

# Strategic assessment of the use of data in the Learning and Skills sector

**IA Board meeting**

4 March 2009

# Introduction

This presentation is to brief you on this project and test your views on the emerging recommendations.

Only have 30 minutes so will speed through the slides – require your considered feedback later.

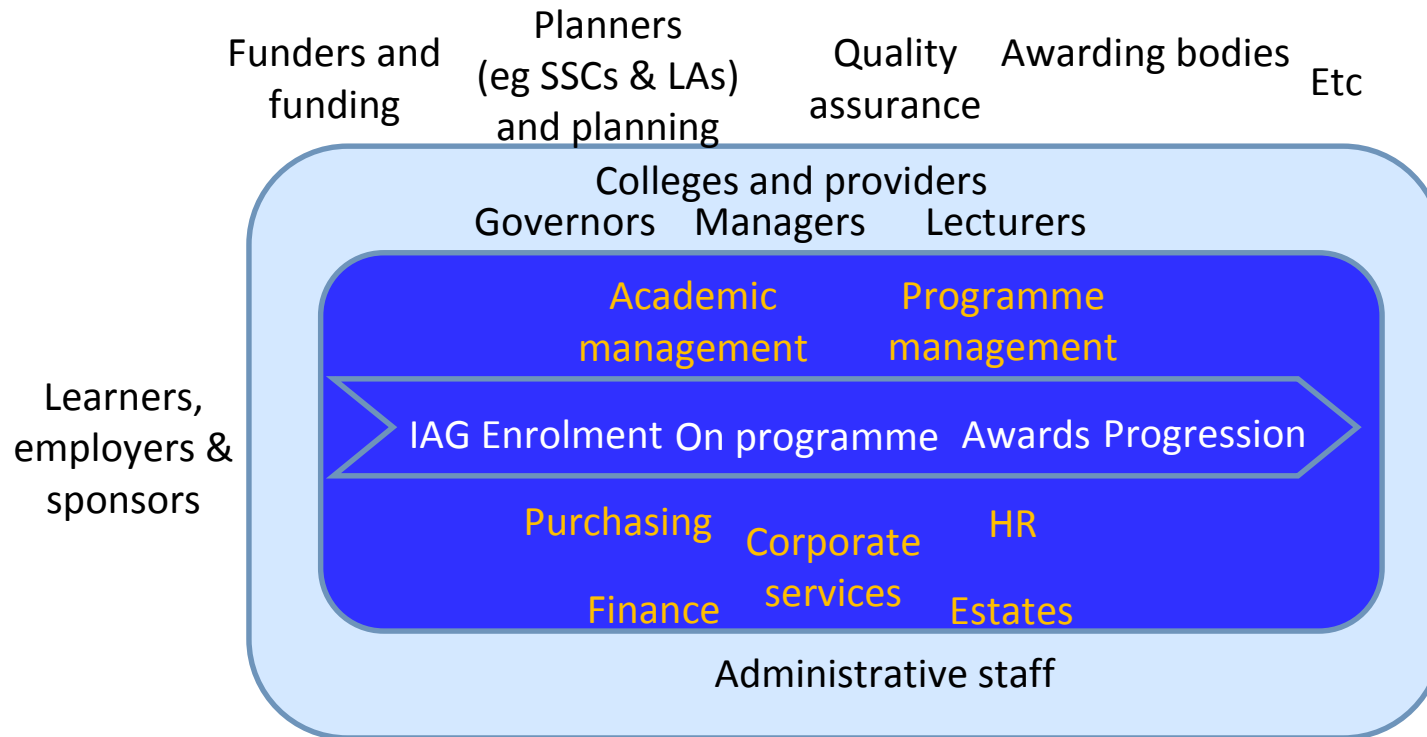
This presentation concentrates on the findings and recommendations.

NB These are not 'signed off' recommendations - they are now being considered by Departments and funding bodies. This presentation is to obtain your broad views on what is being proposed.

# Strategic assessment of the use of data

- Purpose  
To examine critically, the current use of information in the FE sector and see how it could be improved by applying lessons learnt from other sectors and the wider economy.
- Origin  
Need for the project arose from the recommendations of Sir Andrew Foster and in particular that: “the LSC should develop plans to ensure that all colleges have access to state of the art management information systems”.
- Approach  
Summarised in the handout

# Interim documents produced - High level model



## Four fundamental groups of requirements for:

- **Learners**
- **Employers**
- **Communities**
- **Providers**

# The current position

- Many examples of good and best practice.
- Wealth of information available or will be.

## **BUT**

- Best practice is not universal
- **Data is:**
  - Locked in MISs
  - Difficult to access
  - Difficult to search
  - Out of date
  - Dispersed
  - Duplicated
  - Inconsistent
- Often used once but collected many times

# Impact of change programmes

- Most have positive impact.

## **BUT**

- Aim to improve processes – Not data sharing.
- Data sharing challenges are likely to increase.
- MIAP has helped but does not extend far enough.

# Imagine:

- **Better access** to services and personalised responses to learners and employers right from the start
- **Continuous improvement** and using data to inform and support learners and employers succeed.
- **Improved planning and performance** management based on timely statistics, being able to identify areas of weakness and demonstrate efficiency gains.

# Our recommendations

- Evolutionary rather than revolutionary.
- Precedents for most already set in parts of sector.
- Hit key pressure points in the generation and use of data
- Four main areas:
  - **One 'version of the truth'** and CRM techniques.
  - **Mandatory data standards and an interoperability framework post 14.**
  - **Shared services.**
  - **Knowledge management** to identify, disseminate and discuss/share best practice.
- 5 or 6 year change programme.

# Benefits

- Learners:
  - Raising interest through demonstrating the value of learning.
  - CRM to provide better engagement.
  - Value added and progress monitoring to provide better retention and success.
  - Better initial and progression advice.
- Employers:
  - Better engagement in a similar way to learners.
  - Better facilities for training needs analysis and value added.
- Providers:
  - Greater programme flexibility.
  - Better internal planning and efficiency gains – case studies highlight potential for several £million in some providers.
- Community:
  - More responsive sector.
  - More timely and better planning and performance management data.