



# North West Network Third Sector European Network

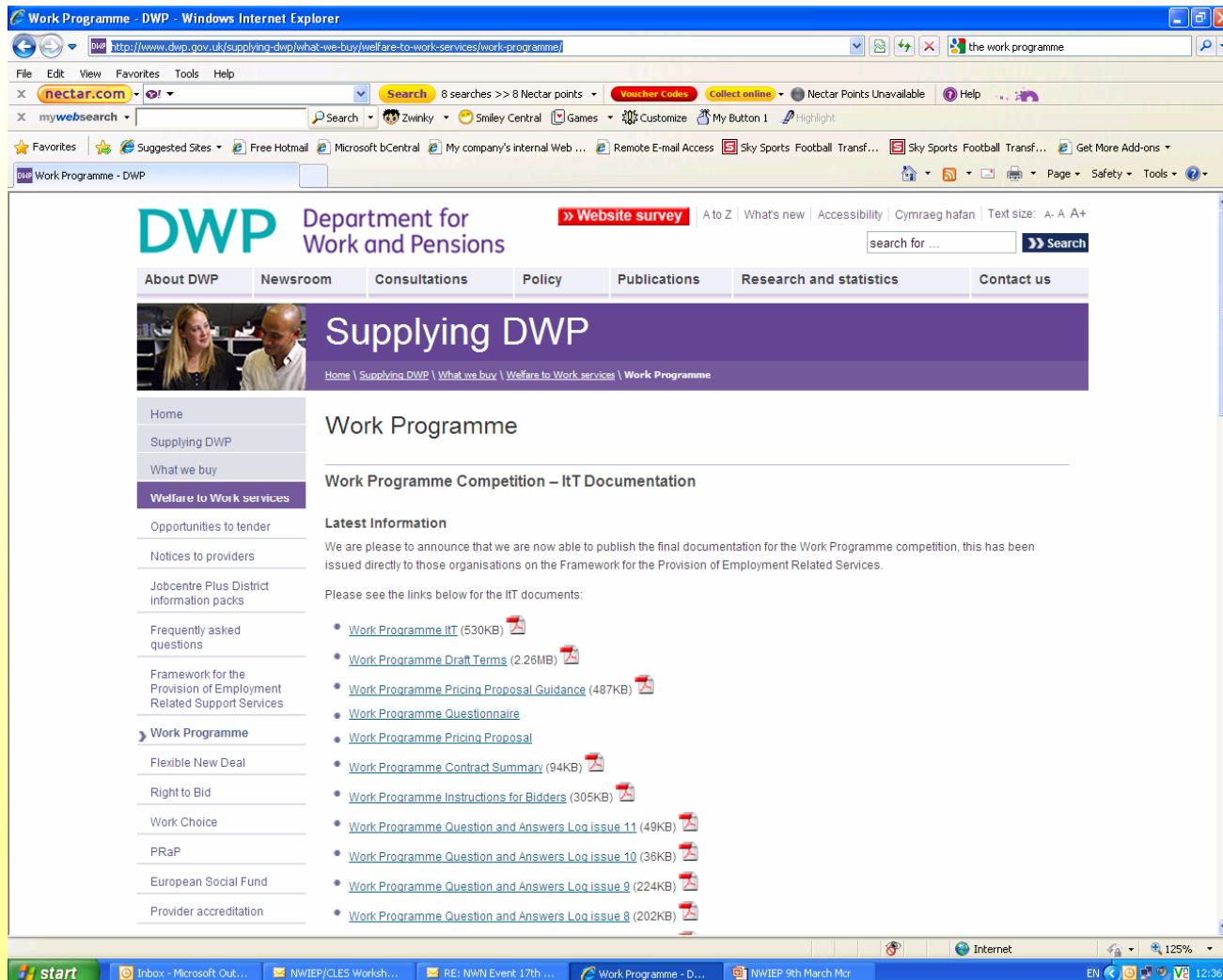
The Work Programme in the North West  
The view of the Voluntary and Community  
Sector

John Hacking



- The Work Programme in brief
- Opportunities for VCS
- Strengths/Offer of VCS
- Issues for VCS

# The Work Programme



Work Programme - DWP - Windows Internet Explorer

http://www.dwp.gov.uk/supplying-dwp/what-we-buy/welfare-to-work-services/work-programme

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Work Programme - DWP

**DWP** Department for Work and Pensions Website survey A to Z | What's new | Accessibility | Cymraeg hafan | Text size: A- A A+

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Framework for the Provision of Employment Related Support Services

**Work Programme**  
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Work Choice  
PRaP  
European Social Fund  
Provider accreditation

**Work Programme**

**Work Programme Competition – ITT Documentation**

**Latest Information**

We are please to announce that we are now able to publish the final documentation for the Work Programme competition, this has been issued directly to those organisations on the Framework for the Provision of Employment Related Services.

Please see the links below for the ITT documents:

- [Work Programme ITT](#) (530KB)
- [Work Programme Draft Terms](#) (2.26MB)
- [Work Programme Pricing Proposal Guidance](#) (487KB)
- [Work Programme Questionnaire](#)
- [Work Programme Pricing Proposal](#)
- [Work Programme Contract Summary](#) (94KB)
- [Work Programme Instructions for Bidders](#) (305KB)
- [Work Programme Question and Answers Log issue 11](#) (49KB)
- [Work Programme Question and Answers Log issue 10](#) (36KB)
- [Work Programme Question and Answers Log issue 9](#) (224KB)
- [Work Programme Question and Answers Log issue 8](#) (202KB)

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- New, single national framework for provision of services to claimants of all major employment benefits
- From summer 2011. Procurement is underway
- Replaces existing and planned DWP welfare to work contracts
- Single delivery model – prime contractors, personalised return to work plans, payment by results

# Opportunities for VCS

## Threefold:

- For thematic groups who support target groups e.g health, disability BME
- For thematic groups who provide services to target groups as well as support
- For groups who provide broad range of work related support as core activity

## Strengths/Offer of VCS

- Reach/Engagement – VCS groups in touch with people furthest from job market
- Local Reach/Localism – VCS connected to and embedded in local communities Key aspect of Govt agenda
- *“Large contracts Vs local Priorities”*  
*Derek French – Head of Provision Management, DWP*  
*17<sup>th</sup> Nov 2010*
- Trust – led by and accountable back to service users and communities

## Strengths/Offer of VCS

- Holistic approach – work with individuals long term, with the focus on respect for person rather than solving a “problem”
- Additionality – besides helping person towards work, will help them deal with other issues such as housing, health, offending etc
- Partnerships – able to draw in tailored packages of support using other voluntary organisations and/or volunteers
- Links to other funds: European Social Fund (inc ESF Community Grants) a good example

# Issues for VCS

- Scale of contracts
- Appropriate level of engagement
- Finance esp. cashflow
- Mission drift for organisations
- Exploitation – poor contract terms



# How do VCS groups enter the supply chain?

- Some organisations will be able to enter the supply chain in their own right
- Other (usually smaller) organisations might enter via partnerships and consortia **such as an SPV**