

## **EXECUTIVE NOTE**

### **THE INDIVIDUAL LEARNING ACCOUNT (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2011**

**SSI 2011/107**

#### **Introduction**

1. These Regulations consolidate the provisions of the Individual Learning Account (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (“the 2004 Regulations”) and subsequent amending instruments. The amending instruments are the Individual Learning Account (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2004, the Education (Graduate Endowment, Student Fees and Support) Switzerland (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2004, the Individual Learning Account (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2007, the Individual Learning Account (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2008, the Individual Learning Account (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 2008, and the Individual Learning Account (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2009.
2. In addition to minor and drafting alterations, these Regulations make a substantive addition to the 2004 Regulations in that they make provision for the eligibility of a child of a Turkish Worker for an individual learning account (regulation 1(2) and regulation 3 (3)(g)).

#### **Background**

3. It was considered necessary to amend the 2004 Regulations in order to make provision regarding the eligibility of the child of a Turkish worker for an individual learning account. As the 2004 Regulations had been amended on six previous occasions, consolidation was considered appropriate.

#### **Policy Objectives**

4. The revised policy aims of the Individual Learning Accounts (Scotland) Scheme, agreed by Cabinet in 2008, are as follows:
  - To support and encourage wider participation in adult learning, as part of an integrated approach to adult learner support.
  - To support increased participation in learning by new and return learners, within wider strategic priorities for learner support.
  - To encourage lifetime engagement in learning and support learner progression in learning.
  - To encourage and support learners to take ownership of their skills and learning by helping them have increased control and choice over their learning and skills development.
  - To prioritise the needs of certain groups of learners, in particular those who are on low pay/have low skills or who are trapped by persistent disadvantage.
  - To encourage and support the further development of quality learning provider base in Scotland.

### **Financial Effects and Regulatory Impact Assessment**

5. The ILA Budget sits within the allocated Skills Development Scotland Budget.
6. These Regulations have no effect on the Scottish Government, Local Government and business. It has not been necessary to prepare a Regulatory Impact Assessment.

### **Individual Learning Accounts (Scotland) Scheme**

7. Individual Learning Accounts (ILAs) were launched in Scotland on 13 December 2004. The ILA offer is for low income learners (i.e. people whose individual annual income is £22,000 or less or who are on benefits) and can be used to fund a wide range of courses offered by a variety of learning providers including private and community based providers, colleges and some universities. Where payable, individual learner grants are paid direct to the learning provider.
8. The scheme is administered by the Students Awards Agency for Scotland (SAAS) and Skills Development Scotland Ltd.

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