Learner Views Survey

The Framework for Excellence, Learner Views Survey closed at midnight on 27 February. During the eight week survey period over 520,000 valid responses were received which makes the survey the biggest of its kind ever carried out in the UK.

The success of the survey has been largely due to the efforts of staff at colleges and training providers across the country. You have given learners the opportunity to undertake the survey by setting up access to internet-linked computers during the working day, encouraging them to complete the survey online at home or by taking internet-linked laptops or hand held devices out to learners in their place of work, be it a construction site in a city or an agricultural setting. These efforts have been rewarded with nearly seven out of every ten providers who took part in the survey achieving a statistically valid sample.

Over the next year, the LSC is piloting a project with the National Union of Students to raise awareness of the survey amongst learners themselves so they see the opportunity to complete the survey as part of their entitlement as a learner. The LSC will also be building on the promotional materials it produced and sharing tips on ways that worked to promote the survey to learners and to help providers encourage learners to complete future surveys. Best practice case studies will also be produced and made available. If you feel your organisation has a story to tell about the way you undertook the survey please email Ffelearnerviews@lsc.gov.uk with your name, organisation and contact details and we will be in touch.

Colleges and providers will receive details of their results from mid-May. This will give useful feedback about the overall score and the response learners gave to each question. Colleges and providers will also receive a breakdown of responses by broad categories of learner, providing there were enough responses for this to be statistically valid. In addition to providing a score as part of the Framework for Excellence, colleges and providers may choose to feed this information into their Learner Improvement Strategy and to help them make improvements across their organisation.

In collaboration with the sector we are working hard to make improvements to the arrangements for the administration of the survey in 2009/10. More details will be available in late summer 2009.
Framework for Excellence Events
Over the coming months representatives from the Framework for Excellence team will be hosting workshops at the following events. Details can found on the Framework website:

- AoC West Midlands Spring Conference 30th March
- ALP East Midlands Conference 13th May
- AoC NILTA CIS Conference Birmingham 25th June

Regional Provider Briefing Events 11th June – 8th July
A series of briefing events will be held in the summer to update all providers in scope for version two of the Framework for Excellence in 2009/10. Details of dates and how to book will be available on the Framework for Excellence website in the next few weeks and also in the next edition of the Framework for Excellence Bulletin.

AoC Conferences – Framework for Excellence
The AoC in collaboration with the LSC are running two events for college leaders and senior managers in the summer. The focus of the events will be the third phase of piloting and the development and use of version three of the Framework in 2010/11. Details of these events will be available on the AoC website and the Framework for Excellence website very soon. In the meantime please hold these dates in your diary:

- Sheffield – 6 July 2009
- London – 9 July 2009

Dissemination of 2008/09 Framework outputs
Framework scores and grades for the following Performance Indicators (PIs), where applicable, will be disseminated to individual providers in the form of a report with supporting information in mid-May:

- Learner Views
- Learner Destinations
- Employer Views (or Training Quality Standard)
- Qualification Success Rates
- Inspection Grade for Overall Effectiveness
- Financial Health
- Financial Management and Control
- Delivery against funding allocation or contract value
- Resource Efficiency

These reports will be stored on the Provider Gateway. We will be writing to all colleges and providers towards the end of March with more details.

Feedback
Thank you for your continued support of the Framework Bulletin; your views on any issue relating the Framework for Excellence are extremely welcome. Please email us at: frameworkforexcellence@lsc.gov.uk.

Subscription
If you would like to receive the Framework Bulletin by email each month, please forward your contact details to frameworkforexcellence@lsc.gov.uk and mark with the subject heading ‘Bulletin’.