

## Summary from Ofsted North West FES reference group meeting attended by Simon Clarke on the 22 May 2015

### New Common Inspection Framework

- Ofsted "Ready for Inspection" event is planned for 30 June 2015. This event will cover aspects of the new Common Inspection Framework to be introduced September 2015. Event is now full up. Simon is booked on this event and will feedback
- No Ofsted Inspections will be conducted from mid July until start of September in preparation for the introduction of the new inspection framework.
- Ofsted are planning to deliver some seminars on Governance for Grade 1 /2 providers
- As the new Framework inspects provision by programme type as opposed to specific occupational areas it's a good idea at Inspection to have specific persons to lead on Apprenticeship delivery, on Traineeship delivery, Data, Teaching And Learning, Leadership and Management, Outcomes for Learning etc
- Ofsted will be arranging seminars on Nominee training in the Autumn
- New shorter Inspections will be themed based, which will include a frank, evidence based professional dialogue between Ofsted and Provider. The outcome of this visit will never change the Inspection Grade but if it doesn't go so well this could invoke a full inspection (possibly within a 2 week period). Similarly if Ofsted think the grade should be improved following such short inspection then they may re-inspect in the near future – whether this would be within a similar time frame of 2 weeks is uncertain. (These arrangements are subject to the outcome of the Conservative Governments Spending Review ie so could change).
- Inspection will look at what progress has been made towards addressing areas for improvement as identified via previous inspection report
- Ofsted will revisit Good Providers for Health Check

### Recent Ofsted Inspections findings and concerns

- Of the 30 Ofsted Inspections in the North West since September 2014. 9 judged to be Good, 14 Require Improvement and 7 judged to be Inadequate. The providers judged to be Grade 3 get a Link Inspector to work with them
- Ofsted have got concerns with large contracts being given to new providers. "Some of the practices in the newer provision is quite scandalous"
- Some of the English and Maths delivery as inspected in the NW has been "chaotic" due to lack of staff, Training and development of staff, lack of organisation/planning and being delivered too late in the course programme, all learners doing the same worksheet (no differentiation), lack of link between vocational and Maths/English tutors
- Increased focus will be on destinations of learners leaving Study Programme, JCP, Traineeships . Such destinations may include progression into jobs but also skills development i.e. one small step for a learner might have a significant effect of their development
- Possibly look at LRS as to where learners have gone (providers do use Facebook, Linked-In , email etc to try and track destinations. Providers need to look at this information at a high level but also at a lower level i.e. individual tutor level, setting as KPI. Also think about the best time to contact ex learners ie phone at night as opposed to during the day
- Small improvements in attendance on GSCE attendance. Better provision has range of teaching techniques, contextualisation of subject to their vocational area, use of role models (e.g .sportsmen/women). Providers need to be more innovative in delivery.
- Ofsted are still finding pockets of Train to Gain type provision (ie Assessment provision ) particularly when delivered by subcontractors.

### General Information re Ofsted and Inspection

- Providers need to link their strategic plan to those of the LEP (Ofsted will look for this at Inspection)
- Ofsted will release more statistics on the 12 June

- LEP money is going towards capital projects (some are niche projects). Such capital funding should be on a need basis and not necessarily be awarded to who submits the best completed bid. LEPs are also looking at Curriculum funding and whilst this is not something Ofsted can get directly involved in, they want to be “sat at the table”.
- Ofsted have issues/concerns around the Trailblazers
- Manchester police deliver good sessions on PREVENT agenda
- There are increasing number of learners who are experiencing mental health issues compared with previous
- Study Programme must record and map work experience. Emphasis is on Quality not Quantity
- Ofsted wont grade Teaching, learning and assessment observations at Inspection
- Ofsted are increasing “walk throughs” with Managers during inspection and are proving to be beneficial. Tutors wont necessarily get feedback from these walk throughs (Tutors need to be made aware of this fact prior to Inspection)
- Some Colleges are replicating work practices for college (in trying to prepare students for the world of work) e.g. if a student is late they issue them a warning
- Ofsted will be looking for Safeguarding Risk Assessment. If there is a concern re Safeguarding EFA / SFA need to be made aware (e.g. concerns re radicalisation)
- Ofsted are still looking to recruit more Inspectors- Their target is for 70% of Inspectors to be “Practitioners”