

Qualification and Credit (QCF) Funding Parameters Guidance

Interim Funding Parameters for Personal and Social Development in the Adult Foundation Learning Curriculum

18 June 2010

Background and Purpose

- This document is an interim addendum to the Qualification and Credit Framework (QCF) technical funding parameters for Adult Learner Responsive. (http://readingroom.lsc.gov.uk/SFA/ALRFundingParameters-21may2010-v1.pdf) It is concerned with Personal and Social Development (PSD) in the Adult Foundation Learning Curriculum. It will also be applicable to where the Adult Foundation Learning Curriculum is delivered in the Offenders Learning and Skills Services (OLASS).
- 2. At its meeting on 28 May 2010, the Skills Funding Agency Strategic Approvals Panel (SAP) agreed to extend the funding parameters for Personal and Development provision within the Adult Learning Tier for an interim period until 31 December 2010. This agreement was in order to support awarding organisations and providers in the continued transition to the QCF as well as taking account of the range of PSD provision within the QCF that had previously been developed for the Foundation Learning catalogue.
- 3. The extension of the funding parameters is valid until 31 December 2010 and these components of Adult Foundation Learning Tier will be subject to further review in January 2011 in advance of the new delivery year.
- 4. This addendum should be read in conjunction with the main funding parameters for Adult Learner Responsive provision.

Additional Interim Parameters

- 5. The Adult Foundation Learning Curriculum covers 3 areas of provision:
 - Functional Skills in English, Mathematics and ICT, and includes adult basic skills in literacy, ESOL and numeracy, at entry and level 1
 - Vocational learning at entry and level 1
 - Personal and social development provision at entry and level 1.
- 6. Functional Skills and adult basic skills continue to sit outside the QCF and will continue to be funded as set out in standard Skills Funding Agency funding guidance.
- 7. As indicated above, funding parameters for vocational qualifications in the QCF, including those within the Adult Foundation Learning Curriculum have been set out in the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF) Funding Parameters Guidance:

 Adult Learner Responsive Version 2.
- 8. As indicated in the above document, Personal and Social Development provision that forms part of the Foundation Learning Curriculum will be funded by the Skills Funding Agency against the following criteria only:
 - the qualification falls within the Award or Certificate band of the QCF
 - the qualification is aligned to qualification purpose A (Recognise personal growth and engagement in learning), in the OfQual 'Identifying purposes for qualifications in the Qualifications and Credit Framework' (Feb 2009)
 - the qualification is built from 'shared' units as defined by OfQual, that is, they
 are marked as 'shared' under the 'Availability for Use'
 - the qualification is in the QCF.
- 9. However, it has been agreed that, for an interim period, until 31 December 2010, there will be additional parameters applied to the above, these are:

- existing qualifications within the Diploma band at entry level 1 may be included and funded for learners up to 31 December 2010
- existing qualification's aligned to qualification purpose B (Prepare for further learning or training and/or develop knowledge and/or skills in a subject area) or C (Prepare for employment) may be included and funded for learners up to 31 December 2010 only.
- 10. Where purposes B or C are used, the Agency reserves the right to seek Sector Skills Council or sector body advice on the qualification prior to confirmation of funding. In each case learners will be supported through to the completion of their provision, but at this point in time it is proposed that funding for new starts will cease from 31 December 2010.
- 11. PSD qualifications confirmed for Skills Funding Agency funding will be added to the published list of funded QCF provision at: http://readingroom.lsc.gov.uk/SFA/nat-QCF Qualifications confirmed for public funding.xls

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