

West Yorkshire Lifelong Learning Network

Delivering the fourth year targets

1. Introduction

1.1. Our agreement with HEFCE to continue into a fourth year contained targets concerning progression agreements and the numbers of learners they impacted on. For the Network a key part of continuing into a fourth year was to see whether these targets could be met without institutional funding; in other words to test whether the Progression Agreement Framework could have a life beyond its funded period years. The purpose of this paper is to propose a way of conducting this 'experiment' while still ensuring the HEFCE targets are met.

2. Current performance and future targets

2.1. The performance of the WYLLN to date is given in the table below:

Measure	2010 Target	2007/8 Actual	2008/9 Actual	Current
Progression agreements in place	25	0	58	78
Number of vocational and work-based learners progressing	3000	132	1306	2395
Foundation degrees (or new programmes) developed	21	4	26	26
Number of learners supported (IAG)	7500	2439	6517	8278
No of staff developed	500	336	819	1069

2.2. It is evident from this table that the WYLLN should achieve all of its targets by the end of this academic year or at least early in the next. This was a condition set by HEFCE as part of the fourth year proposals.

2.3. The targets for the fourth year are set out in the table below

2.4.

Outcomes	Target
*Additional diploma progression agreements	10
*Additional multi exit/entry progression agreements	10
*Additional employer progression agreements	5
*Additional learners supported through the new progression agreements	400
*Additional learners progressing	150

*Additional targets to those set out in the original business plan.

3. An approach to meeting the targets

- 3.1. This issue was discussed at the SAF, where there was consensus on way forward. It was agreed that targets should not be set for individual institutions rather each one should be asked to state how they plan to engage with the Progression Agreement Framework and other WYLLN activities during the 2010/11 academic year. This will allow us to assess whether the PAF will be used and how many progression agreements will be forthcoming. It will also help to plan other WYLLN activities.
- 3.2. The target for the employer progression agreements has already been planned to be achieved as part of the work of High Level Skills Co-ordinators located with the Local Authorities.
- 3.3. Where it seems that the targets will not be met through unfunded institutional activity, then priority for any underspend will be given to activities that will contribute to meeting the targets.

4. Conclusion

- 4.1. The Board is asked to support this proposal.