

Learning Agreement Pilot



FACTSHEET FOR BROKERS	
Summary	The Learning Agreement Pilot is a Treasury funded initiative aimed at testing the effectiveness of structured Learning Agreements and financial incentives to re-engage in learning those young people (aged 16 and 17) who are in jobs but not participating in any accredited learning.
Location	There are 8 pilot areas in England – Lancashire, Devon and Cornwall, South Yorkshire, West Yorkshire, Greater London, Greater Manchester, Essex and the Black Country.
Timing	The Learning Agreement Pilots commenced in April 2006. Learners can be signed up to the Learning Agreement Pilot until the end of March 2009 with support until the end of July 2009.
Why	The Learning Agreement pilot aims to establish what level of financial and other support is required to provide the necessary stimulus to young people aged 16 and 17 in work but without formal training to re-engage in learning in the pilot areas.
How	Ministers are waiting for the release of the 2 nd year evaluation report due to be published towards the end of this year / early next year, prior to making a decision on the future of the pilot.
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Key messages

In Devon and Cornwall the Learning Agreement variant operates with a £250 bonus for the young person who completes the agreement and a £250 bonus for the employer who supports their employee throughout the training.

The Learning Agreement Pilot builds on the statutory right to time off for study for 16-17 year olds and the raising of participation age, with priority given to those who are below a standard equivalent to a Level 2 qualification.

The young person should normally reside in the pilot area. Young people living outside pilot areas can be supported through the pilot if they are working within the pilot area alongside young people already supported by the pilot.

The Learning Agreement Pilot has two objectives

- To test the effectiveness of Brokerage and Learning Agreements at re-engaging 16 – 17 year olds who are in jobs without accredited training
- To test the effectiveness of the financial incentives available as a means of encouraging employees and Employers to take up the offer of training