

The Lifelong Learning Entitlement (LLE) Planning and Awareness Programme

Plenary

Amanda Thomson – HE Account Services Manager

Rosaleen Friel – Senior Service Manager

Partner Services, Student Loans Company



General Housekeeping Messages



- Fire Alarms and Assembly Points



- Facilities



- Accessibility



- Mobile Phones



- Recording and Photos



- Please use the Information Hub during breaks to speak to the team



- We have a tight timeline, please don't be late going to or returning from lunch



Welcome and Introduction

The Lifelong Learning Entitlement (LLE) will create a single funding system for eligible England domiciled students starting designated higher education courses and modules:

Today's seminar will:

- Introduce key elements of the LLE

With a focus on:

- Course eligibility and design, funding entitlement, the student application journey, and user personas

It is important to note that not all areas of LLE policy have yet been finalised:

- More information and supporting guidance will be released as these develop

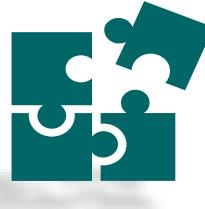
Seminar Objectives



Throughout the session today, we hope to achieve the following learning objectives:

- Enhance knowledge and understanding of customer and provider interactions
- Gain insight and feedback for continuous improvements
- Develop and share best practice
- Appreciate the demands for personalising services for individual needs
- Generate actions that will assist providers in setting goals, steps and timelines to support their strategy and LLE delivery

This seminar will also provide the platform for valuable networking, discussion and identifying shared challenges, experiences and progress toward implementing the LLE



Why is the LLE Important?

In today's fast-changing world, the ability to learn throughout our lives is no longer a luxury, it's essential:

- People are working longer, changing careers more frequently, and adapting to ever-evolving skill requirements

The current student finance system is rigid, primarily designed on the outdated assumption that education is something confined to early life:

- This model no longer reflects the realities of modern work and learning
- To break down barriers and unlock opportunities, learning must be accessible at every stage of life

This is why the LLE matters:

- It will provide people the flexibility, choice, and financial support to pursue education when they need it, empowering them to thrive throughout their careers



Strategic Engagement – Identifying Your LLE Lead

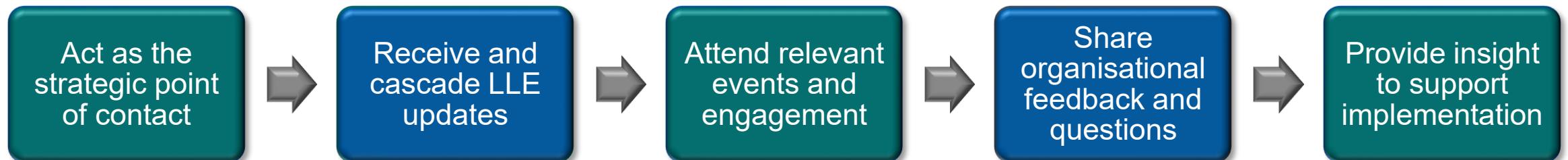
Why this matters:

The introduction of the LLE **will impact multiple areas** across Education Providers, including:

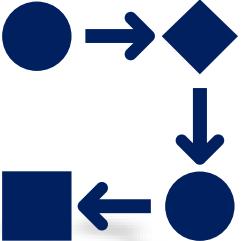
Academic Course Design	Change Management
Marketing	Recruitment
IT Systems	Financial Planning

The ask:

We're inviting each institution to nominate an **LLE Lead or Champion** to support strategic engagement



- Please email your nomination to **LLE_enquiries@slc.co.uk** by **Friday 7th November**



The Lifelong Learning Entitlement (LLE) Planning and Awareness Programme

Policy Background and SLC Programme Delivery Update

LLE Policy Background – When and for Who



Introduction of the LLE, when and for who:

- The LLE will launch within academic year 2026/27 for eligible learners studying designated courses or modules starting **on or after 1st January 2027**
- New, eligible students (up to the age of 60) will be able to access a full entitlement equal to **4-years of full-time tuition**
- This is currently equal to **£38,140** based on academic year 2025/26 fee rates (**£9,535 per year**)
- **Returning students** (up to the age of 60) who have previously received government support may have access to a **reduced (residual) LLE Tuition Fee Loan entitlement**
- A returning students' standard Tuition Fee Loan entitlement will be reduced to take into consideration any '**relevant funded study**' for which they received applicable government tuition fee support
- www.gov.uk/government/publications/lifelong-learning-entitlement-lle-overview/lifelong-learning-entitlement-overview



LLE Policy Background – What's in Scope

Key points of what's in scope under the LLE:

- **Equivalent or Lower Qualification rules will be removed under the LLE**, thereby enabling more people to retrain and upskill flexibly over the course of their working lives
- **Additional LLE Tuition Fee Loan** support above the standard 4-year entitlement will be available for some priority subjects and for some longer courses
- Additional entitlement will also be available for those eligible students who need to repeat study due to **Compelling Personal Reasons**
- Students will be able to use their Tuition Fee Loan support **more flexibly than ever before** to fund individual modules as well as full courses at Levels 4 to 6
- All courses and modules with **in-person attendance** that are eligible for LLE tuition funding will also be **eligible for Maintenance Loan support**

Lifelong Learning Entitlement (LLE) – Qualification Gateway

Purpose:

- Acts as an approval process for qualifications and modules eligible for LLE funding.
- Ensures courses meet quality standards and align with government skills priorities

Key Features:

- Applies to Level 4–6 qualifications (e.g., degrees, Higher Technical Qualifications).
- Providers must be registered with the Office for Students (OfS) or meet alternative approval criteria.
- Includes checks on course structure, credit value, compliance with fee limits, and alignment to priority skills needs.

Why It Matters:

- Guarantees learners access to high-quality, flexible education.
- Supports upskilling and retraining across working lives.



Programme Delivery Update



IT Development and Build

March 2025 - Major feature complete with core new technology installed and operating:

- Our LLE Programme focus has shifted to e2e integration with wider SLC systems and detailed customer and provider journey implementation
- Programme remains on track with design and build progressing as planned



Courses Management Service

September 2025 - Significant milestone now reached:

- Courses Management Service (CMS) build and testing now complete system is toggled off and awaits deployment for June 2026 course collection



Technical Development

- Technical Specifications for CMS and SIS released and are hosted on the HE Gateway
- SIS Service Definition document expected to be completed by December 2025
- Service level agreements and standards for the LLE are currently being refined



LLE Practitioner Information and Resources

Dedicated pages have been added to our HEP Services website and will host the latest LLE policy information, delivery updates and resources:

- Current content features an LLE overview, a Provider Preparation Guide, the LLE Course Management Service Definition and a frequently asked questions (FAQ) section
- The video on demand and presentation from our LLE Eligibility and Entitlement Webinar are also now available to access from the SLC Events website

www.heinfo.slc.co.uk/lle/lifelong-learning-entitlement



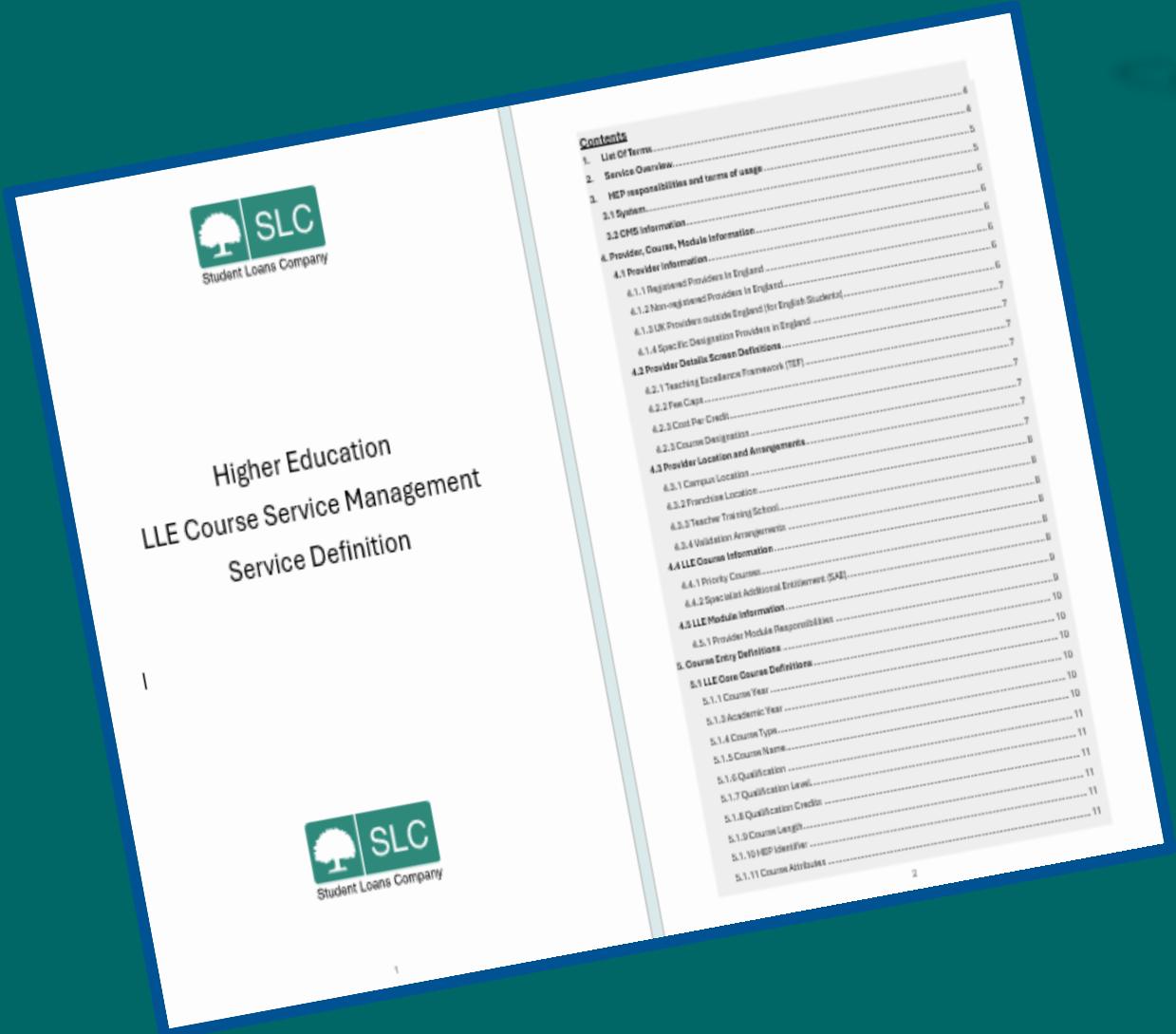
CMS Technical Specification and Course Service Definition

Defines how Higher Education Providers (HEPs) manage course and module data for the Lifelong Learning Entitlement (LLE) via the Courses Management Service (CMS):

- Streamlined Data Entry**
 - Centralised CMS platform simplifies course and module submissions for funding eligibility
- Expanded Student Access**
 - Supports modular study and flexible learning paths for English-domiciled students from 2027
- Automatic Designation**
 - Courses from OfS-registered providers are pre-approved for funding, reducing admin overhead
- Funding for Priority Areas**
 - Enhanced support for high-demand sectors like Nursing, ITT, and long-duration courses
- Improved Accuracy and Compliance**
 - Clear definitions and structured workflows help providers meet regulatory requirements
- Future-Proofing**
 - Aligns with evolving education models and government funding reforms

Course Service Definition

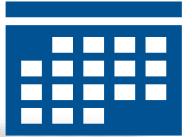
Course service definition has been created distinguishing the differences between technical requirements and aspirational aspects of the policy.



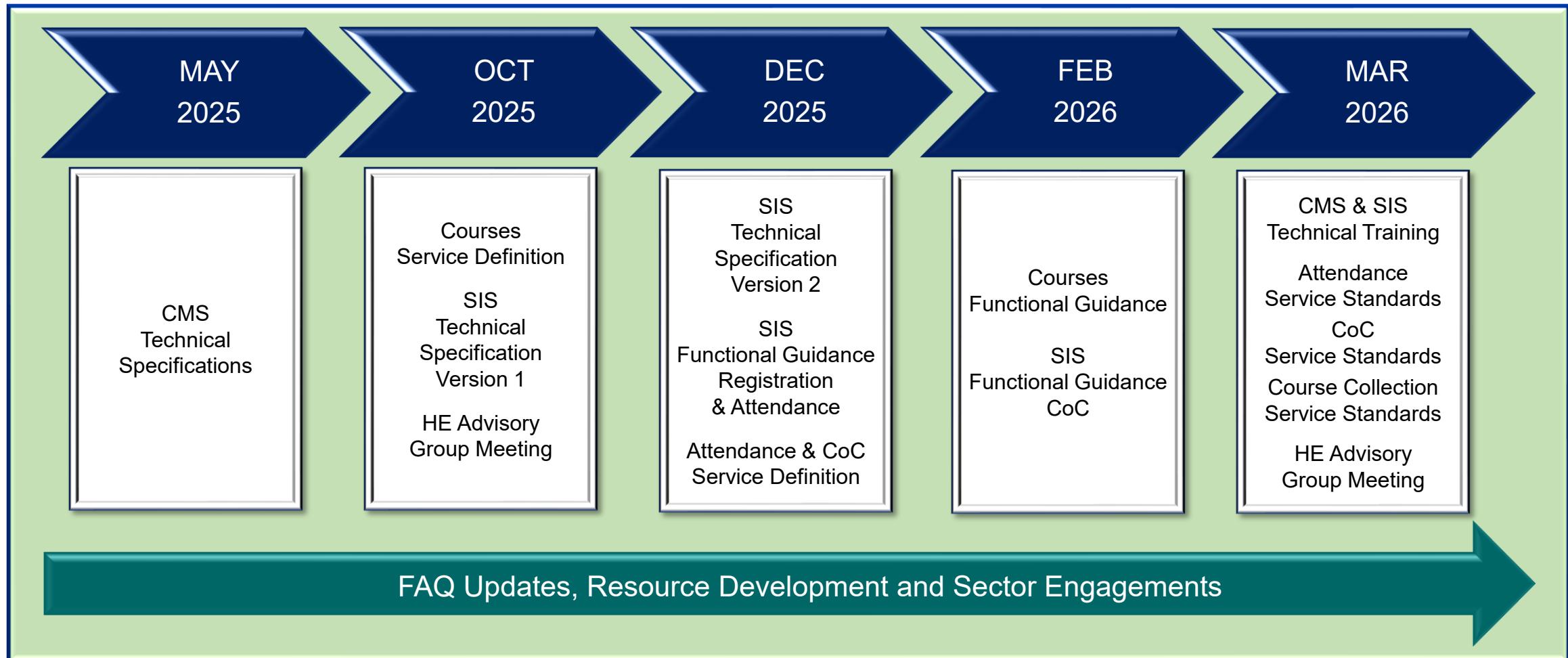
**Higher Education
LLE Course Service Management
Service Definition**

Contents

1. List Of Terms	8
2. Service Overview	5
3. HEP responsibilities and terms of usage	5
3.1 Systems	6
3.3 CMS Information	6
4. Provider, Course, Module Information	6
4.1 Provider Information	6
4.1.1 Registered Providers in England	6
4.1.2 Non-registered Providers in England	6
4.1.3 UK Providers outside England (or English Blocklist)	7
4.1.4 Specific Designation Providers in England	7
4.3 Provider Details Screen Definitions	7
4.2.1 Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF)	7
4.2.2 Fee Caps	7
4.2.3 Cost Per Credit	7
4.2.4 Course Designation	7
4.3 Provider Location and Arrangements	8
4.3.1 Campus Location	8
4.3.2 Franchise Location	8
4.3.3 Teacher Training Schools	8
4.3.4 Validation Arrangements	8
4.4 LLE Course Information	8
4.4.1 Priority Courses	9
4.4.2 Specialist Additional Entitlement (SAE)	9
4.5 LLE Module Information	10
4.5.1 Provider Module Responsibilities	10
5. Course Entry Definitions	10
5.1 LLE Core Course Definitions	10
5.1.1 Course Year	10
5.1.3 Academic Year	10
5.1.4 Course Type	11
5.1.5 Course Name	11
5.1.6 Qualification	11
5.1.7 Qualification Level	11
5.1.8 Qualification Credit	11
5.1.9 Course Length	11
5.1.10 HEP Identifier	11
5.1.11 Course Attributes	11



Technical Information Delivery Plan





The Lifelong Learning Entitlement (LLE) Planning and Awareness Programme

Looking Ahead to Today



Workshop Content Summary

Workshop	Summary	Delivered By
Course Eligibility and Design	Outlining the principles of course collection for LLE, highlighting policy implications and exploring the new funding model which links credits and Tuition Fee Loans	 SLC Student Loans Company
Planning and Strategy to Support Implementation	Guidance on strategy implementation for LLE, helping providers assess their business for LLE readiness and explore alternative delivery models	 SLC Student Loans Company
The Customer Application Journey	A high-level examination of the online application process for students accessing LLE funding, including the objectives and customer needs that are shaping the end-to-end journey design	 SLC Student Loans Company
Student Eligibility and Entitlement	An overview of funding eligibility and entitlement policies that will be applied under the LLE and the importance of IAG delivery in ensuring student understanding of the support available to them	 SLC Student Loans Company
LLE User Personas	DfE will showcase recent work undertaken with providers across the country to develop LLE-user personas and explore what tools will be needed to make the learner journey a success	 Department for Education

Seminar Agenda and Timing



09:00 – Registration and Refreshments

10:30 – Plenary

11:00 – Refreshment Break and Information Hub

11:30 – First Workshop

12:30 – Lunch

13:30 – Second Workshop

14:30 – Refreshment Break and Information Hub

15:00 – Third Workshop

16:00 – Seminar Ends

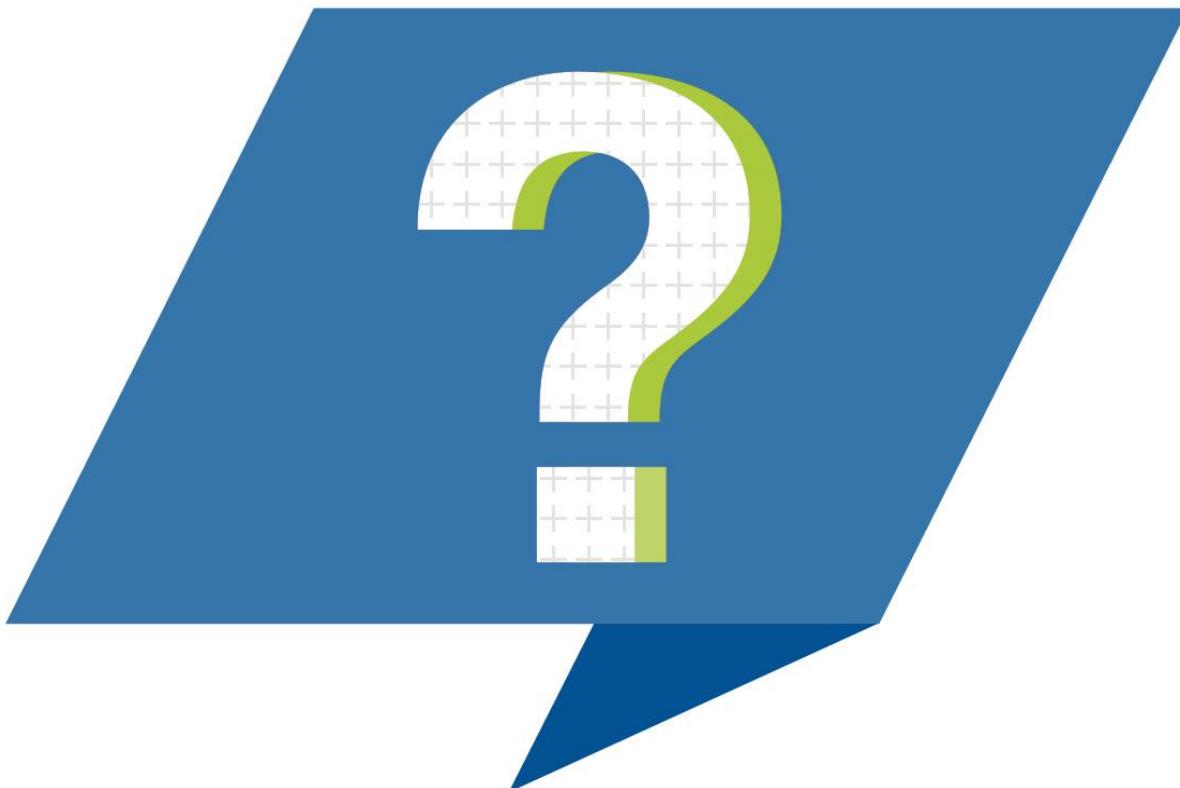
Thank you for attending

We trust you will find today
engaging and insightful

Delegates are kindly reminded to attend the workshops selected during registration:

- If you do wish to make any changes, please see our colleague on the registration desk, who will be happy to assist you

Questions or Comments



For LLE related questions and to sign-up for LLE updates from SLC:

✉ **lle_enquiries@slc.co.uk**