



Provider Improvement Fund (PIF)

TENDER OPPORTUNITY

UTN11

Suicide Awareness and Intervention Training



1. Introduction

PIF Overview

The **Provider Improvement Fund (PIF)** offers a comprehensive programme of training and development to local learning providers who operate in the post-16 learning sector.

The programme is funded by the **European Social Fund (ESF)** and the **Strategic Investment Fund (SIF)** through the **Liverpool City Region Skills and Apprenticeship Hub** project. GMLPF is managing the **Provider Improvement Fund (PIF)**, working in conjunction with the **Liverpool City Region Mayoral Combined Authority**.

The **Provider Improvement Fund (PIF)** programme runs from June 2021 to September 2022.

PIF Aims

The **PIF** programme aims to facilitate improvements in the local learning sector, including:

- Improving the quality and delivery of local learning programmes
- Supporting the growth and development of learning providers and their learning programmes
- Supporting the post-16 sector to adapt to change and become more responsive by completing training and development that builds their capacity and capability
- Increasing the proportion of LCR learning providers with an Ofsted Grade 2 or above
- To capacity build the learning provider base
- To provide a strong legacy dimension to all the training delivered
- To improve the experiences of learners.



2. Tender Opportunity

Title

UTN11 Suicide Awareness and Intervention Training

Overview

GMLPF wishes to appoint an experienced supplier to deliver **Suicide Awareness and Intervention Training** for LCR based providers. The training must enable participants to build their awareness of suicide and related issues in the learning sector. In particular:

- improve their understanding that suicide is preventable
- help them recognise suicidal thinking and behaviours
- provide them with the tools and knowledge to support learners (and staff) who present with suicidal thoughts and/or behaviours

Recipients of this training will include safeguarding leads, managers, governors and other key staff in Liverpool City Region Learning Providers.

We anticipate that this **Suicide Awareness and Intervention training** will complement other safeguarding training undertaken by local learning providers. Purchasing this training on behalf of a group of learning providers and aggregating demand makes it more accessible to individual providers.

Background

This programme of training is a response to demand from local learning providers against a backdrop of increasing mental health issues and a reported rise in learners considering suicide, particularly younger learners.

According to the WHO, over 700,000 people die worldwide due to suicide, and many more attempt to end their lives. The WHO reports that suicide is the second leading global cause of death amongst 15 – 29-year-olds.

The Office for National Statistics reports that in England and Wales, there were 5224 suicides registered in 2020. Whilst this is lower than 2019 rates, this may well be due to a delay in death registrations during the Covid pandemic. Meanwhile, evidence points to a sharp increase in self-harm and mental health distress caused by lockdown. This means it is likely that we can expect to see suicide and attempted suicide rates increase for 2021 and 2022.



A report presented in 2020 by the Centre for Longitudinal Studies using data collected from participants in the Millennium Cohort Study outlines the following statistics relating to mental distress and suicidal behaviour amongst 17-year-olds in the UK:

- **High levels of severe mental health difficulties:**

The prevalence of high psychological distress is 16.1% (95% CI: 14.7, 17.7), 12-month prevalence of self-harm is 24.1% (95% CI: 22.6, 25.7) and lifetime attempted suicide is 7.4% (95% CI: 6.6, 8.3).

- **Stark Gender differences:**

Prevalences of mental health difficulties are consistently higher among females than males: 22.1% of females and 10.1% of males experienced high psychological distress, 28.2% of females and 20.1% of males self-harmed and 10.6% of females and 4.3% of males attempted suicide.

- **Large inequalities:**

Females, White adolescents, sexual minorities and those from lower income households have poorer mental health across most outcomes.

- **Increased risk among sexual minority adolescents:**

There are stark inequalities by sexuality, with over half (55.8%) of LGB+ young people reporting self-harming in the last year and 21.7% of LGBT+ young people having attempted suicide.

(Source: Patalay, P. and Fitzsimons, E. (2020). *Mental ill-health at age 17 in the UK: Prevalence of and inequalities in psychological distress, self-harm and attempted suicide*. London: Centre for Longitudinal Studies)

In the Liverpool City Region, learning providers report that self-harm and suicide are becoming a significant concern that impedes individuals' ability to learn and progress in life.

While suicide is a serious social and public health problem, experts agree that many suicides are preventable with timely and knowledgeable interventions. However, many learning providers have limited skills and experience in this area, making suicide awareness and intervention an ideal focus for the Provider Improvement Fund.

To that end, the training is intended to provide learning providers with the basic skills and knowledge to identify someone who is at risk of suicide, and the confidence to provide support to keep them safe using appropriate interventions and keep them actively engaged in learning which has a positive impact on mental health. The training is also intended to provide tools and understanding that will enable learning providers to address suicide prevention as part of their wider Safeguarding strategy.



3. Tender specifics

GMLPF is inviting suitably experienced and qualified organisations to tender for the delivery of **Suicide Awareness and Intervention Training**.

Requirements

We wish to procure the delivery of two one-day workshops for groups of 8 to 10 participants (Liverpool City Region learning provider staff), enabling them to understand this important topic and subsequently roll out appropriate policies and procedures to support improvements in the safeguarding of learners. The training could be accredited, unaccredited or a combination of the two.

In detail:

Volume

We wish to procure the delivery of two one-day training workshops for between 8 and 10 participants.

Focus

We are looking for a training programme that builds a provider's capability and capacity in the understanding of Suicide Awareness and Interventions, so they can develop and embed appropriate measures within their organisations.

User-focus

GMLPF will work with the chosen supplier to tailor the content of this CPD programme to meet the needs of local learning providers. We welcome innovation in the design and delivery of this training programme, including a strong interactive dimension.

Delivery

We anticipate that the supplier will deliver the training on a face-to-face basis with an option for learners to undertake online assessment upon completion of the training, if appropriate. Should the Covid situation change and additional restrictions be introduced, we would expect delivery to switch to remote using Teams or Zoom.

Emphasis

The emphasis is upon the training of participants to become champions of mental health, providing their organisations with informed guidance about suicide awareness, and acting as a central point of contact for staff.

Take away

The supplier should provide participants with a resource pack to take away from the course, incorporating guidance, slides, notes and tips that they can then use to deliver training themselves.

Pre-course

Before the course takes place, we anticipate a period of collaboration between the chosen supplier and GMLPF (which can be factored into the course costing) where together, we will:



- Ensure the structure and content of the training programme is appropriate to the local learning provider market.
- Agree dates of training
- Circulate pre-course paperwork required for evidence requirements
- Decide on an appropriate participant pack of support materials to take away

GMLPF will actively promote the training sessions locally to generate demand. We will also manage the booking/registration process.

Content

Details about a ***potential*** model and what themes it might focus on are detailed below. GMLPF is looking for suppliers to suggest creative content and curriculum and incorporate other relevant themes such as Equal Opportunities and Social Inclusion and Sustainable Development. These themes will be assessed as part of the tender appraisal process.

The Suicide Awareness and Intervention training programme should ideally cover the following, non-exhaustive list of topics, contextualised for providers of learning as far as possible:

- The prevalence of suicide in the UK – what statistics tell us, and how we might expect the Covid pandemic to have impacted, with reference to any local knowledge and statistics
- The stigma of suicide and how this challenges timely interventions
- Recognising suicidal thoughts and behaviours amongst learners
- Causes of suicidal thoughts
- Suicide, safeguarding and risk assessment
- Suicidal behaviour – how to intervene?
- How different sectors of the community may be more at risk of suicide
- Working with partners and referral agencies – ensuring support is offered

The training must:

- Build personal knowledge
- Drive organisational change
- Improve the safeguarding and support of learners
- Build organisational capacity and capability, equipping learning providers to address this sensitive issue in an effective and timely manner

We expect the training programme to make provision for discussion and consideration of the sectors of the community that learning providers support eg apprentices, individuals with additional learning needs etc

Post-course

Participants will need to complete a post-course questionnaire. GMLPF will provide the evaluation forms, but it is the responsibility of the provider to ensure participants complete them at the end of the training session.



Costings

The total budget for this training is £5760 (or £4800 plus VAT for VAT registered organisations). We expect that tenders offering delivery of courses that lead to training accreditation will attract a premium and be more expensive than those that don't.

The budget has been calculated to cover two full-day workshops including the provision of training materials, assessment (if appropriate) and production of all funding evidence.

Room hire and associated refreshments costs for face-to-face learning will be met by GMLPF, but all other expenses should be covered by the above budget.

Tendering organisations should be aware that the programme is supported by ESF and SIF. Therefore you will be required to capture and provide participant information ie learner enrolment forms, learning plans, timesheets, evaluation forms as part of the delivery of the programme. Examples of the paperwork to be completed are attached in appendix A. Payment will be made upon successful and complete delivery of this paperwork alongside a claim and invoice.

Sub-Contracting

This project is ESF and SIF funded; therefore, ***no further sub-contracting is permitted***.

Suppliers can use associates in the delivery of this project provided an associate contract or agreement is in place between the supplier and their associate(s). Suppliers are asked to reference this in their tender submission ie details of staff who will be used to deliver the training. You will be asked to provide copies of associate contracts.

Submission of Tender

Please read this guidance document carefully, in addition to the **PIF Tender Evaluation Methodology** document. You must use the **PIF Supplier Questionnaire and Tender Response** form to submit your proposal. You must also complete and submit the **PIF Tender References** form.

The **PIF Supplier Questionnaire and Tender Response** has two sections:

- **Section 1 - Supplier Details and Due Diligence**

Organisations interested in tendering for this opportunity should note that we can only contract with organisations that will be able to provide evidence of having the following:

- **Insurance cover** (see Question 2): Public liability, professional indemnity, and employer's liability are all required. However, if the tendering organisation does not employ staff (ie sole trader), then employers liability insurance is not required.
- **Financial evidence** (see Question 2): Acceptable forms of financial evidence are listed on the PIF Supplier Questionnaire and Tender Response form.



- **GDPR** (see Question 4.2): All organisations are required to be ICO registered.
 - **DBS** (see Question 4.4): All staff responsible for delivering training will need to have a current enhanced DBS (Disclosure & Barring Service – formerly CRB) certification.
 - **Health & Safety** (see Question 5): All organisations are required to have a basic health and safety policy/policy statement regardless of the size of organisation. This needs to be supplied as part of the tender pack along with a named individual with responsibility for health and safety within the organisation.
 - **Equality & Diversity/Safeguarding** (see Question 6): We would expect tendering organisations to respond to all parts of Question 6.2 with “YES”. Please also provide a copy of your Equality and Diversity policy/policy statement with reference to safeguarding/anti-bullying/harassment.
- **Section 2 – Supplier Technical Response**
In this section, you must document how you would deliver the training required. Please take care to weave sustainable development and equal opportunities into your response as these are key themes for this project.
- Suppliers should return their completed tender response:
- To: ian@gmlpf.net
- By: 14th January 2022 5.00pm
- With: **PIF Tender UTN 11 Suicide Awareness and Intervention Training** in the e-mail subject heading