

Who can the fund support?

The WYLLN aims to benefit 1000 individuals from the following groups:

- Experienced Employees (e.g. with three or more years of experience)
- Middle Managers
- Senior Managers
- Unemployed recent graduates (i.e. within three years, but excluding 2009 graduates), particularly those from a non-traditional education background

Individuals supported must meet the following criteria:

- Be West Yorkshire based (residing or working)

AND

- Be able to benefit from higher level skills education and training

AND

- Be one of the following:
 - Unemployed
 - Employed, but on notice of redundancy
 - Employed, but at risk of being unemployed
 - Employed in a high risk sector



Individuals who meet the eligibility criteria can obtain further information from the following initial support contacts:

Leeds

Graham Bailey, Leeds City College
graham.bailey@leedscitycollege.ac.uk
0113 216 2186

Bradford

Janet Midgley, University of Bradford
j.midgley@bradford.ac.uk
01274 235 634

or

Graham Austerberry, Bradford College
guidance@bradfordcollege.ac.uk
01274 433 047

Calderdale

Sharon Briffa, Calderdale College
sharonb@calderdale.ac.uk
01422 399 372/01422 357 357

Kirklees

Sue Spence, University of Huddersfield
s.spence@hud.ac.uk
01484 473 034

Wakefield

John Turner, Wakefield College
j.turner@wakefield.ac.uk
01924 789 715

For further details on the activities offered by individual institutions please visit:

www.wylln.ac.uk/ecif



Economic Challenge Investment Fund



Career and Skills Management
Support for individuals
across West Yorkshire



The Economic Challenge Investment Fund (ECIF)

In February 2009, HEFCE invited universities and colleges in England to submit proposals to take part in a £50 million initiative to help individuals and businesses through the recession.

The ECIF was launched as a rapid response to the economic downturn and aimed to enable institutions offering higher education to provide tailored training, development and professional support to vulnerable groups.



"Our higher education sector is well placed to support employers and employees through these challenging economic times and prepare for the upturn when it comes"

John Denham, Universities Secretary

The West Yorkshire Lifelong Learning Network secured funding of £1 million from ECIF with a further £1 million match funding provided by Yorkshire Forward. The project runs from April 2009 to September 2010.

What is on Offer in West Yorkshire?

The West Yorkshire Lifelong Learning Network (WYLLN), working with other regional responses to redundancy, will support individuals suffering from or at risk of suffering from the impact of the economic downturn in West Yorkshire.



WYLLN Partner Institutions across West Yorkshire* will offer a range of activities from the following:

ELEMENT 1:

Information and Advice

- Additional advisory session (to that currently available through Jobcentre Plus and Nextstep)
- Access to initial specialist information resources
- Access to current general and specialist labour market databases
- Access to partner support and development information available from all providers

ELEMENT 2:

Guidance and Career Development

- Further 1:1 guidance interviews
- Supported access to web-based career package
- Psychometric testing
- Job search strategies
- Executive CV
- Interviewing and other job selection approaches



ELEMENT 3:

Upskilling and Personal Development

- Accredited bite-sized learning (levels 4-7)
- Accredited full-programme learning (levels 4-7)
- Non-accredited learning (equivalent to levels 4-7)
- Recognising and accrediting prior experience and learning (APEL)
- Entrepreneurship development and support

*WYLLN Partners engaged in this project include: University of Huddersfield, University of Leeds, University of Bradford, Leeds Metropolitan University, Leeds Trinity & All Saints, Leeds City College, Leeds College of Building, Joseph Priestley College, Bradford College, Calderdale College and Wakefield College