# ESF Clarification Events

## East Midlands

12 November 2007

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<tr>
<th>Categories</th>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Programme Specific - Youth</strong></td>
<td>Will there be access to EMA for young people?</td>
<td>If it is an LSC Youth programme, client will be able to claim EMA</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Are you interested in specific local areas, not just local authority areas?</td>
<td>Yes, looking at target group in specific areas is ok - multiple deprivation would be enhanced with multiple providers with broad coverage - individuals can specialise in certain groups. We need to ensure that the full spectrum is covered.</td>
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<td>With regard to EMA provision, where currently clients cannot claim financial support due to breakdown in family, will they be allowed to apply?</td>
<td>You would need to detail particular situations in your bid. - Please give evidence why clients cannot access EMA.</td>
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<td>Post 16- ages 16 - 19 how much flexibility on this age range? EMA, clients have been specifically excluded on current provision, are you confident that clients will be able to claim this allowance on future provision?</td>
<td>Adult group will pick up older clients due to ESF rules Because this is anomalous, we have checked with National LSC they have stated that for this ESF Round if a client is eligible for a Youth programme, they will be eligible to claim EMA (based on home income etc)</td>
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<td>Has this been tested?</td>
<td>No because ESF provision is still being tendered for</td>
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<td><strong>Youth</strong></td>
<td>As an organisation, do you apply for one or two counties or are you looking for a regional bid?</td>
<td>There are 15 lots, organisations need to play to their speciality and bid for as much or as little as you can deliver. Organisations who specialise need to look at a particular area. The LSC will consider a part, or a joined up bid, play to your strengths.</td>
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<td>If the LSC is looking for Quality specialist, if an organisation is currently not working in partnership, what will the process be to forge these relationships?</td>
<td>The whole process will take into account a range of providers. at post tender negotiation stage the LSC will look at linking up the parts. It is to your advantage to look at partnerships in advance of your bid. We look at capability and capacity to deliver</td>
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<td>Ref clarification of Youth provision pre 16 - post 16 - is this in two groups?</td>
<td>For Pre 16 - there are 5 geographical lots but two key activities. This means that there will be 10 ITTS published (Leics x2, Notts x2, Northants x2, Derbys x2 Linc &amp; Rutland x2) For Post 16 there is an amalgamation of headings delivered in 5 geographical areas, which means 5 ITTS (Leics x1, Notts x1, Northants x1, Derbys x1 Lincs &amp; Rutland x1) This makes 15 lots to potentially tender for.</td>
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<td>Does one organisation need to cover both activities?</td>
<td>No, not necessarily, but we do need to ensure full coverage</td>
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Can you apply under Pre and Post 16? Yes, can bid for both if you previously expressed an interest in delivering Youth at the PQQ stage

Programme Specific -

Ref to Foundation Learning Tier - Is there a role for ICT in a prospective bid? Yes ICT is an area feature

ESOL Lincolnshire - can this be included in a bid? Yes - will be free to those eligible clients on benefits

If client in work? Employer must make a contribution to pay for this service

Do volunteers count under FLT? Priorities are under skills sectors - not voluntary working this would be covered through Employer section

Adult

Ref Leicester City and Nottingham City DWP City Strategy bids including DAF, currently running, seem very similar to this one, any thought been given to joining up and co-ordinating the process?. We do have joined up Action Plans, tied together to integrate employment strategy in The East Midlands, fully recognising 14-19 partnership groups and as part of a complete engagement approach the idea of development that DAF funding supports each other. Key part of the work is ensuring that who is awarded delivery LSC will be bringing all providers together to ensure coherence, more work to done

What about the tender in Sept 07 for Skills 4 Jobs how does that sit with this tender? The timing was difficult for mainstream Skills 4 Jobs, we had been hoping to deliver earlier than it happened. Will run co terminus with ESF, brought together under MAETS multi agency teams.

If an organisation has previously applied for Skills 4 Jobs but was not successful, can you apply again? Yes, this is a different tender.

How is this one different from the last Skills 4 Jobs? This one is more comprehensive, more heavily resourced. We expect previously successful providers to participate on this round

Does the definition of employment include self employment? Yes, as long as the activity takes the clients away from benefits.

Could you clarify how small community led initiatives sit alongside the whole lot of ESF tendering process. Small organisations may choose to work as a network or look to network with a bigger partner. Smaller partners can deliver for a particular, specific part of this tender.

Adult Learning provision, does this have to be accredited provision or can it be first steps? The main purpose of skills for Jobs is work as a key outcome, not accredited outcomes. These are only if necessary

Skills 4 Jobs funded by ESF and DWP Pathways all coming on line at the same time, how are you going to ensure all work together We believe all activity needs to be aligned, the connecting factor is the idea of multi action employment teams JOBMAETS LSC is looking at corralling all providers together in geographical areas, with all successful providers creating networks within geographical locations. Over the next 3 yrs £33 million will be being invested so we do not want to duplicate but work with a joined up approach
Programme Specific - Employer

NVQ Level 2 - can short courses be included
LSC does not fund courses less than 6 hours. Only accredited qualifications at specific levels but does not have to be a full qualification

Ref funding second level 2 are volunteers included?
First level 2 will be covered under mainstream Train 2 Gain, we are currently waiting announcement of next stage of TTG plan

Clarify what represents second level 2
If client has an existing level 2 (i.e. A Level) a funded second Level 2 must be in relevant sector skills

What if client has level 3
Funded level 2 must be in area recognised as a sector skill and clearly identifies progression

Should all accredited qualifications be on the LAD such as OCN?
Yes, as here they are identified by Sector Skills Council as priority

Foundation Learning - Does this fund units of qualification
Yes, As long as they are accredited, even units towards must be accredited

Ref Apprenticeships. If your organisation is not currently engaged in delivery, can you seek to deliver through this ITT
Yes you can apply, but you must meet the minimum quality thresholds required for delivery. This will be assessed during the ITT

Ref - Top tier Leadership & Management. Are you looking for qualifications or skills development only
Mainly looking for skills development, but could progress to a qualification. We are looking for a whole range of support.

With regard to the Union Learning, are you only looking for the bid to come from one organisation across the sector
Yes, in this instance we want it under one umbrella organisation to focus the delivery.

Programme Specific - Other

ESF frame work mentions Community Grants, but not covered here
There is further work to be done, will not be offered at this stage

If 10th Dec is date that Community Grants will be launched, will there still be 5 weeks to closing date, bearing in mind Xmas
Extra time will be given to allow for Xmas closure. This will be clearly specified in the Read Me First document

Is the support for IAG for assessor training linked to TTG
A significant number of TTG qualifications are delivered in the workplace, therefore there is a need for more assessors and verifiers

Is this region wide?
There is one specification but this does not preclude organisations from bidding for smaller parts of the whole lot

Assessors in workplace, can they be Self employed?
Yes can be, but usually sector focused, need sector specialist to assess in the workplace

OLASS - how does it affect Adults IAG work on current contracts
This will not displace any current contracts, but we recognise that there is still not enough being done to reduce re-offending

Is this tender separate from Prison Service plus
Yes separate, and on top of
Youth & Adult sections, how are ex-offenders linked as a priority group in these sections

We would expect bulk of work to fall into the 'other' lot, but ex-offenders as part of the priority group will be picked up through Community Grants consultations, will you be liaising with the existing Community Grants catalyst.

The issues we have are around MI, other consultation should have already been completed.

Evaluation partnering mechanisms, how you link at project level

Every project should have its own evaluation mechanism to form part of contract

Brokerage model employer only fully qualified IBC consultants

No, full brokerage standard required.

OLASS - is it one bid or a number of bids?

One bid detailing who the delivery partners will be.

Partnership Working

With regard to partners, is it possible to have a list of potential partners?

LSC is working on producing a list of successful organisations, but it will not identify what they deliver.

If I deliver individual learning, is there a link with these programmes? Yes under Skills for Jobs links are there

With regard to collaborative working potential is your preference putting a bid in for a portion, region wide or jigsaw approach putting provision together?

It depends on each bid OLASS clearly looking for 1 or partnership to deliver this key stage 4 too much for one organisation within one Local Authority district to deliver, you can choose a particular client group within an area We are aiming to buy sufficient suitable quality provision to meet ESF needs. Providers need to look at the spec to see what volumes are needed

Can a provider only partner with a successful provider i.e. one that has passed LSC PQQ?

This is entirely your decision, you can choose, but the LSC will look for assurance on Quality further down line if a contract is to be

Ref Partnerships, do you require letters of support?

Full details will be requested within the ITT

How to

Ref breakdown of ITT’S Do you just submit one ITT for Youth for one Adults etc

There are 15 different specs for Youth broken down into geographical areas. You need to make 15 responses if you are interested in all types and all areas You can cut and paste from Bravo

Does the input on the Bravo system allow a provider to attach an overview of their company?

No, There will be prescribed questions, but within that you may be able to impart relevant information about your organisation. This will be looked at during the assessment stage.

Is there an opportunity on Bravo whereby a provider can express an interest in working in partnership with someone else?

No, this is not currently an option, however we are looking at publishing a list of successful providers. It is then up to individuals to make contact with other organisations.

Will the list be UK wide?

Yes

If I have further questions after today?

Send a message through the Bravo system by using the message board - you will receive a reply which shows a clear audit trail

Can you extend the time out on Bravo

No, we have no control over this
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<td>Can large providers have more than one password onto Bravo?</td>
<td>Yes, send an email to the <a href="mailto:help@bravosolutions.co.uk">help@bravosolutions.co.uk</a> and they will talk you through the process</td>
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<td>Are all ITTs coming out on same date</td>
<td>No each Region has its own timetable, but are working towards a final deadline of 19th November 2007</td>
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<td>Is there any opportunity to extend the Regions that a Provider can bid for if not identified under PQQ</td>
<td>No, not at this stage</td>
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<td>Can you re-apply in Jan 08</td>
<td>Yes you can re-apply, but this probably will not include ESF, only if we do not get full coverage from this round.</td>
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<td>Will any further scoring criteria issued</td>
<td>All of the Information you need is clearly stated in the ITT’s</td>
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<td>Who assess tenders</td>
<td>Varies across regions, but will use LSC internal staff with specialist knowledge of ESF provision.</td>
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<td>Will partners be involved</td>
<td>Some discussion is to take place around the possibility of external representation being involved in the scoring</td>
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<td>Is there an appeals process</td>
<td>No appeals process, just complaints process.</td>
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<td><strong>Other</strong></td>
<td><strong>What is the current DWP JOBMAETS Time line</strong></td>
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