

## The New Skills Landscape

The following information has been provided by the Skills Funding Agency, with the aim to explain the new skills system to partners.

*We are part of a new skills family working with many other organisations to operate the new skills system.*

We are one of a partnership of organisations working together to ensure that needs are met, gaps closed, training is funded and promoted in order to meet the needs of employers, employees and learners and to develop a workforce willing and able to play its part in the UK's economic recovery, growth and success.

### This works as follows:

The UK Commission for Employment and Skills, an employer-led body, is responsible for skills forecasting.

It receives input from sector skills councils, regional development agencies, and other key partners such as employment and skills boards, on skills gaps, and mismatches between supply and demand, and their implications for future job opportunities, particularly in strategically important markets.

The Regional Development Agencies work with local authorities, statutory Employment and Skills Boards, and colleges and learning providers, to identify skills gaps and the investment in skills needed to develop the economy and jobs of the future in each region. Regional Development Agencies plan for skills are incorporated into Single Integrated Regional Strategies.

The Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) uses the information from the UK Commission for Employment and Skills and from the Regional Development Agencies to produce a national strategy and targets, working closely with the Department for Children, Schools and Families to ensure progression routes for learners and coherence across pre- and post-19 for colleges and providers, and in collaboration with Department of Work and Pensions.

In order to deliver the work set out by this strategy, BIS issues an annual budget and a set of targets to the Skills Funding Agency.

Colleges and training organisations are allocated funding based on their track record and against these priorities. But they have flexibility to decide what mix of provision they will deliver to best meet the needs of their businesses and communities.

Local authorities have responsibility for securing education and training provision for young people up to age 19. The Young People's Learning Agency is a NDPB supporting local authorities to carry out their planning and commissioning functions and to oversee budgetary control.