

West Yorkshire Lifelong Learning Network

Additional Student Numbers

1. 2008/9 Allocations

1.1. The allocation of ASNs for 2008/9 was reported at the Management Board in December. As a reminder, they are reported again the table below:

Institution	FTE ASN Target
Bradford College	33.5
Calderdale College	17.5
Leeds College of Art and Design	53
Leeds College of Building	28.875
Leeds College of Music	78
Leeds College of Technology	35
Park Lane College	187
University of Bradford	30
University of Huddersfield	37.5
Total FTE ASN	500.375

1.2. Of the total number of ASNs distributed, 127.5 FTE were allocated for module delivery. Partners are now being asked to report the details of their allocations through IAGnow – this enables them to be report information through their own MI systems rather than make separate returns. To date not all the information has been received by the accountable body, which does cause some concern, particularly when ASNs are being used for the module delivery. In many cases the way in which the modules are being delivered means that the information will not be available until later in the academic year. For institutions in this situation, letters have been requested from the head of their institution confirming that they can guarantee their ASN take up.

2. Mainstreaming ASNs

2.1. The Network has been informed that there will be no more additional student numbers available for allocation. As a result, the Management Board should consider when the mainstreaming of ASNs should take place. Whenever it will be, it has to be before July 2010.

2.2. From the accountable body's perspective, the earlier mainstreaming takes place the easier it will be. There is a considerable administrative burden on the University of Huddersfield, usually mixed with a high level of uncertainty in the commitment from partner institutions as to whether the volume of ASNs can be delivered. On the other hand, early mainstreaming will prevent the FE colleges delivering individual modules.

This has provided an important opportunity for the WYLLN to increase the flexibility of the HE offer, particularly to work-based learners.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1. Considering these contradicting arguments, the learners would gain greater benefit from mainstreaming the ASNs in the final year. As a consequence, it is recommended that the Board requests the Director to discuss the possibility of continuing the existing arrangements with the accountable body.