



Lowlands and Uplands Scotland ERDF and ESF Programmes 2007 - 2013 Programme Monitoring Committee

EVALUATION ACTION PLAN – UPDATE ON ACTIVITIES

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To update PMC members on progress on recent projects and options for activities for 2012.

2. Background

- 2.1 An evaluation “framework contract” was established in September 2008 (to run to the end of 2011) which allows a shortened process for getting projects up and running. We are currently considering options for arrangements for 2012 and beyond.
- 2.2 The attached draft Evaluation Plan was considered by the Monitoring and Evaluation Group on 27 September. This shows a list of completed work and potential projects currently in the programme. MEG attendance was relatively low and members will therefore be invited to comment in writing on the draft plan with a view to firming this up over the next month or so.
- 2.3 The most notable points are the completion earlier this year of the CPP evaluation and the good progress being made with the ESF participant survey.
- 2.4 Our intention is that we should now move to the evaluation of the process of using the Strategic Delivery Bodies - Scottish Enterprise, Highland and Islands Enterprise and the University of Highlands and Islands. The aim of this study will be to compare approaches, assess how well the process is working, and to identify what added value this approach brings. We hope that a contractor can be appointed before the end of the year, with work beginning late 2011 / early 2012.

3. Dissemination

- 3.1 It is our intention that all reports should be publicly available as soon as is practical after we receive them, primarily through the Scottish Government website. We will also continue to consider how the results of research can be packaged in ways to reach the appropriate audiences – whether that be policy makers, the European Commission or people delivering projects.

4. Recommendations

4.1 The Committee is invited to:

- 4.1.1 note progress, that MEG members are being consulted on content, following which Scottish Government intends to confirm the plan.

Jim Millard
Scottish Government
Tel: 0300 244 1101
Email: jim.millard@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

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