A historical overview of the New Measures of Success programme

This document summarises the various background documents on the measures of success programme which provide information on its history including its development and implementation. It also provides brief insight into how the programme has evolved since its inception in 2003.

Spearheaded by the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) the measures of success programme is being developed in partnership with the Department for Education and Skills (DfES), the Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted) and the Adult Learning Inspectorate (ALI). It was initially driven by the Government’s Success for All strategy and was intended to contribute to the Government’s Skills Strategy and 14 -19 agenda. More information on the policy context of the programme is found in New Measures of Success Policy Context which is a brief document on the initial framework within which the New Measures of Success programme was developed and operated.

The programme was subject to consultation in 2003 through its published consultation document Measuring success in the Learning and Skills Sector. Following this, in 2004, New measures of success: Priorities for Development laid out the priorities for the development of the new measures with reference to the responses to the consultation.

The general aim of the programme has been to measure the success of learners and the performance of education and training providers more accurately and fairly with a view to demonstrating the sector’s strengths and identifying areas for improvement. The initial context, vision, specific aims and plans for implementing and developing the new measures is presented in Implementing New Measures of Success.

Over the past three years, as well as progressing work on the measures, the programme has also included the launch of the provider gateway in August 2005 and the learner achievement tracker in January 2006.

At present the new measures of success programme is preparing to move into a new direction which would provide greater opportunity for impact on quality and improvement in the learning and skills sector as it is integrated into the Framework for Excellence. This framework is currently under consultation and is a new all-inclusive and radical approach to managing performance across the sector. It is envisaged that the measures of success will contribute to the Key Performance Indicators identified within the Framework for Excellence.