



## Quote Specification

### Solent Skills Bootcamps Quality Assurance

#### Introduction

Solent Partners is working with delivery partners to deliver [Skills Bootcamp](#) training across the Solent as part of a series of skills interventions under the Skills for Life Programme. Skills Bootcamps are funded by the Department for Education (DfE) and will assist in the achievement of the [Solent 2050](#) strategy to develop a world class talent base, helping people at all stages of their career build the skills they need. The Skills Bootcamps cover the following industry sectors: digital marketing; software development; maritime transport & logistics; care services; creative business management and administration; green skills; catering & hospitality.

We have a strong focus on high quality delivery, and therefore want to independently assess the quality of the delivery of each Skills Bootcamp provider. In this regard, we are seeking suitably qualified and experienced Further and High Education quality assurance experts to undertake and report back on observations and investigations to ensure the course participants receive the support they need and expect.

The Skills Bootcamps and the associated delivery partners are listed below. Each of these requires an independent quality assessment.

Industry sector	Delivery partner
Digital marketing	Get Set for Skills
Maritime transport & logistics	South Hampshire College Group
Care services (Solent East and Solent West)	South Hampshire College Group
Care services (Isle of Wight)	Isle of Wight College
Creative business management and administration	University of Portsmouth
Green skills	Yuzu Training
Catering & hospitality	Whitehead Ross

#### Supplier requirements

Suppliers will be required to engage with the Solent Partners Operations team, who are responsible for ongoing Skills Bootcamps monitoring, and exploring opportunities to continuously improve policy and delivery. The Solent Skills Advisory Panel (SAP) will act as a quality and performance steering group for the Solent Skills Bootcamps. The SAP will provide leadership and advice throughout the delivery of Solent Skills Bootcamps wave 4 in financial year 2023/24 and beyond.

The successful quality assurance expert will need to demonstrate an understanding of Skills Bootcamps, experience in conducting education and training quality assurance assessments, and be able to undertake this work early in 2024.

Overall, the aims of Solent Skills Bootcamps are:

- To deliver flexible training programmes lasting up to 16 weeks, based on employer demand skills, which can be regulated or non-regulated enabling adults to do training around work and other commitments, looking to gain work, additional responsibilities, or access new opportunities and will offer a guaranteed job interview to individual participants on completion of the course.
- To address the needs of adults (19+) who are full time and part time employed, unemployed, returning to work after a break or self-employed, and provide individuals with wider access to opportunities to retrain, update or formalise their skills or acquire specialist skills.
- To address the needs of employers and the wider economy, to deliver targeted interventions to meet short-medium term demand to fill vacancies and drive productivity. They will help to fill medium-higher level vacancies and bring individuals closer to better jobs, by linking them with new line of sight to a job/different role, additional responsibilities, or new opportunities/contracts.

The successful quality assurance expert will need to consider how delivery partners are achieving the full Skills Bootcamp delivery cycle which includes:

- Learner engagement
- Enrolment
- Participation
- Wrap around support
- Employer engagement including the co design and delivery of training
- Guaranteed interviews
- Quality assurance and continual process improvement
- Recommended areas for improvement

It is expected each of the Skills Bootcamps themes and providers will be visited at least once in person by the quality assurance expert, and consider attendance records, learner satisfaction surveys and correspondence with employers as a minimum.

Quality assurance suppliers will be required to detail:

- How they will deliver the quality assurance checks including listing key personnel and their skills and experience that makes them suitable for this task;
- The timeframe for undertaking and reporting back on the quality assurance checks;
- What the final report will contain to provide assurance over the quality of Skills Bootcamps delivery;
- Provide detailed costings associated with the delivery of quality assurance checks

### **Contract value**

A budget ceiling of £10,500 (excluding VAT) is set for quality assurance checks of all listed Skills Bootcamps themes and providers. This will include all costs associated with the specified work.

Interested parties are requested to supply a quote in response to this specification by Thursday 11 January 2024. For further information, or to submit a quote, please email [funding@solentpartners.com](mailto:funding@solentpartners.com)