

Lifelong Learning Service Supply- Chain Fees and Charges Statement 2019 – 20

The reason for subcontracting

As part of the Community Learning offer, funded through Liverpool City Region Community Learning Funding, some Neighbourhood Learning provision is subcontracted in the academic year 2019 – 20.

Neighbourhood Learning provides added value to the courses delivered by the Lifelong Learning Service, whilst taking care not to duplicate or replace other adult learning provision in Wirral. It is targeted to reach groups of people who are not already accessing adult learning and to provide additional courses in new and specialist areas.

The priority recipients of Neighbourhood Learning are Voluntary and Community ('Third Sector') organisations, small business & charities, which engage in direct delivery of adult learning in their local areas, in partnership with ourselves. They provide effective learning and in their communities, and are able to reach and retain harder to reach learners.

What does Neighbourhood Learning aim to achieve?

- To contribute to local priorities for adult community learning.
- To develop community learning through partnership working.
- To improve local areas through encouraging local people to participate more in their communities and build on their community strengths.
- To broaden and improve the quality of the learning provider base, particularly voluntary and community .
- To deliver innovative first steps towards employment, volunteering, further learning and personal development to our Learner Target Groups

The priority aim is to build local capacity to supply effective learning to 'hard to reach' learners and to support them to progress positively.

Projects are funded entirely for Wirral learners aged 19+ years.

In line with national and local priorities, SFA Community Learning funding will target work with the aim of increasing numbers from groups of people with specific needs and who are under-represented in adult learning.

Specific target groups are: -

- Individuals and families with the most disadvantage
- Residents of Deprived areas
- Vulnerable groups, including people who are socially isolated
- People with disabilities
- BME groups
- People who are unemployed or in low paid work particularly those with additional needs.
- Adults with low level skills not able to access other provision
- People with no quals at L2
- People trained as volunteers to encourage and support others to learn.

Registration of our Sub-Contractor Providers

Providers must be registered with the UK register of learning providers and supply the Council with a UK provider reference number. Staffing Staff must have an appropriate adult teaching qualification, i.e. Cert Ed PTTLS, DTTLLS, or equivalent.

Marketing / Promotion of activities

Providers must demonstrate how they will actively go out into communities to reach the specific groups of learners for their project(s).

The Service's contribution to improving subcontractor's quality of Teaching and Learning

All teaching and support staff are subject to observation by the Lifelong and Family Learning Service, and will be expected to work towards agreed improvements.

Staff are expected to attend Lifelong and Family Learning CPD and moderation sessions and be committed to continuous quality improvement of teaching, learning and assessment practice. The service reserves the right to refuse to accept staff who do not meet the required standards. This includes the requirement to follow Lifelong and Family Learning Service procedures in respect of quality and safeguarding.

Fees retained to manage subcontractors (Recharging)

No separate fee is charged to subcontractors for the quality support provided by the Service, or management or administration fees. We are able to do this because we are a local authority and our principal aim is not to make a profit. Additional support, in the form of intensive staff development and training for example, may be offered at an additional cost.

The support subcontractors receive

Subcontractors are supported by Service managers and staff to meet the required quality and data standards

Payment terms between The Service and our subcontractors

In the academic year 2019 – 20, payments to sub-contractors will be made monthly instalments based on the agreed maximum contract funding. Failure to reach the target numbers of learners, or other non compliance with the standard contract and schedule, will result in suspension of monthly payments or corresponding amount (per learner) being deducted from the contract payment.

Awarding of Contracts

Tendering / Contract Awarding processes follow Wirral Councils procurement policies and procedures. Successful bidders engage in a tendering process, normally annually, via a tendering portal known as The CHEST. Some sub contractors had finance 'rolled over' from 17-18, as contacts allowed for this to happen where appropriate.

This document reviewed 03/09/19 MW