

Update

Issue 19
18 August 2010

**Skills
Funding
Agency**

Welcome

Update is our round up of business critical and useful information to Skills Funding Agency providers. If you have any feedback please get in touch by emailing: update@skillsfundingagency.bis.gov.uk.

All back copies and the current issue of Update are available on the [Skills Funding Agency website](#).

Please forward and share this with relevant colleagues within your organisation.

In this issue:

- **Consultation on the future 'right to request time to train' policy**
- **Future scenarios presentations**
- **WorldSkills London 2011**
- **Qualifications and Credit Framework update – Guidance and Information on Managing the Transition to Qualifications Credit Framework**
- **Training offer for those unemployed for 6 months: changes to the completion of key Individualised Learner Record fields**
- **Data Service to release period 12 employer responsive qualification success rate reports**
- **Common errors found in migration of Employer Responsive and ESF data for 2010/11**
- **Framework for Excellence update**
- **Adult Learner Responsive year end returns**
- **Useful telephone numbers and websites**

Consultation on the future of the 'right to request time to train' policy

Consultation

The legal right to allow workers in businesses with more than 250 employees, to request time to take up relevant training came into effect on 6 April.

The Government has announced a review of all regulations in a bid to reduce burdens on businesses. This consultation aims to gather opinions on the right to request time to train and will feed in to the review. The Department for Business, Innovation and Skills is interested in hearing views on the regulation from employees, businesses and other interested parties.

More information and the full consultation document is available on the [Department for Business, Innovation and Skills Website](#).

Future scenarios presentations

Information

[Issue 15 of Update](#) reported on the Skills Funding Agency presentation for colleges on the new freedoms and flexibilities in the Further Education sector.

If you wish to be visited by us and receive the presentation please contact your Skills Funding Agency Account Manager.

WorldSkills London 2011

Information

WorldSkills London 2011 will take place at ExCel London from 5 - 8 October 2011. It is expected that 150,000 people will attend to see this unique global competition, which involves 1,000 competitors from over 50 nations competing to be the best in the world in skills ranging from floristry to robotics.

This is the first time the competition has been held in the UK for over 20 years. Schools and colleges are being contacted and encouraged to take part in related activities taking place around the UK. It is an excellent opportunity to inspire students to demonstrate how skills shape our world and their futures. More information is available from the [WorldSkills London 2011 website](#).

Qualifications and Credit Framework Update – Guidance and Information on Managing the Transition to the Qualifications Credit Framework

Information

Working with the Association of Colleges and Association of Learning Providers, the Agency has released the following publication which is intended to support colleges and providers during the period July 2010 – January 2011 as public funding for Adult Learner Responsive and Employer Responsive (Train to Gain) moves to qualifications on the Qualifications and Credit Framework: [Provider guidance on the turn off of the National Qualifications Framework](#).

The publication is structured using a step by step approach to actions which providers and colleges are encouraged to take between now and January.

Training offer for those unemployed for 6 months: changes to the completion of key Individualised Learner Record fields

Information

Action

Providers delivering the training offer for those unemployed for 6 months should note the changes to the completion of key Individualised Learner Record fields for participants with a start date on or after 1 August 2010. These are highlighted in the revised Annex D to the Provider Guidance available on the [Skills Funding Agency website](#).

Providers should raise any queries with their Account Manager.

Data Service to release Period 12 Employer Responsive Qualification Success Rate reports

Information

The Data Service plans to release the Period 12 Employer Responsive Qualification Success Rate reports on the [Provider Gateway](#) on 20 August 2010. Further details on this release will follow in due course.

Common errors found in migration of Employer Responsive and ESF data for 2010/11

Information

The Data Service completed the live migration of Employer Responsive and ESF Short Record Individualised Learner Records data from 2009/10 to 2010/11 on the 9 August 2010.

The live migration reports have now been produced and these show a number of common errors, which have prevented a number of learners and aims from migrating. A small number of providers have been identified.

Further guidance and information is available from [the Data Service website](#).

Framework for Excellence Update

Information

John Landeryou, Director of the Further Education Directorate at the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, and Sue Baldwin, Director of Young People's Participation and Attainment Group, Department for Education, wrote to you in July about changes that were being made to the presentation of Framework for Excellence data to make it clearer and simpler for use by learners, employers and the public.

Their letter also gave an indication of the impact this would have on the planned timetable for releasing and publishing 2009/10 data. This work has now concluded.

For more information about the release of Framework for Excellence data and the implementation of Framework for Excellence in 2010/11 please visit the [Skills Funding Agency website](#).

Adult Learner Responsive Year End Estimates

Information Action

The Adult Learner Responsive year end estimates deadline is Monday 6 September. The Individualised Learner Record Funding Claim form for year end estimates is available to download on the [Skills Funding Agency website](#).

Useful telephone numbers and websites

Information

Employers (up to 5000 employees) - [Train to Gain](#) or 0845 600 9 006

Employers (5000+ employees) - [National Employer Service](#) or 024 7682 5815

Learners/individuals – [Next Step](#) or 0800 100 900

[National Apprenticeship Service - Employers](#) or call 08000 150 600

[National Apprenticeship Service - Learners](#)

[Skills Pledge](#) or call 0845 600 9006

Skills Funding Agency enquiries - Switchboard - 0845 377 5000 or [contact us](#)

[The Data Service](#) or call 0870 267 0001

[Learning Records Service](#) – Customer helpdesk call 0845 602 2589

The Skills Funding Agency funds and regulates adult further education and skills in England.

An agency of the Department for Business, Innovation & Skills.

The Skills Funding Agency complies with The Data Protection Act (DPA) 1998 and information on our Privacy Policy can be found on the [Skills Funding Agency website](#).