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The Skills Funding Agency

how does it fit into the new skills framework?

John Stone

What's changed?

- Recession AND Credit Crunch
- Unemployment growing at all levels
- Unpredictable skills needs
- Skilling and Re-Skilling
- Trends, Modelling and Planning
- Funding and Value

Beyond Leitch-
Skills policy for the upturn

- Skills Policy and Funding Rules
  - Funding tied to specific programmes
  - The system is inflexible
  - Are the current priorities appropriate?
- Affect on young people
- Skills Policy needs to change to support the upturn

What do we recommend?

- Reform Train to Gain
  - Poor value for money
- A co-funded system
- College places and apprenticeships
- Agile funding system
- Training and level 3
- Real Learning Accounts

A role for SFA?

- Lead and provide 4 client gateways
- Fund colleges and providers
- Coordinate action on strategic skills
- Part of BIS
  - Skills activism
  - Publish regional framework
  - Agree funding flexibility with RDAs and produce indicative allocations
  - Produce framework documents of SoS requirements for SfA

How will it measure up?

- 2300 staff?
- One of many players
- Complexity v agility
- Relationship with NAS
- Role of BIS
- Multiple finding mechanisms
- YPLA
- What does the future hold?

For more information about LSN

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