GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY₁

Jobs and Skills for Londoners Clarification Questions

CQL 14/11/22	
Query	Response
Please can you clarify the link for the DfE Free Courses for Jobs Qualification List as the link in the Prospectus gives a list of providers not qualifications.	Please see the link to the list of eligible qualifications for the Free Courses for Jobs (FCFJ) offer: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/free-courses-for-jobs
Please can you clarify if there is any limit on the amount of subcontracting allowed i.e., is 50%/ 25% or is there no limit in the amount of contract value that can be subcontracted?	No there is no limit to the contract value for subcontracting, but a proportion of direct delivery is expected
Is it possible for bidders to make one application as a Prime Contractor and appear in another organisation's bid as a subcontractor?	Bidders are permitted to submit one application only. Bidders can apply to deliver as the sole provider of learning provision; or can partner with other organisations, as subcontractors, to deliver part of the provision. Bidders must have a separate contractual arrangement with each subcontractor. Consortium applications will not be considered.
For the https://www.london.gov.uk/programmes-strategies/jobs-and-skills/training-providers-teaching-skills/jobs-and-skills-funding-opportunities/jobs-and-skills-londoners tender announced here.	For eligibility requirements of eligible learning aims please refer to the guidance in the latest GLA AEB Grant Funding and Performance Management Rules 2023/23 v3 on the AEB Information for providers webpage at https://www.london.gov.uk/programmes-strategies/jobs-and-skills/training-
Are the following aims eligible for the competition	providers-teaching-skills/adult-education-budget/information-aeb-providers
https://submit-learner-data.service.gov.uk/find-a-learning-aim/LearningAimDetails/Funding/Z0009742?academicYear=2324	
https://submit-learner-data.service.gov.uk/find-a-learning-aim/LearningAimDetails/Funding/Z0009737?academicYear=2324	
As a Subcontractor for existing AEB provision funded by GLA of around £300,000 per annum, we are part of Ofsted inspections but are not the named	In this case this should not preclude you from submitting an application since your organisation is only a subcontractor.

organisation for Grading purposes.	
One of the mandatory questions relates directly to having an Ofsted Grade. Will this mean any tender will not be considered because of this?	
In the prospectus you mention: "Bidders must have an established delivery site located within London or its fringe authorities to be eligible to bid"	We will consider both classrooms, blended and remote learning
Can you confirm whether providers will be able to deliver face-2-face from the fringe authorities and use the funding to support residents from the fringe authority areas?	
As part of Gloucestershire College, we have received the below funding opportunity, is this something we are able to bid for? I can see it mentions 'All skills providers located in London and the 'London Fringe' can apply to deliver adult education and training services to Londoners'	If your organisation has an established delivery site located within London or the London fringe area, you are eligible to apply for the Jobs and Skills for Londoners funding opportunity.
I'm hoping that you can help with a clarification question. We are a Yorkshire-based e-learning provider and would like to know if the lack of a physical London-based office would rule us out of the bidding process. As our offer is available online and learners are supported through feedback	Bidders must have an established delivery site located within London or the London fringe to be eligible to bid for the Jobs and Skills for Londoners funding opportunity. In case you do not have an established delivery base in London, or the London fringe your application will not be considered.
calls, learners do not need to attend physical classes.	
The Prospectus does not seem to state the overall £amount being procured during this AEB round, is it possible to state that?	The expenditure for the Adult Education Budget (AEB) and Free Courses for Jobs (FCFJ) provision is up to £130m.

CQL 21/11/22	
Query	Response
Block 5, Question 5.1: For absolute clarity, please can the GLA confirm what is meant by 'outcomes', in the context of the following question requirement:	A 'good work' outcome is defined as a job, apprenticeship or paid work placement for a learner who is not in employment, upon enrolment to an adult skills AEB learning aim that: relates to a priority sector, offers a minimum of 16 hours/week
a clear understanding of how you will achieve outcomes in your chosen priority sector(s)	and is expected to last at least four consecutive weeks; pays a basic salary of the London Living Wage or above, and does not involve the use of zero-hours contracts; and supports the learner to achieve self-employed status for sectors
Various outcomes have been stated in the bid documents provided, including 'good work outcomes' and 'priority learner outcomes' (as referenced in	where self-employment is a pre-requisite to employment.
footnotes 10 and 11 on page 8 of the Jobs and Skills for Londoners Prospectus).	In addition to that, there are seven priority learner outcomes which include: progression into employment; in-work progression; progression in further education; improved wellbeing; improved social integration; improved self-efficacy; and participation in volunteering.
We do not have a physical base in London as we deliver across the country usually in community centres or similar.	Your organisation is only eligible to apply if you have an established delivery site located within London or the London fringe area.
Would that rule us out of this?	
I am interested in applying for the Job and Skills for Londoners grant but wanted to know if this is possible if I just applied under the Skills for Londoners Outreach Programme?	No, that is not possible, you need to submit a separate application under the Jobs and Skills for Londoners programme in the GLA OPS.
Please can you clarify Block 3, Q 3.3.	In case bidders have not been inspected by Ofsted and do not have an Ofsted report they are advised to submit other evidence around the quality of their
We are an experienced training organisation who have delivered a wide range of programmes on behalf of schools, colleges, and councils. We however have not had an Ofsted inspection, though have been visited by inspectors when our funders have been inspected.	provision such as a recent evaluation of provision by independent consultants/organisation.

Can you please clarify if this would exclude us from applying in our own right	
or how we would be best to answer to cover the lack of an Ofsted report.	
We have delivery sites across London via our professional football club	We would expect that you supply the address of an established delivery location
community organisations and an administrative office in London, but our	within London or the London fringe where you intend to deliver at least part of the
Head office is in Preston Lancashire.	provision under the Jobs and Skills Programme.
On section 1 of the OPS system, it asks for the main delivery address and	
postcode. As we have multiple delivery sites, we do not have one main	
address unless I provide the London office address (which would not be used	
for any delivery) or Preston which is used for correspondence only.	
What would you like me to put on this section?	
Please can you clarify the following:	The financial ratios are not calculated based on averages of the 2 sets of accounts,
	the latest provided set of accounts will be used in computing the ratios.
That the financial ratios will be calculated on the averages of each of the	
figures of the 2 most recently filed sets of company accounts, which will be	
included within our submission, as has been done in previous funding	
opportunities i.e., 2-year average Current Assets / 2-year Average Current	
Liabilities = solvency ratio which will be subsequently scored. Or if not, please	
could you explain the method of calculation.	
Can you please advise if the GLA have an indicative Achievement Rate (%) KPI	Grant agreements will include targets based on the Skills and Jobs for Londoners
for any proposed AEB delivery?	Delivery Template, and performance against these will be reviewed.
Can you please advise how organisation(s) can formally sign up to the mayor's	Please note that this is not a minimum requirement but rather additional evidence
initiative on Net Zero by 2030 as advised in 8.3?	for achieving a higher score on the question. We would expect to see a plan setting
	out the actions you will take to achieve net zero-carbon by 2030. This will include
	the management of estates and supply chains, as well as a focus on healthy,
	sustainable, and affordable food.

Does TUPE apply for this opportunity?	For eligibility requirements of potential learners please refer to the guidance in the latest GLA AEB Grant Funding and Performance Management Rules 2023/23 v3 on the AEB Information for providers webpage at https://www.london.gov.uk/programmes-strategies/jobs-and-skills/training-providers-teaching-skills/adult-education-budget/information-aeb-providers
What does GLA consider a good mix (%) of Direct Delivery and Sub-Contracted delivery if we are proposing to use subcontractors?	This is up to the bidder; we expect however the bidding organisation to deliver a proportion of the provision themselves and not subcontract 100% of the provision.
We have successfully added the AEB opportunity on the OPS, but it appears 6.4 is missing from the section titled "Expected outputs and outcomes" i.e. ("Explain how you expect these volumes/outcomes to be achievable.")?	Thank you for letting us know, we have rectified the issue and you will be able to see the question now.
Are there any implications (financial or otherwise) we need to consider as an independent training provider as this opportunity is a 'grant' as opposed to a 'contract for services?	You enter this process at your own risk. The GLA shall not accept liability nor reimburse you for any costs or losses incurred by you in relation to your participation in this competitive process, whether the GLA has made changes to the competitive process and whether your application is successful.
Is it possible to deliver unregulated qualifications on this funding stream? We at Netcom currently deliver unregulated qualifications with other combined authorities very successfully and would like clarification on whether there would be the opportunity on the GLA AEB funding facility.	Bidders may propose, as part of their application, to deliver either regulated qualifications and/or their components, or non-regulated learning. Proposed provision must be formula-funded provision – fundable under Adult Skills Model 35 in the ILR.
Question – Job Outcomes profile (Delivery Template): GW1-7 refers to job outcome numbers for Priority sectors only? Is this correct that we 'exclude' job outcomes from learners that are only completing statutory entitlement courses e.g., Maths & English or ESOL but no vocational aim?	GW7 of the AEB tab on the Delivery template asks bidder to denote any other job outcomes different than the ones in the priority sectors.

Question – Delivery Template: Is there any guidance from the GLA surrounding the delivery profile expectations for London: Statutory entitlements% (LA.2 – LA.13) vs Priority Sector volumes% (LA.14-LA.19) like the previous round or is it for the provider to develop a rationale?	Bidders are expected to take decision on the proportion of their delivery pertaining to entitlements vs. priority sector volumes. We would expect that the good work outcomes will constitute at least 20% of all learners.
Question – Delivery Template: Is there an expectation that learners complete a vocational sector aim, alongside statutory entitlements (ESOL, Functional Skills) 'or' are standalone statutory entitlement interventions (excluding vocational aims) also suitable based to profile on need?	Bidders are expected to take decision on expected provision based on the learner's need.
Question - Turnover: Is there a funding cap based on turnover of the organisation? If yes, is the funding cap based on financial health assessment outcome?	Please refer to the Financial Health Requirements and Guidance document for reference around the criteria for a successful due diligence
Question – Job Outcomes 20% (Delivery Template): Is there an expectation that the job outcomes in GW.1-GW.7 equal to either: 20% of total overall learning aims (LA.1.1) or total learners (L1) in the delivery template? (We wanted to determine where in the template the job outcome expectations for 20% would be taken from).	The 20% expectation relates to the number of learners (L1) who secure 'good work' jobs outcomes.
Question- Other Learning Aims LA.19 (Delivery Template) – Are statutory aims e.g., Maths, English, Digital, BSL etc to be included here? Or not relevant and we should only profile relevant vocational aims that are 'other' from LA.2 to LA.13.	LA.19 refers to provision in other sectors different than the Priority sectors, the sum of the provision of all Sectors (LA.14 to LA.19) does not need to equal LA.1
Whether a job outcome can be counted for those in jobs which were below London Living wage to a job which is London Living wage and above.	A 'good work' job outcome is not restricted to unemployed learners. If a learner enters employment, an apprenticeship or a paid supported work placement that meets the definition of 'good work' within 6 months of completing a learning aim,
Is the 20% of learners going into jobs for all learners or for unemployed learners.	they will be considered to have achieved a 'good work' job outcome. A key pillar of 'good work' is that it pays a basic salary of at least the London Living Wage.

If a provider is not currently part of a provision funded through other routes such as Skills Bootcamp. Can the funding be used to deliver activity that is a Skills Bootcamp?	For eligibility requirements of eligible learning aims please refer to the guidance in the latest GLA AEB Grant Funding and Performance Management Rules 2023/23 v3 on the AEB Information for providers webpage at

As a service that currently subcontracts the vast majority (nearly 100%) of our provision, is it worth us pursuing this as an opportunity?	Bidders are expected to deliver a proportion of the provision themselves and not subcontract 100%.
We currently deliver GLA AEB 2019 -2022 for FS to employed Londoners – the slides I have seen now suggest it's all going down the unemployed route is this correct?	The purpose of the funding provision is to support adults across London who are out of work, or in low-paid work, to access the skills that they need to succeed into good jobs in priority sectors.
We currently use our GLA to fund the NHS for functional skills so that staff can then join Nurse Associate or Degree programmes which progress them up the bandings and free their jobs up for unemployed so, we are really progressing without drawing down the payment as there is a real staff shortage in the NHS.	Please refer to the guidance documents on the GLA website for further information on the requirements and an application guidance to make a strong application. https://www.london.gov.uk/programmes-strategies/jobs-and-skills/training-providers-teaching-skills/adult-education-budget/information-aeb-providers
Would this not be a strong enough case for a contract?	The Application Guidance will provide clear guidelines on the evaluation criteria used so bidders are aware of what will be required to make a strong application.
If we do bid for a % of unemployed we would be progressing them into full time apprenticeship courses which is not London Living wage it is the National Apprenticeship wage – would this not be acceptable?	Through this fund, we want to prioritise adult education that will have the highest impact in London. Therefore, activities funded under this provision must support Londoner's progression into good work – this means occupations paid at or above the London Living Wage.
Regarding the Into Employment 20% target, is that 20% of the learners or 20% of the Learning Aims/Qualifications?	The 20% expectation relates to the number of learners who secure 'good work' jobs outcomes.
The reason I ask, we have a lot of people who will be learning ESOL alongside their Digital Skills courses, so one person may be doing more than one learning aim. If it was per learning aim, then it would really restrict what we could offer an individual who is looking to gain employment within the digital industry.	

Declaration (Block 10)

We would like clarification on the following query/statement:

Has anyone involved in the project been in contact with any elected Greater London Authority officials or members of our staff in relation to your project either at an engagement workshop or at any other stage?

We attended the workshop, but we did not specifically engage with any GLA staff other than to raise queries via the message board. As an existing provider, we have regular contact with GLA officials, however, we are not discussing the details of our project or application. Please confirm if it is appropriate and correct for us to answer 'no' to the above questions or do we need to provide the details of our Project Manager and the GLA staff who delivered the engagement workshop?

It is appropriate to answer 'no' to this question if no details of the current application which you are bidding for have been shared with any elected Greater London Authority officials or members of our staff.

The description of the sectors in the prospectus (e.g., green and hospitality), do not necessarily align with the Sector Subject Area classification on Find a Learning Aim (FALA). For example, the prospectus mentions security in relation to hospitality, however, on Find a Learning Aim, security is categorised as SSA T1 - 1.0 Health, Public Services and Care/SSA T2 - 1.4 Public Services. Equally, the green sector crosses multiple SSA's (e.g., construction, transport, environmental conservation etc), and the 'identifying_green_occupations_-_working paper' identifies around 100 occupations across nearly all SSA's.

Please refer to the Definitions tab in the Delivery Template which outlines definitions for each of the priority sector, but please keep in mind that bidders have the ultimate responsibility and must consider to the best of their knowledge which learning aims align with the provision across the different priority sectors.

- 1. How will the GLA reconcile a provider's actual delivery (SSA classification) against the GLA priority areas?
- 2. Does the GLA have any definitive guidance on what courses/occupations providers should/can deliver against each priority sector?

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Financial Due Diligence

On several occasions, the Financial Health Requirements and Guidance refers to three elements or ratios (par.8/pg.3; para. 18a/pg.5) however, there are four elements/ratios listed (the fourth being value of funding as a % of sales).

Does this 4th element/ratio have the same impact as the other three in relation to a NIL score resulting in a satisfactory grade regardless of the overall grade assessment?

Correct, there are four elements/ratios which will be used to assess the financial health of a given organisation. Please refer to Appendix A and Appendix B of the Financial Health requirements and Guidance on the definitions of all 4 ratios and the way they will be scored.

If an organisation scores 0 points on any of the four ratios, the highest grade you will be awarded is 'Satisfactory'.

CQL 28/11/22

Query

The guidance linked does not answer our direct question and looking at the documents we struggle to find the answer.

Our questions are:

- 1. Are programmes targeting the following aims eligible for the competition? Yes, or no? or yes under XYZ circumstance?
- o https://submit-learner-data.service.gov.uk/find-a-learning-aim/LearningAimDetails/Funding/Z0009742?academicYear=2324 o https://submit-learner-data.service.gov.uk/find-a-learning-aim/LearningAimDetails/Funding/Z0009737?academicYear=2324
- 2. Are learning aims not listed in the following two documents eligible if they are however listed on find a learning aim?
- o Learning aims eligible under GLA Regional Level 3 Flexibility o Learning aims eligible under GLA Level 4 Flexibility
- 3. Which are the specific sections or paragraphs or pages of "GLA AEB Grant Funding and Performance Management Rules 2023/23 v3" on the website

Response

Please note that all proposed provision must be formula-funded provision — fundable under Adult Skills Model 35 in the ILR. Other lists such as the GLA Regional Level 3 Flexibility list and GLA Level 4 Flexibility are supplementary lists to provide additional eligible learning aims subject to the GLA AEB Grant Funding and Performance Management Rules at https://www.london.gov.uk/programmes-strategies/jobs-and-skills/training-providers-teaching-skills/adult-education-budget/information-aeb-providers

that help us answer the above 2 questions? o (we have looked in this document and the tender guidance and do not see a clear answer to Qs 1 and 2 above.	
We understand that the funding aims to get Londoners into good jobs. However, many of the people we work with are far from the labour market and inexperienced in learning i.e., many are on long journeys. Would the Jobs and Skills initiative fund for example non-accredited, short courses of learning that prepare people for life and work e.g., confidence building.	Bidders may propose, as part of their application, to deliver either regulated qualifications and/or their components, or non-regulated learning. Proposed provision must be formula-funded provision – fundable under Adult Skills Model 35 in the ILR.
We intend to participate in the project and must confirm whether we can propose digital marketing training and qualifications under the Digital, a priority sector.	Yes, Digital skills is one of the GLA's priority sectors. Please refer to the Definitions tab in the Delivery Template which outlines definitions for each of the priority sector. Please note that all your proposed provision must be formula-funded - fundable under Adult Skills Model 35.
If we plan to deliver qualifications that are approved for the FCFJ regional offer, will delivery be restricted to 20% of the amount allocated? e.g., if we apply for £100k, can we deliver the full £100k as regional offer qualifications, or only £20k of it?	Providers have discretion to use up to 20 per cent of their FCfJ allocation to fund learners who are enrolled in level 3 technical, vocational, or occupational qualifications that are included in the GLA Level 3 Local Flexibility List. Using the example given, out of the £100,000 FCFJ allocation, £20,000 may be used to delivery learning aims in the regional list.
Could you please clarify whether all learners must be unemployed or economically inactive when they first join a project, or can they be employed if they meet low wage criteria?	Please refer to the contribution charts in the GLA AEB Grant Funding and Performance Management Rules 2022-23 v3 for an overview of learner eligibility and GLA contribution for programmes within the document.
There appears to be some discrepancy between the GLA AEB funding rules and the Jobs and Skills for Londoners Prospectus.	

Under this funding, will providing Level 1 horticulture qualifications (for those with no qualifications) be eligible for funding through this opportunity? And if so, would this come under the "London Factor" mentioned on page 18 of the Prospectus?	Please refer to the link below to find whether the relevant learning aims will be funded by the GLA: https://submit-learner-data.service.gov.uk/find-a-learning-aim/ Please note that all your proposed provision must be formula-funded - fundable under Adult Skills Model 35.
	If eligible, the London Factor will be applied to the weighted base rate of all AEB-fundable qualifications up to and including level 2.
Please can we clarify whether the character limits that apply on the portal include spaces etc?	Yes, there is a limited character count for responses to each question in GLA OPS, which includes spaces.
Question 8.3 refers to 'formally signing up to the Mayor's initiative on Net Zero by 2030'.	Please note that this is not a minimum requirement but rather additional evidence for achieving a higher score on the question. We would expect to see a plan setting out the actions you will take to achieve net zero-carbon by 2030. This will include
We have previously signed the Mayor's Call to action for Net Zero Carbon Buildings, please confirm if this is the same initiative as the above, or if a different mechanism is in place to formally sign up to the Mayor's initiative on Net Zero by 2030.	the management of estates and supply chains, as well as a focus on healthy, sustainable, and affordable food.
Please can you clarify what evidence would sufficiently assure GLA that provision has improved for a Grade 3 report?	Please provide any evidence you deem necessary to make your case. It is up to the discretion of the GLA officers whether they will find the evidence provided satisfactory.
What implications would there be should a provider not receive significant improvement on their next report if they have been awarded a contract with the GLA?	, and the second
Digital is identified as a key theme of this funding and a major skills gap, yet there doesn't seem to be a computing/coding/software engineering qualification on that flexibility list.	Please refer to the link below to find whether the relevant learning aims will be funded by the GLA. This refers to qualifications funded by the GLA at Level 3 and below: https://submit-learner-data.service.gov.uk/find-a-learning-aim/
a) Is it correct there is no level 4 coding qualification fundable here? A key	Please note that the application will need to be made with respect to qualifications

goal of the funding is jobs, and a level 4 is more likely to lead to this outcome.

- b) The level 4 flexibility list says that 'providers may also apply to the GLA to request other level 4 learning aims be added to the regional list, by submitting a business case to the GLA AEB inbox.' Is there a template for this business case and is it likely to be approved before the bid deadline?
- c) If not, should we prepare a bid with a qualification from the approved list, and state on the application that we are in tandem exploring/awaiting a level 4 qualification to be approved?
- d) We cannot see a coding or pure software development qualification on the level 3 flexibility list either! We can only find on the learning aim site, a small number of level 3 coding courses that are funded under the adult skills formula funding, but none under FCfJ. Does this mean someone who already has A levels, won't be able to access a fully funded coding course on this scheme?
- e) We have found this Level 3 course (ref Z0009521) on the 'find a learning aim' website, which is 'adult skills' formula funded. Would someone with A Levels be eligible to take this for free?
- f) There is no awarding body for this qualification (ref Z0009521). Can we still bid to deliver this?
- g) We are looking to offer free coding courses to adults aged over 19, who have previously completed A Levels, and are now on low incomes or unemployed. What qualification, if any, can we teach to, as the current classification/lists/exceptions seems very unclear?

already available to be delivered.

Individuals who have already attained level 3 qualifications may only be fully funded for a learning aim if they are unemployed, out of work and outside of benefit arrangements or in receipt of a low wage. Please refer to the contribution charts in the GLA AEB Grant Funding and Performance Management Rules 2022-23 v3 for an overview of learner eligibility and GLA contribution for programmes within the document.

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Can you clarify that if we are in the process of setting up as a registered centre to deliver awards, that this will be acceptable, if we have been approved by the time that delivery starts in August 2023?	Bidders must have an established delivery site (so they can demonstrate previous delivery) located within London or the London fringe area to apply for the Jobs and Skills for Londoners funding opportunity.
Can you please clarify the meaning of this from the L3 regional flexibility list: "Only level 3 technical, vocational or occupational qualifications in the sector subject areas covered by the national Free Courses for Jobs offer, but not included in the national Free Courses for Jobs list, are in scope for inclusion in the GLA regional list."	The Free Courses for Jobs learning aims list is a national offer in pre-specified sector subject areas. The GLA has its own 'regional' Free Courses for Jobs list which includes learning aims that are in the same nationally defined sector subject areas but are not included in the national list.
This reads as if subjects on FCfJ offer, but not subjects on FCfJ list are in scope?	
Is it possible to start delivery at any time in 23-24, if delivery is complete by the end of the period, and the same amount of delivery happens each subsequent year of the contract but with different start months?	The delivery for this opportunity is expected to start on 1 August 2023.
Can training and job outcomes achieved by the Jobs & Skills for Londoners delivery be captured by and reported to the Sectoral Academies if additionality is demonstrated? e.g., the learner has access to Sectoral Academies job opportunities and tailored employability support.	The job outcomes which result of any provision under the Jobs and Skills for Londoners Programme pertain only to this funding opportunity.
In 7.2 bidders are required to include their planned delivery timelines. Yet for 7.2 bidders can upload a table setting out their delivery timelines. In the interest of character count and potential duplication information, could the GLA clarify whether bidders need to include delivery timelines in 7.1 if they are to include these in a table for 7.2 regardless.	Uploading a table in 7.2 will be supplementary to the delivery timelines described in 7.1. It will be up to the bidder's discretion to provide a table if they believe it would be beneficial to demonstrate their approaches successfully.
For the Financial Due Diligence- please can you clarify if we attach 3 years audits accounts and a certificate of incorporation, if we still need to provide:	Yes, please provide all documentation as set out in the Financial Health Requirements and Guidance document and the Application Guidance.

A statement of the turnover, profit, and Loss account/income statement etc and Management Accounts?	
The definitions tab of the Jobs and Skills for Londoners Delivery Template Table 2 LA18 (Green) states that we should include 'Learning Aims which you consider align with the skills provision set out in the publication: Green Skills Adult Provision in London'.	It is within the discretion of the bidder to make the case and provide the rationale for considering certain learning aims within the Green Skills priority sector.
Our provision includes Climate Change and Environmental Awareness Level 2 which will clearly fit in the LA 18 box; however we also intend delivering Level 2 Digital Skills in the Workplace - which will have a focus on green economy jobs.	
Given that the Green Skills Adult Provision in London publication recommends that 'Providers should continue to support digital and STEM skills as part of meeting net zero goals' can you confirm that we can include the volume and value of Digital Skills in the Workplace in AEB Line LA 18 relating to the Green Sector?	
If as part of our AEB provision, we deliver a Level 1 Employability Skills qualification as a steppingstone towards a Level 2 in a priority sector that we will also provide to the Learner; can you confirm if we should record the volume and values for the Level 1 Employability Skills against the relevant priority sector (LA 14 through to LA 18) on the Delivery Template?	Please refer to the Definitions tab on the Delivery template when taking the decision of which learning aims belong to which priority sector. Please note that the provision within all sectors (LA.14 to LA.19) must not necessarily sum up to all provision (LA.1)
Our initial reading is we shouldn't, however we would welcome clarity, especially if it is used as a progression to a Green Sector Level 2 qualification where the definition of what to include does not relate to a specific Sector Subject Area?	
We are a medium size training provider and have been delivering AEB for 3 years as a sub-contractor. We want to know how we find out about prime	We would advise that you seek opportunities to subcontract with AEB providers. A full list of the organisations that we have previously funded through the AEB is available through the link below

providers that plan to bid for this contract and how can we contact them and	
become a sub-contractor.	https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/sep_2021_data_publication.pdf
	Further learning providers can also be found on the GLA website or by following the link below.
	https://www.london.gov.uk/maps/find-adult-learning-providers-near-me
Will a provider with "Good" Financial Health be prioritised over a provider with "Satisfactory" financial health, if they were both to score the same amount on the written questions?	The scoring criteria that will be used to score applications are presented in Table 3 of the Prospectus. The evaluation criteria which are set out in Table 4 of the Prospectus will be weighted to represent the importance that the GLA attaches to each criterion. Financial Health is not a criterion used to rank bidders within the application evaluation, but all successful bidders must pass successfully financial due diligence.
Should we receive "reasonable progress" at our next monitoring visit rather than "significant progress"? Would that be sufficient evidence of improvement, or would there be	A bidder's application will fail if satisfactory assurance has not been provided with regards to performance issues. All evidence provided must accompany the application.
implications on any contract awarded?	
There appears to be an error in the Delivery Template formulae on the FCFJ tab. The learning support calculation (E30) is not added to the Total Learning Delivery (E63) or overall total (E61).	On the FCFJ tab Total Learning Delivery (E63) = Total Learning aims (E19) + Learning Support (E30). Then the overall total E61 = E63 + Learner Support (E64) which confirms that the Learning support has been considered. If the error persists, please try to download the delivery template again.
What percentage of funding can be requested as organisation's annual turnover? For example, if our annual turnover is £300,000, how much maximum we can apply for per year?	The amount of funding bidders can apply for is not based on the organisation's annual turnover, rather the expected delivery volumes and financial values as set out in the delivery template spreadsheet.
	The minimum grant value that will be awarded per bidder through this process is £100,000 per academic year. The maximum grant value that will be awarded per

bidder through this process is £1,800,000 per academic year, out of which up to £750,000 will be ringfenced to deliver eligible qualifications under the FCfJ offer. Please note however that the organisation must pass successfully financial due diligence before being awarded funding. Please refer to the Financial Health
Requirements and Guidance for information.

CQL 05/12/22	
Query	Response
Are the character counts including or not including spaces?	Yes, there is a limited character count for responses to each question in GLA OPS, which includes spaces.
We are proposing a hospitality routeway, but some of the employers we work with occasionally request customer service qualifications as part of this (for example, Premier Inn often have staff in restaurants, and customer service qualifications are more suited to these environments). This is not something we will be offering as standard, but if an employer requests, we will deliver it. Bearing this in mind, do we still need to answer question 5.2 (rationale for 'other' sector outside of priority sectors). This will likely make up a minor part of our delivery, if at all.	It is the responsibility of the bidder to decide which sectors their provision falls in. If you believe that you will be delivering provision not only with respect to priority sectors but also in Other sectors, please respond to questions 5.2
Question 5.3 (Disadvantaged Learners) references 'barriers to learning' – is this purely barriers brought on by cost of living? The question seems to be mainly focused on the cost-of-living crisis, but also seems to reference learning barriers?	The question refers specifically to disadvantaged learners hardest hit by the cost-of-living crisis. It is the responsibility of the bidder to include any additional information on disadvantaged learners as they see fit in line with the requirements and the assessment criteria.
Question 7.1 references 'key delivery partners' – can you clarify if this is subcontractors only or if we could need to include other partners such as cross-referral relationships with specialist VCSEs?	Key delivery partners are primarily the subcontractors but any other key partners facilitating the delivery can be mentioned too.

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On GLA OPS – I'm assuming the correct programme title is 'job and skills for Londoners'? There are a couple of other programmes on their referencing AEB.	To apply for the Jobs and Skills for Londoners Fund, please refer to the GLA OPS Guidance document, which explains how to register and create an application for your Jobs and Skills for Londoners project on GLA-OPS.
Are Skills Bootcamp programmes that are listed on the Learning Aims Database under AEB GLA are allowed to be included in this application? Regarding the 'Approved qualifications', on page 43, paragraph 221.1, it says that for Individuals aged 24 or older, this includes "provision up to, and including, a level 2, if they are unemployed".	The Skills Bootcamps programme is a separate programme and funding stream. No active or planned bootcamps programmes should be included in your application. For best clarity please refer to Contribution chart 2 (24+) on page 30 and 31 of the GLA AEB Funding Rules.
To be clear, does this mean that Level 1 courses count as approved qualifications for unemployed learners over the age of 23?	
Can applicants be subcontractors and/or partners on multiple different bids, provided they are the Lead Bidder for only one?	Yes
If we were to develop this comprehensive work experience programme under Jobs and Skills for Londoners, would we be penalised as the aim code would be generic - even though the actual experience would be in the digital, green and health and social care areas?	It is the responsibility of the bidder to define their provision in line with the sector definitions in the Delivery Template.
We have researched possible work experience aims and all (under Adult Skills funding) seem to have stopped for new starts on 10th November 2022. For Other funded provision and for MCA/GLA funded provision the aims continue for new starts until 31st July 2023. An example of this is Z0009126 Work Experience (45-68 hours). Can you let us know whether we could utilise the above aim for this bid as it is GLA funded or whether it would be excluded as it's Adult Skills funded?	Please ensure that all suggested provision and learning aims are valid and do not expire in 23/24 academic year on the Find a Learning Aim portal. GLA will be able to fund any learning aim under the funding category Adult Skills FM35.

Can you confirm if Child Development and well-being educational provision falls within the Health and Social Care Priority sector?	Please refer to the Definitions tab in the Delivery Template which outlines definitions for each of the priority sector.
	The Find a Learning Aim service contains details of eligible qualifications at: https://submit-learner-data.service.gov.uk/find-a-learning-aim/
	Please keep in mind that Bidders have the ultimate responsibility and must consider to the best of their knowledge which learning aims align with the provision across the different priority sectors.
Please can you confirm if Early Years qualifications are included under Health & Social Care?	Please refer to the Definitions tab in the Delivery Template which outlines definitions for each of the priority sector.
	The Find a Learning Aim service contains details of eligible qualifications at: https://submit-learner-data.service.gov.uk/find-a-learning-aim/
	Please keep in mind that Bidders have the ultimate responsibility and must consider to the best of their knowledge which learning aims align with the provision across the different priority sectors.
On the delivery template under the section Economic and Social Outcomes, we will be collecting the social outcomes for this project but wanted to ask how best to complete this section currently if we don't have any trend data?	It is the responsibility of the bidder to complete the Delivery Template based on their experience and understanding of the provision they intend to deliver.
When we registered, I selected that we were an education body as there was no option for a private limited company.	For private limited companies, there are two options available when registering:
But in brackets next to education body (on the list below) this suggests that private companies are excluded?	-Company Limited by Guarantee (including Registered Charities/ Specialist Designated Institutions) -Company Limited by Shares
Would you know, or would you be able to find out, if we choose the correct option?	If you encounter difficulties in changing the organisation type, please get in touch at aebcompetition@london.gov.uk

We are just concerned that our bid may get rejected if the organisation type is incorrect, but at the same time, we are not sure which other option would be correct.	
Can you please send me the link to the correct web page for the competition?	Bidders can find out more about the Jobs and Skills for Londoners funding opportunity, please visit our website at: https://www.london.gov.uk/programmes-strategies/jobs-and-skills/training-providers-teaching-skills/jobs-and-skills-funding-opportunities/jobs-and-skills-londoners?ac-158851=158850
Section 5.4 refers to SEND learners. We are aware that some definitions of SEND refer to students with special educational needs and disability under the age of 25, but elsewhere in your documentation, "disabled Londoners" are a priority group. Could you confirm if we should answer this question specifically in relation to learners under the age of 25, or a broader definition to include all learners with special educational needs or disabilities.	Yes, please use the wider definition of SEND including adult learner too.
We intend to offer IT User Skills at Levels 1 – 3 however when we checked for funding on "Find a Learning Aim" it shows the whole cohort of these quals as last start dates around July 2021 and no funding under Adult Skills.	Please ensure that all suggested provision and learning aims are valid and do not expire in 23/24 academic year on the Find a Learning Aim portal. GLA will be able to fund any learning aim under the funding category Adult Skills FM35.
Please can you provide clarifications on the following: -LA.6 include non-regulated formula funded from Entry 3 – Level 2? -LA.11 does this have to be funded? -LA.12 can we offer BSL Level 2 or 3 as a standalone qualifications and would it be listed under Other sectors? -LA.13 Would this only be for Hospitality and Construction as we intend to offer L2 Early Years practitioner course which is also a licence to practice or would that come under LA.7?	Regarding eligibility of AEB provision and GLA funding flexibilities please refer to the GLA AEB Grant Funding Rules. Please note that all eligible provision within this funding opportunity must be fundable under Funding Model 35 (Adult Skills) on the Find a Learning Aim portal.
Are we allowed to offer SWAPs as part of this project which are usually 2-6 weeks in duration and offer a Level 1 qualification?	Yes, as long at the provision is eligible under Funding Model 35 (Adult Skills)

Kindly explain whether the following Level 2 and Level 3 qualifications are from the priority sectors/allowed to propose:	Please refer to the Definitions tab in the Delivery Template which outlines definitions for each of the priority sector.
Digital Marketing, Accounting, Bookkeeping, Preparation for Work	The Find a Learning Aim service contains details of eligible qualifications at: https://submit-learner-data.service.gov.uk/find-a-learning-aim/
	Please keep in mind that Bidders have the ultimate responsibility and must consider to the best of their knowledge which learning aims align with the provision across the different priority sectors.
1) For clarity, please can the GLA confirm if they expect a growth in learner enrolments/outcomes, or if these are expected to be the same over three years? The values that bidders provide in the Delivery Template for 2023/24 automatically populate the values for 2024/25 and 2025/26. 2) Please can the GLA confirm if 'good work' outcomes just relate to priority sectors, or if they are applicable to 'other' sectors also? Prior CQ responses	 You need to populate only the 23/24 provision and the next two years automatically pre-populate the numbers. Bids are not limited to the priority sectors and Bidders will need to provide clear evidence and a rationale for 'Other' proposed sectors. Please refer to the Definitions tab in the Delivery Template which outlines definitions for each of the Good Work job outcomes.
have indicated 'good work' outcomes are related to priority sectors, but the Delivery Template has an option to indicate 'good work' outcomes for 'other' sectors.	
'Good Work Job Outcomes': We note that the job outcome payment of £400 will be paid once a year based on R14 hard close (Oct) – are we correct in assuming this payment would reach us by December?	December or early January
'Good Work Job Outcomes': Where would we record and how would we get funded for any job outcomes secured by learners who gain a job outcome within the six-month rule but fall outside of the R14 deadline e.g., a learner who completes their learning on 25-July-23, secures a job outcome on 1-Nov-23, which becomes claimable after four weeks BUT this will be after R14 has already taken place?	Since the agreement will be a multiyear one, there will be opportunity to claim jobs outcomes in the next academic year. We will be providing further details to all successful bidders on how to mail them.

'Good Work Job Outcomes': Does the London Uplift, Disadvantaged Uplift and Area Uplift apply to the Job Outcome Payment?	The Delivery template automatically calculates the funding for job outcomes which is £400 per job outcome. No uplifts are envisaged at this point.
For the purposes of this tender 'Jobs and Skills for Londoners' even though we are an independent training provider should we only refer to the 'GLA AEB Funding and Performance Management Rules for Grant-funded Providers' and disregard the 'GLA AEB Funding and Performance Management Rules for Procured Providers'?	Yes please, successful bidders will have grant agreements and the GLA AEB Grant Funding Management Rules will apply.
When completing the Delivery Template (spreadsheet) are we correct in assuming that any job outcome payments must also be included as part of the maximum allocation amount i.e., £1.8m or are these payments over and above the £1.8m cap?	Yes, that is correct, the job outcome payments are included in the £1.8m cap.
Does the maximum allocation (£1.8m) include or exclude the London Uplift, Disadvantaged Uplift and Area Uplift?	The cap includes all available uplifts as per the Funding Rules.
When we complete any funding values information (Funding - Learning Delivery £) on the Delivery Template (spreadsheet) do we need to incorporate any £values associated with the London Uplift, Disadvantaged Uplift and Area Uplift?	Yes
Does the London Uplift, Disadvantaged Uplift and Area Uplift apply to the Free Courses for Jobs?	The Free Courses for Jobs are regulated nationally, please refer to the GLA AEB Grant Funding Rules for further information.
Can you please advise how 'carry over' learners (aims) and outcomes will be funded by the GLA for AEB & FCfJ?	Potential carries over will be subject to reconciliation arrangements and upon a discussion with the GLA once the grant agreement is active. It has no relevance to the bidding process.
Will these be paid through the next year's allocation (if the 'planned end date'	

falls into the next academic year) or a separate 'carry over' allocation each year?	
Can you please advise how and exactly where we would need to record 'to be confirmed' on the OPS if we (as a Prime) intend to subcontract but are not yet aware of the organisations that we will subcontract to?	Bidders should enter the details of organisations they are already aware they will subcontract to. No further information is required at this point for organisations they are not aware of. Please note, If successful, your subcontracting arrangements will need to be agreed with the GLA before commencement of delivery.
Thanks for responding to our earlier CQ 'does TUPE apply for this opportunity?' in w/c 21.11.22, unfortunately, however, our question remains unanswered as our query related to 'Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment)' as opposed to the eligibility requirements of potential learners - could you please clarify this for us from a staffing/HR perspective?	GLA funds eligible AEB provision (learning aims) and not staff which is the responsibility of the successful delivery organisations.
Thanks for responding to our earlier CQ 'Are there any implications (financial or otherwise) we need to consider as an independent training provider as this opportunity is a 'grant' as opposed to a 'contract for services'? in w/c 21.11.22 - whilst we understand and agree that entering this process is entirely at our own risk etc., our query actually relates to asking if there are any practical difference/s (e.g. payment, contractual, TUPE, etc.) we might need to make/be aware of as we have previously only worked with the GLA as a 'procured' provider?	All required information for submitting a bid is in the application documents.
1) We deliver City & Guilds accredited Level 2 courses, up to Diploma level, in Work-Based Horticulture to over 18s. Could you confirm whether this an eligible course under the AEB stream, within LA.6 (Learning up to and including Level 2 (not ESOL or one of the English, Maths, Digital or other Entitlements)? I can't see it listed under Level 2 Entitlement/LA.7	1. For definition of the entitlements and other eligible learning aims please refer to the guidance in the latest GLA AEB Grant Funding and Performance Management Rules on the AEB Information for providers webpage at https://www.london.gov.uk/programmes-strategies/jobs-and-skills/training-providers-teaching-skills/adult-education-budget/information-aeb-providers

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2) In order to support disadvantaged Londoners facing barriers to learning, we have worked with previous funders to offer paid work experience days (2-3 days per learner per year, paid at London Living Wage), as well as gifted equipment required to participate in the course and beyond, previously including waterproof coats, steel-toe boots, and a pair of industry grade secateurs. We have also offered limited travel expenses, and would like to offer food expenses. Can you confirm whether any of these are eligible costs under 'Learner Support' or 'Learning Support'? If not, perhaps somewhere else?	2. The definitions, criteria and requirements for Learner and Learning Support are explained in the GLA AEB Grant Funding Rules and the GLA AEB Funding Rates and Formula for All Providers.
The Financial Health Requirements and Guidance documents Clause 17 states that 'Local authorities are not subject to the standard GLA financial due diligence checks as they are well established public bodies' We are a local authority and therefore would like you to confirm that we should select N/A in all of Section 9?	Yes, Local authorities are not subject to the standard GLA financial due diligence checks.
The ILR specification for 'Other' Sectors under Definitions states 'learning aims which align to other sectors you have outlined in your application'. Can providers plan for all learning aims provided they are fundable under Adult Skills Model 35 in the ILR?	Yes
Does Employment in Public Sector qualify as an 'Other' Sector?	Please refer to the definitions of the sectors in the delivery template.
We intend to deliver Pathways to Childcare programmes due to local need and demand. Does this qualify as an 'Other' Sector as you have stated that it does not qualify under Health and Social Care?	Please refer to the definitions of the sectors in the delivery template.
Are there nonregulated aims to fund below E3 digital skills? Currently, we use our flexibility (10% of our adult skills budget of 1.1 million) to fund this activity.	Bidders may propose, as part of their application, to deliver either regulated qualifications and/or their components, or non-regulated learning. Proposed provision must be formula funded provision – fundable under Adult Skills Model 35 in the ILR.

Are there non- regulated aims to fund employability activities? We cannot find suitable learning aims that do not require learners to achieve a full Award.	Bidders may propose, as part of their application, to deliver either regulated qualifications and/or their components, or non-regulated learning. Proposed provision must be formula funded provision – fundable under Adult Skills Model 3 in the ILR.
Is the funding available for wrap around employability support? If so, how do we add this to the delivery spreadsheet.	Bidders may propose, as part of their application, to deliver either regulated qualifications and/or their components, or non-regulated learning. Proposed provision must be formula funded provision – fundable under Adult Skills Model 35 in the ILR. Any wrap around employability support is included in the job outcome payment.
Can you please confirm where the GLA AEB contract terms are located within the ITT documentation or if they not they are not included in the ITT documentation when it intends to share a copy of the AEB Funding Agreement terms?	The terms and conditions would be available to successful Bidders once they have been made an award offer. Successful bidders must not place any reliance upon funding until a signed funding agreement is in place; any such reliance or start of delivery before that is entirely at their own risk.
Block 1: Our registered head office is outside of London, but we have an established, primary, learning centre premises in London from which we've delivered AEB since 2019 - would our 'address of the project', therefore, be our learning centre premises in London or our registered head office which is based outside London?	Bidders should provide the address of their established delivery site located within London or the London fringe area (detailed in Annex 1).
Block 1: Boroughs - are these the boroughs from which we support learners in London or where our established learning centre premises are?	Borough of the established delivery site.
Block 9: Can we upload our financial documents as zipped file(s) which will, in total, most likely contain more than 5 documents?	Yes, you can upload your financial documents in a zipped folder.

With regards to the London factor (13.3%), do we need to apply this to our cost model prior to submission or is this applied by GLA during delivery?	Yes, please factor in all potential GLA flexibilities based on your suggested delivery.
With regards to the good job outcomes, is this 20% of learning aims or 20% of learners?	The GLA expects successful bidders to commit to securing successful 'good work' job outcomes for, at a minimum, 20 per cent of their AEB learners who have successfully completed their learning programme.
Question about sector specific qualifications/licences which allow people to work sectors, such as SIA for hospitality and CSCS for construction. Would the funding rules permit the delivery of the Care Certificate? We are interested in working with a partner which delivers a package of learning (small, approved qualifications + the Care Certificate) which has good outcomes for learners (into work in the Care Sector, including NHS).	For eligibility requirements of eligible learning aims please refer to the guidance in the latest GLA AEB Grant Funding and Performance Management Rules on the AEB Information for providers webpage at https://www.london.gov.uk/programmes-strategies/jobs-and-skills/training-providers-teaching-skills/adult-education-budget/information-aeb-providers Please keep in mind that Bidders have the ultimate responsibility and must consider to the best of their knowledge which learning aims align with the provision across the different priority sectors having consulted the sectors definitions in the Delivery Template.
Are bidders able to submit policies via URL hyperlinks to support their answers if they hyperlink fits into the clarification questions? You ask for strong evidence in the marking scheme, and we feel that provided polices as hyperlinks will satisfy the requirement for strong evidence.	Bidders are encouraged to provide strong evidence which supports delivery of their Application in practice. Yes, hyperlinks are acceptable.
With regards to 5.1 "Previous examples of supporting learners into employment." can we talk about provisions outside of AEB, such as Apprenticeships and Skills Bootcamps?	Yes
With regards to 5.1 "Previous examples in meeting local demand related to the priority sector(s) through your provision", how does this apply to new providers who haven't delivered AEB provision before? Would new bidders be at a disadvantage as a result?	Bidders are expected to have had experience in delivering education and training provision even if it was not Adult education Budget per se.

There is a discrepancy in character limit between the project portal and the application guidance document. Question 7.3 – "Explain the processes your organisation will use to report and evidence your management information and ensure audit compliance" has a character limit of 3,500 in your application guidance document, but 5,500 on the project portal where we upload our response.	Please adhere to the character limit on GLA OPS.
1. In your clarifications dated 14/11 (CQ wc 21.11.22 Rows 36 and 40) it contradicts the definition for GW.1 which states that it is 'A job, apprenticeship or paid work placement for a learner who is not in employment, upon enrolment to an adult skills AEB learning aim'? Please can you clarify as our calculations for the conversion rate of learners needs to be	1. Please refer to the definition of "good work" in the Prospectus and disregard the typo in the delivery template. Learners can achieve a "good job" outcome regardless of their labour market status upon enrolment.
based on the correct figure i.e., either L.1 Total Learners or the total of Unemployed in L2 and L3?	2. LA.14 - LA.19 do no need to sum up to the total provision LA.1
2. Do we only include learning aim volumes in the Other sector (LA.19) if they are specifically linked to certain non-priority sectors e.g., construction, retail and do not state the aims which are non-sector specific e.g., Maths, English, ESOL, etc?'	