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The Principal
All YPLA Funded Academies

21 September 2011

Dear Colleague

Academy Financial Returns to the YPLA – form GAG3

This letter removes the requirement that Academies send the YPLA a GAG3 return in respect of academic year 2010/11. It confirms our response to Academies who have raised this issue through our enquiry point. This return would normally have been returned to the YPLA by 30 September 2011.

On 25 February the YPLA Director of Finance wrote to all Academies then open to tell them YPLA was reviewing the numbers and types of financial returns that Academies would need to provide to the YPLA in future and to notify you that, with immediate effect, we were removing the requirement for a GAG1 draft budget return. In March 2011 we followed this up by telling you that we were also withdrawing the GAG2A mid-year budget return.

YPLA has now issued its Accounts Direction for 2010/11 which should considerably enhance the quality and consistency of the year-end financial information that Academies send to us. As a consequence, we have withdrawn form GAG3 in respect of 2010/11. We will consider its future use in the light of our ongoing review and will notify you as appropriate.

Please note, however, that if there has been a significant deterioration in your forecast budget outturn for 2011/12 since you sent YPLA your full-year forecast of 2010/11 on form GAG2, you should contact us by email to AcademiesFinancialMonitoring@ypla.gov.uk so that one of the External Assurance team can consider the situation.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further please contact the Academy's YPLA Financial Monitoring Officer.

I should be grateful if you would ensure that the contents of this letter are brought to the attention of your finance director.

Yours sincerely,

John Rawsthorne

John Rawsthorne
Director of External Assurance
Young People's Learning Agency