

Employability Fund 2016 – 2017

Local Area Information for Bidders

Local Employability Partnership (LEP) Area
Fife

Employability Fund LEP Allocation of Places for Award in 2016 – 2017 (excluding ring fenced College places)	1,187
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Estimated Distribution by Age and Stage

Age	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4	Total
16-24	142	454	298	1,011
25+	0	45	248	332
Total	142	499	546	1,187
Allocation as a percentage of total LEP allocation	12%	42%	46%	

Brief description of key skills related information for the area and local priority sectors

In conjunction with the review of Fife's Employability Pathway, we have also recently commissioned research to develop a Workforce Model to chart and project the key growth industry sectors and support curriculum planning for schools, the College and for training providers.

The report's findings projected growth in the following industry sectors between 2014 and 2020:

- Construction & Civil Engineering
- Energy & Engineering/ Manufacturing
- Food & Drink
- Health & Care (including social and residential care)
- Tourism & Hospitality (including accommodation, food services & recreation)
- ICT & Technology

The LEP recommends that Providers deliver entry level pathways and qualifications across these sectors, (specifically but not exclusively) leading to progression and sustainable employment.

Type of provision preferred within the local area e.g. Are there any specific geographies or customer groups?

The LEP require detailed bids to be submitted which provide information on the location of the training delivery, the recruitment method to be employed (roll on roll off provision is preferred), the content and duration of training, including progression routes and the industry sectors that Providers are targeting.

Providers that have offered scheduled, regular blocks of small scale intake or roll-on roll-off provision have had the greatest success in gaining referrals, client engagement, achievement and sustained progressions. For example groups of 4-6 trainees starting every 2/3 weeks. This type of timetabling ensures that trainees are not lost due to having to wait for desired provision to start.

Provision for the older client groups is preferred to be occupationally based with a short period of work experience, following the Sector Based Work Academy Model to ensure the broadest appeal to DWP clients.

Key dates within the year for referrals of young people (16/17) are throughout the late summer months and Jan/Feb, following school leaver dates.

Provision should be available across the whole of Fife; engagement however should take into account that travel, especially for clients at Stage 2 is a significant barrier to engagement. Training for Stage 2 clients should be flexible and based locally to encourage attendance and progression.

The LEP have identified the following as key client groups that should be targeted for specific intervention:

- Long term unemployed (16-24: 6 months +, 25+: 2 years plus)
- Those with literacy and numeracy issues
- Those experiencing digital exclusion
- Youth people in danger of becoming NEET
- Looked after young people or those leaving care
- Ex-offenders
- Those with health and disability issues
- Those with family and / or caring responsibilities

Although EF provision may not run programmes for these clients exclusively, any interventions that would cater for clients that fit these criteria would be welcomed. Providers are encouraged to tailor their provision to target barriers to employment.

