

East Midlands

Potential subcontractors list

- Acorn Training Ltd
- Boxing Clever Academy Ltd
- Chesterfield College
- Derby College
- i2i
- Igen Ltd
- JHP Group Ltd
- Local Music Ltd
- n-ergy consortium
- Options 2 Workplace Learning Ltd
- Pluss Organisation
- SOVA
- TNG
- Working Links (Employment) Limited

Name of Organisation	Acorn Training Ltd
Location of Delivery Unit of Procurement/s Cluster/s	West Midlands East Midlands
Named Contact	Gareth Fallows
Phone	01782 283598
Email	Gareth.Fallows@acorntraining.eu
Area of Activity	Functional Skills Careers Advice and Guidance Employment Brokerage Hairdressing and Barbering Customer Service Catering Preparation for Work
Description of Activity (in 500 words)	
<p>Acorn Training is a leading provider of Welfare to Work and Skills Services based in various locations across the West Midlands and East Midlands. Acorn currently delivers the Work Programme in various locations across the UK, including a significant tier two contract with A4E in Leicestershire. The company is also a subcontractor working in partnership with Babington Business College, Dudley College and Warrington Collegiate for the delivery of Apprenticeships.</p> <p>Acorn Training is experienced in providing intensive training and support to offenders within the community and has strong relationships with the Probation Service and Jobcentre Plus, which will add significant value to the partnership.</p> <p>In 2011, Acorn Training will open a hotel and two retail shops in Burslem, one of the five towns in Stoke on Trent. The aim is to create an innovative vocational learning hub around Swan Square in Burslem, to support the regeneration of the town and to create realistic working environments</p>	

to individuals from a socially deprived background, learners with mental health issues and offenders. Acorn has developed a strong multi agency approach to support the holistic regeneration agenda, which includes working with Stoke on Trent City Council, European structural funding streams and Heritage Initiative to ensure skills and employment development links into economic regeneration practices.

Staff have significant experience of developing mentoring programmes and Gareth Fallows the company's Managing Director was involved in the development of the Link Up Pilot in the West Midlands back in 2002, which were extremely successful at developing mentoring programmes within Skills for Life. Gareth is also a consultant practitioner for the Functional Skills Support Programme and Senior Assessment Associate for Edexcel within Functional Skills.

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Name of Organisation	Boxing Clever Academy Ltd
Location of Delivery Unit of Procurement/s Cluster/s	East Midlands Cluster 1, Cluster 3
Named Contact	Sophia Gillon
Phone	07557529464
Email	Sophiecad36@yahoo.co.uk
Area of Activity	Educational attainment through Physical activities.
Description of Activity (in 500 words)	
<p>The Boxing Clever Academy Ltd delivers educational qualifications to hard to reach and socially excluded people, through non contact boxing based and physical activities. We deliver short term and long term qualifications through the educational body of ASDAN. We deliver the Asdan activity awards which are non accredited activities which are a step up award for working towards an accredited qualification. We deliver wider key skills which equate to ¾ of a GCSE and there are 3 wks we deliver, Improving their own learning and performance, Working with others and Problem solving. All consisting of 30 guided learning hours to gain the wks and they can be delivered at Level 1 and Level 2. We also deliver over the long term of 120 guided learning hours a Full cope qualification which is a full GCSE equivalent certificate and again that is delivered at Level 1 and Level 2. We also deliver a first aid certificate. So users have the opportunity with us to potentially gain 3 ¼ GCSE equivalent qualifications, all through non contact boxing based and physical activities. We engage our users in skills which will demonstrate their ability to improve their own learning, working with others and problem solving. They will also build and develop soft skills such as greater confidence, higher self esteem and greater communication skills, team building and leadership skills and due to the physical nature of our programmes they are making a considerable contribution to living a healthier lifestyle and learning the knowledge and benefits of healthier and cleaner living. We have found that boxing is one of the only activities that can capture the imagination of many hard to reach members of the community. We use that positive energy as the hook for engagement and to show that a positive discipline cycle of work can lead to change not only in an academic role but also in many different life experiences and contexts.</p> <p>Every programme the Academy delivers results by way of evidence based portfolio. The user simply creates a portfolio of work evidencing what exactly they have done by way of photos, video evidence, letters from peers, audio recordings, internet printed work and so on. The emphasis is on their work being practical and hands on which for our target audience has proved to be a very successful and a productive way to work. Also any qualification we deliver is portable so the work can always go with the user to be finished elsewhere. All skills,</p>	

qualifications and activities are aimed at improving their future employability prospects.

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Name of organisation	Chesterfield College
Location of delivery Unit of procurement/s cluster/s	East Midlands and Yorkshire & Humber
Named contact	Pat McGowan
Phone	01246 500637
Email	McGowanP@chesterfield.ac.uk
Area of activity	Young People/Adults/Information, Advice and Guidance/Apprenticeships/Short Courses/Mentoring.

Description of activity (in 500 words)

Chesterfield College is a large Further Education College employing over 600 permanent staff and with a £35m annual turnover. The College delivers from Pre 16 through to Higher Education across most industry sectors. The College delivers over 30 apprenticeship frameworks at Levels 2, 3 and 4. We have direct claim status with the majority of the awarding bodies with which we work. We pride ourselves on our delivery of short course provision with learner feedback always been consistently high for both “bespoke” and qualification programmes.

The breadth of college provision is a key strength and has been recognised by external bodies including OFSTED - TQS (Training Quality Standards) and MATRIX.

We have a wealth of experience working with offenders through our successful Connect Project. An experienced Offender Support Officer (OSO) works with offenders on a one to one basis to support them into employment or further education training. Our OSO has an established relationship with the Probation Service and his resettlement team have experience of working with offenders in prisons to prepare them for work or training after release.

We are able to offer high quality support to any lead provider on the OLASS provision including the following,

- Comprehensive initial assessment for all offenders to develop an understanding of personal barriers.
- Production of Personal Progression Plans to aid entry to employment or training.
- Delivery of job specific training; including sessions on self employment, short courses such as food hygiene and health and safety, IT and work preparation including CV writing, interview techniques and how to handle disclosures.
- Offenders with learning difficulties will be provided with specialist support and practical advice through the college’s established Learner Support Service to reduce any additional barriers they may face.
- Full use of the college’s online learning portal for access to learning material for any courses undertaken by offenders.
- Support in finding employers for offenders to undertake an apprenticeship programme through our highly successful recruitment academy.

- Support to prison Governors and training providers in researching local market labour needs through our Funding and Research Team.
- Well established / robust safeguarding procedure.

We have vast experience in supporting offenders into work or further training and with an established team of people dedicated to working in this sector are in an excellent position to provide sub-contracting support to any lead provider in the East Midlands, Yorkshire and Humber.

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Name of Organisation	Derby College
Location of Delivery Unit of Procurement/s Cluster/s	Derby City / Derbyshire East Midlands Cluster 1 - HMP Nottingham, Ranby and Sudbury
Named Contact	Helen Stevenson
Phone	Landline: 01332 387456 Extn 4768 Mobile: 07971323661
Email	helen.stevenson@derby-college.ac.uk
Area of Activity	Custodial and Community delivery of education and unitised sector vocational training
Description of Activity (in 500 words)	
<p>Derby College has sites in Derby city and Derbyshire and has had extensive experience of delivering education & training in custodial settings during OLASS 1 in the East Midlands and OLASS 2 in the West Midlands. During this period and continuing throughout OLASS 3 the college has utilised core funding to provide additionality and support vocational delivery of cleaning services in Foston Hall and Sudbury.</p> <p>Community Cohesion & Social Action are integral to our Strategic Plan and with reference to rehabilitation and resettlement the seamless transition from custody to community is of paramount importance. An example of this is prisoners from</p>	

Sudbury continuing their construction qualifications at our community sites whilst on Release on Temporary Licence (ROTL).

Derby College is committed to modular and unit accreditations delivered under the Qualifications & Credit Framework and are working to the offer of roll on roll off provision wherever practical. We took part in the Unit Trials earlier this year and were the only provider to link the delivery of units to Employer led pre-employment training programmes (PETs) for the unemployed.

We work in close partnership with the Probation Service in both Derby City Centre and Derbyshire including delivery on Approved premises and established discreet provision for Horticultural qualifications at our land based site at Broomfield, the innovation and quality of which was evidenced by a Butler Trust nomination and award. Within the city centre we have an adult only provision which facilitates inclusion and minimises safeguarding issues incorporating a dedicated Work Club and Workplace Skills unitised programme. In 2012 we are looking to replicate this provision in Alfreton.

The college is matrix accredited and delivers a face to face Next Step provision working in highly effective partnership with Jobcentre plus with co-location one day per week.

Our Skills for the Unemployed offer linked to labour market vacancies is established underpinned by a local plan agreed in partnership with Jobcentre plus with the majority of delivery via sector-based work academies (sbwas) with 80 job outcomes secured over the past 6 months.

We have a rolling programme of sbwas engaging both local and national employers who provide work experience and guaranteed job interviews linked to real vacancies to compliment the specific sector based skills training provided. These include Royal Derby Hospital for their facilities posts and Dunelm as part of their expansion plan for their Derby store.

Integral to our ongoing work with Employers is to secure local jobs for local people from disadvantaged groups and establish their policies and practices in relation to recruiting Staff with offending backgrounds. For those considering self employment the college is trialling Qualifying with a Business (QWAB).

As an organisation we are one of the largest providers of Apprenticeships in the East Midlands offering a wide range of occupations including Engineering and Manufacturing, Construction, Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care, Retail and Commercial Enterprise, Health Public Services and Care, ICT and Leisure, Travel & Tourism. In addition we have our own internal Apprenticeships, work experience, ROTL and volunteering opportunities.

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Name of Organisation	i2i
Location of Delivery Unit of Procurement/s Cluster/s	North East, North West, Yorkshire and Humber, West Midlands, East Midlands
Named Contact	Mark Cosens
Phone	07796095152
Email	Mark.cosens@enteri2i.com
Area of Activity	Innovative sports based employability learning
Description of Activity (in 500 words)	
<p>i2i i2i successfully delivers mainstream welfare to work and skills services to over 16,000 disadvantaged jobseekers per year in five regions; NE, NW, Y&H, WM and EM.</p> <p>i2i Coaching Academy For 7 years i2i has consistently delivered among the highest job outcome rates in the industry. This has been most pronounced in achieving up to 64 per cent job outcomes by using the power of sport (mainly football). Principles and metaphors from sport are applied to prepare customers for employment. This has proven a highly effective method to engage, inspire and progress hard-to-help jobseekers with ingrained and complex barriers and disadvantages to entering the world of work. i2i has delivered over 20 versions of i2i Coaching Academy, developing a suite of approx 40 modules that can be tailored to customer and specification demands. The i2i Coaching Academy is unique and has been successfully tested in working with ex/offenders.</p> <p>i2i proposes to deliver a portion of OLASS 4 provision for a forward-thinking and innovative prime contractor.</p>	
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Name of Organisation	Igen Ltd
Location of Delivery Unit of Procurement/s Cluster/s	North East, Northwest, East Midlands, Yorkshire & Humberside – All clusters/prisons
Named Contact	Andy Ellis
Phone	0113 226 2161
Email	andrew.ellis@igengroup.co.uk
Area of Activity	IAG/Careers/Foundation Skills
Description of Activity (in 500 words)	
<p>Igen is the current contractor delivering Connexions services throughout North Yorkshire Northumberland and is the contracted lead agency for the Connexions Targeted Support contract in Leeds.</p> <p>We deliver Foundation Learning and basic skills (Literacy, Numeracy and ESOL) as well as</p>	

motivational training modules to young people aged 16-19 at risk of or currently classified as NEET.

igen is a member of Careers Yorkshire and Humber, the prime contractor for the Next Step provision for adults in Yorkshire and Humber. We are also a subcontractor for the Work Programme in Humberside.

igen was a successful prime contractor (both delivering and managing subcontractors) for the Employability Skills Programme, encouraging skills for life for adults in Humber/ N.Yorkshire and North West England until Government funding policy removed this provision. We delivered literacy, numeracy IAG and careers guidance in Hull prison and so have experience of the secure estate.

Previously, igen has been a lead national contractor to the DCSF for careers related programmes including IAG audits for 14-19 Diploma and the management of a diversity bursary scheme for individuals training in the careers guidance sector.

We see ourselves as the deliverer of Careers Advice and Foundation Skills (including ESOL) at the start of the generic process in OLASS4, as well as a provider of Next Step services at release.

Accreditations:

Matrix
Investors in People
Investors in Diversity
Positive about Disability – Two Ticks
CHAS
ISO 27001

Approved centre status:

OCR
ASDAN
NCFE

Ofsted inspection March 2008 – (Overall grade 2 – Good)

Achievements and standards – Grade 2
Capacity to improve – Grade 1
Effectiveness of provision – Grade 2
Leadership and management – Grade 2
Equality of opportunity Contributory - Grade 1

Our head office is in Leeds, but we have premises in: Doncaster, Rotherham, Goole, Hull, Scarborough, Northallerton, Harrogate, Selby, Skipton, Preston, Blythe, Hexham, and Berwick-upon Tweed.

We hold substantial contracts with the SFA and have established Quality Assurance, Equality and Diversity, Health & Safety, Management Information and Environmental policies in place.

Given all of the above, we believe we would make an excellent sub-contractor in the delivery of OLASS4 and an organisation that would be instantly acceptable to the Skills Funding Agency .

I will be happy to discuss igen's offer with any potential Prime Contractor and to supply any additional details you might need.

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Name of organisation	JHP Group Ltd
Location of delivery Unit of procurement/s cluster/s	North West Yorkshire and the Humber East Midlands North East Kent Sussex South Central East of England
Named contact	Julie Gough
Phone	07545 609085
Email	Julie.gough@jhp-group.com
Area of activity	National
Description of activity (in 500 words)	
<p>JHP is the LARGEST INTEGRATED WELFARE TO WORK AND WORK BASED LEARNING PROVIDER in the UK, helping over 350,000 people to achieve their career aspirations over our 28 year history. We are financially stable and have grown steadily over the past decade, turning over approximately £70m in 2011. We have a growing national footprint, with over 1,500 dedicated members of staff operating from 120+ sites across England, Scotland and Wales. As an OLASS 3 provider for the last 3 years, we understand the challenges in delivering adult learning in a custodial setting whilst achieving successful progression; changing attitudes and behaviours; improving knowledge, skills and completing qualifications for employment; and securing job outcomes whilst on ROTL and post release.</p> <p>Current Contracts: Work Programme Prime contractor SW region and subcontractor Y&H EM WM Mandatory Work Activity in NW and WM OLASS 3 CIAS provider WM SFA Programmes for the Unemployed – all English regions NEET NW Y&H WM WorkChoice – Scotland and WM Community Task Force Scotland Foundation Learning – NW Y&H Jobcentre Plus Support Contract – WM NW Scotland Nextsteps – WM National SFA QCF and Apprenticeship provider covering all 9 English regions</p>	
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Name of organisation	Local Music Ltd
Location of delivery Unit of procurement/s cluster/s	Leicester
Named contact	Dan Smith
Phone	07533 621 978
Email	info@localmusicltd.com
Area of activity	Music and Performance
Description of activity (in 500 words)	

To get prisoners to record their anger and frustration instead of taking it out on the rest of us.

I know machines are not allowed to be brought into jail but I bet many prisons in the East Midlands area have all sorts of equipment languishing around with nobody helping the prisoners to use them.

Who knows? There may be an ace rapper inside; if they're any good I'll put their performances on my website.

Crime doesn't pay, but making music about your mistakes might put you on the right track again.

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Name of organisation	n-ergy consortium
Location of delivery Unit of procurement/s cluster/s	Kent and Sussex clusters 1,2,3 and 4 South Central clusters 1 and 2 South West clusters 1 and 2 West Midlands clusters 1,2,3 and 4 East Midlands clusters 1,2 and 3 Yorkshire and Humber clusters 3 and 4 North West cluster 3
Named contact	John Bevan
Phone	08456 525201
Email	jbevan@n-ergygroup.com
Area of activity	Adults and young people (offenders and ex-offenders)
Description of activity (in 500 words)	
<p><u>n-ergy consortium</u></p> <p>The n-ergy consortium consists of three business units, n-ergy group, n-ergy source and n-ergy works. The three business units are involved with the education, training, IAG and the employability of offenders and ex-offenders.</p> <p>The key strategic aims for n-ergy consortium ltd in engaging with this group are therefore:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To strive to ensure that ex-offenders are not isolated economically and divorced from the mainstream socially 2. To provide appropriate education, training and developmental programmes for ex-offenders to give them new skills and increased confidence which will make them more employable 	

3. To provide support and guidance to offenders and ex-offenders when attempting to secure suitable employment
4. To develop ex-offenders as individuals and provide them with skills to compete in an ever changing employment market
5. To help reduce reoffending by giving ex offenders skills for employment and helping them to contribute positively to their communities.

Below is a summary of the principal functions of the three parts of n-ergy consortium.

n-ergy group ltd delivers annually 2,000 vocational and 330 employability programmes to both offenders and ex-offenders, which helps develop the individual, giving them new skills and confidence to return to employment. n-ergy group ltd endeavours to provide a seamless service for this client group from custody into the community and then to employment.

n-ergy source is the recruitment division and has secured an employability contract to deliver employment programmes (The Way4ward Project) for offenders and ex-offenders in the South West. Further tenders have been submitted to deliver this and other services in other areas of Wales.

To enhance our seamless service from training the individual while in prison to the advice and guidance offered before they leave, and the securing of employment after they have left, n-ergy group has set up a separate but associated business unit which is a social enterprise to employ ex-offenders and offer them worthwhile employment. The work of n-ergy works is described below.

n-ergy works is a recently formed social enterprise and is driven by a social purpose which is to offer employment to one of the hardest to reach groups – ex-offenders. The organisation is currently in the process of bidding for contracts from both the public and private sectors in the areas of grounds maintenance, cleaning and general maintenance. Once secured, n-ergy works will employ ex-offenders returning or relocating to the community areas in which we have secured contacts. We will provide them with employment, a vehicle to further develop their skills, increasing their confidence and self-esteem which will facilitate progression to other employment and training opportunities either with n-ergy works or elsewhere.

To summarise:

- **n-ergy group** deliver vocational programmes to offenders in custody in Wales and England including all G4S and Serco managed prisons
- **n-ergy source** deliver employment support programmes in the South West prisons and in Wales

(4 recruitment offices have been established in four prisons including HMP Parc, Bridgend)

- **n-ergy works** will employ ex-offenders on permanent contracts to deliver community based projects delivering cleaning and ground maintenance services

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Name of Organisation	Options 2 Workplace Learning Ltd
Location of Delivery Unit of Procurement/s Cluster/s	East Midlands whole region all clusters
Named Contact	Jayne Wise
Phone	01604 871100
Email	jayne@options2.net
Area of Activity	Literacy, Numeracy, ESOL & Employability training.
Description of Activity (in 500 words) We propose to deliver functional skills qualifications & Esol, we have an embedded skills for life scheme of work approved by the learning and skills improvement service); short training courses in 'business skills' such as customer service, letter writing, personal money management, interview techniques, application forms, CV's appropriate to the job they are applying for, ICT skills. Training & assessment takes place either 1 to 1 or in small groups we also use blended learning such as quizzes & fact sheets mixed with computer based work. Our scheme of work also includes the opportunity to embark on the City & Guilds accredited Employability & Personal Development qualifications from entry level to level 2 this qualification covers a large number of areas e.g. work based experience, managing yourself, valuing customers, QCF qualifications in warehousing & ICT. We run a roll on roll off program & will deliver 1 to 1 for those prisoners not able to attend group sessions or not able to attend the timetabled sessions.	
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Name of organisation	The Pluss Organisation
Location of delivery Unit of procurement/s cluster/s	We deliver services across the entire SW of England area, plus in Yorkshire and Humberside
Named contact	Steve Hawkins
Phone	07880 715386
Email	Steve.hawkins@pluss.org.uk
Area of activity	Specialist support for people with physical / learning disability, and for those with mental health issues.
Description of activity (in 500 words)	
<p>Pluss are a specialist organisation with a proven track record of securing employment for people furthest from the labour market. We have experience of delivering major DWP-funded programmes including Work Step, Work Prep, and Work Choice (where we are currently prime contractor in Devon & Cornwall, and Yorkshire & Humberside). As at October 2011, our Work Choice contract is the highest performing contract of its type. We have also subcontracted on a wide range of DWP contracts including FND, and LSC-funded services. We specific experience in working with offenders, having successfully delivered as a subcontractor on NOMS, providing through the gate provision.</p> <p>We know that there is a high incidence of people within the prison population who suffer from learning disabilities (inc dyslexia and dyspraxia), and mental health issues. Our experience in providing work-focussed provision for this customer group means that we can offer a critical specialism for bidding organisations which will mitigate the impact of these conditions. In addition, we operate intermediate labour market activities, which offer outcomes including self-employment, which will be particularly viable for people with a history of offending behaviour.</p>	
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Name of Organisation	SOVA
Location of Delivery Unit of Procurement/s Cluster/s	East Midlands East of England Greater London North East North West South East West Midlands Yorkshire and the Humber
Named Contact	Anna Mellish
Phone	0114 270 3720
Email	businessdevelopment@sova.org.uk
Area of Activity	Young people and adults, IAG including

Description of Activity (in 500 words)

SOVA is a national voluntary organisation which champions social inclusion. Through over 240 staff, and more than 1,000 trained volunteers, we deliver 65 projects across England and Wales working with the most vulnerable and disadvantaged people in society. In the last financial year SOVA supported more than 8,500 people; providing everything from employability training and mentoring, to mediation and reparation services and care leavers' support.

A registered charity and company limited by guarantee with a turnover of £7.78m in 2010/11, SOVA has been working to transform lives and improve communities for more than 35 years. Established through partnership with the Inner London Probation Service, SOVA began expanding through its work with social services in 1982 to recruit, train and deploy volunteers to offer support and advice within local communities.

SOVA's aim is to inspire and support the people it works with to make positive changes to improve their lives and fulfil their potential. As a previous provider of OLASS services our model offers a solution that assists with improving offenders skills levels, along with the opportunity to move into sustainable employment. Our service offer is flexible, allowing prime providers to hand pick interventions as required.

Case Management

SOVA has considerable experience of case managing offenders in custody including projects such as PS Plus and NOMS CFO Phase 1. Our Case Management model includes initial needs assessment, followed by direct delivery of services, or referral to delivery partners for more specialist support and programmes. Our model extends beyond the gate to ensure offenders are supported in successful transition from custody to community.

Employability

SOVA has proven experience of helping long term unemployed people - especially offenders - into sustainable employment. We are an end-to-end sub-contractor for the Work Programme and are experiencing high degrees of success with engaging offenders and placing them into work. In addition our current NOMS CFO Yorkshire and Humberside programme is exceeding targets for helping offenders into sustained employment.

Mentoring

SOVA's network of community volunteers help individuals to lead purposeful and law-abiding lives with close support and supervision from paid project staff. We combine our tried and tested models to recruit and train offenders to deliver peer support in prison and we support the offender to successfully transition from custody to community. We focus on ensuring that offenders continue with community-based programmes of learning which will assist them to secure paid employment.

Employer Engagement

Building on existing links with local and national employers, SOVA can facilitate a relationship between employers and prisons; helping to quash stereotypical images of offenders and allowing offenders to showcase their talents and benefit from the experience and advice of the employer.

SOVA's strengths include:

- commitment to bring about positive changes for individuals and communities
- established local, regional and national partnerships
- participant-focused engagement and participation
- participant-orientated distance travelled tool to monitor and support real individual progress
- established reputation providing ETE services in the criminal justice field

- pool of c.1,000 active accredited volunteers

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Name of Organisation	TNG
Location of Delivery Unit of Procurement/s Cluster/s	East Midlands London Kent and Sussex North East North West Yorkshire and the Humber
Named Contact	East Midlands – David MacDougall London – David Perrins Kent and Sussex – Karen Wright North East – Cherri Blissett North West – Mike Rowlands Yorkshire and the Humber – Cherri Blissett
Phone	David MacDougall - 07824 816 391 David Perrins – 07814 490 662 Karen Wright – 07970 904 446 Cherri Blissett – 07899 904 254 Mike Rowlands – 07500 795 054
Email	businessdevelopment@avanta.uk.com
Area of Activity	Vocational skills and employability delivery Employer links Enterprise and Self employment provision
Description of Activity (in 500 words)	
<p>TNG is a national provider of skills, apprenticeships, employability and Welfare to Work. We are looking to complement the offer of potential partners through the provision of vocational and employability delivery for learners towards the end of their sentence, and to provide a seamless link to our DWP Work Programme contracts in those regions where we are a Prime Contractor or a subcontractor.</p> <p>We can also deliver highly successful enterprise and self employment provision to learners prior to release and continuation into the community.</p> <p>We also have a strong relationships with national and local employers to provide access to employer led learning opportunities, and access to work placement/trials and guarantee interview scheme on release.</p>	
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Name of Organisation	
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Location of Delivery Unit of Procurement/s Cluster/s	London – all clusters South West – all clusters East Midlands – all clusters West Midlands – all clusters North East – all clusters
Named Contact	Kamini Sanghani
Phone	07812 740 554
Email	Kamini.sanghani@workinglinks.co.uk
Area of Activity	Employability programmes; Pre apprenticeships; Employer engagement.
Description of Activity (in 500 words)	
<p>Working Links has been supporting people who face multiple barriers to employment since 2000. We offer sector specific training and specialise in providing practical support for people to apply for jobs. We have helped over 220,000 people to move into employment including 40,000 ex-offenders. In our careers advice and guidance (CIAS), and NOMs ESF through-the-gate ETE support contracts (Wales New Day and London Moving On) we work in almost half of the prisons in England and Wales.</p> <p>For OLASS 4 Working Links can support prime contractors with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employer engagement activity; • The delivery of employability programmes; and • The delivery of pre-apprenticeships, apprenticeships, or sector specific training for offenders nearing the end of their sentences. <p>Employer Engagement</p> <p>On current contracts we employ Employment Services Teams who conduct labour market analyses and support local employers to bridge skills gaps and fulfil their recruitment needs. We have an existing database local and national employers who we have worked with; many of whom we have developed partnerships with in order to develop sector specific training. For example on our Work Programme contract in Scotland we recently joined forces with internet retailer Amazon to provide staff for their new 1,000,000 sq ft warehouse and distribution centre in Dunfermline. We adopted a partnership approach to our recruitment service, working with five local recruitment agencies, and so far 40 of our customers have secured jobs as a result of them completing our sector specific training ‘routeway’, which included embedded maths and literacy workshops.</p> <p>Further, in the South West we have developed a bespoke three day room attendant training programme in partnership with the Premier Inn in Torquay. The success of our programme resulted in 12 of our customers securing employment.</p> <p>Employability</p> <p>We employ trained tutors who deliver 1-1 and group employability training. This includes support with CV writing, interview skills, and information about securing jobs in specific sectors.</p> <p>Apprenticeships and Sector Specific Routeways</p> <p>As part of our employer engagement activity we offer advice on access to apprenticeships and can deliver apprenticeships in Customer Services, Hospitality, Warehousing, Retail, Business Administration and Care.</p>	

Working Links understands that the learning and skills provision in prisons needs to be responsive to population changes, regime demands, and the skills gaps in the labour market. We welcome the opportunity to discuss how we can work with Lead Contractors and their other partners to meet these needs throughout the contract duration.

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Skills Funding Agency

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A partner organisation of the Department for Business, Innovation & Skills

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