

London Councils: Young People's Education and Skills Board

GLA ESF Youth Programme 2011-13

Item no: 8

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Summary	This paper sets out the proposed priorities for the ESF Youth Programme 2011-13 being taken forward by the GLA
Recommendation	The Young People's Education and Skills Board is asked to agree the Youth priorities being taken forward by the GLA under Priority 1.2 for the ESF Youth Programme 2011 – 13.

1. Background

- 1.1 With the forthcoming closure of the London Development Agency and the transfer of the Agency's Youth team and budget to the GLA, the ESF youth programme will now be taken forward by the GLA. The GLA has applied for CFO status and is finalising its CFO Plan. The development phase of identifying and developing the proposed youth projects is almost complete and the new GLA ESF Programme 2011 – 13, subject to final approvals, is due to be launched by the end of the year.

2. Proposal

- 2.1 The four proposed sub-projects of the GLA's ESF Youth Programme 2011-13 are:
- **Re-engagement Support to Older NEETs (18-19)** (re-engagement support for 18-19 year olds who are NEET);
 - **Young People with Learning Difficulties/Disabilities** (re-engagement support for 14-19 year olds with learning difficulties and/or disabilities);
 - **Re-engagement for Young People Excluded from School** (re-engagement support for 14 – 16 year olds who have been excluded from mainstream provision);
 - **Re-settlement Support for Young People Leaving Custody** (providing enhanced resettlement support to young offenders leaving custody).
- 2.2 In determining the priorities to take forward, due regard was given to the current rounds of ESF youth projects in or about to go into delivery. Consultations highlighted a need for more targeted interventions to support the more vulnerable or harder to reach cohorts of young people who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) or at risk of becoming

NEET. The priorities and choice of projects also align with Mayoral priorities and other GLA programmes such as Time for Action.

2.3 The budget for the GLA's ESF Youth Programme is £13m: £6.5M from the GLA with £6.5M ESF match funding split across the four projects according to need/unit cost/cohort size.

2.4 The GLA intends to continue to pursue 12 month sustained outcomes as appropriate for its ESF programme.

3. Project Development

3.1 Consultation workshops have taken place for all four projects with a wide variety of practitioners over the last few months and consultations continue on specific elements of each project with identified experts.

3.2 Local authorities have been included in the consultations given their statutory responsibility for young people – especially vulnerable young people. The proposed projects have also been endorsed by the YPES ESF Youth Steering Group.

4. GLA CFO Plan

4.1 The GLA's CFO Plan is in the final stages of drafting. The Plan sets out the GLA's intentions for the second half of the ESF Programme 2011 – 13 and outlines how it will contribute to delivering against London's Regional Framework. The Plan covers the period from October 2011 until December 2015, and the GLA, subject to investment approval and Mayoral Decision, will commit £6,500,000 and £1,984,000 of GLA funding towards youth and adult projects respectively, which will be matched with an equivalent level of ESF funding.

4.2 The Plan also sets out how activity will complement other CFO ESF provision and the projects, which will be commissioned to contribute to the Regional Framework.

4.3 The GLA intends to continue working towards achieving the principles of integrated commissioning in line with the regional partnership agreement for youth.

5. Next Steps

5.1 The GLA's CFO Plan will be appraised by the European Programme Management Unit (EPMU) prior to onward recommendation for approval by the Regional Committee. An outline timeline is provided in the table below.

Activity	Timeline
CFO Plan - EPMU appraisal and onward recommendation for endorsement by the Regional Committee	Nov 2011
Mayoral Decision on ESF investment and CFO Plan	Nov 2011
Market warming events ESF Programme	Early Dec 2011
Launch of GLA ESF Programme 2011-13 / Pre-Selection Stage	Mid-Dec 2011
Invitations for Full Proposals	Feb 2012
Grant Award stage	May – June 2012

6. Recommendation

6.1 The Young People's Education and Skills Board is asked to agree the Youth priorities being taken forward by the GLA under Priority 1.2 for the ESF Youth Programme 2011 – 13.