

Developing the Evidence Base for Regional Priorities

Background Paper

SW RSP has asked SLIM to work alongside members of the RSP Performance Monitoring Group in the preparation of an evidence base that can be used determine regional priorities for 4 'strategy' documents. These are listed below, alongside an indicative timescale for the work.

- Regional Funding Advice – Dec 2008
- RSP Gaps Analysis / Statement of Priorities – June 2009
- SW Region ESF Framework update for 2010 – 2013 – Sept 2009
- Single Regional Strategy – not clear yet

The 2008 Healthy Labour Market Review (discussed at the previous Performance Monitoring Group meeting) provides a solid layer of data and analysis from which to build.

Combining this work with an understanding of partners' remits and priorities; partners' views on their capacity to deliver their priorities; and their concerns about 'gaps' or areas of potential unmet need (both current and future), will be a central step in taking the analysis forwards.

Many RSP / PMG partners are already working on strategic analyses and other documents that set out their perspectives of the challenges facing their organisation and the region, and how they propose to respond to these.

During this agenda item, we wish to consider and clarify:

- the nature of the task given to SLIM / the PMG
- how this can best be taken forwards
- work being undertaken by partners that should inform the advice
- timescales and processes for moving forwards.

Regional Funding Advice

Guidance to regions on the preparation of regional funding advice is attached separately. The advice must cover Transport, Housing & regeneration, Economic Development and Skills. The purpose of the skills advice is *'to inform the work that the RSP and the LSC do at a regional level'*. The purpose of the advice in total is *'to inform the next spending review and help government ensure that public finances are allocated in the most appropriate way to support sustainable economic development.. (and) to deliver value for money'*. The advice, in total, must be no more than 35 pages, including all annexes etc.