



Leading learning and skills



## **Train to Gain Skills Broker Briefing**

### **Direct access for Train to Gain providers to the Employer Data Service (EDS) to obtain employer unique reference numbers (URNs).**

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From May 2008, providers will obtain URNs directly from the EDS via a web portal. This means providers will no longer request URNs for employers they engage from Skills Brokers.

The background to this change is the need for the LSC to reduce bureaucracy for providers wherever possible – the need to obtain URNs from Skills Brokers was one of the key causes of bureaucracy and dissatisfaction for providers identified in the LSC's review of Train to Gain in 2007. As part of the Plan for Growth it was announced nationally that providers would gain direct access to the service.

This change has implications for the light-touch brokerage process, and for Skills Broker monthly reporting.

Regional Train to Gain teams will discuss these issues in detail with Skills Brokers but these briefing documents provide key information on the change.

There are two documents involved:

1. A Background for Providers – which details how the service will operate
2. Frequently Asked Questions – for LSC and Skills Broker staff explaining the process and impact of the new service.