Start – Middle of February

## Issues

- De-commitment (N+2)
- Gap Funding



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# Other Considerations



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## Cross Cutting Themes

- Sustainability
- Equal Opportunities

## Linkages

- ERDF
- RDP
- Mainstream



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# Co-financing



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## Definition

The provision of ESF and match funding in a single pot. Interventions should add value to the mainstream of the CFO and deliver the ESF Framework for Convergence

## What does that mean in practice?

**Match** – For every £1 of ESF spent £1 has to be provided by a co-financer (e.g. LSC)

Because match is provided by the mainstream this means that providers can access 100% from a co-financer and do not have to supply the match themselves.



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# Adding Value to Mainstream



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# Questions & Contacts



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