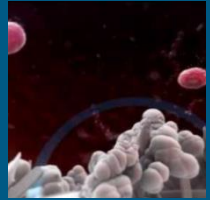


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Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire European Strategic Investment Framework (ESIF)



Priority 4 Skills, Employment and Social Inclusion Commissioning Plan and Prospectus 2014-2020



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Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire European Strategic Investment Framework (ESIF) - Introduction

- **March 2013, the Government announced European Structural Investment Funds Growth Programme (ESIF) 2014-2020.**
- **Allocation for SSLEP is:**
 - **European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) £80.0 million**
 - **European Social Fund (ESF) £55.4 million**
 - **European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) £3.13 million**



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Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire European Strategic Investment Framework (ESIF)

- **Additional £27.4 million ERDF and ESF from the Greater Birmingham and Solihull LEP (GBSLEP)**
- **GBSLEP allocation must be delivered within the Staffordshire Transition Region**
- **Requires cross-LEP collaboration as funding needs to be delivered in line with the strategic investment priorities of both LEP areas**
- **NB – All monies are notional amounts until agreed between partners and the Managing Authority**



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Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire European Strategic Investment Framework (ESIF)

- **The SSLEP Strategic Economic Plan states that the SSLEP aims to grow the economy by 50% and generate 50,000 new jobs in the next ten years (50:50:10)**
- **Key sectors which are expected to drive growth include;**
 - Applied Materials**
 - Aero-Auto**
 - Agritech**
 - Energy Generation**
 - Medical Technology**
 - Tourism and Leisure**
 - Business and Professional Services**



Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire European Strategic Investment Framework (ESIF)

- **There are four priority themes in the ESIF Strategy and seventeen strategic investment areas, summarised as:**
 - **Innovation**
 - **SME Competitiveness**
 - **Place and Environment**
 - **Skills, Employment and Social Inclusion**



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Needs Analysis

- **The skills agenda within the SSLEP area presents a significant challenge across five priority areas:**
 - **Higher Level Skills**
 - **Employability**
 - **Career Choice**
 - **Business Engagement in learning and skills**
 - **Learning and skills infrastructure**
- **The needs analysis has informed the activity and the monetary investment that is required across the SSLEP area**



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Needs Analysis

- **The Needs Analysis was undertaken by both Authorities on behalf of the LEP and supported by the Voluntary Sector.**
- **19 issues were identified to be addressed**
- **Issues fall within the following categories:**
 - **Unemployment, Worklessness and Inactivity**
 - **Educational Attainment and Progression**
 - **Hard and Soft Skills Development**
 - **Workforce Skills Development**



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A Pathway Model

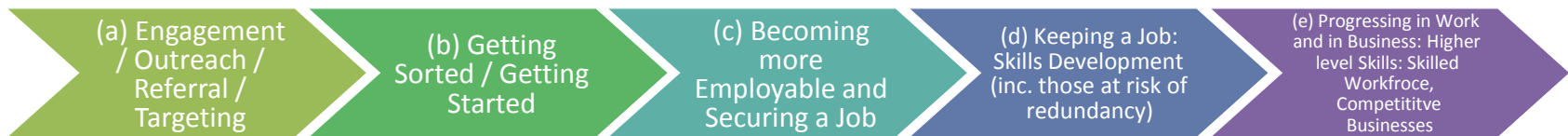


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Skills Employability and Social Inclusion Pathway

Information, Advice and Guidance / Careers Education and Guidance



Cohort Ref: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 16

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Commissioning Plan and Prospectus

- **£55.4 million investment from the European Social Fund**

❖ **Commissioning Plan**

- **Introduction**
- **Strategic Context**
- **Strategic Needs Assessment**
- **Skills, Employment & Social Inclusion Priorities**

❖ **Opt-In Commissioning Prospectus**



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Opt in Partner Activity

	BIG LOTTERY	DWP	SFA	Total
Investment				
Total across SSLEP	£11,390,408	£12,316,364	£38,368,023	£62,074,795
Participants				
Total across SSLEP	2,848	5,865	15,252	23,965
Results	There are 12 indicators across the 3 opt-ins			
Total across SSLEP				15,128



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Opt-In Partners

- **The LEP is working with three opt-in partners.**
- **They will provide the match funding from their existing mainstream programmes.**

The three opt-in partners are:

- **The Big Lottery – Building Better Opportunities Fund**
- **Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)**
- **Skills Funding Agency (SFA)**



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The Big Lottery (Building Better Opportunities)

- **This project aims to provide holistic support for disadvantaged people who are not in work within the SSLEP.**
- **Providing a coordinated individualised approach to give those with multiple barriers, tailored support to move closer to employment.**
- **The overall programme will be split into 3 distinct geographic areas:**
 - **North Staffordshire (Stoke-on-Trent, Newcastle-under-Lyme and the Staffordshire Moorlands)**
 - **Stafford and South Staffs**
 - **Cannock, Tamworth, Lichfield and East Staffordshire**



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The Big Lottery (Building Better Opportunities)

The project will focus on those who are furthest from the labour market, helping them onto the pathway to employment. The project will therefore need to:

- provide the means through which disadvantaged people become work-ready, and are able to access learning, training and job opportunities;**
- engage and support disadvantaged people who are socially or geographically isolated to enable them to overcome barriers to employment;**
- provide support to assist with the transition to work or learning;**
- provide individuals with the necessary skills to secure employment or self employment, including digital and financial skills.**



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The Big Lottery (Building Better Opportunities)

- **Beneficiaries**
 - **NEET**
 - **Long term unemployed**
 - **Low skills/qualifications**
 - **Deprived communities**



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The Big Lottery (Building Better Opportunities)

- **BBO 1 Programme was announced 8th October 2015 - Closing date for bids 30th November 2015**
- **2 Stage application process/procedure**
- **Bids need to demonstrate financial robustness and present succinct proposals that align with local need and show partnership working**
- **Only one project per project outline will be taken forward**
- **Programme Development Funding will be available for successful bid**
- **Programmes to add value and not duplicate any existing provision or provision featured in the LEP commissioning Plan**



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Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) – Flexible Pathways to work

- **1 contract that will cover the SSLEP area**
- **Provision must be delivered from specified locations – with outreach for other areas.**
- **The provision must cover the whole LEP area.**
- **Contract duration is 3-5 years (proposed 3 +2)**
- **First 3 years of the contract has a maximum contract value of £7,980,000 and minimum number of participants in the first 3 years will be 3,800***
- **DWP have option to extend for up to a further 2 years subject to satisfactory performance of the contract and funding available.**
- ***Indicative amounts**



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Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) – Flexible Pathways to work

- **Package of tailored support for the unemployed and economically inactive, who are not fully supported by existing employment programmes**
- **2 delivery programmes:**
 - **Intensive work-focused support**
 - **Work-focused training**
- **Aim to tackle entrenched worklessness by progressing multi-generational families with multiple problems closer to employment**
- **Support the Troubled Families agenda (Building Resilient Families & Communities and Families Matter)**



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Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) – Flexible Pathways to work

- **Interventions**
 - **Intensive work focused support – employability, work readiness**
 - **Work focused training – job focused qualifications/experience**
- **Beneficiaries**
 - **NEET, Short and Long term unemployed, Inactive, offenders, homeless, drug/alcohol dependency**
 - **Lone/Teenage parents, Carers, People with disabilities/illness, IS/ESA claimants, BME, unemployed over 50/Complex needs/disadvantaged**



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Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) – Flexible Pathways to work

- **Consortiums are welcome to bid for the contract**
- **The contract value comprises of the following payments:**
 - **Delivery Fee**
A % of contract value paid monthly*
 - **Short Job Outcome Payment**
A % of contract value/Short Job Outcome Payment target number*
 - **Sustained Job Outcome Payment**
A % of contract value/Sustained Job Outcome Payment target number*

*Actual % to be confirmed



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Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) – Flexible Pathways to work

- **Prior Information Notice (PIN) issued 4 weeks before ItT published.**
- **Bid Writing Phase – 6 weeks**
- **ItT consists of:**
 - ❖ **Specification**
 - ❖ **Technical Envelope**
 - ❖ **Qualitative Envelope**
 - ❖ **Fianancials**
 - ❖ **Draft Terms and Conditions**
 - ❖ **Instructions to Potential Suppliers & Award Criteria**
 - ❖ **Bidders Q&A process**



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Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) – Flexible Pathways to work

- **ItT will be scored based on Quality and Finance with higher weighting on Quality (Delivery, Localisation, Partnership Working, Employer Engagement, Understanding Local Labour Market and Human Resources)**
- **Evaluation Phase – 6 weeks**
- **Governance/Due Diligence and Minister Sign Off – 6 weeks**
- **Alcatel Period – 10 days**
- **Implementation Phase – 8 to 13 weeks**
- **Go Live (Merlin Standard Accreditation required within 12 months) so need to reflect the cost in your bid**
- **This will be an Open Single Staged Procurement**



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Skills Funding Agency (SFA)

- **Two elements to the programme:**
 - **Sub-programmes aimed at engaging and equipping individuals through education and training to achieve their potential and help provide a productive and prosperous community**
 - **Demand side, employer led programmes, centred on the Growth Hub, to ensure business has the access to the skills and training it needs to grow productivity and the economy.**



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Skills Funding Agency (SFA)

- **Interventions**
 - **NEET Support**
 - **IAG** – careers guidance and transition to and the progression in work
 - **Vocational routes to Work** – vocational training to support progression to work, traineeships and apprenticeships
 - **Skills Support for Worklessness** – accredited functional skills, ESOL, employability and independence skills
 - **Skills Support in the Workplace** – training and progression
 - **Skills for Growth** – brokerage, sector skills, leadership and management, enterprise



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Skills Funding Agency (SFA)

- **Beneficiaries**
 - **NEET**
 - **Unemployed**
 - **People with disabilities/illness**
 - **Complex needs/disadvantaged**
 - **Employers and Business**



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Skills Funding Agency (SFA) – Register as Provider

- **Register application-pass: what this means**
- **2 elements:**
 - ❖ **Due Diligence**
 - ❖ **Capacity and Capability**
- **LEP delivery areas**
- **Publication of the Register**



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Skills Funding Agency (SFA) – What to Do

- **Read the 'Attention Read Me First document' FIRST**
- **Ensure you submit a compliant bid**
- **Review the online questions and downloadable questions**
- **We recommend you do not leave submitting your response to the last minute**
- **If you have the slightest concern, use the message board and ask the SFA, if it is a technical problem in the first instance access the online help documents or email the helpdesk at helpdesk@bravosolution.co.uk**



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Skills Funding Agency (SFA) - What not to do

- **Canvas help, assistance or opinion on the ITT or procurement process in general from any SFA employee, SSLEP or other Government Departments, Agency or NDPB other than through the e-tendering portal message board**
- **At the end of the timeline submit a partially completed ITT as this will not be evaluated**
- **Submit a response after the closing date and time**
- **Any ITT submitted after the deadline will not be considered**



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Skills Funding Agency (SFA) - Do's and Don'ts

- **Make sure you understand the register**
- **Answer the question in the relevant space**
- **Don't cross reference**
- **Read all the information**
- **Use the message board facility**
- **Use all the available character space**
- **Check and recheck your submission**
- **Make assumptions that the SFA "know you"**
- **If you use a bid writer ensure they understand the ethos of your organisation and you submit the bid not them**
- **Do substantiate statements with examples**



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Skills Funding Agency (SFA) - How tenders will be evaluated

- **All questions will be evaluated by appropriately experienced and skilled SFA and LEP Partnership employees**
- **All evaluation will be subject to moderation**
- **Evaluations will be moderated nationally to ensure consistency, please ensure your tender response is tailored to the area in the ITT**
- **The basis on which a contract will be awarded**
- **Candidates should note that there is no separate appeals process**



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Skills Funding Agency (SFA) - Advising of the Outcome

- **Successful candidates will receive an Award Decision Notice advising them the SFA intends to award a contract for the delivery for which they have submitted a tender and has been successfully evaluated**
- **Unsuccessful candidates will receive an Award Decision Notice advising them of all relevant information under the Public Contracts Regulations 2015**
- **These letters will be sent via the BRAVO e-tendering portal message board as an attachment to a message against the relevant ITT number.**



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Non Opt-In Funding

- **Priorities, outputs and outcomes for skills, employability and social inclusion outside of the opt-in partners.**
- **It will be complementary and will provide additionality to the opt-in partner programmes.**
- **Address both employer skills and enterprise needs and equip people with the skills to progress into and through work by improving their skills and abilities and support business growth.**
- **£5 million funding available.**



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A Pathway Model

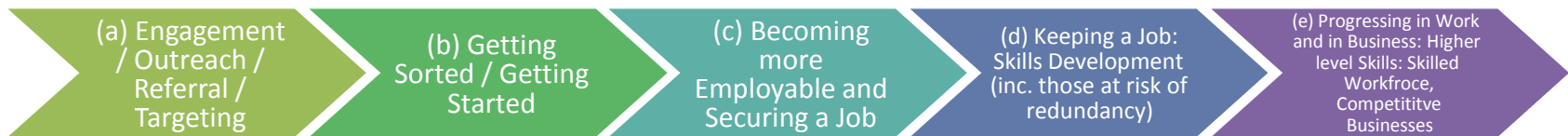


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Workshop

- **In groups, discuss and identify potential ESF projects that may be eligible for funding, that are not included in the opt-in programmes**

- **Where possible, identify:**
 - ❖ **Target beneficiaries**
 - ❖ **Outputs,**
 - ❖ **Outcomes**
 - ❖ **Funds, including the source of match funding**



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Concluding Remarks

- **Priorities are to:**
 - ❖ **Improve employment and education opportunities**
 - ❖ **Improve the situation of the most vulnerable people at risk of poverty**
- **By Investing in:**
 - ❖ **Education, skills and lifelong learning**
 - ❖ **Promoting employment and supporting labour mobility**
 - ❖ **Promoting social inclusion and combating poverty**
- **Commissioning Plan and Prospectus will be available on the SSLEP Website:**

www.stokestaffslep.org.uk



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Close and Networking

- **Thank you for attending**
- **Please complete and return the Evaluation Forms on your tables**
- **Further enquiries can be directed in the first instance to:**
Alison.Hough@stoke.gov.uk
01782 231624
- **Networking opportunity for those that wish until 12:30**



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