

## Skills Fund

The Skills Fund was set up to engage employers and individuals in Yorkshire and the Humber (excluding South Yorkshire) in skills development by providing resources to support training activity, meeting specific business and individual needs not being met through existing resources, leading to business growth and employability, and linking directly to Train to Gain developments and infrastructure.

The overall project in Yorkshire and the Humber has been managed by a Partnership that is led by the West Yorkshire Consortium of Colleges (WYCC), with Accountable Body role being undertaken by Calderdale College.

The Partnership, in addition to WYCC and Calderdale College, includes representation from key stakeholders across the Humber, North Yorkshire and West Yorkshire sub-regions including Providers in Partnership (PiP).

The European Social Fund (ESF) is co-financed by the Learning and Skills Council (LSC).

PiP members were initially informed about the funding at the onset and have been kept up to date of progress at regular intervals via the 5 network group meetings.

Over £7.5m of ESF funding has now been allocated on 114 Skills Fund projects across the Humber, North Yorkshire and West Yorkshire, and available resources are now almost fully allocated (there are currently 25 projects awaiting contracts).

Skills Fund Managers are available to speak about any existing projects or about the remaining focus of funding and the types of projects that can still be supported.

Projects financed for delivery in Objective 3 areas are contracted for completion end December 2007 whilst Objective 3 financed projects have a completion date of March 2008.

**Skills Fund Celebration Event** - is to be held **Tuesday 4 December 2007** at **Yorkshire Showground, Harrogate**. The event is planned to highlight and promote good practice across Yorkshire and The Humber and will include an awards ceremony

Full details can be found on the Skills Fund website; [www.yhskillsfund.co.uk](http://www.yhskillsfund.co.uk)

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