

## ADULT EDUCATION BUDGET (AEB) DEVOLUTION

Questions:

- Are existing providers based in the Tees Valley area?  
A. There are a range of providers who are currently delivering Adult Skills provision to Tees Valley residents on a local, regional and national basis.
  
- Will contracts be awarded to companies outside the Tees Valley?  
A. All Delivery Plans will be appraised using a fair and consistent approach to ensure that we have a provider base, regardless of location, that best meets the strategic and economic needs for the Tees Valley.
  
- If you haven't already delivered an AEB contract (or subcontract), can we apply?  
A. If you have not delivered Adult Education Budget in 2017/18, it is unlikely that you will be awarded a direct funding agreement for 2019/20. If you are want to deliver through a subcontracting arrangement, you may wish to have a conversation with potential direct deliverers to discuss those opportunities.
  
- We are a national provider. Our only subcontracting arrangements are outside the Tees Valley. Do you still expect details of these arrangements?  
A. If you are intending to subcontract any of your 2019/20 delivery for Tees Valley residents, this must be included in schedule 3. Please see the guidance notes for further information.
  
- Does a mainstream contract holder have to have directly delivered the minimum of £50k within 2017/18 and not subcontracted their total allocation?  
A. The total value of your 2017/18 provision to Tees Valley residents must be greater than or equal to £50k delivery and could include subcontracted delivery.
  
- In schedule 2, if you haven't delivered in 2016/17, do you use 2017/18 outcome data?  
A. You should provide all relevant data, where available.

- 2017/18 awards for new providers were delayed and not awarded until November therefore finance was proportionate to these dates. Do you, in the delivery plan, put your 2017/18 award or 2018/19 which is the same amount proportionally but a higher value as over a longer period?
- A. Your Delivery Plan should be based on your overall delivery to Tees Valley residents for 2017/18.
  
- The funding value on schedules 5-7, is this the value from the LARS?
- A. We will follow the ESFA funding methodology for Adult Education Budget as described in the funding rates and formula document:  
<https://teesvalley-ca.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Funding-Rates-Formula.pdf>
  
- How is community learning allocation included in calculating a providers' 2017/18 delivery to Tees Valley residents?
- A. Please see the ESFA narrated presentation:  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s8\\_oELfEJ\\_0&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s8_oELfEJ_0&feature=youtu.be)
  
- Where can we obtain confirmation that we will meet the minimum contract value before submitting a delivery plan?
- A. You will need to perform an analysis of your 2017/18 delivery for Tees Valley residents to ensure the funding generated exceeds the minimum funding value.
  
- Is there a maximum contract value?
- A. There is an expectation that requests for funding will be based on what the provider has earned for delivery to Tees Valley residents for 2017/18.
  
- Can the delivery plan be downloaded so that providers can work offline?
- A. The Delivery Plan cannot be downloaded but it can be printed by right clicking and selecting the print option.
  
- Are TVCA looking at a particular split of delivery against each SSA, value or volume of learners? Do TVCA envisage any focus on particular levels of provisions?
- A. No.

- What flexibility will there be in the delivery plan allocation? We need to provide the value of service by SSA, can we change within the total AEB allocation?
- A. It is expected that the Delivery Plan will be a working document and will be reviewed regularly through your allocated Provider Relationship and Performance Officer. TVCA understands that the Delivery Plans will need to be flexible to meet the needs of Tees Valley learners, employers and economy.
  
- For those providers who are successful in securing a funding agreement, will TVCA be looking for any specific data/reports on performance beyond the ILR data during the period of the funding agreement?
- A. The ILR will be the primary source of data for 2019/20, however we will be working with successful providers to consider how we capture information on the impact of Adult Education Budget, including progression and targeted outcomes.
  
- On schedules 5, 6 and 7, what is the definition of target outcomes?
- A. TVCA are not currently defining the target outcomes to be achieved. However, we do expect providers to set out in their Delivery Plans a summary of the target outcomes you intend to achieve against each of the provision types.
  
- If a provider is not successful but has a contract through the ESFA for AEB, would Tees Valley residents not then be fundable through the normal ESFA contract?
- A. The ESFA will not fund provision delivered through the Adult Education Budget to Tees Valley residents from 2019/20.
  
- Given that learner loans tend to be for local people, and institutions ideally have an allocation, is TVCA going to be included in this?
- A. The Advanced Learner Loans element of Adult Education Budget is not being devolved to TVCA.
  
- Can we have a definitive list of TV post codes as opposed to the post code checker?
- A. TVCA will not be providing a definitive list of Tees Valley postcodes.
  
- Where delivery has taken place as an associate, can this be included as prior delivery?

- A. Where a provider delivered provision to Tees Valley residents as either a direct deliverer, subcontractor or any other third party arrangement, this will be included.
- Is the NARTs data to be used “overall” or Tees Valley only?
- A. You should use the overall data. You cannot extract the data for Tees Valley only.
- Will we have to apply every year or will it be a refresh?
- A. TVCA will be considering extending funding agreements to 2020/21, and may include an annual refresh, which will be subject to a review of delivery and performance for 2019/20. This will be confirmed as we deliver in 2019/20.
- Will we be able to include tables in the narrative answers?
- A. The narrative answers are for text only.
- What if we’ve taken on new subcontractors in 2018/19 but not in 2017/18?
- A. TVCA understands that your subcontracting partners may change each year. Your Delivery Plans for 2019/20 should reflect all intended subcontracting arrangements in Schedule 3.
- We deliver Community Learning on a subcontracted basis. Can we ask for direct contract for Community Learning?
- A. Only providers who have received a direct funding allocation from the ESFA for Adult Education Budget Non-Formula Funded Community Learning for the delivery to Tees Valley residents, in 2017/18 are eligible to complete Schedule 7 to request a funding agreement with TVCA in 2019/20. Subcontracting can continue at the discretion of the contractor.
- Is it the intention of the Combined Authority to reduce the number of providers beyond 2019/20?
- A. The Adult Education Budget commissioning exercise is not being framed in terms of reducing provider numbers. We want to have a variety of high quality and appropriate providers, delivering a range of training, with clear progression, to Tees Valley residents.

- On the guidance notes, can you clarify the criteria and give examples of “*Other – non-regulated formula funded*” learning?
- A. These are the qualifications that use class code generic learning aims as represented in this document:  
[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/732683/Learning\\_Aim\\_Class\\_Codes\\_2018\\_to\\_2019.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/732683/Learning_Aim_Class_Codes_2018_to_2019.pdf)
  
- In the delivery plan, it states your direct delivery must be categorised into one of the 10 provision types. Does this mean only one provision type for all provision, or we can deliver more than one provision type.
- A. A qualification can only sit in one provision type for counting purposes, but you can deliver across the range of the provision types.
  
- Is there a possibility TVCA could publish/provide by UKPRN, the volume/data on drawdown which would help the smaller providers to address viability.
- A. TVCA will not be publishing this information. Funding allocations for all providers are publically available via the gov.uk website.
  
- Are you able to advise on the best networks/groups to approach regarding potential subcontracting opportunities?
- A. TVCA will not be providing this advice or networking opportunities.
  
- How much do you expect to be available for growth above current contract levels and will there be a small pot of funding retained centrally for one off applications?
- A. Our allocation will be based on 2017/18 delivery, and we expect that this will be allocated from the delivery plan submissions, however TVCA will review any available funds and how this can be best utilised for the benefit of Tees Valley residents.
  
- Can a provider be a direct contractor and a subcontractor at the same time?
- A. Yes. Please refer to schedule 3 of the Delivery Plan where we ask you to detail what that your delivery looks like. We would also encourage that conversations and dialogue happens between all providers affected. Please note that we will not double fund provision.

- As an independent training provider, I do not receive a PRA letter from the ESFA. How should I answer those questions?
- A. TVCA understands that as an Independent Training Provider, you will not receive a PRA letter from the ESFA, therefore you will be deemed as “not graded” and you should follow the Delivery Plan to this effect.
- Do providers with existing exemptions of financial viability from the ESFA have to submit 3 years’ accounts?
- A. No.
- Schedule 1 (Q1.2) requires providers to input their total funding request, can you please clarify what is to be included in the total?
- A. This is a total of all of your funding (as detailed in Schedule 4) but excluding additional funding detailed in schedule 8.
- Schedule 4 (Q4.2a and b) requests information with regards to the ESFA AEB funding growth in our 2018/19 allocation – if our planned subcontractors have also received growth in 2018/19 (outside our own allocation) should this be included here?
- A. This should be for your ESFA growth only.
- Schedule 8 (Q8.1) – The guidance for schedule 8 states that, “*This additional funding is for the delivery of training currently funded by the ESFA and where evidence of need and demand can be effectively demonstrated by the provider.*” If a provider/or their subcontractors are seeking additional funding allocation in 2019/20 for ‘funded’ provision due to a specific employer/sector demand over and above their planned 2019/20 delivery, would this be detailed in schedule 8?
- A. This is for the provider who is requesting the funding agreement (not the subcontractor) seeking additional funding in 2019/20 where there is clear evidence to support the request.