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## Apprenticeships

### 'Get In Go Far': Campaign

The 'Get In Go Far' campaign targets 14- to 24-year-olds, their parents and teachers, promoting apprenticeships as well as other routes into work such as traineeships and work experience.

It will also target employers in order to increase the supply of apprenticeships and traineeships. The SFA need your help to get more young people to consider becoming an apprentice or trainee.

They have created a campaign toolkit to give you ideas on how your organisation can support the campaign. You can download the toolkits from the [Campaign Resources site](#). If you do not have a log in for this site you will need to create a free account. If you have any problems accessing the toolkits, please email the marcomms team.

For further information or campaign related queries, please [email Get In Go Far](#).

## Institute for Apprenticeships appoints Shadow Chair

The Institute of Apprenticeships (IfA) has appointed Antony Jenkins to the role of Shadow Chair.

Mr Jenkins is a former Chief Executive of Barclays and is the current Chairman of Business in the Community. He is also a patron of the government's employee engagement programme. He takes up his role with immediate effect, and will be joined by Nicola Bolton as Shadow Chief Operating Officer. The remaining Board members of the IfA will be appointed through a public process by the end of this year.

The full press release announcing the appointment can be found [here](#)

## Over three quarters of apprenticeships delivered by ITPs

Training providers are now delivering 75% of apprenticeships, according to the Association of Employment and Learning Providers (AELP).

The figures reveal the importance of training providers in the apprenticeships ecosystem, and the extent to which outsourcing has now become accepted practice in higher education.

A closer look at the AELP analysis shows that overall, of the 499,900 apprenticeship starts in 2014-15, 76% were delivered via private training providers. And in terms of apprenticeship starts in college, 40% of those were subcontracted out to independent training providers (ITPs).

The issue of subcontracting is an especially delicate one, given the impending introduction of the apprentice levy next year. With that in mind, the AELP is lobbying to ensure that the funding allocation system recognises the contribution of ITPs and rewards the providers that directly deliver apprenticeship starts.

## Information on the number of apprenticeship starts and achievements.

This [statistical data](#) set that has just been released provides information on apprenticeships through a number of reports broken down by starts, achievements, sector, framework, geography, gender, age and others.

Although the comparators are full year it does give you a feel for relative positions and that nationally we will be around the 500k figure by the end of the year

## Apprenticeship Reform

Skills Minister Nick Boles has admitted that a string of key apprenticeship reform announcements will be further delayed following Brexit.

The government was due to provide further funding information for apprenticeship reforms by the end of this month, with the long-awaited Sainsbury review report setting out new technical professional education (TPE) routes into work, and a subsequent skills white paper, also expected imminently.

But Mr Boles told the Association of Employment and Learning Providers (AELP) conference there would be a “little delay” following the British public’s decision to leave the European Union – although they can be expected before the summer recess.

He said: “We should all continue to assume and work on the assumption that the apprenticeship levy is coming in, in the way planned as planned.

However, he added: “We had planned to publish further detailed information about the pricing of specific apprenticeship standards in the next few days. I’m sure you will understand that is now going to be a little delayed, but only a little we still expect to get that information out well before the summer break.”

The government plans to slash the amount smaller firms will have to pay towards the cost of apprenticeships training after the levy launch.

Employers of all sizes currently have to pay a third of training costs with the Skills Funding Agency agrees to covering the rest, under the pilot for new apprenticeships.

That means a £1 employer cash contribution returns £2 funding – up to a cap – for the relevant standard.

The government is looking at a making a much bigger contribution after April 2017 for employers not using their apprenticeship levy pot – either because their wage bill is too small to pay into it, or because it has run out.

For every £1 invested by such employers, we understand that the SFA will pay up to £9, according to plans set to be announced later this month.

This would mean providers are to be paid as much as 90 per cent from SFA coffers – although employers not paying the levy would still have to contribute around 10 per cent in cash first.



Attached is a whitepaper kindly sent by Martin Lewarne from ‘its learning’ which they have published on the apprenticeship levy.

Martin has offered Lancashire Forum members a free place on a webinar they are running on the 13th July 3-4pm

Its learning has developed a learning platform that is one of the largest cloud based learning platform solution in Europe. Please take note of this when reading their article and joining the webinar.

[The registration link.](#)

Attached: [Preparing for the Apprenticeship Levy - Is it time to re-think your offer](#)



## SFA Inform

You can now download the latest edition of Inform, the monthly newsletter about funding systems and data management from the

Skills Funding Agency, from <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sfa-inform>

The news this month includes:

- Ofqual's new register of regulated qualifications
- Apprenticeship breaks in learning: best practice
- Funding information system (FIS) for 2016 to 2017
- Digital apprenticeship service workshops
- The Hub



## David Hughes to be new AoC Chief Executive

The Association of Colleges (AoC) has announced that David Hughes, currently the Chief Executive of the Learning and Work Institute, will become its new Chief Executive in September 2016.

David joined Learning and Work Institute (previously NIACE) as Chief Executive in 2011, following 11 years in the further education sector, working at the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) and the Skills Funding Agency (SFA). David has most recently led the merger of NIACE with Inclusion to form Learning and Work Institute in 2016. At the LSC and SFA David led funding relationships with colleges and providers. David has also worked in the voluntary sector across a wide range of roles and organisations in the UK and Australia, in social housing, co-operatives, welfare, regeneration and community development.

David will take over as Chief Executive of AoC from Martin Doel who will be taking up the position as the Further Education Trust for Leadership (FETL), Professor of Further Education and Skills at the UCL Institute of Education (IOE).



## Department for Education

Follow [this link](#) to access the Education Funding Agency e-bulletins.



## Future Apprenticeships Phase 2

The employer engagement and business development workshops are now up on the portal. They can be found through the main course page which will also show all other courses as they become available:

<http://futureapprenticeships.org.uk/courses/>

and on its own course page with the detail:

<http://futureapprenticeships.org.uk/courses/employer-engagement/>

Attachment: [FA Phase 2 flyer](#)



## Sub Groups Quality Improvement Sub Group

SFA: qualification achievement rate 2015 to 2016 (formerly QSR)

Access the link below to take you to reports that explain how qualification achievement rates (formerly qualification success rates) are calculated.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sfa-qualification-achievement-rate-2015-to-2016-formerly-qsr>

## English and Maths managers' network

Discussions have been taking place with Sue Lownsborough about setting up an English and Maths manager's network. Sue has been working with the ETF and arranging Maths GCSE courses for tutors, which many Forum members attended last November at Training 2000.

The proposal is to:-

1. Set up of a Maths and English manager's network with a view to setting up local networks in the longer term
2. To use EDMODO in the first instance as a secure chat area for managers to chat to each other, share best practice, post resources etc
3. To arrange an on line meeting using Adobe Connect or Google hangouts to hold our first meeting.
4. Set up a face to face meeting at some time in the autumn
5. To establish a network specifically for work base learning maths and English managers if there is sufficient interest.

If anyone is interested in joining the network please email Sue on [S.Lownsborough@hud.ac.uk](mailto:S.Lownsborough@hud.ac.uk)

Sue will then send you an invitation to join the Edmodo site. You will then be able to post questions, link with others and find out when meetings are going to be held etc.

Sue has offered to attend a future meeting to explain and give an update about what support is available from ETF.

Simon Clarke Chair of the Sub group meeting alerted members that one of the changes to the Qualification Achievement Rate (QAR) business rules for 2015-16 relates to learners on Planned Breaks in Learning. Any learners who were recorded as starting a planned break in 2014-15 who have not returned by R04 of 2016-17 will be treated as a withdrawal in the QAR. I.e. if providers have such learners this change will adversely affect success rates



## The Skills Show 2016

[The Skills Show 2016](#) will take place at the NEC Birmingham from 17 to 19 November and you can now book your free ticket. The show provides hands-on experiences for young people to explore skills, jobs, training and apprenticeships. Visitors can meet employers from a range of industries and try out different skills for themselves in an interactive environment. Travel bursaries for schools and colleges are also available; these will be allocated on a first-come first-served basis.

## Training Provider News

On Monday 20th June Accrington and Rossendale College celebrated the success of its Construction and Motor Engineering students in front of a packed room of family, friends and employers in its annual awards ceremony, held at Accrington Town Hall.



The event, which has become one of the College's most prestigious awards evenings featured a star-studded line up of guests that included Principal Sue Taylor, Mayor of Hyndburn Councillor Tim O'Kane, Mayor of Rossendale Councillor Granville Morris, Mayor of The Ribble Valley Councillor Joyce Holgate as well as tutors and Head of Departments.



Head of Faculty Simon Pollard said, "We have a great tradition of producing award winning construction workers that go on to have great careers. It's fantastic to see so many highly skilled students in a wide range of trades receiving awards. The awards ceremony just seems to get better and better each year."

On the evening, no fewer than 41 students from 9 different trade areas ranging from Motor Engineering, Plumbing and Floor Covering to Interior Design, Plastering and Brickwork received awards.





**Students from Accrington and Rossendale College's Construction Department picked no fewer than five medals at this year's recent SkillBuild regional heats.**

The competition, held at Furness College, sees the very best in construction talent compete against each other to be crowned the SkillBuild winner in their chosen trade.

Andrew Forshaw, aged 24 from Manchester secured a gold medal for the College in the Senior Carpentry & Joinery Level 3 category, staving off competition from a very talented field. Andrew, who is employed as an apprentice at Retail Outlet Design Ltd in Blackburn said, "It feels great to win a gold medal in your chosen craft and it shows that hard work pays off. I want to thank my tutors and my employer for all the help, guidance and support they have shown me over the course of my apprenticeship."



**"Outstanding" Nelson and Colne College has been named number one in the country for its 16-18 apprenticeship provision across all levels.**

Measured against other FE Colleges, the latest National Achievement Rate Tables place the Barrowford-based College top for its work with apprentices, aged between 16 and 18. The new figures also reveal NCC is second in the country for overall apprenticeship provision, overall classroom learning, and 16-18 classroom learning for all levels.



The latest achievements come after the College topped the Department for Education's School and College Performance Table earlier this year for the progress students make in their A Level studies – as well as "top in the area" for vocational studies. It was also named "outstanding across the board" in the newest ALPS report, outstanding in its most recent Ofsted, and following its latest results it once again maintained a 100% pass rate for both A Levels and vocational studies.

Principal of NCC Amanda Melton said: "To be named first in the country for our 16-18 apprenticeship success is an incredible achievement, and I am, as always, so proud of Nelson and Colne College's staff and students for continually going above and beyond in their work and studies.

**Dates for your diary...**

Next Forum meeting  
When: 6th July 16  
Where: Preston's College  
Time: 9.30 for a 10am start  
Chair: Lisa Bloomfield  
Speakers: Krysia Hudek – Professional Exchange

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