

Built Environment – A Regional Perspective

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The South East



What is SEEDA ?

- The South East England Development Agency (SEEDA)
- Responsible for the Sustainable economic development of the SE
- 20th largest economy in the world
- Largest net contribution to the treasury - £17 billion a year

The Built Environment

- The regional dimension
- Key challenges for the industry

A DECLINING SKILLS BASE

- During the 1970s 100,000 people per year were trained in construction crafts
- In 2004, fewer than 40,000 entered the industry

A DECLINING SKILLS BASE

- Only 34% of trainees complete their training
- Employers tend not to consider training to be part of their role
- Only 25% of companies do any apprenticeship training

So what can be done

- The Skills Strategy
- Sector Skills Agreements
- Skills Academies
- Stakeholder Partnerships

So what can be done

- Community Benefit Clauses
- Local Training & Employment Charters
- Work-based co-ordination (project based learning)

Activity Planned 2006-07 & Beyond

- Employability Skills in Excluded Groups
 - Redundancy Support Service
 - Incapacity Benefit Pilot
 - Older Workers
 - Area Specific Programmes
- Access to Workforce Learning

What are we doing?

- The SEEDA Access to Learning programme will focus on access and attitudes to learning at work. It is conceived as a three year programme. It aims to:
 - Explore how best to secure access to learning at work for low-skilled, low-paid, low-status workers
 - Support learning providers and other supply-side agents develop their capacity to deliver productive, integrated learning in the low-skilled, low-paid, low-status workplace
 - Maximise the benefits of this workplace learning for individuals, local communities and the region as a whole

What are we doing?

Access to Learning Programme

Initial activities are planned to include:

- **Learning Through Work** – an action learning project sited in NHS, local authority, sector specific workplaces to identify opportunities for skills development offered by work itself, and how those opportunities can best be realised
- **Workplace Learning Cultures Programme** – to investigate how best to influence work organisations and people management in enterprises so as to support learning, innovation and productivity of low skilled workers
- **Workplace Learning Specialist CPD Programme** – a professional development programme for workplace learning practitioners to build capacity across the region