



Pearson UK – Funding News

11 September 2015

Funding News provides a regular round-up of 16-18, 19+ and apprenticeship funding, and related news from government departments, funding agencies and other relevant organisations.

Internal and external colleagues can sign up to receive Funding News directly to their inbox by subscribing [here](#).

News this week includes the availability of information from the Treasury, BIS and the DfE on the further education report: joint review of cost drivers, details from BIS and the DfE on the post-16 area reviews, and an outline of what will be in the Green paper for higher education due in the autumn. We also include a reminder about the moratorium on 19+ qualification approval – put into place as the BIS and the Skills Funding Agency undertake a significant review of adult skills funding.

Treasury, Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, and the Department for Education

- Further education report: joint review of cost drivers

Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, and Department for Education

- Post-16 education and training: area reviews

Department for Business, Innovation and Skills

- Green paper for higher education due in the autumn
- Graduate labour market statistics: April to June 2015

Department for Education

- Timelines for further education colleges, sixth form colleges, and schools: mandatory and useful information

Ministry of Justice

- Announcement of a review of education in adult prisons

Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, and Skills Funding Agency

- Course directory August 2015

Skills Funding Agency

- Funding allocations to training providers: 2015 to 2016
- Moratorium: approving qualifications for 19+ funding

Education Funding Agency

- Model funding agreements and a model contract for services

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- Steve Besley's Policy Watches

Treasury, Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, and the Department for Education

Further education report: joint review of cost drivers

In February 2015, the Treasury, BIS and DfE commissioned a 'Joint review of Further Education cost drivers' to understand the funding, cost drivers and outcomes of the FE system in England, with a particular focus on teaching costs, E&M provision and financial management. Copies of the results of the review can now be requested by emailing area.reviews@education.gsi.gov.uk.

Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, and Department for Education

Post-16 education and training: area reviews

BIS and the DfE have published [more detail](#) on the post-16 area reviews. It explains how the reviews will be carried out, the institutions in scope, and the timescales and roles and responsibilities. The approach is designed to '*achieve a transition towards fewer, larger, more resilient and efficient providers, and more effective collaboration.*' The first of the reviews take place in Birmingham and Solihull, Greater Manchester, and the Sheffield City Region. Further reviews will be announced shortly. All reviews are expected to be completed by March 2017.

Department for Business, Innovation and Skills

Green paper for higher education due in the autumn

Jo Johnson [spoke](#) at the University of Surrey this week and set out a broad vision for HE 'foreshadowing a green paper' to be published in the autumn. The speech is summarised [here](#) and covers proposals to improve the quality of teaching; widening participation and good data and support for young people; creating a level playing field for new providers; speeding up the process to gain degree awarding powers; and reforming the HE and research system.

Graduate labour market statistics: April to June 2015

BIS has published [statistics](#) on graduate and non-graduate earnings and employment rates for England for the second quarter (Q2) of 2015. Key findings include: the nominal median salary for young graduates has seen an annual increase of £1,000 to £25,000; the current unemployment rate of 4.4% among young graduates is the lowest Q2 rate since the 2.7% recorded in Q2 2008; and the employment rate for working age postgraduates of 88.3% is the highest Q2 rate seen since the 89.5% recorded in Q2 2007.

Department for Education

Timelines for FE colleges, sixth form colleges, and schools

The DfE has added the autumn term update to its [timelines](#) for further education colleges, sixth form colleges, and schools. The timelines include 'mandatory' and 'useful' information and are produced to help head teachers, principals and governors plan for the academic year ahead.

Ministry of Justice

Announcement of a review of education in adult prisons

The Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice have [commissioned](#) a [review of prison education](#) in England and Wales to examine how it supports effective rehabilitation of different

segments of prison learners. The review will examine: the scope, quality and effectiveness of current education provision in prisons and Young Offender Institutions (YOIs), domestic and international evidence of what works well in prison education which demonstrably supports rehabilitation, and options for future models of education services in prisons.

Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, and Skills Funding Agency

Course directory August 2015

The Skills Funding Agency August 2015 [course directory](#) was published on 7 September 2015. The course directory contains information from over 900 organisations including colleges, training providers and local education authorities and is updated monthly.

Skills Funding Agency

Moratorium: approving qualifications for 19+ funding

A reminder that on the 13 August the SFA [announced](#) that after the 3 September a moratorium will be in place on further approvals of qualifications for 19+ funding for 2015/16. The [productivity plan](#), published on 10 July, identified the role of a professional and technical education system in increasing productivity and emphasised the need for high-quality routes to employment and higher-level skills. To deliver this vision the SFA are making significant changes to the adult provision they will publicly fund, how they fund it, and how it will be shaped by employer and local demand. The moratorium has been put in place as these changes are worked through by BIS and the SFA. Further information will be available in the autumn.

Funding allocations to training providers: 2015 to 2016

The SFA has published the 2015 to 2016 [funding allocations](#) to colleges, training organisations, local authorities and employers. They contain maximum contract value information as at August 2015 and the information excludes contract values where these are not finalised.

Education Funding Agency

Model funding agreements and a model contract for services

The EFA has released a number of model funding agreements and a model contract for services. Model funding agreements are available for [general further education colleges and specialist colleges](#), [sixth-form colleges](#), [special post-16 institutions](#), [non-maintained special schools](#), [alternative provision Academies](#), [Free schools](#), and [UTCs or studio schools](#), and a model contract for services is available for [commercial and charitable providers](#).

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Steve Besley's Policy Watches

The latest from Steve Besley includes [Pocket Watch – Summer Headlines](#), [Pocket Watch – Autumn Scheduling](#), [Policy Tracker - Keeping track of what happened in the world of education in August 2015](#), and [Policy Eye - week ending September 4 2015](#). These and more can be found on the [Pearson UK](#) website or [sign up](#) for email updates direct to your inbox.

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