



Flexible New Deal

From October 2009 existing New Deal programmes, the cornerstone of the government's active labour market policies since 1997, will be replaced by the Flexible New Deal (FND) Phase 1. The new programme will aim to find more effective ways to help more than 200,000 long-term unemployed people into work each year across the initial 14 Job centre Plus Districts in the UK. Under FND, after 12 months of unemployment, claimants will be referred to private or third sector contractors, who will be paid by results to find them sustainable employment. This new approach represents a radical shift in mainstream employment services. It is anticipated that FND Phase 2 (incorporating the remaining Job centre Plus Districts in the UK) will commence in October 2010.

Armstrong Learning

Armstrong Learning is a company specializing in training and employability support to the music and creative industries and a national provider of New Deal for Musicians in England.

An approved provider for Jobcentre plus we regularly work with the Department for Work and Pensions delivering our innovative and market leading programmes to clients including tailored open learning programmes, mentoring support and training and employability 'welfare to work' provision.

We will be working with a number Prime Contractors to deliver specialist support to FND clients across England and Scotland, with an emphasis on practical support for working in the music and creative industries together with work focused action plans leading to a range of employment outcomes including self employment.

Together with our industry recognised education and training courses delivered through Access to Music, the UK's largest designer and provider of popular music education courses and consultancy, we aim to be a training and employability provider of first choice, taking an innovative and inclusive approach to our products and services.

We are committed to delivering quality and value-for-money services for all our customers and stakeholders and to enable creative people to achieve their potential.

