

## Regional Strategic Partnership: ESF 2007-2013

# Terms of Reference

### Background

1. The Regional Strategic Partnership Board (RESPE) has been formed to ensure that key stakeholders in the East Midlands Region are involved in preparing a regional ESF framework for the use of European Social Funds (ESF) which are to be allocated by the UK Government.
2. Government Office for the East Midlands (GOEM) has been commissioned by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), as UK managing authority for ESF 2007-2013, to support to the development of the ESF programme in the region. The Employment, Skills and Productivity Partnership will take a leading role in developing the regional ESF Framework.

### Purpose

3. The RESPE will:
  - a. Oversee the work of a task group of the Employment, Skills & Productivity Partnership, and other partners as appropriate, who will draft the regional ESF framework, receiving reports from them as appropriate
  - b. Ensure that a regional ESF framework is produced in accordance with regulations and DWP commissioning note
  - c. Provide assurance to GOEM and the DWP that stakeholders have been consulted on the regional ESF framework in line with guidance
  - d. Provide assurance to GOEM that a Regional ESF Committee has been established in accordance with regulations and guidance.

### Membership

4. The following organisations have been invited to form this partnership:

East Midlands Regional Assembly  
East Midlands Regional Business Forum  
Employment, Skills & Productivity Partnership  
East Midlands Regional Development Agency  
Natural England (representing Competent Environmental Bodies)  
East Midlands Third Sector: 1 representative  
Regional Equal Opportunities Advisory Group  
Local Government East Midlands: 3 Representatives  
Learning & Skills Council  
Jobcentre Plus  
Higher Education Funding Council for England

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5. The Regional Director or her nominee will Chair meetings. GOEM will provide Secretariat support to the partnership. The Regional Director may amend the membership of the Partnership, if to do so would assist in the achievement of the aims above and remain compliant with the regulations.

### **Meetings**

6. These will take place according to the implementation timetable as and when required and dictated by circumstances. Business may also be conducted through written procedures.

### **Dissolution of Partnership**

7. The Partnership will be dissolved in August 2007 when all the above aims are met unless the Regional Director decides there are additional tasks that the Partnership can and should oversee.

### **Recommendation**

The Regional Strategic Partnership is invited to adopt these Terms of Reference.

GOEM  
3 April 2007