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**Launch Confirms Commitment by SW Network Partners**

 **Bournemouth University and its partners celebrate the launch of the new South West Lifelong Learning Network.**

**Institutions, partners and practitioners have celebrated the launch of the new South West Lifelong Learning Network (SWLLN).**

Led by Bournemouth University, the SWLLN covers Cornwall, Devon, South Somerset, Dorset and South Wiltshire and is part of a national Lifelong Learning Network strategy to advance vocational and workplace progression into and through higher education for work based learners.


In addition to Bournemouth, partners engaged in the SW LLN include the University of Plymouth, the Open University, University of Exeter, Arts Institute at Bournemouth and other Higher and Further Education partner networks within the south Southwest. Full coverage spanning the whole of the South West will be achieved through close collaboration with the Western Vocational Lifelong Learning Network (WVLLN) led by the University of Bath.

Funding worth £3.4 million over three years provided by the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) will support SWLLN partners in developing and piloting common curriculum areas, credit frameworks and an enhanced information, advice, guidance and learner support which will focus on priority sectors for the region including Small Businesses, Public Services, Heritage, Tourism, Retail and Hospitality.

"The SWLLN provides an exciting opportunity for Bournemouth and its Partners to create innovative opportunities and improved quality of choice for learners to engage with Higher Education," said Professor Rosemary Pope, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education) at Bournemouth.

For further information about the South West Lifelong Learning Network, please visit the website: <http://www.swlln.ac.uk/>

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South West Lifelong Learning Network (SWLLN) Website – October 2006  
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