Meeting the NEET Challenge

30 June 2009

The New Rôle of Local Authorities

John Freeman CBE

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Raising Expectations
Action Programme

The React Programme

The React Programme is the LGA-hosted sector-led support programme for the transfer of £7bn for 16-19 education from the LSC to local authorities.

The React Programme works with:

-central government

-national agencies

-local authorities

www.lga.gov.uk/react

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The national 14-19 transformation agenda

The 14-19 transformation agenda is about much more than the technicalities of funding:

- new curriculum entitlement

  (GCSE/A, Diplomas, FLT, apprenticeships)

- RPA (17 by 2013, 18 by 2015)

- local authority commissioning

- information, advice and guidance

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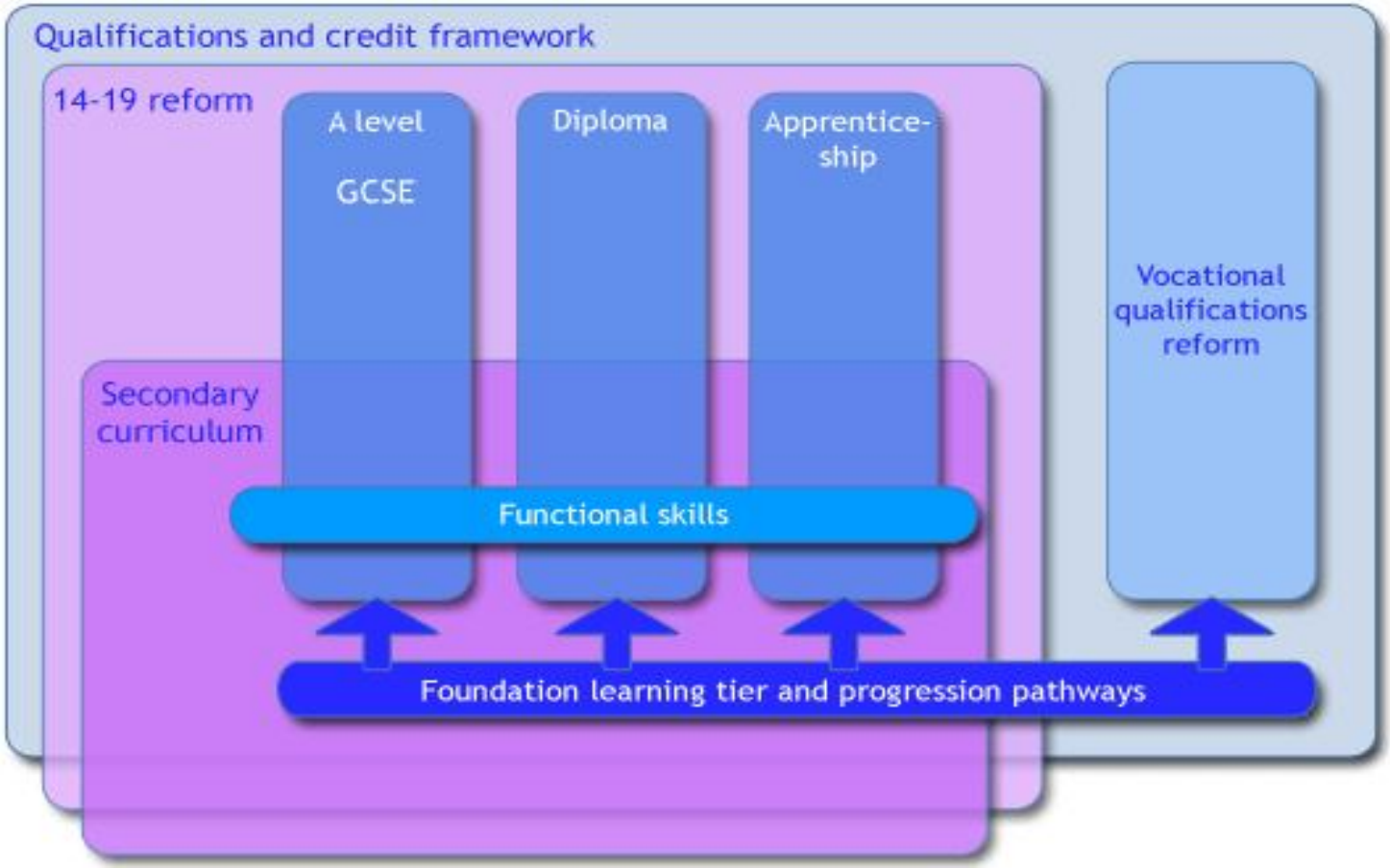
Curriculum and Qualification Reform



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Commissioning for every young person to succeed

At age 19, all young people should be ready for higher education or a skilled job, with the best outcomes for those with additional needs.

The new curriculum should provide appropriate opportunities for every young person.

Raising the age of participation means that we have to motivate and excite those at risk of disengagement, finding opportunities for them to succeed.

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Diversity of needs

Young people exhibit a huge diversity of need; high-quality IAG is critical in helping identify and meet those needs.

The needs of **the economy** are also diverse; both geographically and over time; at present, for example, we should be focusing on the needs of the economy as the country comes out of recession.

14-19 transformation is therefore about very much more than children's services; there is an impact on the whole council.

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Diversity of post-16 provider sector

Post-16 education provision is very much more diverse than at pre-16:

-school sixth forms

-academy sixth forms

-sixth form colleges

-GFE and specialist FE colleges

-independent providers

-third sector providers

Local authorities are now building new relationships across the sector.

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Diversity of post-16 provider sector

Post-16 education provision is (will be) sponsored in a variety of ways:

-school sixth forms **(LAs)**

-academy sixth forms **(YPLA)**

-sixth form colleges **(LAs)**

-GFE and specialist FE colleges **(SFA)**

-independent providers

-third sector providers

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The new architecture

-schools, colleges and other providers

-local delivery consortia

-14-19 Partnerships and Children's Trusts

-Local authorities (key powers and duties)

-Sub-Regional Groupings

-Regional Planning Groups

-YPLA (and SFA)

-DCSF (and DBIS)

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The new commissioning architecture

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The key strategic issue

Bearing in mind the given factors, including demography, funding constraints and existing plant and provision:

How do local authorities work with providers to decide the configuration of 16-19 provision for their area that will deliver the best outcomes?

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The key strategic issue

Bearing in mind the given factors, including demography, funding constraints and existing plant and provision:

How do local authorities work with providers to decide the configuration of 16-19 provision for their area that will deliver the best outcomes?

Sixth forms and/or colleges? Tertiary and/or mixed? GFE, Tertiary and/or SFC? Stand-alone and/or consortia? Schools and/or academies? Economies of scale and/or local provision? Small local provision and/or distant larger provision? VFM?

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The key tactical issue: *273 days and counting!*

For April / September 2010 we need to ensure that the 16-19 provider sector has stability, implying limited change;

but

we need a system that can develop flexibly to meet new needs and circumstances.

Strategic commissioning plans need to find an appropriate balance for localities.

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Timeline for 16-19 to April 2010

-Creation of SRGs

-Governance and management of SRGs

-Resources for LAs and SRGs

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Timeline for 16-19 to April 2010

-Creation of SRGs

-Governance and management of SRGs

-Resources for LAs and SRGs

-**National Commissioning Framework**

-**Some key operational policy decisions**

-**Training and development**

-**Go-live**

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The National Commissioning Framework (post-16)

NCF being developed now; elements being tested with LAs and providers; full early draft road-tested in July

NCF formal consultation from September

NCF final version early 2010

NCF go-live April 2010

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Benefits and Challenges

Benefits: joined-up planning and provision, clear lines of local accountability, better relationships, focus on every young person

Challenges: developing the new architecture, building the new relationships, implementing for April 2010.

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