

In conversation with the Skills Minister

20 February, 2018

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on apprenticeship funding reform

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Welcome to this Lsect webinar

More than 1,400 registrations for this webinar

Agenda

13:10 Welcome and introductions

Nick Linford, author of the Complete Guide to Funding Apprenticeship and editor of FE Week

13:15 In conversation with the Skills Minister

Anne Milton, Minister of State for Apprenticeships and Skills

13:30 Apprenticeship system enhancements and levy transfer policy

Keith Smith, Director of Funding and Programmes at the ESFA

13:40 Apprenticeships - recognising success, exploring opportunities

Andrew Gladstone-Heighton, policy lead at NCFE

13:50 Final Q&A with Minister and ESFA Director

14:00 Webinar end

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Apprenticeship Service Roadmap

Done or coming soon

- ✓ **Tasks** – in-service alerts for employers
- ✓ Changes can be made to apprentices until successful **data match**
- ✓ **Apprentice search**
- ✓ **Improved content** and support pages for employers and providers
- ⚙️ Employers can **download transactions** in final test stages
- ⚙️ **Forecasting** for employers – version 1 to be piloted in Feb and released in March

April - June 18

- **Enhanced forecasting** including modelling
- **Transfers estimating** tool to support planning of transfers
- Employers can **transfer funds**
- **Start and end date** reflected from the ILR in the employer's account
- Notification when funds are due to **expire**
- **Update organisation details**
- Employers can see the **End Point Assessment Organisation** for each apprentice
- EPAs can record the **outcome of the assessment** on the service
- Improved **visibility** of apprentice and **payments information** for support team
- **Improved reporting** for providers
- **Public sector reporting** within the account

July - Sept 18

- Pilots begin for employers who **don't pay the levy**
- **Enhanced content** and guidance for employers and providers
- **Employer and apprentice feedback on provider MVS** introduced on Find Apprenticeship Training
- **Provider search**
- **Incentive payments** shown in employers' accounts
- Display of **refund** transactions
- Improvements to make **data matching** easier for employers and providers
- A more streamlined process for employers and providers to **enter apprentice details**
- Develop **API hub** to allow 3rd parties to integrate vacancy search and posting

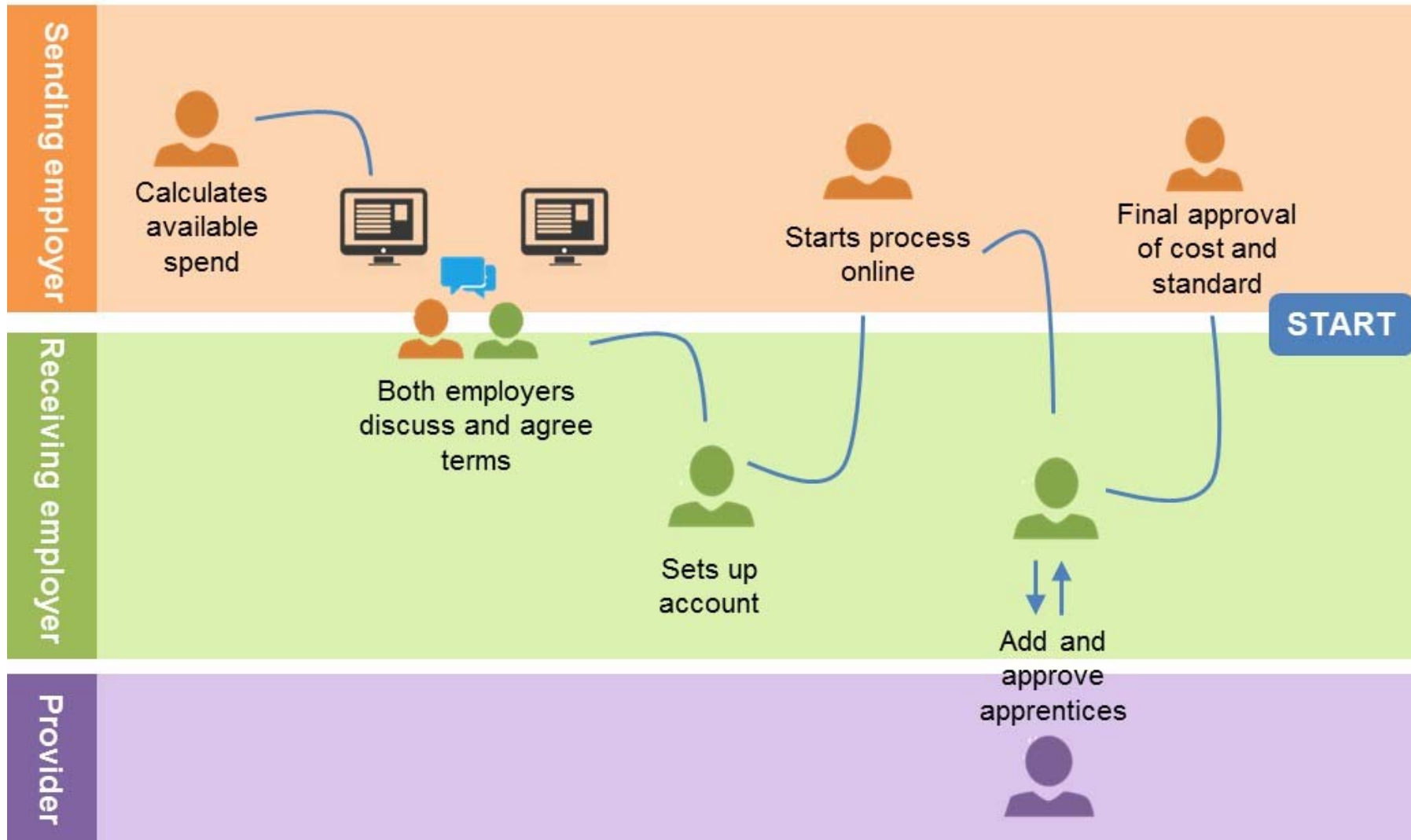
Oct - March 19

- Employers can **post and manage vacancies**
- **Improvements to access levels** for employers
- **Sub Accounts** for employers
- **Improved support service** with access to a greater range of help channels

April 19 onwards

- **Employers who don't pay the levy can manage funding** through the apprenticeship service
- **Improved marketing** and dynamic content for employers, providers, apprentices and End Point Assessment Organisations
- **Payments made to End Point Assessment Organisations** through the apprenticeship service

Transfers – how it will work



Transfers policy overview

Policy rules

- Transferred funds will support **specific apprenticeships**. Employers are not able to make a bulk transfer of funds to another employer
- Transferred funds can only be used for **apprenticeship standards**, not frameworks
- Transferred funds can only be used to fund **new starts**
- Employers sending funds must agree to fund **100% of the cost of the apprenticeship**
- Funds **cannot be re-transferred** - an employer receiving a transfer cannot transfer those funds to another employer
- An employer cannot send and receive a transfer at the same time

What transfers means for providers

The introduction of transfers will result in the following changes for training provider's processes and ways of working:

- **State Aid** – Transfers are going to be subject to State Aid regulations.
- **Training Provider Agreement** – There will be an amended agreement for training providers to sign which takes transfers into account. The agreement will be marked up clearly with the changes.
- **Levy-paying training providers** – We are currently investigating whether training providers who also pay the apprenticeship levy will be allowed to transfer funds to an employer **and** provide the training for that apprenticeship.
- **Cohort approval** – Apprenticeships funded by transfers will require approval from the sending **and** receiving employer. Providers should be aware that this may affect their current processes.
- **Employers entering co-investment** – As is the current process, some employers in receipt of a transfer may enter co-investment if the sender does not transfer enough funding. Providers should be aware of this as they would have to collect the co-investment funds from the receiving employer.

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- Blog: [ESFA Digital](https://www.esfa.gov.uk/ESFA-Digital)
- [FE Connect](#): a provider forum for peer support



Final Q&A

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Apprenticeships – recognising success,
exploring opportunities

Andrew Gladstone-Heighton
Policy Leader, NCFE

Recognising learner success

We welcome the '*Faster & Better*' strategy clarifying that qualifications in apprenticeship standards will now be permitted where:

- it is a **regulatory requirement**
- it is required by a professional body
- it is a **must-have in the labour market**
- **is an off-the-job technical qualification that does not accredit full occupational competence and would either add breadth to the apprenticeship or provide structure for the off-the-job training.**



Moving from Frameworks to Standards

The Department for Education has stopped turning off apprenticeship frameworks, saying that they won't withdraw any further frameworks until 2020 unless advised otherwise.

This is welcome news for the Department, after concern that reforms around content and procurement are being rolled out too fast.

NCFE is uniquely set to support this transition, with a range of qualifications for Apprenticeship Frameworks, and a growing range of End-Point Assessment solutions for Apprenticeship Standards.

So whatever path your learners choose, framework or standard, NCFE has the solution for you.

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navigate your apprenticeship opportunity.

We can support you in navigating your apprenticeship opportunity.

NCFE is an approved end-point assessment organisation currently on the register for the following subject areas:

- Customer Service
- Leadership and Management
- Hospitality
- Professional Services
- Retail.



Visit ncfe.org.uk or cache.org.uk **Email** businessdevelopment@ncfe.org.uk **Call** 0191 240 8833*

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CACHE operates in the following areas:

- Health and Social Care
- Childcare
- Dentistry
- Education and Training.



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