

Lambeth Adult Learning

Supply Chain Fees and Charges Policy 2026-2027

Business Unit:	Lambeth Adult Learning Service – Economy, Culture and Skills
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Supply Chain Fees and Charges Policy 2026 – 2027

1 Scope

The policy applies to all supply chain activity to deliver adult learning provision in Lambeth through Lambeth Adult Learning supported with funds supplied by the government/Greater London Authority (GLA).

2 Context

The policy is a mandatory requirement that has applied to all subcontracting activity since 1 August 2013. This policy is reviewed annually by Lambeth Council's Head of Adult Learning in conjunction with current subcontractors as part of the commissioning process and is published on the London Borough of Lambeth council website.

Lambeth Adult Learning will at all times undertake fair and transparent procurement activities, conducting robust, comprehensive due diligence procedures on potential subcontractors to secure the highest quality of learning delivery, value for money and a positive impact on learners and the community.

3 Reasons for subcontracting

Lambeth Adult Learning is committed to maintaining and where possible growing and diversifying the range of courses we deliver to widen participation; engage and support the most disadvantaged residents; enter new and emerging markets and address regional and local economic development and social integration priorities. In order to achieve this, Lambeth Adult Learning subcontracts our provision to responsive partner organisations who can demonstrate high quality delivery in the community.

4 Lambeth Adult Learning commitment to improving the quality of education

Lambeth Adult Learning is committed to driving continual improvement in the quality of education. This is demonstrated through the Supply Chain Fees and Charges Policy by ensuring that all supply chain partners are:

- Selected through a process that requires demonstrable evidence that they can deliver and sustain high quality education, including high quality teaching, learning and assessment, for all learners in all venues.
- Managed through a process of regular performance monitoring and review including independent and paired teaching, learning and assessment observations.
- Supported through a comprehensive quality programme of staff development and training.

5 Management Fees

Lambeth Adult Learning retains no more than 23% of the GLA funding allocation to manage subcontractors. The management fee is deducted from the funding income received prior to the allocation of funds to subcontractors.

The management fee represents the total cost that Lambeth Adult Learning incurs in identifying, selecting and managing all subcontracted provision regardless of the level of support provided.

6 Payment Terms between Lambeth Adult Learning and Subcontractors

Subject to receipt of funding awarded by government/the GLA and GLA payment arrangements, the subcontractor will be paid as follows:

Accredited (Adult Core) provision

- The first (August) instalment of the year is released once the contract has been signed and returned to the Council by the Provider, though not earlier than 1st August.
- For the remaining months of the year, the Provider will be paid according to actual funding earned at each monthly reporting point (this will be set out in Appendix 3a of your contract), up to the cumulative total for that reporting month.
- Any remaining funding earnings claimed between 1st August 2026 and 21st September 2026 are scheduled to be released by LB Lambeth following on from communications issued on 18th September, 14th October and 16th November 2026 as per Appendix 3 of the 2025/26 Order Form. These dates will be subject to change each academic year.

Should the Subcontractor exceed their agreed contract value, this is at the Subcontractor's own risk. LALS cannot guarantee the service will be able to fund any over-performance. In-year requests for growth funding can be submitted to LALS at any point in the year for review and approval before courses are delivered via the Request to Change Commissioned Provision process.

Non-accredited (Tailored Learning) provision

- The first (August) instalment of the year is released once the contract has been signed and returned to LALS by the subcontractor, though not earlier than 1st August.
- For the remaining months of the year the subcontractor will be paid on profile with a further 11 monthly instalments, subject to satisfactory contractual performance and to the terms and conditions of the contract being met at each reporting point. Please refer to Appendix 3 for further details on payment profile and reporting points.

The Subcontractor is expected to meet their agreed contracted outputs and will be paid on performance as set out above.

7 Support provided to Subcontractors by Lambeth Adult Learning

Lambeth Adult Learning recognises our responsibility to support all subcontracted partners to develop, deliver and sustain high quality provision that meets the needs of the community and learners. The management fee deducted from allocated funds is used directly to provide a comprehensive programme of support and compliance measures to ensure public funds are protected and used effectively.

The mix of support will vary depending on the needs and experience of the individual subcontractors, but all partners can expect to benefit from the following:

- Regular cross partnership meetings which include frequent national and local updates regarding funding, policy, quality and curriculum developments; and the opportunity to share good practice
- Comprehensive quality management systems; including monthly monitoring of performance against clear measures of success
- Management Information Systems and training for staff using Monterpoint/Learner Track or its equivalent
- Individual provider performance reviews and quality improvement visits including audit of systems, records, tutor reports and learner files
- Support with provider Self-Assessment Report and Quality Improvement Plan review
- Moderation of observations of teaching, learning and assessment together with paired observation
- Curriculum Quality Review
- Compilation and analysis of Learner Survey returns for all courses
- Continuing Professional Development opportunities, planned training and development, and support for tutors
- Support to gain Awarding Organisation approval including Internal Quality Assurance and Moderation training and support
- Moderation and Standardisation meetings to monitor the quality and standards of learner assignments; tutor assessments; Individual Learning Plans and Session Observation Records
- Support with Funding Rules and other relevant funding and legislative compliance

- Delivery of whole service Learner Forums
- Ofsted training to develop provider knowledge and application of standards
- Working along-side providers to shape curriculum with careful review of needs-led in-year changes
- Supporting providers to form partnerships with other council services and wider partners to engage with and provide progression opportunities for learners
- Celebrations of learner and staff achievements
- Management and support of all safeguarding to develop and maintain a culture of safeguarding
- Support with MIS management for providers
- Regular visits to providers to audit eligibility and all evidence requirements for funding and contract.
- Management of learner feedback: design and review of termly provider learner feedback survey with follow up of CPD or implementation in response. Policy development Overarching policies for key areas impacting on learners: including Fees, Safeguarding and Prevent, Health and Safety, Equality and Diversity, Learner Involvement
- Lead provider for external bids including preparation of bid documentation and monitoring
- Management and development of Sharepoint External Partner site or its equivalent, for safe and compliant communication and document sharing.

Levels of support will be enhanced, and performance monitored more frequently on the request of the subcontractor or where concerns regarding the meeting of contractual requirements are identified.

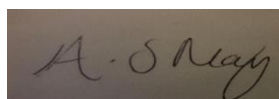
8 Review and publication of this policy

The policy will be reviewed annually in March and/or when significant changes in the Funding Rules and/or in subcontracting arrangements occur. Potential subcontractors will be directed to the policy as a starting point in any relationship. The policy will be discussed with all current and future subcontractors during contract negotiation meetings.

The policy will be published on the London Borough of Lambeth website: <https://beta.lambeth.gov.uk/schools-and-education/lambeth-adult-learning> and made available in hard copy upon request.

Actual end of year data will be published as and when required by government/the GLA each year on the council website.

Signed:



Alison May
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MAYOR OF LONDON

