

Policy briefing



Wednesday 22 September 2010

NIACE Conference Centre, Renaissance House, 20 Princess Road West, Leicester LE1 6TP



**Skills for growth and
the proposed funding methodology**

Please retain pages 1-4

Background

On 22 July 2010 in a speech at Hackney College, John Hayes, the Minister of State for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) launched two consultations that will impact on the delivery of adult learning.

- A briefing and discussion on Skills for Sustainable Growth: a consultation on the direction of skills policy (www.bis.gov.uk/assets/biscore/further-education-skills/docs/s/10-1073-skills-consultation)
- Technical briefing on A Simplified Further Education and Skills Funding System and Methodology (www.bis.gov.uk/assets/biscore/further-education-skills/docs/f/10-1070-fe-funding-consultation.pdf)

This provides a challenging context for reform of the skills system, but also presents a real opportunity to focus public investment on what's most important for greater economic and social benefit. BIS welcome our views on the direction set out. The twelve week consultation period ending on 14 October offers the opportunity for discussion on the right areas for investment through the Spending Review and comments received earlier are more likely to influence this process.

A full strategy for skills will be published after the Spending Review in October which will set out in more detail how BIS intend to support learning and skills priorities. This will accompany a paper setting out how BIS will create the conditions for sustainable growth which will be published around the same time. This consultation starts the debate about the choices Government makes as we enter the Spending Review round and embark on a deficit reduction process that is ambitious in both its scale and speed.

NIACE believes that the policy aspiration has much to be commended but the proposals can be improved or sharpened. The devil will be in the detail, for instance:

- How will the freedoms and flexibilities that are proposed for colleges and training organisations lead to better learning opportunities for a wider range of adults?
- How will the reinvigoration of adult and community learning play out locally?
- What are the implications on minimum contract values on the quality and diversity of provision and equality of opportunity?

Aims

The policy briefing event on Wednesday 22 September 2010, will outline the policies, give NIACE's initial reactions and to seek delegate views to inform NIACE's response on behalf of the sector.

Audience

This policy briefing will be relevant to all Further Education and Adult Education providers.

Provisional Programme

- 12:30** Arrival and registration (sandwich lunch, tea/coffee available)
- 13:00** Welcome and introduction to the day
Chair: Alastair Thomson, Principal Policy Officer, NIACE
- 13:10** Keynote address:
Making sense of: “Skills for Growth”
Skills for Sustainable Growth: a consultation on the direction of skills policy
Mark Ravenhall, Operational Director, NIACE
- 13:40** Keynote address:
Making sense of: “The proposed funding methodology”
A Simplified Further Education and Skills Funding System and Methodology
Alastair Thomson, Principal Policy Officer, NIACE
- 14:10** Questions and discussion and closing remarks
- 14:30** Next Steps
Mark Ravenhall, Operational Director, NIACE
- 14:45** Evaluations
- 15:00** Close of policy briefing (tea/coffee available)

This programme is correct at the time of going to press. The organisers reserve the right to make changes to the published programme in the event of one or more of the advertised speakers being unable to attend. Delegates have no claim against NIACE in respect of such changes.

Event information

- Arrival and registration is at 12:30pm for a 1:00pm start. The event will end at 3:00pm
- Event fee per person per event (includes sandwich lunch, tea/coffee):
£85 (NIACE members)
£100 (Non NIACE members)
- **NB: NIACE does not charge VAT on event fees**
- Places can be reserved online via:
www.niace.org.uk/events
Alternatively completed and signed application forms can be faxed or posted to NIACE by the closing date. Reservations by telephone cannot be accepted
- Places will be allocated in order of receipt of completed application forms (one form per person) and restricted to the Local Authorities sector
- Participants should be prepared to take their own notes as there will not be handouts for all sessions
- Application forms are individually acknowledged by e-mail. Joining instructions, including map and directions, will be e-mailed out one week before the event
- Video cameras may be in use at this event. If you do not wish to be photographed or appear on the video outputs please indicate this on the application form and make yourself known at registration
- If you have not received an e-mail confirming your attendance and joining instructions 4 working days before the event please contact the NIACE Events Team.

Application conditions

Event: Wednesday 22 September 2010

Closing Date: Thursday 16 September 2010

- Cancellations are non-refundable
- The full fee is payable prior to the event
- Substitutions are to be advised **5 working days** prior to the event
- A **10 working days** notice period is required for provision of electronic note-takers, sign language interpreters and transcription to Braille.

NIACE, the National Institute of Adult Continuing Education, was founded in 1921. The National Institute seeks to secure an education system responsive to the diversity of adults' needs and aspirations as learners, and in particular to those who benefited least from initial education. It is our belief that a system fit for adults of all ages and in all their complexity will work better for all learners.

The National Institute is active in many areas - in research, development, publishing, seminars, conferences and training courses, and has an active individual membership.

NIACE is a company limited by guarantee.
Registration no. 2603322 Registered charity no. 1002775.
Registered Address: 21 De Montfort Street, Leicester LE1 7GE

NIACE Events Team
Renaissance House, 20 Princess Road West
Leicester LE1 6TP
Tel: 0116 204 2833 Fax: 0116 254 8368
Minicom: 0116 255 6049
E-mail: events@niace.org.uk
Website: <http://www.niace.org.uk/events>



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

niace
promoting adult learning



Please PRINT a copy of the form, complete and return by fax or post. Please complete the form in **CAPITALS**

My organisation has authorised my attendance on **Wednesday 22 September 2010, Leicester**

Participant's details

Title _____ Full name _____

Job title _____ Organisation _____

Daytime tel No. _____ Mobile No. _____ Fax No. _____

Please provide an e-mail address that is your own and regularly accessed as this will be used to send you joining instructions.

E-mail

Please indicate which sector you work in: _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

This is my Home address Work address

Joining instructions will be sent by e-mail, if you would prefer to receive these by post, please tick this box

Payment - NIACE does not charge VAT on event fees (The signatory is responsible for payment)

Event fee per person per event (includes lunch, tea/coffee):

£85 (NIACE members)

£100 (Non NIACE members)

NB: NIACE does not charge VAT on event fees

- Cancellations are non-refundable
 - The full fee is payable prior to the event
 - Substitutions to be advised 5 working days prior to the event
- I enclose a cheque for £..... made payable to NIACE

Please send me a receipt

I enclose Purchase Order No. _____

and request you to invoice my employer for £.....

Please note that the absence of a Purchase Order/ Order Number will delay the processing of your application form.

Invoice address:

Please debit my credit/debit card with the value of £.....

We do not accept payment by AMEX

Valid from: Expires on:

Three digit security code on reverse of card:

Issue No: (Switch/Maestro)

Name as it appears on the card:

Cardholder's signature:

Cardholder's address:

Participant's requirements

I have no special requirements	I will require a hearing loop
I will need support for my visual impairment	I will need wheelchair access
I will need an electronic note-taker	I will need facilities for an assistance dog
I will require a sign language interpreter (please specify)	
I require event materials in a specified format (please specify)	
I have the following dietary requirements (please specify)	
I have further additional requirements (please specify)	
NB: I do not wish to be photographed or filmed at this conference	

NIACE requires a 10 working days notice period to make arrangements for electronic note-takers, sign language interpreters and transcription to Braille.

Sectoral Monitoring

Adult Education College	Community Education Provider	Further Education
Government Body	Higher Education	Information/ Guidance Provider
Libraries, Museums, Archives, Arts	Local Government (inc. Ed Authorities)	Media
Offender Education	Open, Distance or e-learning Provider	Union
Vocational Education and Training	Voluntary Sector and Charities	

Ethnic and Equal Opportunities Monitoring

Bangladeshi	Black African	Black Caribbean	Chinese
Dual Heritage	Indian	Other Asian	Other Black
Pakistani	White	Any other ethnic group	
Gender	Female	Male	
Age	Under 30	31-50	51+

Agreement

By signing the form the individual agrees to this event's Terms and Conditions

Signature	PRINT First (given) and family names	Date

C2020FEM2/0910

Event Date: Wednesday 22 September 2010

Closing Date: Thursday 16 September 2010

Data Protection Act

The National Institute of Adult Continuing Education (NIACE) is registered under the Data Protection Act 1998 (Registration Number Z7412510). Personal information supplied to NIACE will be stored securely and used in relation to NIACE's work. Full details of the purposes for which NIACE processes personal information is in our Data Protection Register entry, which can be found on the Information Commissioner's website www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk. At no time will we divulge personal information to third parties without your express consent. Participants may be contacted by letter or e-mail with details of future events and publications organised or promoted by NIACE which may be of interest to you. Database mailing update forms are sent out periodically. These provide you with the opportunity to have your details amended or deleted from the database. If you wish to receive such further information please tick this box

Please return completed application form to NIACE Events Team: Fax: 0116 254 8368

NIACE Events Team, Renaissance House, 20 Princess Road West, Leicester LE1 6TP

Enquiries to: Tel: 0116 204 2833 E-mail: events@niace.org.uk