

Bitesize Briefing ESF Provider Event (November 2008)

Future Funding

In 2009 there will be further round of ESF funding:

ROUND 2

- £0.5m for volunteering for the Olympics based on the 'BEST' model in the South-east
- £11m for Train to Gain activity

ROUND 3

Economic downturn measures to be arranged. These will fund support measures for the economic downturn, especially for people being made redundant

ILR Documentation

On www.theia.org.uk find the tab for ILR, which will provide access to:

- Short Record ILR
 - ESF Provider Support Manual (For ESF use SR not ILR)
 - ILR specification
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- The collection timetable is the 4th working day after the last day of the month
 - The Learner Info Suite on the provider's site will identify errors
 - Providers will be paid on profile but adjusted quarterly on actuals
 - The amount of funding is capped
 - Reconciliation is through the Delivery Statement, which has replaced the CMR. This is due on the 4th working day, but you can complete early and the statements can be amended or updated after the period it covers.
 - Users need DS user approval to access: thegateway.lsc.gov.uk
 - It is advisable to print the statement and keep a copy for audit
 - Most reconciliations are quarterly (Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct)

Support is available from:

Data service: www.thedataservice.org.uk
Information Authority: www.theia.org.uk
EM Data support em-datasupport.lsc.gov.uk

Quality Assurance

- All activity will be inspected
- The expectation is that there will be NO grade 4 results (inadequate)
- Two key weaknesses of ESF 2007 were that ILPs lacked detail and initial assessments were weak

- SARs must be uploaded by 31st December. These need to be evidence-based and show continuous improvement. They need to be clear, accurate and, most importantly, judgemental.
- SAR support documents:
 - CIF
 - Inspector's handbook
 - ESF EM Inspection Report
 - LSC Self-assessment: updated guidance for the FE system
- FfE. PCDL is in phase 2. Three elements: responsiveness, effectiveness and finance. More info on ffe.lsc.gov.uk
- Training Quality Standard is only for Colleges
- Inspection will focus on: Leadership and Management; Learner Support and Quality of Teaching
- Support available from QIA's Learning Skills Improvement Service (LSIS)

Contracting

If an organisation is a named partner in a bid, then it is not a sub-contracting relationship and so, does not count as one of the tiers of sub-contracting.