
9 February 1998

CIRCULAR

**THE
FURTHER
EDUCATION
FUNDING
COUNCIL**

THE COUNCIL'S AIMS

To

Principals of colleges
Heads of external institutions
Heads of higher education
institutions receiving Council funds
Chief education officers
Others with an interest in further
education

Circular type

Information and consultation

Summary

Consultation on proposed revisions
to the Council's aims

Responses by

27 February 1998

Reference number: 98/05

Enquiries:
Sandra Crowder
Funding and strategy
01203 863138

Cheylesmore House
Quinton Road
Coventry CV1 2WT

98/05

THE COUNCIL'S AIMS

INTRODUCTION

1 This circular proposes amendments to the Council's aims and invites comments by 27 February 1998.

BACKGROUND

2 The Council's aims have remained unchanged since their adoption in 1993 following consultation with the sector. They have, however, been reviewed regularly in the context of preparing the Council's corporate plan.

3 The Council has received letters of guidance from the secretary of state and from the director of further and higher education and youth training which give some guidance on the new policy context and set out the government's expectations in respect of the Council's corporate plan.

4 The key themes of the new policy context are:

- Welfare to Work and New Deal
- raising and maintaining standards and achievements
- combating social exclusion, and widening participation
- lifelong learning
- regional issues
- collaboration and rationalisation
- additional provision
- effective accountability and governance.

PROPOSED REVISIONS

5 In the light of these themes, the Council proposes to adopt one overarching aim, with a series of subsidiary aims, to reflect its statutory duty to secure sufficient and adequate facilities for further education. The proposed new aims are set out below.

- i. To secure throughout England sufficient and adequate facilities for further education to meet the needs of students, including those with learning difficulties and/or disabilities, and the communities in which they live for initial and lifelong learning opportunities [overarching aim].

- ii. To stimulate demand for and participation in further education in order to contribute to the creation of an inclusive society.
- iii. To contribute to the development of a highly skilled and employable workforce, particularly as envisaged in national targets, in order to contribute to the creation of a thriving economy.
- iv. To promote ongoing improvements in the quality of further education in order to maximise the achievements of its students.
- v. To promote the role, contribution and potential of further education and the achievements of its students and institutions at national and regional level in order to fully inform policy development.
- vi. To ensure that the sector has the necessary resources and deploys them with due regard to value for money in order to help deliver the Council's statutory duties and policy objectives.
- vii. To work in partnership with colleges and others at national and regional levels, including employers, other funding bodies and central and local government agencies in order to achieve the Council's statutory duties and policy objectives.
- viii. To support and deploy the Council's staff in order to ensure that they can contribute to the achievement of these aims and provide a high-quality service to further education.

RESPONSES

6 Comments are invited on these long-term aims for the Council. The Council will finalise its aims in the light of responses to this consultation and will publish its corporate plan based on these aims later in the year.

7 Comments on the proposed aims are requested by 27 February 1998. A form is included at the annex to this circular to record comments. Please send or fax your comments to:

Sandra Crowder
The Further Education Funding Council
Cheylesmore House
Quinton Road
Coventry CV1 2WT
Fax 01203 863099.



RESPONSES TO CONSULTATION

(Reference Circular 98/05)

Please photocopy, complete and return this form to Sandra Crowder at the Council's Coventry office no later than 27 February 1998.

**THE
FURTHER
EDUCATION
FUNDING
COUNCIL**

Institution name

Contact (*please print*)

Signature

Telephone no.

Cheylesmore House
Quinton Road
Coventry CV1 2WT

Telephone 01203 863000
Fax 01203 863099

<i>Proposed aim</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Comments</i>
i. To secure throughout England sufficient and adequate facilities for further education to meet the needs of students, including those with learning difficulties and/or disabilities, and the communities in which they live for initial and lifelong learning opportunities [overarching aim].	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ii. To stimulate demand for and participation in further education in order to contribute to the creation of an inclusive society.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
iii. To contribute to the development of a highly skilled and employable workforce, particularly as envisaged in national targets, in order to contribute to the creation of a thriving economy.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
iv. To promote ongoing improvements in the quality of further education in order to maximise the achievements of its students.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

<i>Proposed aim</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Comments</i>
v. To promote the role, contribution and potential of further education and the achievements of its students and institutions at national and regional level in order to fully inform policy development.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
vi. To ensure that the sector has the necessary resources and deploys them with due regard to value for money in order to help deliver the Council's statutory duties and policy objectives.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
vii. To work in partnership with colleges and others at national and regional levels, including employers, other funding bodies and central and local government agencies in order to achieve the Council's statutory duties and policy objectives.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
viii. To support and deploy the Council's staff in order to ensure that they can contribute to the achievement of these aims and provide a high-quality service to further education.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

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