



Briefing note in response to the review of the regional centres

Lord Leitch's report *Prosperity for all in the global economy-world class skills* published in December 2006 challenges sector skills councils to transform their role. Between now and 2010, Leitch calls for a major change in learning and skills provision based on demand.

SkillsActive, like all sector skills council, will need to demonstrate a clear focus of understanding employers in their sector, and a commitment to meeting their needs in terms of qualifications and learning opportunities which will enable them to develop their sector.

In anticipation of Leitch, SkillsActive commissioned a review of the network of regional playwork centres in England, its aim was to identify a way forward for centres to make best contribution to meeting the playwork sector goals.

In this competitive market environment, it is important that we continue to represent playwork employers, and earn greater recognition of the importance of a fully trained, competent workforce.

Over the next three months SkillsActive will be working individually with each of the regional centres to identify areas that need to be addressed whilst continuing to support the distinctive strengths of each centre to make playwork a sector worth investing in.

SkillsActive's Sector Skills Agreement defines the sector's skills needs and forms an agreement between employers, government and funding partners to shape the workforce for the next ten years. Priorities identified as a result of the SSA process are: improve the quality and range of services; improve recruitment and retention; professionalise and upskill the existing workforce; match supply to demand; redirect funding for training; increase sector investment in our people.

SkillsActive is *Shaping Skills for the Future*, through...

PEOPLE...

...ensuring all people in the sector are appropriately trained and qualified.

PRODUCTIVITY...

...ensuring better performance through the professional development of the sector.

PROVISION...

...ensuring the sector has accessible, relevant and funded training across the UK.

PROMOTION...

...ensuring the contributions of the sector are recognised at a governmental level.

