

LSC Update to PiP November 2008

Date of issue 1 November 2008
LSC office North Yorkshire

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1. Aims

The aim of this paper is to provide updates to PiP members, which assist understanding and evaluation, and to assist dialogue and development. It is important for providers to benchmark their performance against regional and national levels; and to be aware of developments in order to prepare for the future.

2. Performance

Apprenticeship performance has been strong in 2007/08 with growth in starts locally and regionally for 16-18 and Adults, (19+ and 25+). Success rates have also improved and are now closer to national averages.

To boost participation further DIUS have sponsored significant Apprenticeship marketing campaigns including extensive television advertising.

Participation and Success Final analysis for 2007/08

In the next PiP paper, we will provide a final analysis of 2007/08 performance – this will be once Period 15 data is available.

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Participation and Success 2008/09

Once data systems are fully operational for 2008/09 we will include information on the current year.

3. Information Updates

Apprenticeships 2007/08

The period 15 data window closes on 12th November 2008. If you have further data to upload please do so at the earliest opportunity so that your performance for the 2007/08 year is fully captured.

Contracts for 2008/09

Thank you for your patience regarding delays in the contracting process for 2008/09. The issuing of contracts has commenced; and it is expected that you will be in receipt of your contract on or before Friday 7 November.

Provider Event

Please note the following date for your diary:

26th November – Single Regional Briefing for providers and partners, venue: tbc.

Framework for Excellence

The Framework for Excellence website is a key source of information. The following is a link to the first bulletin on the website:

http://readingroom.lsc.gov.uk/lsc/National/Framework_for_Excellence_Bulletin-October.pdf

Vacancy Matching Service

Following issues identified with the system during early testing the Vacancy Matching Service soft launch has been postponed until the 10th December. A one day training session will be arranged, and you will be invited to this.

Apprentice Redundancies

The LSC is keen to know of any issues affecting learners you are dealing with during the current economic downturn. Where these involve the construction and allied trades, please contact gill.waite@lsc.gov.uk; for other sectors please discuss with your usual LSC contact.

Apprenticeship Minimum Wage – an amendment to implementation

In a number of the press and through communications, it was stated that the minimum wage for all apprentices in England will be increased from £80 to £95 per week from April next year. It has been agreed that the implementation of the increase is now changed to August 2009, thus coinciding with a new academic year.

Reforms to Training and Qualifications

Providers should be aware of this Guidance document:

“Guidance for work based learning providers - Reforms to the training and qualifications of teachers, tutors, trainers, and instructors”

Literacy and Numeracy

Information:

In the last edition of the briefing for PiP, a list of literacy and numeracy information and resources available was included, we hope this has been useful.

Focus:

Providers should note that Leitch sets out important numeracy and literacy milestones; with very challenging targets for the increase of numeracy.

Audit:

Providers are reminded that the assessment process for literacy and numeracy should include checking for relaxations and proxies.

16-18 year olds and Health and Social Care

The Commission for Social Care Inspection (CSCI) and the Department of Health have worked closely to develop a more flexible approach, allowing 16-18 year olds to provide personal care as long as they are suitably trained/competent and are appropriately supervised. For details please contact Skills for Care.

Train to Gain Updates

Please contact your contract manager if you are delivering TtG and are not receiving the LSC TtG newsletter.

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| Paper creator | Melissa Stevens |
| Date created | 31 October 2008 |
| Document ref. | G:\YON\Partnerships\Providers in Partnership\Updates for PiP\yon-lscupdatetopipnovember2008-paper-01nov2008.doc |