

# Update

Issue 6  
12 May 2010

**Skills  
Funding  
Agency**

## Welcome

Welcome to the sixth edition of Update, our weekly communication to Skills Funding Agency training organisations. As purdah restrictions have now been lifted, we are uploading all back copies and the latest version of Update onto the Skills Funding Agency website, available soon at: <http://skillsfundingagency.bis.gov.uk/funding/allthelatest/providerupdate/>. You will also soon be able to sign up to our alerting service on the Skills Funding Agency website to make sure you are alerted when new items have been uploaded to the website.

If you have any feedback please get in touch by emailing [update@skillsfundingagency.bis.gov.uk](mailto:update@skillsfundingagency.bis.gov.uk).

### In this edition:

- Managing Train to Gain and Apprenticeship funding in 2009/10
- National Strategic Skills Audit
- Personal Learning Record for the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF) – Ofqual Letter
- Useful telephone numbers and websites

## **Managing Train to Gain and Apprenticeship funding in 2009/10**

### **For information**

In February 2010, we confirmed that we would continue to review and monitor performance and seek to maximise the funding available for delivery over the remainder of the financial year. As a result of this performance management, we are now able to remove the profile limit/ceiling for the August 2009 to March 2010 period for Train to Gain and Apprenticeships for 25+ activity subject to it remaining within a provider's overall Maximum Contract Value for the academic year 2009/10. For further information, please click on the following link:

<http://readingroom.lsc.gov.uk/SFA/SFA-managingTtGandAppfunding-May10.pdf>.

## **National Strategic Skills Audit**

### **For information**

The UK Commission for Employment and Skills National Strategic Skills Audit is a critical part of the process of developing and implementing skills priorities in England. The Skills Funding Agency with the UK Commission for Employment and Skills will be running nine events across the country throughout June and July to help providers and other key stakeholders understand the findings and the relevance to their organisation. We will be issuing further information and dates shortly.

## **Personal Learning Record for the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF) - Ofqual Letter**

### **For information**

In last week's Update we ran an article about a letter sent by Ofqual to Chief Executives of all awarding organisations about regulations for the Qualifications and Credit Framework. It implied that the Skills Funding Agency was expecting awarding organisations to comply with Ofqual's regulations. It should have stated: 'Ofqual expects awarding organisations to comply with the requirement once it is satisfied that the Personal Learning Record is fully functional, which the Skills Funding Agency expects in September 2010. Ofqual will confirm their approach to this requirement once the Personal Learning Record is in place.'

## Useful telephone numbers and websites

### For information

- National Apprenticeship Service - Employers call 08000 150 600 or visit <http://www.apprenticeships.org.uk/employers.aspx>
- National Apprenticeship Service - Learners should visit <http://www.apprenticeships.org.uk/Be-An-Apprentice.aspx>
- Learners/individuals - adult advancement and careers service - 0800 100 900 or [www.careersadvice.direct.gov.uk](http://www.careersadvice.direct.gov.uk)
- Employers (up to 5000 employees) - Train to Gain - 0845 600 9 006 or [www.businesslink.gov.uk/traintogain](http://www.businesslink.gov.uk/traintogain)
- Employers (5000+ employees) - National Employer Service - 024 7682 5815 or <http://skillsfundingagency.bis.gov.uk/employers/>
- Service Desk, The Data Service - 0870 267 0001 or [www.thedataservice.org.uk](http://www.thedataservice.org.uk)
- Other Skills Funding Agency enquiries - Switchboard - 0845 377 5000 or [www.skillsfundingagency.bis.gov.uk](http://www.skillsfundingagency.bis.gov.uk)

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

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

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<http://skillsfundingagency.bis.gov.uk/privacy.htm>