



## North Yorkshire 14-19 Partnership

Dear Training Provider,

I thought it would be helpful to update you on the current situation regarding the fast changing 14-19 agenda. This briefing paper summarises the 14-19 national picture, the local Partnership planning process and the resources allocated to fund the 'Putting the Learner First' strategy that remains at the heart of stimulating further collaborative developments.

Funding for the 14-19 area remains complex, but I hope this summary will aid planning at every level, whether within your own school, in collaboration with other institutions or with your local 14-19 Task groups in the construction of your partnership plan

### **DfES 14-19 Implementation Plan and Progress Checks**

I am sure you are familiar with the key points of the DfES 14-19 Implementation Plan, with its wide ranging proposals to nearly all areas of the 14-19 provision. Progress against the agenda is now being measured and monitored in terms of 15 Key Performance Indicators that form part of a twice yearly DfES 'Progress Check'. Strengthened links between LA and LSC at both operational and strategic levels are seen as a key driver of the delivering the 14-19 agenda by the DfES.

### **Specialised Diplomas and the Gateway**

The Gateway results are now known, and we will have one area starting in 2008 with a further 5 areas beginning in 2009. This may increase further depending on the next round of submissions for the next 4 Diplomas. All submissions were given significant financial support to prepare for their future Diploma delivery. The Diplomas remain central to the government's policy of broadening choice and increasing the status of applied and vocational learning.

### **Putting the Learner First – Revision**

This year we are due to review North Yorkshire's existing 14-19 Strategy ('Putting the Learner First') which has run from 2004 - 2007. We want to ensure everyone has an opportunity to contribute to the revised strategy which will run for the next three years from 2007-2010. Initial consultation has started through the 14-19 partnership structures, and from this we plan to send out revised 'Aims and Entitlement' in May, for comments. We will then send out a fully revised draft document in June when we will invite further comments before final publication of the new strategy in September 2007. We are also planning that this consultation process will involve learners.

### **Local Partnerships**

The Implementation plan continues to place great stress on the importance of local decision making via the 14-19 Partnerships on such issues as a common curriculum framework, the local area prospectus, joint use of specialist facilities, transport, governance issues and shared use of data. The message is still that 'no single school, college or provider' can deliver the planned pupil entitlement.

### **Area Wide Web Based Prospectus**

The Joint Area Prospectus development is now well advanced. A partnership steering group has appointed a manager and software company and website development is progressing rapidly. Alongside this, data collection of courses is also well advanced and the pilot site will come 'on stream' in June, with the full site going live in September. This will, in many ways, be only the

start of much further work on this development, linked to ensuring impartial, high quality Information , Advice and Guidance.  
Further details about the prospectus and the web site are available from Debbie Hamilton, Project Manager: email [Deborah@nybep.org.uk](mailto:Deborah@nybep.org.uk)

### **Funding for 2007/8 and beyond**

As far as we can tell, funding is set to continue to grow in 2007/8. Set out below is a very brief outline of the main funding streams – further details will follow as soon as final figures are confirmed. As last year, funding will come from several sources including:-

1. Schools delegated budgets include funding to support existing initiatives to develop a wider range of options in the 14-16 age range. This funding is distributed via AWPU funding and includes growth for 2007/8 of £409k. The DfES guidance is that this money is to 'secure a broader range of practical and specialist provision at Key Stage 4', and also to 'help ensure that schools are prepared for the roll out of specialised diplomas from 2008'.
2. The LA via the Dedicated School Grant, has increased the funding available in 2007/8 to support developments that are agreed in local ALP Task Group 14-19 plans (submitted for approval in June).
3. LSC Area Wide Inspection funding; this will be the last of 3 year's funding to support the priorities of the post Ofsted Action Plan,
4. DfES 'Flexible Funding' pot, which is to 'build and sustain the administrative and logistical capacity' needed for the introduction of specialised diplomas, including the web based area prospectus.

It is clear that much of the funding is seen as aiding a 'critical transition period during which there will need to be major advances in local capacity building and collaborative working' under leadership from the LA and LSC working through 14-19 Partnerships. However future funding is not guaranteed and schools / colleges need to build sustainability into their planning.

### **The Development Planning Process for 2007 – 2009**

It will be apparent from the information above that not only those funds given directly to schools but also those allocated to 14-19 ALP Task Groups have continued to see year on year growth. As last year, funds will be released according to agreed criteria, set out in the planning template being used by all Chairs of the Task Groups to ensure clear accountability against common criteria. These criteria will closely match the 15 Key Performance Indicators of the 'Progress Checks'

Finally, could I stress how essential it is that everyone involved with 14-19 learners actively engages in the planning process over the next 2 months to develop plans for the young people in their area, via their local 14-19 Task Group.

If you have any queries or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me on 01423 700125 or via email at [Bruce.Wood@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:Bruce.Wood@northyorks.gov.uk).

Yours sincerely,

*Bruce Wood*

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