

The Regional Skills and Employability Contracting Supply Chain for the third sector in the North East.

What is Contracts Matter?

Contracts Matter is an independent, third sector-led skills and employability contracting supply chain, which is overseen by a steering group of third sector representatives and hosted by Acumen, on their behalf.

A means for Voluntary & Community Sector organisations to work together to bid for, win and deliver skills and employability contracts from which they may otherwise have been excluded. A streamlined route for public and private sector contractors to engage with the third sector.

The Role of the Skills & Employability Hub:

- Bring together groups of third sector organisations to bid collaboratively for contracts
- Co-ordinate a range of services to help members continuously improve their service offer and effectively participate in the delivery of employability and skills services
- Identify and inform members of funding/contracting opportunities
- Co-ordinate contracting opportunities and multi sector partnerships
- Co-ordinate information about member organisations and maintain a central database
- Broker and facilitate bidding/contracting partnerships including lead providers, sub contractors and suppliers
- Enable smaller or less experienced VCS organisations to participate in the contracting process
- Information sharing to hub partners
- Liaise with key funding organisations to establish future funding opportunities

Membership Criteria:

Membership is open to all Third Sector organisations, located in the North East irrespective of size who are interested in or who deliver skills and employability services.

Benefits to members:

- Increased opportunities to access potential funding
- Central co-ordination and impartial support
- Facilitation of partnership working
- Greater awareness of how to develop the 'right' partnerships and gain access to members providing specialist/innovative services
- Increased exposure to delivery and funding organisations within the North East
- Access through the HUB to a directory of members provision/services/information

How do I become a member?

To become a member or for further information email; info@contractsmatter.co.uk or telephone Pat Anderson on 0191 5878019