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Pearson UK – Funding News

19 August 2016

Funding News provides a regular round-up of 16-19, 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](#). Funding News can also be found on the [Pearson UK](#) website along with Funding Focus documents which provide quick summaries of recent funding developments, or particular aspects of the funding system.

Funding News this week is mainly a reminder that the long-awaited key apprenticeship documents were published at the end of last week: proposals for apprenticeship funding, and a new register for apprenticeship providers, and further information on the levy, how much the levy will bring in, and an online calculator. We include links to our summaries of some of these documents and will bring you further summaries shortly. We also include a reminder that that DfE has opened surveys on two of the documents: the proposals for apprenticeship funding, and the proposals for a new Register of Apprenticeship Training Providers. Both close on Monday 5 September.

We also include a summary of adult funding in 2016/17, a reminder of the post-16 skills plan published in July, and where to find out more, and news of an IPPR report assessing England's new apprenticeship system.

Post-16 policy

- Reminder: Sainsbury Review and Post-16 Skills Plan, plus a *Handy Guide*, and a *Pocket Watch*

Adult funding

- Reminder: Pearson Funding Focus – Adult funding – Overview, and where to find out more

Apprenticeships

- Reminder: Proposals for apprenticeship funding, and a new register for apprenticeship providers, and further information on the levy, how much the levy will bring in, and an online calculator
- Reminder: DfE surveys on apprenticeship funding, and a new Register of Apprenticeship Training Providers
- IPPR report: England's apprenticeships, assessing the new system
- FE data library: Updated apprenticeship data added

Latest list of Pearson policy and funding updates



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Post-16 policy

Reminder: Sainsbury Review and Post-16 Skills Plan, plus a *Pearson Handy Guide*, and a *Pearson Pocket Watch*

On the 8th July BIS and the DfE published the long awaited [Sainsbury Review of technical and professional education in England](#), and, alongside it, the [Post-16 Skills Plan](#). The key headlines are that at the age of 16, students will choose between an academic option and a new technical option, and, be able to switch between the two routes. Under the technical option 15 routes will be available and within each route learners will choose between a two-year, college-based programme (including compulsory work experience), or an employment-based programme, such as an apprenticeship (including at least 20% college-based provision). Older learners will also be entitled to take these programmes. A transition year or traineeship will be available for those not ready to access a technical education route at 16.

The new, independent and employer-led body, the Institute for Apprenticeships will be expanded and be responsible for the new framework for technical education. It will have the remit to develop a coherent strategy and put employers in the lead of designing the standards across all technical education – college-based as well as apprenticeships. The plan sets out the timeline for reform between now and 2020, and further details from government on how the reforms will be implemented will be provided in the autumn.

Pearson has produced a [Handy Guide to the Sainsbury Review](#) which gives an overview of the report and the accompanying Post-16 Skills Plan, and Steve Besley's [Pocket Watch](#) explains why the latest Skills Plan is important and next steps. We will bring you news about the funding implications of the changes as they start to become clear.

Adult funding

Reminder: Pearson Funding Focus – Adult funding – Overview, and where to find out more

We have produced this [Funding Focus – Adult funding – Overview, and where to find out more](#) which provides an overview of adult funding in 2016/17 and shows you where to look for further information. It includes changes to adult funding in 2016/17, qualification eligibility, learner eligibility, using the funding hub, and the funding rules for 2016/17.

Apprenticeships

Reminder: Proposals for apprenticeship funding, and a new register for apprenticeship providers, and further information on the levy, how much the levy will bring in, and an online calculator

DfE has published the long-awaited proposals for apprenticeship funding, and the new apprenticeship register, together with further information on how the levy will work, information on how much the levy will bring in, and an online calculator. A suite of documents are available:

1. [Proposals for apprenticeship funding from May 2017](#) (23 pages) along with proposed funding bands for individual apprenticeship frameworks, and proposed funding bands for individual apprenticeship standards.

We have produced two Funding Focus documents summarising the proposals:

- [Funding Focus - Apprenticeship funding after April 2017](#) summarises the funding proposals under three headings: apprenticeship funding for levy and non-levy payers, apprenticeship funding for levy payers, and apprenticeship funding for non-levy payers. Annex A looks at the proposed new funding bands for all current apprenticeships (frameworks and standards).
- [Funding Focus - Proposed allocation of frameworks and standards to new funding bands from May 2017](#) provides a full list of the new proposed funding bands so you can easily see the new funding band your framework or standard has been allocated to. We have included the current apprenticeship standards rates for comparison. The current frameworks rates have not been included.

DfE are inviting **views on the funding proposals in a [survey](#) which closes on 5 September**. Do respond to ensure your views are taken into consideration; your feedback will help DfE shape the final funding proposals which will be confirmed in October 2016.

2. [Proposals for a new Register of Apprenticeship Training Providers](#) (17 pages) which organisations must apply to join if they want to deliver apprenticeship training from May 2017.
3. [Employer-provider guide](#) (31 pages) which explains what employers need to do to become an apprenticeship training provider.

We have produced a Funding Focus summarising the proposals, and the employer-provider guide which will shortly be available on the Pearson website: [Funding](#).

- Funding Focus - Proposals for a RoATPs, and Guidance for employers wanting to become apprenticeship providers

DfE are inviting **views on the proposals for a new register in a [survey](#) which also closes on 5 September**. Do respond to ensure your views are taken into consideration.

4. [Apprenticeship levy: how it will work](#) which has been updated and as well as including information about the proposals for how apprenticeships will be funded, provides more information for levy paying employers about how the levy will work from when it is introduced on 6 April 2017.

We are working on a summary which will be available shortly.

5. [Information on the apprenticeship levy](#) (9 pages) with data broken down by size and sector and the total apprenticeship budget which shows how much money the government is spending on apprenticeships and the amount employers will pay as part of the apprenticeship levy.

We are working on a summary which will be available shortly.

6. [An online levy calculator](#) which employers can use to estimate if they will pay the apprenticeship levy, how much an organisation will have available to spend on apprenticeships and how much the government will contribute towards the cost of training. Employers will need to know their organisation's annual UK payroll to use it.
7. [The DfE press release](#) which outlines what has been published.



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Reminder: DfE surveys on apprenticeship funding, and a new Register of Apprenticeship Training Providers

Just to highlight the two apprenticeship surveys again:

- DfE are inviting **views on the apprenticeship funding proposals in a [survey](#) which closes on 5 September**. Do respond to ensure your views are taken into consideration; your feedback will help DfE shape the final funding proposals which will be confirmed in October 2016.
- DfE are inviting **views on the proposals for a new register in a [survey](#) which also closes on 5 September**. Again, do respond to ensure your views are taken into consideration.

IPPR report: England's apprenticeships, assessing the new system

In their [report on the latest apprenticeship reforms](#) published this week IPPR supports the desire to create a strong apprenticeship system, but warns that the current apprenticeship policies are in danger of failing to achieve the government's aims. They identify four areas of particular concern: small and medium-sized employers may not offer enough apprenticeships, a market that delivers the cheapest possible apprenticeship for the largest group of people could develop in some sectors, there will be little additional training introduced as a result of the system, and the government's target to create 3 million apprenticeships will encourage as many starts as possible, which could see apprentices being placed on inappropriate levels; and make four recommendations for government: consider extending the levy to cover smaller employers, restrict apprenticeships to sectors in which apprenticeships can add real value, tighten up the regulation of the new apprenticeship standards, and encourage the growth of apprenticeships at level 3 and above.

FE data library: Updated apprenticeship data added

An updated file has been added to the [statistical data set from DfE and the SFA](#) which provides information on apprenticeships through a number of reports broken down by starts, achievements, sector, framework, geography, gender, age and others. 'Government funded apprenticeships starts and achievements 2007/08 to 2014/15' was added this week.

Latest list of Pearson policy and funding updates

- The latest Funding Focus guides include [Adult funding – Overview, and where to find out more](#), [Apprenticeship funding after April 2017](#), and [Proposed allocation of frameworks and standards to new funding bands from May 2017](#). Funding Focus – Proposals for a RoATPs, and Guidance for employers wanting to become apprenticeship provider, will also shortly be available on the Pearson website: [Funding](#).
- [Pearson UK – Monthly advanced learner loan submissions update 4 August 2016](#)
- [A Handy Guide to the Sainsbury Review](#)
- The latest from Steve Besley including [Policy Eye - Highlights of week ending Friday 12 August 2016](#), and [Pocket Watch \(2016/7\) – Why the latest Skills Plan is important and next steps](#). See the latest from [Policy Watch](#) for these and more.

Siân Owen

Head of Stakeholder Engagement (Funding)
sian.owen1@pearson.com