Reskilling for all aspects of the recession: emerging findings from NIACE's research

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Regional research project

Aim:

To carry out a comparative investigation into the implications of the recession for learning and skills policy in the English regions.

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Our approach

- Qualitative
- Interviews with key strategic leads for learning and skills (LSC, RDA, JCP, local authorities, learning providers, IAG, infrastructure bodies)
- Published reports and papers

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Emerging findings

- Impact on regional priorities
- Key groups
- Integrated employment and skills
- Learning for and at work
- Careers advice and guidance
- The Third Sector

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Impact on regional priorities

- **Learning and skills has moved up the agenda**
- **‘Post-Leitch’?**
- **Firefighting *v.* taking the long view**
- **Responding to redundancy *v.* tackling worklessness**
- **Identifying the future growth industries**
- **MOG changes**

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Key groups

- Young people – NEET, school leavers and graduates
- Professional and white collar workers
- Private and public sector workers
- Groups already disadvantaged in the labour market

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Integrated employment and skills

- Recession as a stimulus to development
- Greater coherence and partnership working RDA/LSC/JCP
- Challenges remain

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Learning at and for work

- Focus shifting away from in-work support
- Growing demand for learning from individuals
- Mixed messages on demand from employers
- Anxieties about apprenticeships
- Those furthest from labour market hardest hit

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Demand for careers advice and guidance

- Rapid and substantial increase in demand
- Discrete and embedded services
- Greater collaboration between JCP and nextstep
- Data and quality issues
- Questions around AACS development

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Third Sector

- Growing demand for services
- Volunteering for work experience and skill development
- Pressure on the sector
- Informal adult learning

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For discussion

- **What strategies and actions will address the increased marginalisation of the most disadvantaged?**
- **How can the demand for careers advice and guidance be most effectively met?**
- **‘Green industries’: where are the new jobs, what will they look like and how do we get there?**

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