

# The Framework for Excellence

<http://ffe.lsc.gov.uk>

August 2009

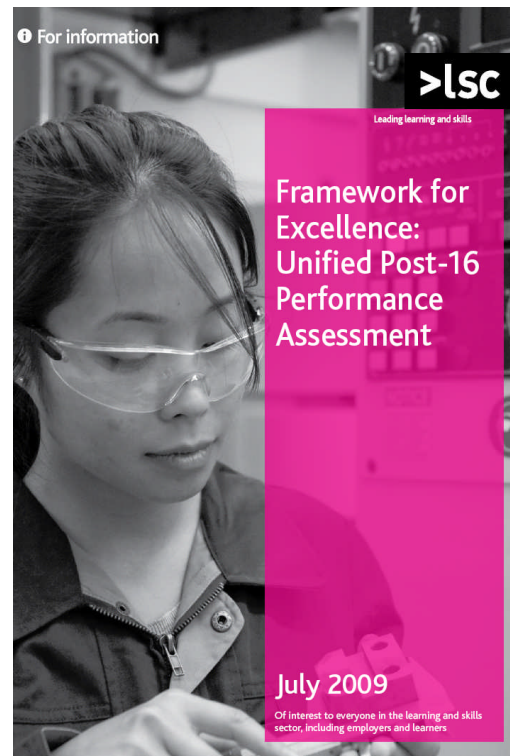
## Framework for Excellence Headline Outcomes 2009 and Policy Document

On 31 July, the [Framework for Excellence](#) published some national headlines from the 2008/09 assessment exercise; the sector will be able to use the document, [Framework for Excellence: Headline Outcomes in 2009](#), for comparison and benchmarking purposes.

We will continue to collaborate with partners to embed the Framework and to improve understanding of the Framework's data, and how it will be used, ahead of full publication in 2010. Further information is set out in the policy document [Framework for Excellence: Unified Post-16 performance assessment](#).

The operational details of the Framework in 2009/10 will be set out in the Framework for Excellence: Provider Guide 2009 which will be available in September 2009.

For further information on the Framework, please refer to the website or email the [frameworkforexcellence@lsc.gov.uk](mailto:frameworkforexcellence@lsc.gov.uk).



## Framework for Excellence: updated data

Please be aware that Framework for Excellence data has now been updated to take account of the following:

- Recent Ofsted inspections – the Ofsted grades available on the Framework reports now include all published inspection reports up to June 2009
- Moderations – agreed moderations to individual Framework for Excellence grades have been included on the system.
- General data cleansing, including:
  - updating provider contact details, where necessary
  - correcting some coding of provider type and TQS accreditation
  - making amendments to missing reason data codes and exemption information.

The information is now available on the Provider Gateway.

## Financial Management & Control Evaluation

The Financial Management and Control (FMCE) return requires all LSC-funded providers which fall within the scope of the Framework for Excellence to self-assess, evaluate and grade their financial management and control arrangements. The validated FMCE return will generate a provider's grade for the Financial Management and Control Performance Indicator (PI). It is also a key source of information to the LSC in respect of a provider's financial management and control arrangements. The FMCE return and guidance for 2009/10 is now available on the LSC website (<http://www.lsc.gov.uk/providers/pfm/financial-assurance/Financial+Management+and+Control+Evaluation.htm>).

## Preparing for the Framework for Excellence Surveys

All providers in scope for the Framework in 2009/10 will shortly be sent a letter with important information about the **Learner Views**, **Learner Destinations** and **Employer Views** surveys. Addressed to the Principal/Chief Executive of organisations, the letter will contain each provider's unique user name and password for a secure survey website. This unique log-in will give access to customised web pages, specifically developed for each organisation, including:

- Feedback on individual provider results across the three surveys during the survey periods.
- The data the LSC holds on employers, for use in the Employer Views survey, so providers can ensure that it is as accurate and complete as possible.

Providers are encouraged to visit this secure survey site regularly during the survey periods to stay up-to-date with their organisation's progress. Employer lists will become available during September.

All other information and guidance on preparing for the surveys in 2009/10 is available on the Framework for Excellence website: <http://ffe.lsc.gov.uk>


## Requests for paper based Learner Views Survey where a web-based survey is impossible to administer

Providers are reminded that the deadline to request a paper-based Learner Views survey — is **30 September 2009**. All applications will be assessed on a case-by-case basis, and forms received after this deadline will not be processed. Please visit <http://ffe.lsc.gov.uk/learnerviews/> for further information.

## Subscription to Website Updates: Now Available

As mentioned in the July edition of the Framework Bulletin, we have updated our website so that users can subscribe to receive a daily email alert if a specific area of the Framework for Excellence website is updated. This includes if text is revised, or any guidance notes are uploaded. Alerts are available on the following pages:

- Learner Views
- Responsiveness to Employers section
- Development of the Framework
- School Sixth Form Pilot
- Publications
- Events

To receive these alerts, please visit one of the pages and click on the  icon to sign up and manage your subscriptions. Users will only need to sign up once and can elect to receive alerts for any of the pages via this process. If you have any problems, please contact the Framework helpdesk: [frameworkforexcellence@lsc.gov.uk](mailto:frameworkforexcellence@lsc.gov.uk)

## AoC EVENTS

The recent merger of the Departments for Innovation, Universities and Skills (DIUS) and Business Enterprise and Regulatory Reform (BERR) into the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (DBIS) and the announcement of new ministers we have decided to reschedule the two Framework for Excellence AoC conferences originally planned for July 2009 until October 2009.

Moving the conferences will ensure a more informative and worthwhile day for delegates. Guidance on new commissioning and performance arrangements are currently in development and the LSC believe it would be more useful to discuss the Framework as part of this broader context.

The conferences will follow the recent publication of our [policy document](#) in the summer.

The revised dates for the conferences are as follows:

**Monday 5 October 2009 - Cumberland Hotel, London**  
**Thursday 8 October 2009 – Sheffield Park Hotel, Sheffield**

For further information on the conference and details of how to make a booking visit [www.aocmsevents.co.uk/ffe2009](http://www.aocmsevents.co.uk/ffe2009)

### **AoC Annual Conference and Exhibition 2009** **17-19 November, ICC Birmingham**

The Framework for Excellence team is hosting a breakout session at the forthcoming [AoC Annual Conference and Exhibition 2009](#). The session is an opportunity to discuss the planned delivery of Framework for Excellence in 2009/10, including the sixth form/local authority pilot. There will be particular emphasis on publication and sharing of Framework outcomes in 2010, and an opportunity to consider the benefits of sharing sector level performance information.

The Framework session will take place on the first day of the conference. For booking and further information, visit [www.aoc.co.uk](http://www.aoc.co.uk)

### **Feedback**

Thank you for your continued support of the Framework Bulletin; your views on any issue relating the Framework for Excellence are extremely welcome. Please email us at: [frameworkforexcellence@lsc.gov.uk](mailto:frameworkforexcellence@lsc.gov.uk).

### **Subscription**

If you would like to receive the Framework Bulletin by email each month, please forward your contact details to [frameworkforexcellence@lsc.gov.uk](mailto:frameworkforexcellence@lsc.gov.uk) and mark with the subject heading 'Bulletin'.