

LSC Update to PiP May 2008

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LSC office North Yorkshire

Publication intent Public

1. Information Updates

MOG – Machinery of Government

We are currently part way through a three month consultation period (which completes in June), and providers are encouraged to submit their comments through PiP or individually (or both).

Possible Flexibilities for 2007/08

The possible delivery of 25+ apprenticeships in the current year is part of an increasingly flexible approach. Such opportunities would apply to quality provision. Information about this and other opportunities will be clarified as soon as possible.

Commissioning for 2008/09

Providers will be receiving latest information as the commissioning process evolves, at Annual Strategic Meetings and through regular correspondence with LSC colleagues. Providers will be aware that the new Demand Led Funding methodology has presented certain challenges, and processes have been delayed nationally.

Anthony Knowles recently requested SSoA 19+ templates to be completed as part of the commissioning process for 19+. There have also been requests for information about Train to Gain projections for the remainder of the current year, and indications of interest in delivery of 25+ apprenticeships in the current year. Thank you to providers for responding quickly to these and other requests.

Providers who are submitting tenders should note that all technical queries regarding the e-tendering portal should be directed to help@bravosolution.co.uk

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and that all queries relating to the content of the PQQ should be directed to the Bravo message board. This is to ensure consistent responses are given to all providers.

Gaps in provision and priority provision: North Yorkshire is keen to see delivery of a new Creative framework, and this has been included in the tender documents. An increased apprenticeship offer particularly in rural districts such as Hambleton is also wanted. The priority sectors for North Yorkshire are:

- Construction
- Engineering and Manufacturing
- Health, Public Services and Care
- Retail and Commercial Enterprise, particularly hairdressing and customer service
- Leisure, Travel and Tourism focussing on working in gyms
- Education and Training for teaching assistants

Other News

- Framework for Excellence – Learner Views Survey: Providers are encouraged to take part in a Learner Views Survey now, in preparation for the FfE roll out. Contact ffelearnerviews@lsc.gov.uk for details.
- The Information Authority (<http://theia.org.uk>) is now responsible for the ILR: There is an opportunity to make requests for changes to the 2009/10 ILR by 27 June; and the 2008/09 ILR specification is on the website.
- A reminder that there are Functional Skills Regional Briefings taking place in July 2008. Alternatively by calling 0845 071 0800 a free in-house briefing event by LSN can be arranged.
- A regional Train to Gain Provider Newsletter is available – please ask your contract manager for a copy if you've not received it.
- Version 4 of the 2007/08 Train to Gain Requirements for Funding document will be available soon on the LSC's website – please look out for it.
- LSC engagement with the public sector (NYCC, local councils and the National Health Service) continues. It is hoped that such links will create growth opportunities for TTG and apprenticeships
- Apprenticeship Call Centre: After a tendering process SMART have been appointed to manage the referral process of young person leads generated for the Y&H region from the free phone number (08000 150 600) and from the National Apprenticeship website (www.apprenticeships.org.uk)
- Young Apprenticeship – a regional best practice meeting recently took place attended by delivery partnerships, Local Authorities and Sector Skills Councils; and positive feedback has been received. For Cohort 5 (2008/10) there will be 5 delivery partnerships each with a lead provider:
 - York College YA Partnership – York College
 - Yorkshire Coast YA Partnership – Yorkshire Coast College
 - Selby College YA Partnership – Selby College
 - Craven College YA Partnership – Craven College
 - Harrogate College YA Partnership – Harrogate College

- NEET – latest data (March 2008) indicates that there are a total of 806 young people in NEET in North Yorkshire. The districts with the highest numbers are:
 - York – 258
 - Scarborough – 171
 - Hambleton – 132

2. Success Rates

The publication Our Statement of Priorities, Better skills, Better jobs, Better lives, November 2007, includes a useful section on Raising and Assuring Quality. This includes the Minimum Level of Performance (MLP) for programmes and qualification types. There is an increasing focus upon ensuring high-quality provision.

Apprenticeships

The current overall Success Rates for Apprenticeships (L2 and L3) are:

National: 59%

YH: 58%

North Yorkshire: 57.6%

Data sources:

QSR reports and PAMs reports provide details about 2006/07 success rates.

There are quarterly QSR reports, so it is also possible to view some information pertaining to 2007/08.

Framework Level data, 2006/07:

Aggregated data for 2006/07 which includes all North Yorkshire WBL providers, at framework level has been sent separately to PiP; and providers will be aware of their performance at framework level.

It is useful to note that there is a good amount of provision over the MLP threshold, but that there are also some frameworks which do need to be improved.

Improving and the Direction of Travel:

The MLP is a minimum and all providers should aim to exceed this. Currently under new measures, the overall success rate calculation is being used, but it should be noted that a timely success rate calculation also exists and providers should look to improve timely rates too.

E2E

Current positive Outcome rates (leavers entering either FE, WBL, or employment) are:

National: 52%

YH: 51%

North Yorkshire: 45%

3. Participation 2007/08

16-18 and 19+ volumes (periods 1 – 8)

Actual volumes have more closely matched planned volumes in 19+; whilst 16-18 volumes have been lower.

L2 Apprenticeships

16-18 starts now total 827

19+ starts now total 406

L3 Apprenticeships

16-18 starts now total 260

19+ starts now total 305

The planned number of starts for 2006/07 are 2,315, the total of all starts to date is 1,798. Will the planned number be reached?

For 2008/09 the planned number of starts will be 2,805; representing an increase of 490. This growth is required in order to respond to the Leitch ambition for 400,000 Apprenticeships. Apprenticeships will need to be considered in terms of starts and completions (and not average in learning)

Train to Gain

TTG providers work across the Y&H region; and are contract managed by one of the sub-regional offices. The following data therefore shows how NY managed providers specifically and the Y&H overarching situation.

NVQ L2 (and NVQ 'L3 Jumpers')			
Periods 1- 8	Planned Starts	Actual Starts	% delivered
NY managed	2744	1582	57.7%
All in Y&H			50.7%
Periods 1-8	Planned achievements	Actual achievements	% delivered
NY managed	2220	439	19.8%
All in Y&H			31.7%

This data suggests that actual starts will not reach the planned number, and that achievement levels need to increase in the next few months.

Skills for Life continues to be a challenging area. Only 32.5% of planned starts for Y&H have actually happened. For North Yorkshire managed providers the figures are lower (22.9%).

4. Improving this report

We are keen to ensure that you are receiving the information which is most helpful to you. So if you would like to suggest any particular additions to this report, please email melissa.taylor@lsc.gov.uk by 30 May 2008.

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